



### Youth Engagement and Livelihood Program (YELP) and Technical Intern Training Program (TITP) launched

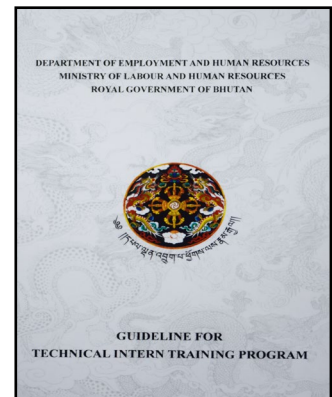
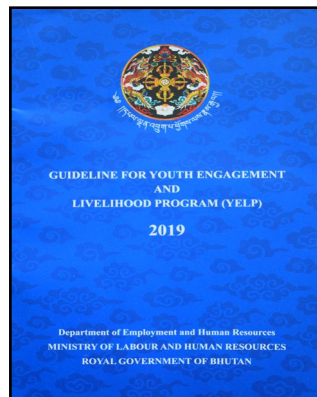
**Chimi Rinzin & Phurba Sonam Waiba**  
**Department of Employment and Human Resources**

The Youth Engagement and Livelihood Program (YELP) and Technical Intern Training Program (TITP) of the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources were launched by Labour Minister Ugyen Dorji on 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2019, in Thimphu.

YELP is a school-to-work transition program which will provide job seekers with opportunity

to enhance their skills and gain work experience. The program incorporates the government's aim to support livelihood of youth while being engaged productively under the construction and agriculture sectors prioritized among others.

YELP is a program designed to improve on the delivery and effectiveness of existing industry engagement programs. YELP will [Pg.2](#)



### Handover Ceremony of Handbook for Young Workers to the Department of Labour

**Dechen Yangzom**  
**Department of Labour**

Chief Representative of JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), Mr. Kozo Watanabe handed over the "Handbook for Young Workers" to Director of Department of Labour at the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources, Thimphu on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

The book is especially target-

ed for the youth and it explains the important provisions of the Labour and Employment Act of Bhutan, 2007 in a clear and concise manner for easy reference anytime anywhere. It'll serves as a supplementary reading material-'The essential guide on employees' Rights and Obligations at the [Pg.3](#)

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be offered through four board sub programs:

- 1) Youth Engagement Program (YEP);
- 2) Employment Support Program (ESP);
- 3) Project Specific Program (PSP); and,
- 4) Skills Training Program (SP).

During the launch the Department signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Construction Development Corporation Limited (CDCL), Pyelber Lokchey Nyamchoe Laydey (PLNL) and Youth Group of Panbang to engage the youth through this program. Around 1,500 job seekers will be supported under the program annually. The program was developed based on the findings on the impact of Direct Employment Scheme, carried out jointly by the GNHC and the ministry. Looking at the effectiveness of the program, GNHC recommended the ministry to make it more engaging and inclusive. The Department of Employment of Human Resources (DoEHR) has initiated acceptance of vacancies from different employers for engagement under YELP.

TITP is the outcome of the Memorandum of Cooperation signed between the Ministry and the Government of Japan in 2018. The program

which has been designed in direct collaboration with the Japanese government will allow our Bhutanese youth to pursue internships with Japanese employers to gain skills and knowledge for their employability. The internship is also expected to result in the transfer of skills, technologies, and knowledge to the Bhutanese youth which will culminate in the capacity development of Bhutanese people.

The youth will be placed for three years of internships in various implementing organizations in Japan with a possible extension of up to five years. The employing agencies will pay a stipend, facilitate the accommodation and logistics for youth during the internship. After the internship, beneficiaries are expected to return home to join the labour market in the similar sectors of their engagement. The Ministry expects youth to bring back critical skills in filling the job vacancies at home. However, they can also choose to work in Japan through their own choice if they get a working visa.

The Guideline for the YELP and TITP were also launched on the same date. The Guidelines are available for download at [www.molhr.gov.bt](http://www.molhr.gov.bt) under the publication section of the DoEHR.

