



Millions of young African people face persistent exclusion from the formal job market, perpetuating a cycle of unemployment and hindering socioeconomic progress.

The lack of decent jobs disproportionately impacts this youthful population, hindering their ability to build a future, support families, and contribute to their economies.

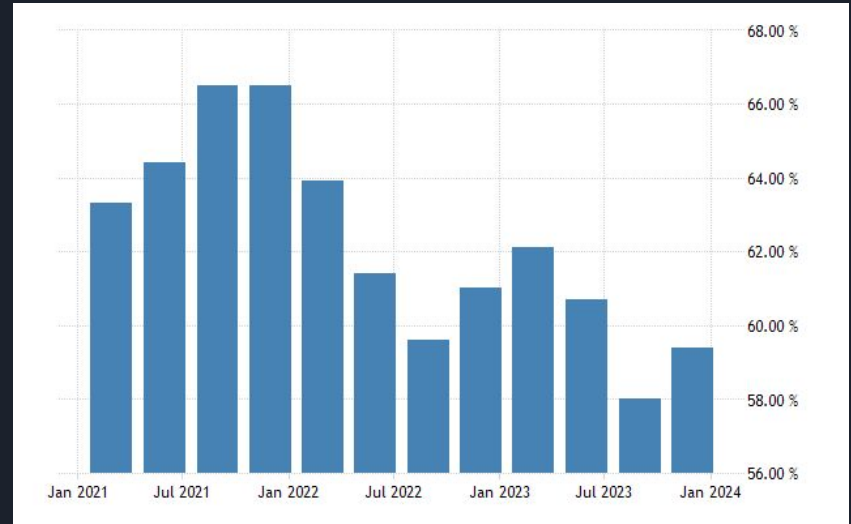


Meet Sarah Mbeki, Minister of Labor and Employment and passionate advocate for youth empowerment. With extensive experience in public policy, Sarah is leading efforts to combat youth unemployment in Africa, driven by her firsthand observations of its impact on young people's aspirations and livelihoods.





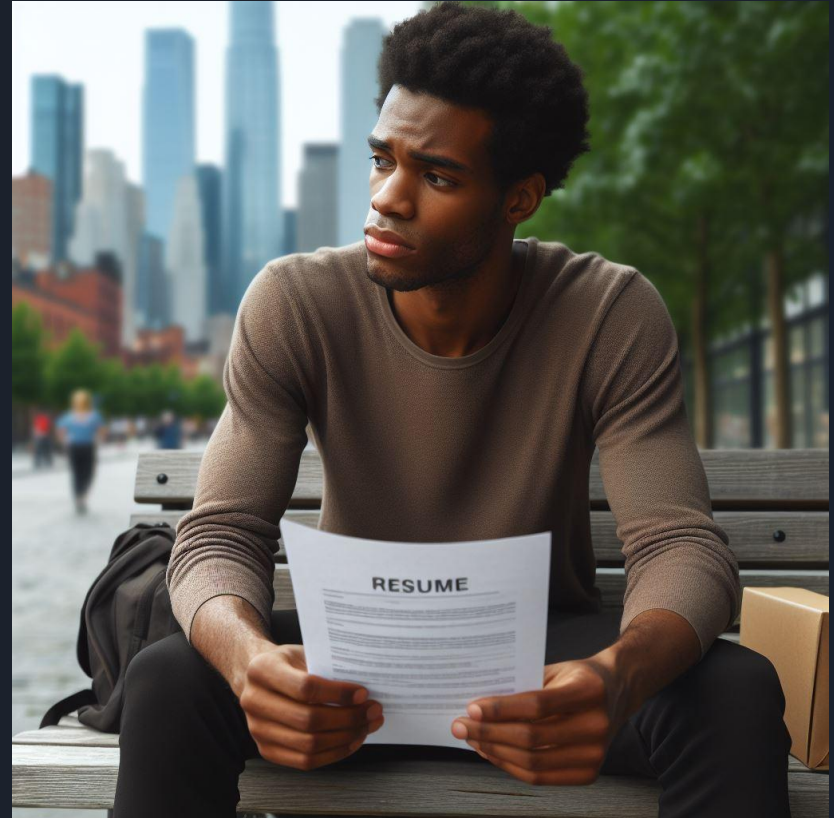
The youth unemployment rate in South Africa, measuring job-seekers between 15 and 24 years old, picked up to 59.4% in the fourth quarter of 2023, from an over one-year low of 58% in the third quarter



Skills Mismatch

Many young Africans lack the skills required by the job market, leading to a mismatch between education and employment opportunities.

Source: World Bank, 2022.



High Youth Unemployment Rate:

A significant challenge is the high youth unemployment rate. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), in 2023, over one in four young people in Africa (around 72 million) were not in education, employment, or training (NEET). This is higher than the global average NEET rate.



Profile of Change Makers

We need policymakers, educators, employers, and activists who are committed to addressing youth unemployment through innovative policies, skills development programs, and advocacy efforts.



20-Year Goal

Achieve full employment for African youth through sustainable economic development and inclusive policies by 2044.





10-Year Goal

Reduce the youth unemployment rate by 50% through targeted skills training and job creation initiatives by 2034.



5-Year Goal

Establish a comprehensive national youth employment strategy with measurable targets and accountability mechanisms by 2029.



1-Year Goal

Launch pilot projects in collaboration with the private sector to provide internship and apprenticeship opportunities for young people by 2025.

In conclusion, all goals on slides 7-10 are SMART, ensuring they are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. This strategic approach will help us effectively empower African youth and foster economic development.

END.