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Introduction

"We cannot always build a future for our youth but we can build our youth for the future." These wise words from the U.S president, Franklin D Roosevelt, can be the starting point to understand the project, Nou Lavenir. In the prevailing sanitary and economic context, it is difficult for youth to plan their future. As we are adapting to the "New Normal" caused by the pandemic of Covid 19, new challenges have emerged and new set of skills are demanded to tackle them. For example, the increase in rate of unemployment is a recurring problem. It affects the youth who are planning to enter the labour market as they have to thrive to more to find a new job but faced more competition against experienced workers who are unemployed.



Reports on unemployment rate by Statistic Mauritius for the second quarter of 2021 showed that there were 54 800 people unemployed. Of these 54 800 persons, 17 100 were aged from 16 to 24 years old were unemployed, representing about 31% of

the population of unemployed person. Added to these figures, 10 300 were not yet married and looking for their first job. There were around 4 700 of them who possessed a qualification below the School Certificate. Furthermore when looking at the population of unemployed persons (54 800 persons), we may note that 18 800 were looking for their first job, representing 34 %. Thus, there was around 36 000 unemployed person looking for a job but having working experience.

So looking at the rate of unemployment, we may see the challenges of the youth willing to enter the labour market. The latter has to beat the experienced unemployed population, possess the right qualification and find a job in the sector of activity where he studied. Added to that, there is a lack of career guidance to guide the youth towards sector of activity where labour is required or demanded. Though having incentives such as free tertiary education, the rate of unemployment among youth will not decrease until a proper career guidance is offered to them before they start to pursue higher education. On the other hand, it will start to lead to "une generation de gradué chommeur" common terms used in the history of Mauritius where graduated students could not find a job due to the economic situation.

Failing to find a decent job to earn a living are starting point towards inequalities. It is more difficult to have access to basic needs such as food, shelter and cloth. Moreover, it can also have an impact of the mental health of people. For example, a youth who have pursue higher education and didn't find a job may face pressure from his/her parents, need to settle for underqualified job or need to learn again for a different sectors.

With the economic uncertainties resulting from the two lockdown in 2020 and 2021, the future was not so bright for the youth entering the labour market. Incentives such as grant to pay for the exams of the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate and free tertiary education for the fresher's combined with the increase rate of unemployment among youth will certainly lead to "une generation de gradué chommeur". Moreover, those failing to reach a higher level of education will find it more difficult to enter the labour market.

In order to reduce unemployment, one should first of all find its root causes. This challenging task when undertook may range from various causes ranging from lack of job opportunity to voluntary unemployment. Envisioning to tackle the increasing rate of unemployment among youth aged from 16 to 30 find its first difficulties with data ranging only from 16 to 24 years old. Furthermore youth cannot only be categorised into female and male when talking about unemployment among youth. There are various factors, affecting in particular the youth and each one at a different rate, which prevent them from being employed. For example, race, level of education or socio-economic backgrounds.

Through our project we tried to find some common grounds when looking at the causes of unemployment and we tried to bring forward new solutions in order to prepare the youth before entering the labour market. When it was more difficult to seize a job opportunity, we tried to focus on making them aware that they can create their own job opportunity

Anou koz to karyer

The UN Systeinable Goals

Reduce Poverty



Tackling poverty in the future generation starts by tackling the root cause now. If we want the adults of tomorrow not to face poverty, we need to empower the youth of today. Empowerment may be done through various actions such as education or helping to have proper access to basic needs. In the context of our project, Nou Lavenir believes that a decent job may help an individual cater for his/her basic needs. Therefore, there is a need to remove

the barriers preventing youth to find a job or apply for a job. With our various awareness sessions on CV writing and job interview, we aim to give the youth the right information in order to enter the labour market.

Quality education

Youth learn new skills and acquire knowledge through the educational system. However our educational system lacks initiatives to invite youth to put into actions what they have learned. Take for example our board games, Antreprener Kifer pa mwa. This game is based upon the curriculum of Grade 9, Business Studies and Entrepreneurship. Youth have learned it at school but few asked themselves if they could be the next



entrepreneur. Our Board game is an invitation to do so and proposed the youth a scenario-based concept where they can think of a product or service they wish to supply to the society. Thus, they start cultivating the entrepreneurial spirit at a young age and are more aware that they can be creating their own job opportunity.

