



মস্মেলন ২০২২

যুব সমাজ ও এমডিজি

আজকে দাঁড়িয়ে, আগামীর ভাবনা

১ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২২, কৃষিবিদ ইন্সটিটিউশন বাংলাদেশ, ঢাকা

Skills Gap and Youth Employment Challenges in Bangladesh

Parallel Session 6: Decent Work and Economic Growth

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About the exercise

This document is an outcome of a collaborative process of the young students who have participated in drafting the thematic papers. The participants were selected through an online competition facilitated by UNYSAB and UNDP Bangladesh. On behalf of the Citizen's Platform, young CPD researchers have curated the papers under a coherent structure and guided the authors to complete the exercise successfully.

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Context

- Bangladesh's population is experiencing a demographic dividend with the youth population between the age of 15 to 29 years making up 28% of the population.
- In order to harness the potential of this demographic dividend, improving the skillsets of the youth and enhancing their productivity has to be given attention.
- Currently there is a skills gap between the skill demands of the employers and the supply of youth with the required skills entering the market.
- Harmonising this supply and demand mismatch in professional skills is critical to solving the youth unemployment puzzle, especially unemployment among the educated youth.
- The youth not in education, employment or training (NEET) accounts for one fourth of the youth population in Bangladesh; reaching out to these disengaged youth is of utmost importance to make full use of the demographic dividend.
- Recovering from the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic which has had devastating effects on learning and employment, alongside the present difficult macroeconomic scenario with high inflation, sound policy interventions for ensuring youth employment is ever crucial to avoid future social and labour market challenges.

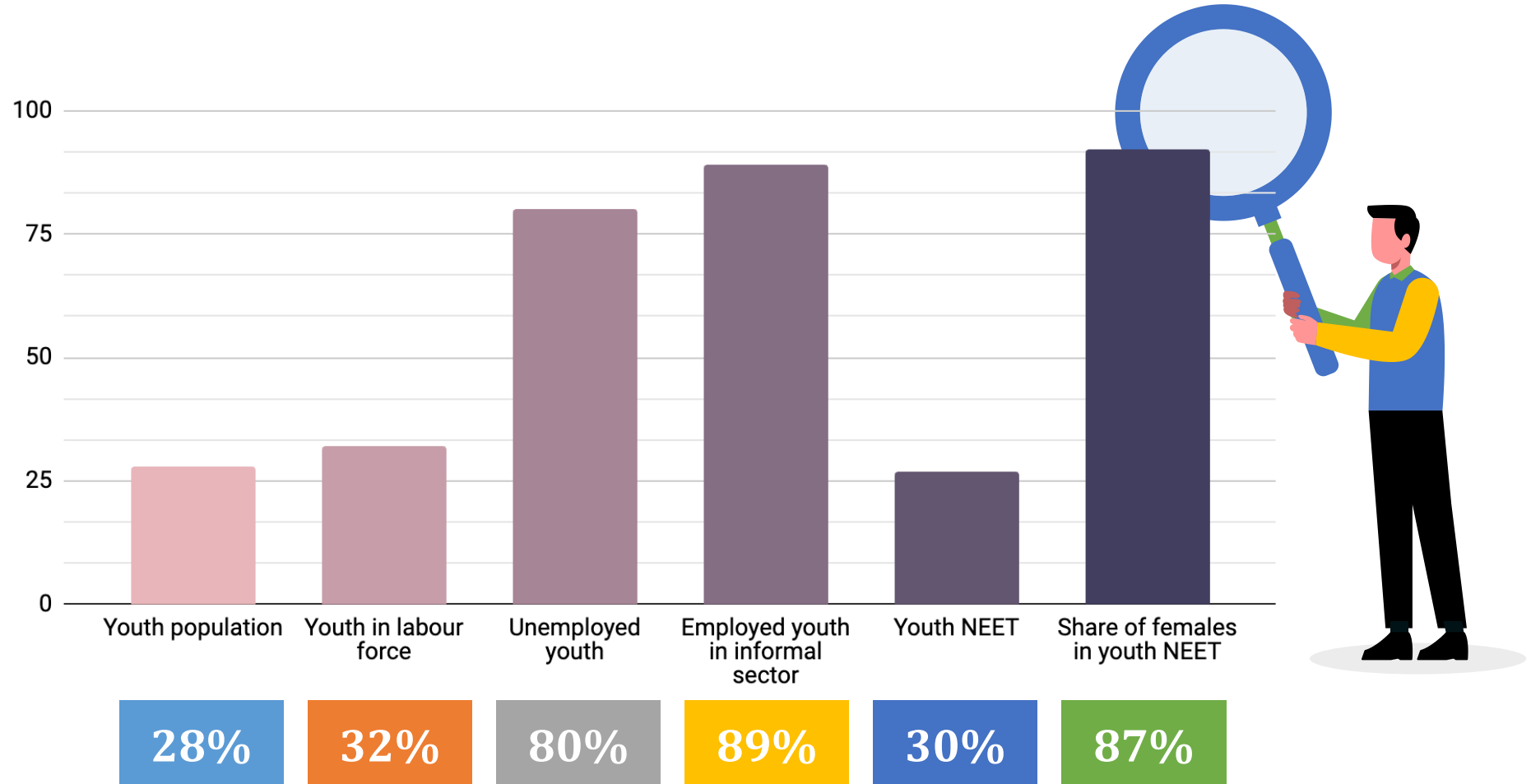
Status Quo of Youth Employment in Bangladesh

Status Analysis:

Unemployment among the youth accounts for a substantial 80% of the total unemployed.