## Annual Rimdro of MoLHR Conducted

**Sonam Choden, ICT Division**



An annual Office Rimdro was conducted by the Labour and Human Resources Ministry on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The Rimdro was presided over by the Tsula Lopen with 14 monks from the Zhung Dratshang and was attended by Hon'ble Minister, Dasho Secretary, Director General,

Directors and staff of the Ministry. The Rimdro on Dolma Yudog, Drakmar, Mikha, Domsap, Gyenyen and Gomo was performed for the wellbeing of the King, Country, People, and the MoLHR family. The Rimdro concluded with a blessing (Wang) by the Tsula Lopen.

## New Director of Directorate Services Joined Office



Mr. Chewang Jurmi joined the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources joined the Directorate Services (DS), Ministry of Labour and Human Resources as the new Director on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

Prior to joining the Directorate Services, he served as the Sr. Dzongrab of Thimphu Dzongkhag Administration.

## Handover Ceremony of Handbook for Young Workers to the Department of Labour

**From Pg.1**

workplace.



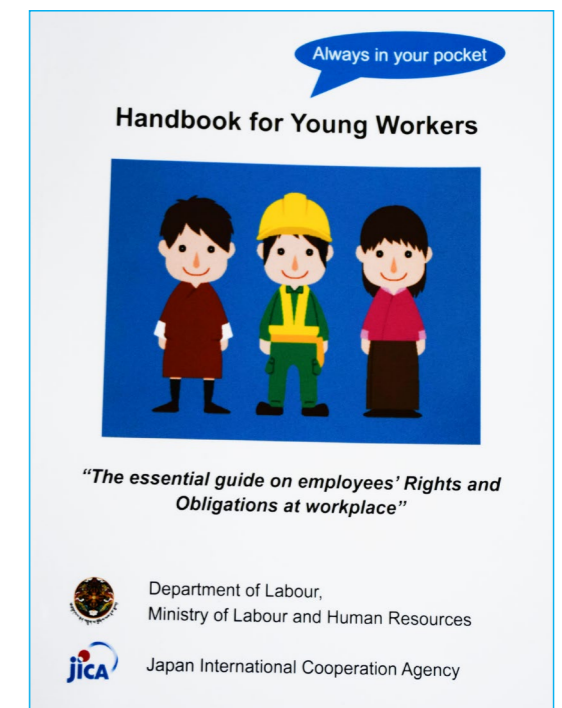
**Sonam Wangdi, Director, Department of Labour and Mr. Kozo Watanabe, Chief Representative of JICA at the handover ceremony**

Receiving the book on behalf of the Ministry, Director expressed his utmost appreciation to the JICA and especially to Mr. Hiroyuki Hamasaki, Senior JICA Volunteer for their generous contribution.

A "Handbook for Young Workers", has been developed by Mr. Hiroyuki Hamasaki, Senior JICA Volunteer, who has been working with the Department of Labour, MoLHR since October 2017. A total of 3,800 copies has been print-

ed which will be distributed to all Middle and Higher Secondary Schools, Technical Training Institutes and few colleges. The printing cost of the booklet has been sponsored by the JICA. The soft copy of the booklet is available for download on the ministry's website under publication section of the Department of Labour.

Ms. Noriko Komikawa, JICA Volunteer Coordinator, Mr. Kuenzang Dorji Tangbi, Program Officer, JICA, Mr. Hiroyuki Hamasaki, Senior JICA Volunteer and Chiefs from the Department of Labour also attended the ceremony.





