



# Skills for a Green Transition: Solutions for Youth on the Move

**The green economy has the potential to create millions of new jobs**

If the global temperature can be limited to below 1.5 °C,

**20+**  
million

clean energy jobs could be added by 2030

International Renewable Energy Agency,  
2022



**The green economy has the potential to create millions of new jobs**

The number of green jobs globally has already grown at a rate of

**8%**

**per year**

**over the last five years**

World Economic Forum, 2023



**The green economy has the potential to create millions of new jobs**

Green policy measure can create

**8.4**

**million jobs**

for young people by 2030

ILO, 2022

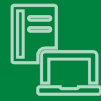


Youth are crucial for driving the transition to the green economy

**...but youth on the move face increased challenges that hamper their potential to participate in the green transition.**



## Factors hampering youth on the move's potential to participate in the green transition



Lack of recognized degrees or certifications



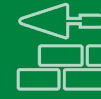
Insufficient social protections



Absence of social networks



Limited legal status



Restricted right to work



Inadequate post-training support



Connectivity challenges

## Green jobs



Energy



Agriculture



Health



Education



Tourism



Transportation



**Youth on the move** also face education disruptions, hindering their opportunity to build a breadth of green skills needed for a green transition

Percent of **refugees enrolled in secondary school** around the world compared to **secondary age children worldwide**



Percent of **refugees enrolled in higher education** around the world compared to **non-refugees**



**Youth on the move** need a breadth of green skills, including **occupational/technical**, **transferable**, and **transformative skills**, that are portable and adaptable to be prepared to participate in green economies across all sectors.

## Skills for Green Jobs

Skills used more intensively in green occupations, including engineering, science operation management and monitoring. While these skills may not be that different to those required in other industries, they require adaptation to environmental phenomena and technologies.

### Occupational/Technical Skills

- Business skills
- Data analysis
- Engineering
- Entrepreneurship
- Environmental and ecosystem management
- Environmental knowledge and awareness
- Finance skills
- ICT skills
- Innovation skills
- Marketing skills
- Monitoring skills
- Project management
- Research skills
- Sales skills
- Science skills
- Technological skills

## Green Life Skills

Skills used in many occupations. These include: decision-making, teamwork, leadership, risk management, design, communication, commercial, and creativity and problem-solving.

### Transferable Skills

- Adaptability
- Collaboration
- Collaboration thinking
- Communication
- Coping with emotions
- Coping with uncertainty
- Creativity
- Critical thinking and reasoning
- Decision-making
- Empathy
- Flexibility
- Gender empowerment skills
- Growth mindset
- Higher order thinking skills
- Interpersonal competence
- Leadership
- Negotiation
- Networking
- Open-mindedness
- Participatory skills
- Problem-solving
- Resilience
- Strategic thinking
- Teamwork

## Skills for a Green Transformation

Skills for green transformation needed to drive the systems change demanded by the 1.5°C target. These include disruptive thinking, political agency and coalition building.

