Profiles of Out-of-School Youth

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Goals of the Study

- Provide better comparative data estimates of out-of-school youth population in developing countries.
- Provide a framework for analyzing the status of out-of-school-youth at a national and sub-national level.
- Provide analysis of existing data for developing out-of-school-youth policies and programs.
- Analyze the usefulness of existing data on out-of-school-youth.
Methodology and Data

- Identification of key youth population regions worldwide; measurement of out-of-school population.

- Emphasis on EFA goals of primary education completion and recent trends of countries.

- Emphasis on overlays of education and employment status

- DHS data set of 72 countries. Project allows us to identify usefulness of data for policy and programming analysis of countries.
The “Youth Bulge” factor

Wide Country variations in the age of out-of-school youth in Africa.

Key findings on the participation of youth in the education levels of out-of-school youth (including dropout populations)
Youth Populations Worldwide
The Largest Youth Bulge Cohort: Sub Saharan Africa

**Findings:**

- At least half of the youth are out-of-school.
- Extremes on the region from South Africa to Burkina Faso.
- Even countries with a strong educational system have large populations of out-of-school youth.

![Graph showing out-of-school youth percentages in Sub-Saharan Africa](chart.png)
Many out-of-school youth in Sub-Saharan Africa have no education.

Out-of-school youth with incomplete primary education—“drop outs”—are significant in a small number of SSA countries.
Most surprising finding: Out-of-school youth ages 10-14 largely have no education

- Every three out of four out-of-school youth ages 10-14 have no education.

- The older cohort of youth have greater percentage of primary education.

- What does this mean? These out-of-school youth are not “drop outs”, but rather never got into school nor progressed in school.
Preliminary Framework for Analysis of the Youth Cohort at National and Sub-national Level

- Data analyzing trends in youth employment
- The overlay of education and employment status, i.e., does education make a difference in the type of work that youth do and how productive they are?
- The degree to which youth development status is affected by other variables, e.g., gender, geographic location, and socio-economic status.
- The degree to which youth status is affected by health status.
Country Profile of Out-of-School Youth

Ethiopia

POPULATION 85,237,33
% Urban 17.0%
Life Expectancy 55.4 yrs
Fertility Rate 6.12
Pop growth rate 3.2%

POPULATION STRUCTURE
0 – 14 Yrs 46.1%
15 – 64 yrs 51.2%
+ 64 yrs 2.7%

ECONOMY
GDP/Capita $800

85% of the young men report that they engaged in work, whereas less than one-third of the females report having work.

High proportion of young men are working in agriculture.

68% of young women report “no work” which includes domestic home production.
In Ethiopia, rapid increase in primary education enrollments in last fifteen years yet with consequences

- Double the number of children and youth in school in the last 15 years
- High proportion of overage populations, including 15-19 years of age
- Greater gender bias with older youth of 15-24 years of age
Preliminary Conclusions and Recommendations

- Youth development strategy will vary depending on age (10-14, 15-19, 20-24).
- Access by younger youth to formal schooling remains a critical issue in SSA.
- Equity issues need to be addressed in the design of youth policies and programs.
- Existing data sets do not adequately describe the status of youth in developing countries.