Reduce Inequality

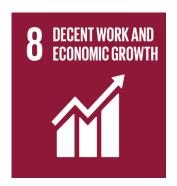


When we talk about youth, it is difficult to categorise them upon age only. As you will read through the following pages, youth can be classified upon level of education and socio-economic background. Taking into these consideration these inequalities helps us to design more adapted tools to help them find a job or simply discuss about entrepreneurship. The use of Kreol language as a

medium is a starting point to reach the maximum number of Mauritian participant. Thus, we may gather youth having different level of education. Furthermore, knowing the different inequalities is also a way to find the right speaker to deliver upon career guidance and SME guidance.

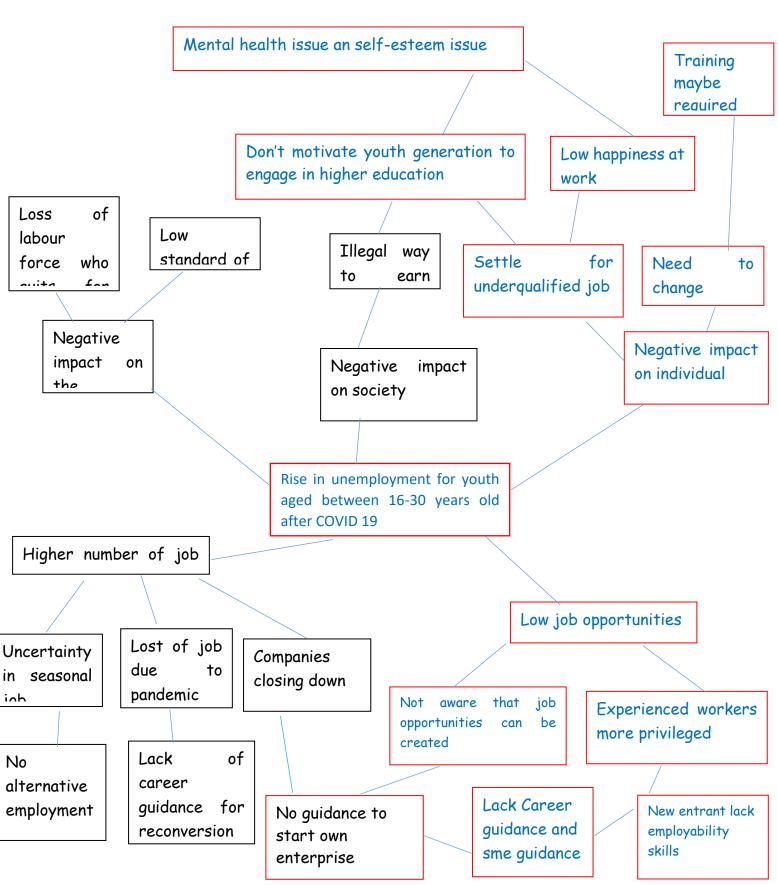
Decent work and economic growth

With the pandemic of Covid 19, it is more and more difficult for youth to find a job opportunity. However, lockdown period can be opportunity to think about own enterprise. Though there are incentives for many countries to embark youth in the world of entrepreneurs, these incentives should be more adapted to fit the realities of youth. The youth having only a higher school certificate needs a different kind of empowerment compared to the