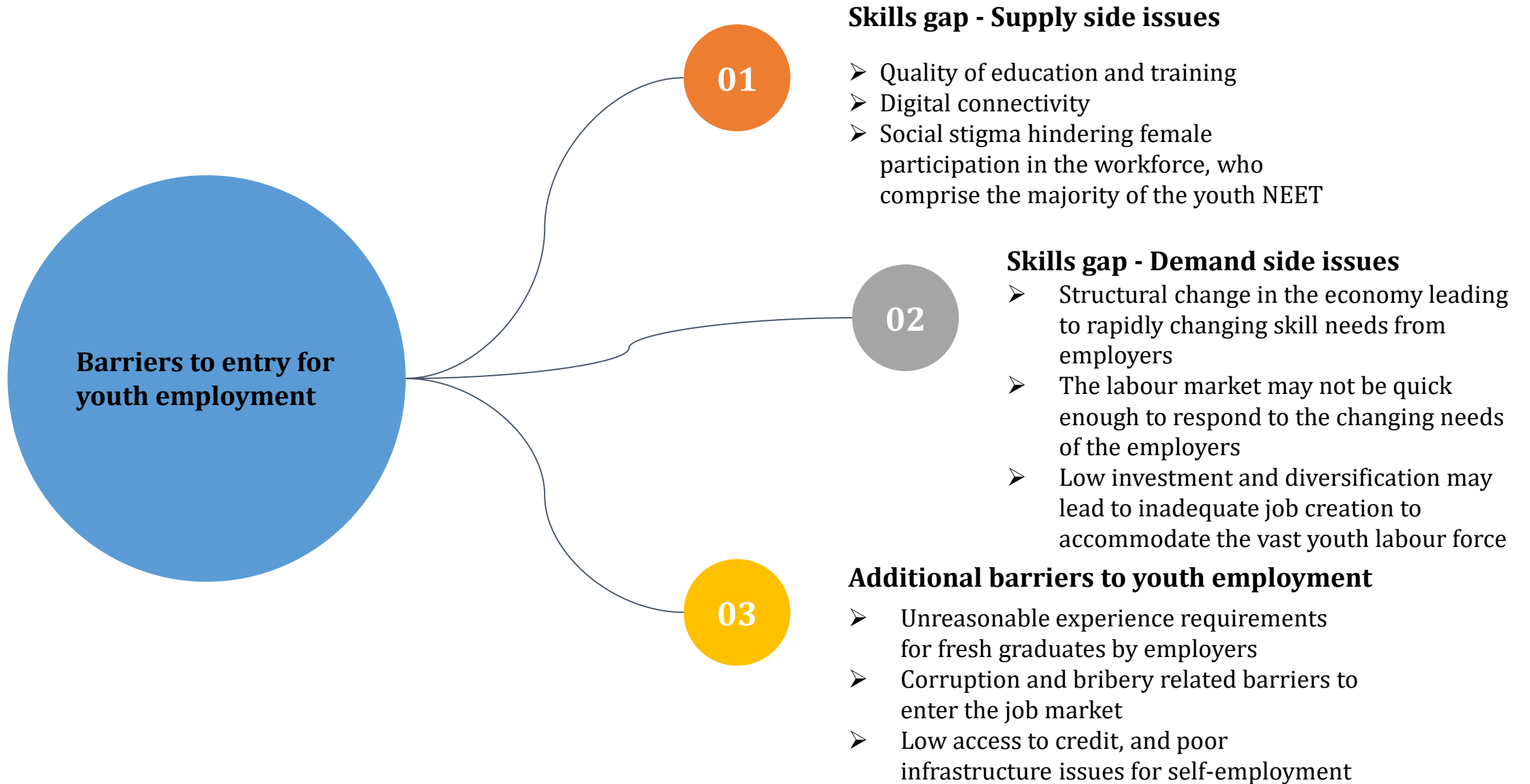
As a share of total employment, a staggering 89% of youth in the informal sector.

Females accounting for 87% of youth NEET.



Source: Population and Housing Census (2022), BBS; LFS (2017), BBS;

Current Issues in Youth Employment



Recommendations

Role of the government

01

Harness the demographic dividend by supporting the mobility of the youth to more productive sectors and providing them with affordable credit to encourage self-employment.

Role of the youths

02

Take self-driven initiatives to develop demand driven professional skills and effectively market skills to employers.

Role of the community

03

Reaching out to the disengaged, left behind youths and encouraging productive activity among them to make the most of the demographic dividend.

Thank You



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