

Workshop Title:

Youth Empowerment & Overcoming Youth Unemployment

Workshop Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Objectives: Identify the challenges of youth unemployment.

Foster self-empowerment by learning from real-life situations. Encourage critical thinking and collaboration through a case study analysis.

Materials Needed: Printouts of the case study for each group. Flip charts, markers. Sticky notes or index cards. Pens.

Workshop Structure:

1. Warm-Up Activity: Icebreaker – Career Dream (10 minutes)

Activity: Start by asking participants to stand in a circle. Each participant introduces themselves by sharing their name and answering the question: "If you could have any job in the world, what would it be?"

Purpose: To get participants thinking about their aspirations and career interests.

2. Case Study Introduction: A Young Person Facing Unemployment (10 minutes)

Activity: Briefly introduce a real-life scenario or case study of a young person struggling with unemployment. Here's an example: Case Study Example: Alex is 19 years old and recently graduated from high school. He's been looking for a job for 6 months but hasn't had any luck. Alex lacks work experience, doesn't have many connections in the industry he's interested in, and feels discouraged after facing multiple rejections. He's unsure what steps to take next and is worried about his future.

Hand out copies of the case study to each group (or read it aloud for the whole group). Explain that they will be working together to come up with practical solutions for Alex's situation.

3. Group Activity: Problem-Solving for Alex (25 minutes)

Activity: Divide participants into groups of 5-6. Ask each group to brainstorm and discuss the following questions: 1. What are the main challenges Alex is facing? 2. What steps can Alex take to improve his chances of finding a job? 3. What resources, skills, or strategies could Alex use to overcome his barriers (e.g., networking, improving skills, seeking mentorship)? Give each group a flip chart to write down their ideas. After 20 minutes, each group presents their solutions and strategies to the larger group.

4. Discussion & Reflection: Drawing Parallels to Their Own Lives (15 minutes)

Activity: After group presentations, facilitate a whole-group discussion: Ask participants if they can relate to Alex's situation. What are some challenges they have faced or seen in their own communities when it comes to finding a job? How might the solutions discussed apply to their own lives? Encourage participants to share personal experiences if they feel comfortable.

5. Empowerment Strategies: Practical Solutions (15 minutes) Activity:

After discussing the case study, guide participants in identifying specific empowerment strategies they can apply in their own journey: Building Skills: Identify free or low-cost resources for learning new skills (online courses, local workshops). Networking: How to build connections through volunteering, events, and social media. Mindset & Persistence: The importance of resilience and learning from rejections. Write these strategies on a central flip chart to create a list of actionable steps.

## 6. Personal Action Plan (15 minutes)

Activity: Distribute sticky notes or index cards to each participant. Ask them to reflect individually on their own goals and challenges. Have them write down:

1. One career goal they have.
  2. One immediate step they can take to work toward that goal.
- After 10 minutes, invite a few participants to share their goals and steps with the group.

## 7. Peer Support Circle:

Closing Activity (10 minutes) Activity: Ask participants to form a circle. Pass around an object (such as a marker). Whoever holds the object shares one positive message, piece of advice, or words of encouragement for the group. Continue until several participants have shared.

8. Final Wrap-Up & Takeaways (5 minutes) Facilitator Remarks: Summarize key points from the session: challenges, solutions, and the importance of staying proactive and empowered. Thank the participants for their engagement and remind them to apply the strategies discussed.