

Preparing Youth to Enter the Modern Workplace

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#### entra21: the Goal

To improve the employability of Latin American and Caribbean youth through innovative education strategies, life skills, information technology training and job placement.





# entra21: the Model



- Leveraging public and private sector investments
- Labor market studies
- Beneficiaries:
  - disadvantaged youth
  - □ ages 16 to 29
  - □ 50% female
- ICT <u>and</u> life skills training
- Internships & job placement services
- Grantmaking, technical assistance by IYF
- Local NGO implementation
  - 35 projects
  - 18 countries
  - leveraging 20% of project costs
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Learning for dissemination, policy making



## entra21: the Metrics

ORIGINAL TARGETS	ACCOMPLISHMENTS
\$23.75 million total investment	\$29.2 million invested
12,000 youth enter program	19,332 youth trained
20% drop-out rate	10-15% dropped out
40% placement rate	51% placed
Gender balance	55% of beneficiaries are female
Re-enrollment rate	22% re-enter school
Employer satisfaction	92% satisfaction with interns







#### entra21: the USAID contribution

Source	Amount
Global Development Alliance	\$3,000,000
Mission 'Buy-in': –Nicaragua –Colombia –Brazil –Guatemala	\$150,000 \$632,769 \$359,748 \$301,574
Total USAID Investment	\$4,444,091

#### Total program investment = \$29.2 million, ROI for USAID = 6.64



Multiple Stakeholders: the 'Ying and Yang'

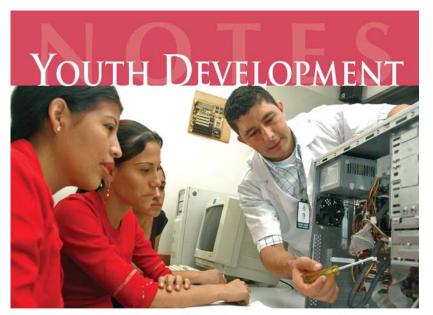
- The more the merrier?
- Alliances v. partnerships
- More complicated
- "Branding and marking" of shared ownership



#### entra21: Lessons Learned

GDA & Multi-Country Alliances:

- Who owns...and who cares?
- Opportunity for serious transnational learning- 'What Works'



#### Preparing Youth for 21st Century Jobs: 'Entra 21' Across Latin America and the Caribbean

The *entra 21* program demonstrates that youth from low income families in Latin America benefit from short-term job training, especially when combined with life skills, internships and job placement services. They develop technical and personal competencies, build social connections and, most importantly, enter the job market with decent entry-level jobs. What makes *entra 21* unique is its implementation in 18 countries across Latin America and the Caribbean through 32 executive agencies, most of which are NGOs. This diversity of contexts enables us to demonstrate whether projects with similar elements generate strong youth outcomes. The evidence to date indicates it does.



Today's youth (15–24) constitute the largest cohort ever to enter the transition to adulthood. Nearly 90% live in developing countries and the challenges they face—low quality education, lack of marktable skills high rates of unemployment, crime, early pregnancy, social exclusion, and the highest rates of new HNV AIDS infections—are costly to themselves and to society at large. Client demand for policy advice on how to tap the enormous potential of youth is large and growing. This series aims to share research findings and lessons from the field to address these important cross-sectoral topics.



### entra21: Lessons Learned



'Three-way learning':

- Corporate USAID
- Corporate NGO
- All three together