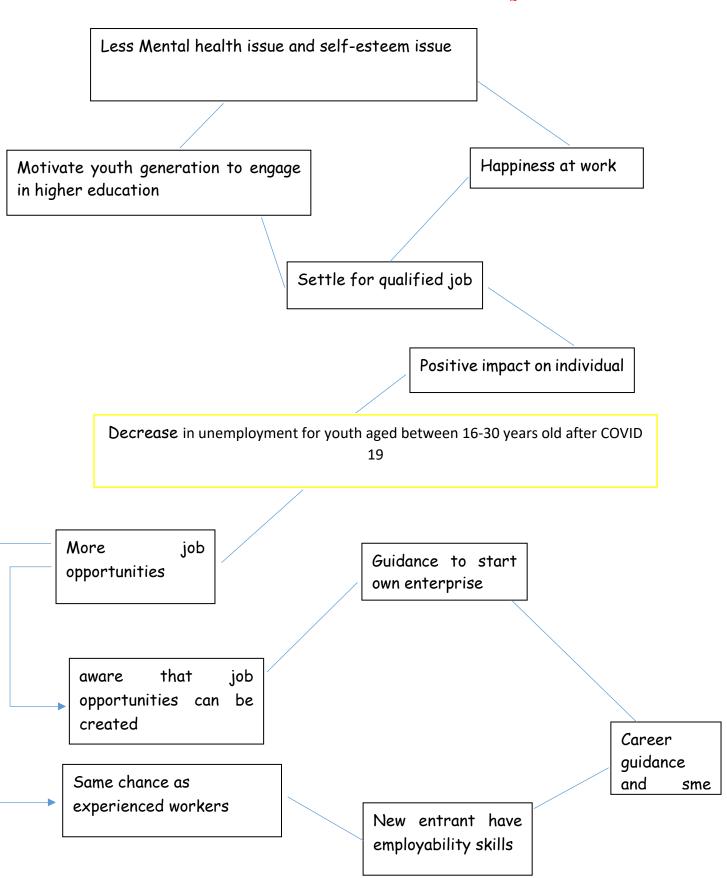


one having pursue higher education. Moreover, these initiatives as stated above should be more adapted to the language of the beneficiaries. To this we may add, that initiatives should also fit the need of the youth. Someone starting a SME after college may need more capital and more information as compared to someone who had some working experience and accumulated a small capital.

Problem Tree



Solution tree (targeted part)



Log frame

	Description	indicator	Measurement	Risk	Assumptions
Goal Outcome	To decrease the rate of unemployment among youth (16-30 years old) by increasing their job opportunities prospect Job seekers will be	Statistic Mauritius reports on the rate of unemployment among youth People Reach	Feedback of	Online	1) Job
	aware of set of skills and have the correct information to find a job or to start a new business	through online platform and awareness session	people who did find a job or create a business (survey)	content cannot reach audience easily due to lack of engaging content happiness at work depend more on work environment job opportunity still not available and no incentive from government Entrepreneur especially youth lack facilities for starting business	seekers will settle for job trained or create the job opportunity. 2) happiness at work 3) good career perspective

	Description	indicator	Measurement	Risk	Assumptions
Output	Create tools to start a discussion about SME with youth Starting entrepreneurs have the basic information for a better start of their business New entrant on labour market have the correct information on how to apply for a job	1)People Reach through online platform and awareness session 2) number of board games distributed	Feedback of people who used the game or attended session on SME creation Analytics collected such as number of people reach Number of Cv writing kit distributed	Parents already have ways to discuss about career guidance Parents don't want children to start a entrepreneurs Sanitary measures preventing organisation of awareness session Medium and language used	Career perspective or setting a SME are discussed more easily in order to cater for career guidance More incentive to create job opportunity instead of waiting More successful job interviews for job seekers
Activities	Awareness session on how to write a CV, attend a job interview and what is an entrepreneur		People who attended	Sanitary measures Budget	People are interested in career perspective of children
	online videos on what is an entrepreneur and understanding the world of entrepreneur		Analytics of number people reached	unable to grow audience failure to have the good information	People are interested in career perspective of children

	Description	indicator	Measurement	Risk	Assumptions
Activities	Publish a small kit about CV writing in the media	Number of newspaper sold	Data from news organisation	Failure to reach target audience as newspaper audience is different	People are interested in career perspective of children
	Distribute a CV writing kit at the end of our awareness session	Number of awareness session organised	Number of participant who accepted the kit	Sanitary measures prevent organising awareness session	People are interested in career perspective of children
	A board games on entrepreneurship to be used during our awareness session	Number of awareness session	Number of players who played the game	Teen more interested in online game Lack of sponsorship to realise the game	People are interested in career perspective of children

Stakeholders

Our targeted audience

To reduce the rate of unemployment between youth aged between 16-30 years old, we aim to promote entrepreneurship and make the youth more employable before entering the labour market. However before the application of our project on a higher scale, our team wish to

gather data on the activities proposed by implementing the project with youth in shelters or those who are accompanied by local NGO. Why this target audience? Our primary target is to give to the youth the right information and guidance before starting their career. Focusing on youth in Shelters and NGO will help us to develop tools and awareness session which are more

adapted to a larger scope of audience ranging from 16-30 years old. Moreover, a list of activities will be also be tested with 'normal' youth in order to calibrate our tools and awareness session to meet their expectancies.

