

FIFTH IPU GLOBAL CONFERENCE OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS

PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY,
PROTECTING THE EFFECTS OF FUTURE
GENERATIONS

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Session 3: Empowering our Future; Education fit for Tomorrow




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SESSION 3:

EMPOWERING OUR FUTURE; EDUCATION FIT FOR TOMORROW

PANEL DISCUSSION LEADING QUESTIONS:

1. What will be the jobs for tomorrow be?
 2. What impact will technology and innovation have on young workers?
 3. What can be done today to ensure that young people are equipped for the jobs of the future?
 4. How can we harness the creativity and talent of young people to unleash their entrepreneurial power?
 5. How can Young MPs oversee Government planning and budgeting for youth empowerment?
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PANEL DISCUSSION TALKING POINTS/RESPONSES:

1. What will be the jobs for tomorrow be?

Answers:

- ▶ The global labour market will experience rapid change over the next decade. The reason: more jobs becoming automated as technologies such as artificial intelligence and robotics take over the workplace.
- ▶ Workers will have to adapt quickly, rushing to acquire a broad new set of skills that will help them survive a fast-changing job market, such as problem-solving, critical thinking and creativity, as well as developing a habit of lifelong learning.

(World Economic Forum, Feb 2018)

PANEL DISCUSSION TALKING POINTS/RESPONSES:

2. What impact will technology and innovation have on young workers?

Answers:

- ▶ It is no secret that advances in technology can greatly impact the value of workers' skills.
- ▶ Older workers often find the updating of complex technology uneconomic, **while younger workers acquire and readily employ skills tailored to the newest technology.**

PANEL DISCUSSION TALKING POINTS/RESPONSES:

3. What can be done today to ensure that young people are equipped for the jobs of the future?

Answers:

- ▶ **Get or learn SOFT SKILLS**
- ▶ **Why?** Because these are the human skills that can not be imitated by technology, such as the ability to connect with people and form professional relationships, a willingness to learn, and respect for the ideas of others.
- ▶ **Otherwise, you will be working alongside robots!**

PANEL DISCUSSION TALKING POINTS/RESPONSES:

4. How can we harness the creativity and talent of young people to unleash their entrepreneurial power?

Answers:

Governments must develop youth-friendly policies:

1. Offer Funding (grants and or affordable loans to youth businesses), Promote Sports and Talent fairs.
2. Offer Preferential Access to Government Procurement Opportunities for youth-owned companies
3. Offer Education Loans for entrepreneurial, technical/vocational education targeting youth.

Private sector through CSR and Development Partners fund youth empowerment programmes–E.g KCB 2jiajiri, World Bank Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Project (KYEOP) respectively.

PANEL DISCUSSION TALKING POINTS/RESPONSES:

5. How can Young MPs oversee Government planning and budgeting for youth empowerment?

Answers (Example of Kenya):

- ▶ Young Parliamentarians sponsor, present and push for youth-friendly bills/laws in parliament. Eng. Hon. Sakaja of Kenya (Youth Employment Act)
- ▶ Seek leadership for and sit in Parliamentary Watchdog Committees (Finance, Planning, Public Accounts Investment etc)
- ▶ Partner with civil society and youth-serving organizations to lobby and check Government

THANK YOU
(Q/A)