## Druk Entrepreneurial Challenge: Identifying entrepreneurial challenges through two days of 'Growth Hacking Process' Concluded

**Jigme Thinley**  
**Department of Employment and Human Resources**

As a part of the Post Business Acceleration Program, a two day Druk Entrepreneurial Challenge was held in Thimphu from 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> August 2019. The entrepreneurial challenge focused on designs to solve real-world problems posed by startups, scale-ups, government, Non-Government Organizations, and education on issues such as:

- Encouraging women entrepreneurs in Bhutan;
- Establishing a call center industry in Bhutan;
- Developing the entrepreneurship ecosystem, the engagement between entrepreneurs and government in Bhutan;
- Attracting more clients and groups for Bhutan Molay Travels;
- Improving online presence, increasing sales and marketing locally, nationally and internationally for CDK Bhutan for sustainable fashion and Sushi's Candles;
- Scaling up to meet demand in food production, marketing and diversification in Agriculture, Food, Horticulture;and,
- Scaling up sales, sustainability focus for manufactured products such as egg cartons

for Green Vibes and Youth Development Fund (YDF).

The teams 'growth hacked' over two days on numerous problems, together with experts, novices and those with technical skills from all sorts of businesses. Guest speakers covered topics such as e-Commerce and selling online by Sonam Chopel from Druk Sell, building a social media following from Chandrika Tamang from CDK Bhutan, pitching tips and tricks shared by Wendy Perry, Workforce BluePrint, Damchae Dem CEO/Founder of the Bhutan Association of Women Entrepreneurs (BAOWE) and Rikesh Gurung from The Green Road. His Excellency Lyonpo J.B Rai Minister of Education gave an inspiring speech at the start of the Business Acceleration for Entrepreneurs Australia Awards post-course program.

The two-day program was followed with Pitch Night that displayed the problems vs solutions developed throughout the challenge. A finale event gaining interest from attendees, guests, and local media with a platform where they live



Creative minds came together at Druk Entrepreneurial Challenge in Thimphu

demonstration of the pitches developed by the teams occurred.

Ministers including, His Excellency Lyonpo Ugyen Dorji, Minister of Human Resources and Labour and His Excellency Lyonpo Loknath Sharma, Minister of Economic Affairs were special guests alongside judges including Prof Helen Klaebe Pro-Vice Chancellor from Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Dr. Tshering Cigay Dorji, CEO of Thimphu TechPark, Phunsho Namgay, Development Manager of Loden Foundation, Sherab Tenzin, Director General, Department of Employment and Human Resources, Ministry of Labor and Human Resources and Yangchen Tshogyel, Deputy Governor of Royal Monetary Authority (RMA).

The team Grenovation won the first prize. The team pitched the idea on the prototype of drying egg trays. The team found that the social enterprise of Youth Development Fund's (YDF) egg tray-manufacturing unit in Bjemina have challenges of drying egg tray during monsoon season. The first prize will get 30 minutes online

session with Queensland University of Technology (QUT) with entrepreneurial leaders twice which is worth US\$ 500. The second prize was awarded to CDK. Fashion designer Chandrika Pakhrin said that she wants to create employment, sustainable fashion and build a website to reach the international market. The second prize will get time with an entrepreneurial organization and a mentor worth US\$ 400. The third prize was awarded to IHUBteam. The team presented on IHUB core working space. The third prize will get product, service, or mentoring value from Bullys Meats worth US\$ 300. Team Hello Bhutan won the Humble Hustle award with mentoring worth of \$300 USD) sponsored by Thug Life Brewing, Australia. For Best Social Media Post Miss Yangchen Wangmo award with one on one training by Switch Start Scale valued at \$300 USD.

Queensland University of Technology (QUT) facilitated this program with support from Australian Award office and Ministry of Labour and Human Resources.

### Picture Story



A total of 20 Motor Vehicle Inspectors (MVI) from Road Safety and Transport Authority (RSTA) took part in the assessors training conducted by Assessment and Certification Division (ACD) under the Department of Occupational Standards (DOS), MoLHR at Jigme Wangchuck Power Training Institute (JWPTI)-Dekiling Gelephu. The one week training was organized mainly for those Motor Vehicle Inspectors to understand and know the Principles and Assessments Procedures of Competency Based Assessment so that assessors can support the division in conducting National Assessment.

**Published by:**

ICT Division  
Ministry of Labour and Human Resources  
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