For example, the board game, Antrepreneur kifer pa mwa, was first developed to promote entrepreneurship among youth in shelters. Why? As many of them goes to technical school, we wanted to teach them that at the end of their technical formation, they may start a little enterprise on their own if they don't get a job opportunity. Talking about entrepreneurship to them is an ideal way to boost their self-esteem and give them the ability to dream about being their own boss. If this is done, our board game will give them a look of what is an entrepreneur.



Sponsors

Our project was fully financed by our team. With the ongoing sanitary context of Covid 19, we wanted to create a new form of solidarity. One which is based either giving your time freely or through a barter system: you help us, we help you. For example, our video, ABCD for entrepreneur, was made through this system. We presented a concept for helping entrepreneurs to the platform, StartUp Moris and propose editing of the video, in exchange the latter could use it to promote its brand. This system of barter demands us to give a helping hand in order to receive one.

However, for our awareness session, the part on CV Writing, we got the help of Human resource professional who were willing to help us free of charge. Through this experience, we observed that the future of youth is important for many adults and professionals. These individuals want to help the youth but failed to find a system where they could give their time and put their experience at use. Through our platform, we try to emphasize the concept, sponsorship of knowledge. This means that we need your time and experience to create tools and awareness session in order to help the youth

It is important to note that some people helped us during our awareness session of the 11^{th} of September by simply serving refreshment during breaks and providing products such tea or packet of milk for the session.

NGOs and shelters

Accessing Shelters during the current pandemic situation was not easy due to sanitary measures. However, we have succeeded in organising an awareness session on CV writing at the NGO Movement Progre Roche-Bois. The goal was to help them understand what a CV is and how to we write one. Furthermore, keeping good relationship with NGOs is important. Firstly, our project has some aspect such as helping youth to write and read which our team cannot do. Secondly, this type of public as explained above helps us to understand how broad an audience ranging from 16 to 30 years old is.



Activities overview

Board game

In order to promote entrepreneurship among youngsters aged from 15, our group designed a board game, Antreprener, Kifer pa mwa. The aim of this game is to take them on an adventure to discover the challenges and the joy of being his own boss. From paying the

expenses to recording the income, the player has to move along a board, with the use of dice and also cards. Before engaging himself into this experience, each player/ group of players has to come up with an innovative product/service, a name for his company and the sector where it

would operate. From this point and after having filled the basic information into their income

statement, they move along the board facing different scenarios according to the card.

This game helps the players to familiarise himself to terms used in the world of an entrepreneur. To make it more easily accessible, we have kept the term in English and put in an explanation in Kreol. The game is fully designed in Kreol in order to prevent language being a barrier. Furthermore, the use of Kreol is to bring more fluency while playing and when players express themselves or their ideas.

Moreover, some cards have been designed not only for explanatory but also to make the players think about situations which they may face as an entrepreneur. Starting a business demands risk-taking abilities and ability to be continuously innovative to tackle any issues.



Added to that, the board game can be used as a tool not only to promote entrepreneurship but to help parents know more about the career path of their teenagers. With this game, we aimed at providing a means to start a dialogue and cultivate the entrepreneurial spirit.

CV express kit



This is a flyer we have designed where it gives simple tips to users on how to write a CV and how to prepare for a job interview. The kit was distributed freely of the end our awareness session and was also published in the magazine, La Catholique. It was then shared on our Facebook

page in order to gain more visibility and to reach more audience.

Videos about entrepreneurship



We tried to reach an online audience via our videos. One was talking about what is an entrepreneur by the Dr Michael Pompeia. The latter is an author currently writing and organising sessions about how can we be an entrepreneur. Moreover we tried also to explore the world of entrepreneurship with Start-Up Moris. This platform gives tips freely to entrepreneurs on the web and we contact them for our idea of an ABC about entrepreneurship.

This will help new and future entrant to be more acquainted to terms used as entrepreneur.

Awareness session

One of the objectives of nou lavenir is to reach the youths through awareness session to better understand the challenges they face entering the labour market

It was a challenge to find a location and having access to educational institutions since they were not operating normally due to Covid 19 sanitary measures. Despite this we were able to carry out 2 awareness session.