### Transformative Capacities

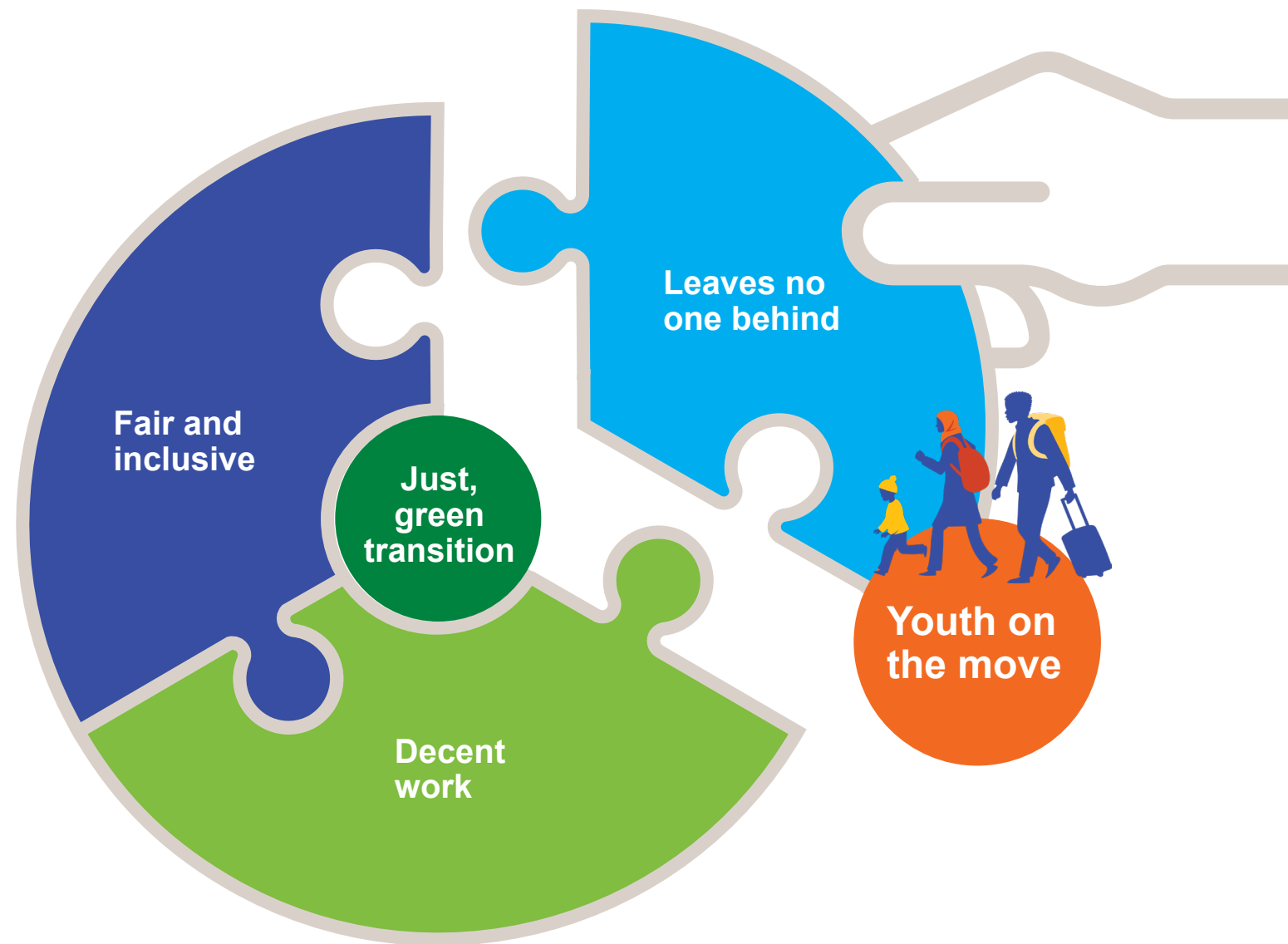
- Ability to analyze unequal systems to power
- Coalition building
- Collective action
- Disruptive vs. normative thinking
- Environmental stewardship
- Future and anticipatory thinking
- Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary thinking
- Interrelational thinking
- Political agency, activism
- Reflexivity
- Respecting diverse viewpoints
- Solidarity
- Systems thinking
- Trans-cultural, transspatial, trans-temporal mindsets
- Valuing traditional and indigenous knowledge
- Working within complexity

INSTRUMENTAL

TRANSFORMATIVE



If youth on the move are not included in the green transition and do not have the opportunity to build a breadth of green skills, this hinders a comprehensive and effective **just, green transition**



# We need to meaningfully include youth on the move in the green transition.

Here are three ways programmes and policies are already doing this:



## SOLUTION 1

**Leverage successful skilling programmes to create inclusive green skilling pathways for youth on the move**



## SOLUTION 2

**Promote access to green work opportunities for youth on the move**



## SOLUTION 3

**Foster access to self-employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for youth on the move in green sectors**

## SOLUTION 1

**To leverage** successful skilling programs to create inclusive green skilling pathways for youth on the move...

- **Ensure that skilling programmes transitioning to becoming green target not only occupation-specific skills but also transferable skills and transformative capacities**
- **Connect youth on the move to local and Indigenous knowledge**
- **Start early! Integrate climate education in all curricula**





## SOLUTION 1

PROGRAMME  
EXAMPLE

# LEARNING BRIDGES

Jordan

### Highlights:

- **Starts early** with Grades 4 – 10
- **Integrates climate education** and sustainable development into core curricula
- **Includes Syrian refugee students**
- Targets **transferable skills**
  - Critical thinking
  - Digital literacy
  - Problem solving

### Impact to Date:

- **Reached almost 500,000 students** (65% girls) in 2020/2021
- **Trained 30,000 teachers** in online blended learning





