

## B20 Task Force on Employment: Concrete Actions for Los Cabos

The B20 Task Force on Employment has proposed five “Priority Actions for Los Cabos” to G20 stakeholders. These have been developed based on three foundational principles: First, that the priority actions be **scalable**, hence able to make a significant impact on the challenge of unemployment. Second, that they be able to be **locally adapted** to match the social, political and economic environments of the different G20 countries. Third, that they be formulated and adopted in such a way that stakeholders can be held **accountable** for their implementation over time.

While all five priority actions proposed by the Task Force represent sets of tangible, actionable ideas, two ideas in particular represent significant opportunities for G20 stakeholders to contribute to job creation.

### 1. **Recommendation:** *Facilitate growth of SMEs and innovative business models*

**Concrete action:** Business leaders and associations, with the support of local governments, should commit specific resources to supporting growth and innovation potential along value chains, including identifying and strengthening high-potential SMEs, cooperatives and social enterprises.

In all G20 economies, significant employment could be created by targeting and supporting those enterprises with both the desire and potential for rapid revenue and employment growth. Larger firms, particularly MNCs, have a unique opportunity to identify and strengthen such firms, using their knowledge and experience along value chains and building on existing supplier, customer and community relationships.

- We call upon **business leaders** to commit to setting aside a specific or an increased amount of funding as well as leadership support for these activities, with the goal of investing such resources along their value chain in the coming 12 months.
- We call upon **governments from pilot countries** to commit to creating enabling local environment for such value-chain and community-related investing, and identifying local government champions.
- We call upon **G20 governments and academic leaders** to invest in research on a robust methodology for targeting those enterprises with characteristics that indicate high growth potential.

### 2. **Recommendation:** *Scale internships and apprenticeships*

**Concrete action:** Business leaders and associations, with the support of national and local governments and academic institutions, should commit to a major campaign to scale and improve the image and quality of apprenticeships and internships.

The existence of a skills mismatch between the demands of business and labour force supply creates unnecessary unemployment and retards growth. Particularly among young people, both general employability skills and specific technical skills are often lacking. This mismatch can be somewhat alleviated by scaling and improving the image and quality of apprenticeships and internships, whereby job-relevant and career-enhancing skills are imparted in a supportive environment.

- We call upon **business leaders** to commit to a specific, incremental increase in their intake of apprenticeships and internships, with a suggested level of increase at 20% for the 12 months ahead.
- We call upon **G20 governments** to upgrade and scale local apprenticeship and internship programmes by working with training providers, accrediting bodies, education departments, and businesses on the content, curricula and design of apprenticeships and internships.
- We call upon **a pilot coalition of interested governments, academic institutions and businesses** (in at least five countries across Europe, Asia, Africa, North America and Latin America) to commit to, by June 2013, design and test the implementation of a cross-G20 internship and apprenticeship exchange scheme, similar to the Erasmus programme in Europe and North Africa.