First awareness session



Our first awareness took place at an NGO - Movement Progre Roche -Bois on the 7 September 2021, where we explained the basics of CV writing. We had 12 participants, 10 boys and 2 girls aged 15 -17.

We started by asking them to introduce themselves and

drawing the job they wanted to do. All of them wanted to have their own business but did not know how to proceed.

We then started by our Curriculum Vitae session we found out that most of them did not know what a Cv is. We showed them a video made by Joyce CHEUNG TZE MOW a human resource professional which helped them better grasp this new information which would definitely help them while applying for a job.

During the Cv writing time, we gave them a cv template and helped them fill it. We encountered a lot of unexpected challenges during implementation, many of the participants did not understand English and had difficulties to read, we had to alter the time we planned for each activity and quickly adapt to the situation in order to effectively carry out the Cv writing session.

We also noted that all of them dreamed about becoming their own boss and they appreciated the video therefore career guidance information's should be delivered for them in terms of creative, innovative and visual form.



Second Awareness session



Our second awareness session took place on the 11th September 2021 with the same objective as our first event -Cv writing and Entrepreneurship but this time we had the help from Human Resource professional Christopher SOPHIE and Dr Michael Pompeia for SME Guidance. We had 14 participants 15 to 48 years old, 4 girls and 10 boys.

We started by giving the participants a Cv template and we assisted them. We noted that they were able to fill it easily compared to our first awareness session.

We then had a video made by Joyce which explain about -what is a CV ,which was followed by Mr Christopher SOPHIE who went into much detail about Cv and interview .The participants had the opportunity to ask questions about Job interview and CV writing





We grouped the participants into three groups for the next part of the activity. Breaking them into groups helped them build a team spirit. As a group they had to fill the profit and loss statement sheet whereby they had to come up with the name of the business, sector of activity and their product and services for the board game. Then we were able to actually test our board game and the reaction was beyond our expectation, the participants were fully participating and wanted to continue playing, again because of time constraint, we had to stop the game earlier than planned.







The last part of the session was about a talk with Michael Pompeia, who initiated in the youth the entrepreneurship spirit. We ended by giving the participants the Cv express toolkit and a Cv template.

Challenges

- 1) Our main challenge was that our team was limited in terms of numbers. Yanick was the leader and responsible for video editing and contacting potential stakeholders. Manthaghinee was responsible for social media and any crafting and artistic responsibilities. Diya was responsible of all administrative purpose such as gathering information for online content or creating PowerPoint for our awareness session. However, we sometimes face challenges such as organising ourselves to do the task. Furthermore, with online training and meeting, it was difficult to create the necessary bonding to act as a team. However, we managed to implement our session and develop our ideas. Even if our responsibilities have to overlap. In the long term, our team should grow if we want to be more organised and face the different challenges of this project
- 2) Financial support was not looked because we didn't plan to use this system. However, when organising session and printing board game, we had to use our own money. Furthermore, financial support could not be asked because we lack ability to write sponsorship letter. This should have been taught in the leadership course for us to have a basic knowledge on how to look for sponsor.
- 3) Low level of education and language were repeated barriers that we faced in two of our awareness session. We tried to use kreol most of the time but for our awareness session, we could not have a CV in Kreol. Furthermore, as most recruiting agency look for English or French CV, it is sometimes difficult to use kreol in these situation. Therefore, our team tried our best to assist the participant when they had difficulties expressing themselves.
- 4) We have time constraint during the awareness sessions which hindered the flow of the activities.
- 5) The lack of experience in the world of social cause or social project. Though we have a "book" knowledge on how our project could be. We constantly had to adapt to meet the different situation and how to explain to youth things in a simple way. Sometimes, this may impact on time management as we are now discovering the realities of the participant.
- 6) Sanitary measures prevented us to have more access to shelters and NGOs and we had to use videos of our speakers in order for our beneficiaries to know more about CV writing.
- 8) We had to look for help to write correct and standardised kreol language.



