



# YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IN GHANA

CATHY (YU) XIA — SUPERVISED BY PROF. FRANKLYN LISK  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS EMAIL: CATHYXIA07@GMAIL.COM

## INTRODUCTION

- **Why**
  - Ghana, the sub-Saharan African country with one of the highest education rates within Africa, is facing a trend of increasing youth population with higher education attainment
  - However, it faces an issue of increasing youth unemployment, which doubles simultaneously
  - The hidden issue of ineffectiveness use of youth working force is getting more important for other developing countries
- This research aims to investigate the reasons of high youth unemployment and bridge the gap between the research findings and policy implications

## METHODOLOGIES

- Literature Review: Examined previous studies on effectiveness of related government policies
- Consultations: Engaged with Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER), Youth Employment Agency (YEA), National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Program (NEIP)
- Empirical analysis: logit regression model based on 13311 samples from Ghana Living Standard Surveys



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

## KEY FINDINGS

1. **Mismatch** between education attainment and labour market
  - a. Overemphasis on humanities course, shortage of early career preparation, lack of high-skilled job with competitive wage and emmigration of high skilled graduates
  - b. Suggestion: introduce career related events and service into campus and enhance community-based work experience before graduation
2. limited government **budget** for youth employment programs
  - a. Insufficient monitoring and delayed funding for National Service Scheme (NSS) and YEA
  - b. Suggestion: potential public expense cut in areas such as free school meal, uniform and accommodation for budget reallocation
3. Supporting Youth **Entrepreneurship**
  - a. It's one of the key solutions to address the issue. NEIP plays a significant role, offering funding and support for every stage of startup development. Successful cases highlight how innovative enterprises can create job opportunities.
  - b. Suggestion: There's potential in leveraging current "Artisan Directory" "Agriculture Flagship" program under YEA. Cross-authority collaboration in tourism and agriculture can unlock new possibilities for job creation.

## CONCLUSION

- The fundamental issue lies in the mismatch between labor supply and labor demand, necessitating a vibrant economic environment for youth entrepreneurship and career directed higher education.
- This poster lacks time series analysis, it provides insights into the issue but would benefit from further quantitative research to validate findings.