## SOLUTION 1

PROGRAMME  
EXAMPLE

# ENGAGING YOUTH AS GLOBAL CITIZENS IN VIETNAM

Vietnam

### Highlights:

- Empowers Vietnamese youth for local, national, and global climate advocacy
- Targets a breadth of green skills
  - Climate-smart research (occupational/technical skills)
  - Leadership & networking (transferable skills)
  - Advocacy (transformative capacities)

### Impact to Date:

- Directly impacted 13,902 Vietnamese youth
- Funded 20 youth-led sustainable development projects
- Established a network with 303 active youth members



## SOLUTION 2

**To promote access**  
to green work  
opportunities for  
youth on the move...

- **Amplify access to green skills development and employment information and opportunities**
- **Establish policies that support youth on the move to find green work opportunities in their host communities & reform policies that discriminate against their participation**
- **Incorporate green vocational training into temporary employment programmes**
- **Offer green apprenticeship opportunities**





## SOLUTION 2

PROGRAMME  
EXAMPLE

# YOUTH AGENCY MARKETPLACE (YOMA)

South Africa, Nigeria,  
Tanzania, Malawi and Peru,  
with prospects of project  
expansions in Ghana  
and Ivory Coast

### Highlights:

- Empowers under-resourced youth through a digital marketplace
- Engages youth in social impact projects
- Supports youth through job matching, mentoring, technical and transferable skills training

### Impact to Date:

- Directly benefited 250,000 youths across East and Southern Africa





## SOLUTION 2

PROGRAMME  
EXAMPLE

# IRAQ CRISIS AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMME (ICRRP)

Iraq

### Highlights:

- Addresses immediate and long-term employment challenges
- Targets a breadth of green skills for diverse fields

### Impact to Date:

- Created 3,528 short-term employment opportunities for women, youth and people with disabilities affected by the ISIL crisis and secondary displacement





## SOLUTION 3

**To foster access**  
to self-employment  
and entrepreneurship  
opportunities for  
youth on the move  
in green sectors...

- **Provide holistic support to youth on the move to start their green enterprises, including training, incubation and financial support**
- **Foster networks between youth on the move and market-based services that can help their green enterprises succeed**
- **Connect youth on the move with established green professionals in their community for mentorship opportunities**





### SOLUTION 3

PROGRAMME  
EXAMPLE

## INTEGRATED UP-SHIFT (I-UPSHIFT)

Uganda

### Highlights:

- Comprehensive skills training, mentorship, and seed funding programme
- Targets **a breadth of green skills**
  - Entrepreneurship skills (occupational/technical skills)
  - Social innovation skills (transferrable skills)

### Impact to Date:

- **Upskilled over 1,700 adolescents and youth**
- Special focus on Youth on the Move, girls, and child mothers
- Implemented across 19 districts of Uganda



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### SOLUTION 3

PROGRAMME  
EXAMPLE

## DELIVERING RESILIENT ENTERPRISES AND MARKET SYSTEMS FOR REFUGEES (DREAMS)

Uganda

### Highlights:

- Facilitates market connections
- Builds financial capacity
- Supports small business development

### Intended Impact:

- Initial implementation in three refugee settlements in Uganda
- **Potential for substantial growth**, benefiting 30,000+ households and 150,000+ individuals in Uganda and Ethiopia.



# All green skilling programmes and policies should follow these core principles to support youth on the move



## INCLUSION

Intentional and proactive measures to:

- break down barriers,
- provide equal opportunities,
- adapt training approaches,
- foster a sense of belonging for youth on the move



## EMPOWERMENT

Tools, opportunities, and support for youth on the move to:

- shape their futures,
- voice ideas,
- make decisions,
- contribute to programme development



## PROTECTION

A safeguarding framework to:

- protect youth on the move from harm, exploitation, discrimination, and violence,
- foster their overall well-being and integration in their host communities



# Key takeaways

We don't need to start from scratch or reinvent the wheel. We have solutions at our fingertips.



## SOLUTION 1

- Target a breadth of green skills
- Connect with Indigenous knowledge
- Integrate climate education in curricula



## SOLUTION 2

- Boost green skills & jobs access
- Inclusive green work policies
- Integrate green training into temp jobs
- Green apprenticeship opportunities



## SOLUTION 3

- Provide holistic support
- Connect with market services
- Connect with mentorship opportunities

# Thank you!