Outcomes

- 1) Participant aged from 15 to 40 learned about CV writing and what is an entrepreneur. We realise that though our target is an audience between 16 and 30 years, we could accommodate higher age if necessary.
- 2) Our facebook page had 200 likes and succeeded in providing our first online presence. We succeeded in publishing two videos on entrepreneurship. We also publish positive post to help to motivate those searching for a job or starting their own business.
- 3) Our board game was used in our second awareness session and gain attention through the media: Defimedia, Kool Fm and MBC. This coverage was not expected and motivated us to pursue our goal in coming forward with innovative tools to discuss about entrepreneurship and career guidance.
- 4) Our CV express Kit was shared to participant at the end of our awareness session. It was also published in the newspaper, La Vie Catholique and was another way for our project to gain exposure.
- 5) Some participant discovered for the first time a CV and other started to ask themselves questions about why not to be an entrepreneur



Getting ready for tomorrow

The French author, Antoine de St-Exupery, rightly claimed that "a goal without a plan is simply a wish", shedding into light the importance of having a plan to be sustainable in the future. As stated before, the project, Nou Lavenir, aimed to realise these two following objectives to reduce the rate of unemployment among youngsters aged between 16 years old to 30 years old:

- Promote entrepreneurial spirit and information about entrepreneurship so that young people may start their own business. Thus they may become job providers instead of job seekers
- Increase their employability skills and help them to be more prepared when entering the labour market to seek for a job

Furthermore, this targeted segment of the Mauritian society keeps renewing itself every year and each new entrants brings along new challenges. It is important to keep in mind that beyond age, there are multiple factors such as race, gender, background history or level of education which can affect the chance of young people to be employed. Therefore, the different activities performed under the project cannot make abstractions of these differences and has to come up with solutions to cope with them, but also to ensure that we are able to create a nearly-tailor made programme for career guidance and SME guidance for each and every segment of youth between 16-30 years old.

Organisation

Before bringing forward our long-term plan, it is important to define and organise ourselves as a group in order to be more effective in our mission. The choice of the type of organisation we want to form depends upon the following criteria:

- Reaching our targeted audience more easily
- Easy access to our services with no high fees to contribute
- More ease to group ourselves with other associations and other organisations

Forming a NGO is a viable options, following the above criteria, for us to reach the youth. It will be also easier to associate with other non-profit organisation evolving in relating to same field of activities as our project. Through our awareness session, we have observed that building a career is not only about career counselling and SME guidance. Some youth face certain difficulties such as lack of leadership, illiteracy or lack of self-confidence. Though these are not under our field of activities, they need to be tackled to ensure that our programmes achieved their objectives. Why the need to associate.



Furthermore, the first segment of our targeted audience are youth from shelters and NGOs. Thus, choosing a non-profit type of organisation enables our group to build connection or work with our partners with more ease. Today, 'bilateral help' is more easily achieved and more likely prone between different NGOs.

However, several forms of organisation remain at our disposition such as being a Youth club operating under the Ministry of Youth with the same objectives as stated before.

Another way to achieve our mission is to be simply "une plateforme citoyenne". Though with no proper legal recognition in Mauritius, this form of association have been popular in regrouping people with the same vision. However, this is very difficult to gain access to financial aid unless we create campaign with other types of enterprise or NGOs.

Building a sustainable plan

No matter the form of organisation for our project, Nou Lavenir, our objectives remain clearly stated: Career guidance and SME guidance for youth aged between 16-30 years old in order to reduce the rate of unemployment. Moreover, you surely came across, in the previous pages, the different types of activities and tools we have developed to achieve our mission. However questions remained on how we are going to be more innovative as compared to existing profit or non-profit organisation evolving in the same field of activities. Added to that is how to we build a programme which is human-centered; that is taking into consideration the different segments forming our targeted audience of youth.

To these questions, we have devised a set of solutions which need to be implemented through phases either for career guidance or SME guidance. Keeping in mind the complexity of our targeted audience and our limited resources, the devised solutions should have a certain rate of trial and error in order to adapt to the needs of the different segment of youth.

Career guidance

To prepare the youth for the labour market, our career guidance needs to answer the following questions:

- What he/she want to do in life
- How he/ she can achieve it in life
- How he/she can cope with the challenges of "le monde du travail"

To answer these questions, we aim to devise set of activities through videos, games and awareness session to target youth at different age. This set of activities come in three stages: Aware, inform and accompany. The kreol language should act as medium in these activities but the types of audience should also be kept in mind

Aware



At this stage, we target mainly youth aged between 16-25 years old and we prepare them to enter the labour market. Our kit and awareness session on CV writing and job interview are good ways to make them more employable and pass the first door leading to a professional career. However, prior to that, we need to ask them what they want

to achieve in life? To this question, we aim to design a drawing booklet which take into consideration some of following questions:

- Who am i
- What are my qualities and set of skills
- What was my dream job when I was a 6
- Three jobs I am willing to pursue

When we dream, we don't dream words but images. By answering simple question about what she/he want to do in life through drawing, a youth is already envisioning his career. Moreover the use of image negate the problem of illiteracy for certain youngsters.

Inform

Aimed at youth from 16-25 years old where they are either thinking to enter the labour market our undergoing higher education for their career job. The youth need to be discover different types of jobs (or simply the job they are willing to do), how they are changing with time and use of technology and how do we evolve in them. For example: being a teacher is not simply about teaching but also about planning scheme of work, engaging in learning new pedagogical tools. This exposure can be done through simple educational tours in enterprise where workers explain their job and mission of the enterprise.

Furthermore we can have testimonials of workers from different sector of activity explaining their job and challenges and changes over time.

When we talk about discovering working life, we are also talking about the different internship opportunities in various companies. Thus, information about this topic should be available to youth together with programmes of internship

put forward by local governments. To make access more possible, we may gather the information on an online platform or disseminate it through our awareness sessions on CV writing and Job interview.

Accompany

How to have the right working balance in life? How to manage stress at work? Entering the labour market is a new experience and it can be an overwhelming one. This can be due to the number of refusal following job application or failing to adapt rapidly from a student life to a working life. Added to that, the pandemic of Covid 19 has brought new working patterns which many youth are not really prepared to. This is why there is a need to address the mental health issue that some youth are facing when entering labour market or failing to do so.

Moreover, the question of worker's right need also to be addressed because nowhere in our educational system at college, we are taught about the right of a workers. Furthermore, workers laws are mostly English written and not accessible to everyone. This is why there need to be Kreol language based awareness session and videos to tackle this topic

SME Guidance

"If you've never tried, how will you ever know if there's any chance?" This words from Jack Ma, founder of Alibaba.com brings us to the entrepreneurial part of our project. But let's see this question from another perspective. If there is no intention to talk about what is entrepreneur when talking about career guidance to youth, how will there be a chance. If we don't design grants and tools for youth to start a business or accompany them to do so, how will there be a chance. But mostly, if we don't pass on experience gained, not only about success but also failure, to the youth, how will there be a chance. Through our project we aimed to make entrepreneurial life not something you start when you are retiring or nearly but as the first step in your career. This can be done through the following three stages: Aware, inform and accompany





Through our awareness session, we invited Dr Michael Pompeia to talk about what is an entrepreneur and why can't it be me. This session in Kreol enabled some youth to have a first grasp of the entrepreneurial life. It is this first grasp that made us designed a board game to help the youth discover the world of entrepreneurs and be one for some moment. The aims of the games

have already been discussed in the previous page. Added to that we envision to either commercialise the game for Rs150 or look for sponsorship to manage its production cost. In either case, there is a need to explore this avenue because we lack of activities in the education system to make youth aware that they can be entrepreneurs.

Inform



When the youth are aware that they may start their own business and no more be job seekers. The next step is making information about being an entrepreneurs available and accessible, taking into consideration that language should not be a barrier. This is the main objective of the "ABCD pour entrepreneurs",

a series of video to help youngsters understand the different terms in this new business world. Furthermore for registered young entrepreneurs, we have created the programme, "Dress to biziness", a series of video about tips in how you can help your business to grow. Moreover, there is a need to have partners such as SME Mauritius in able to pursue this phase of our project. Why? Because, it is important that youth gain the same access to information from public bodies and that barriers such as language and age are eliminated in the process.

Accompany

We all want to be the next Steeve Job or Jack Ma when we talk about entrepreneurs. But, one question, why don't we portrayed the success of local entrepreneurs in our country. Why don't we use them as examples for the youth? This is one part of this phase: having testimonials of success and failures of local entrepreneurs; their challenges and joy or making them inspire the next generation. Added to that, there is a need to create network of young entrepreneurs in order to share experience but also in order to help new ones grow more easily.