

Addressing the youth employment challenge

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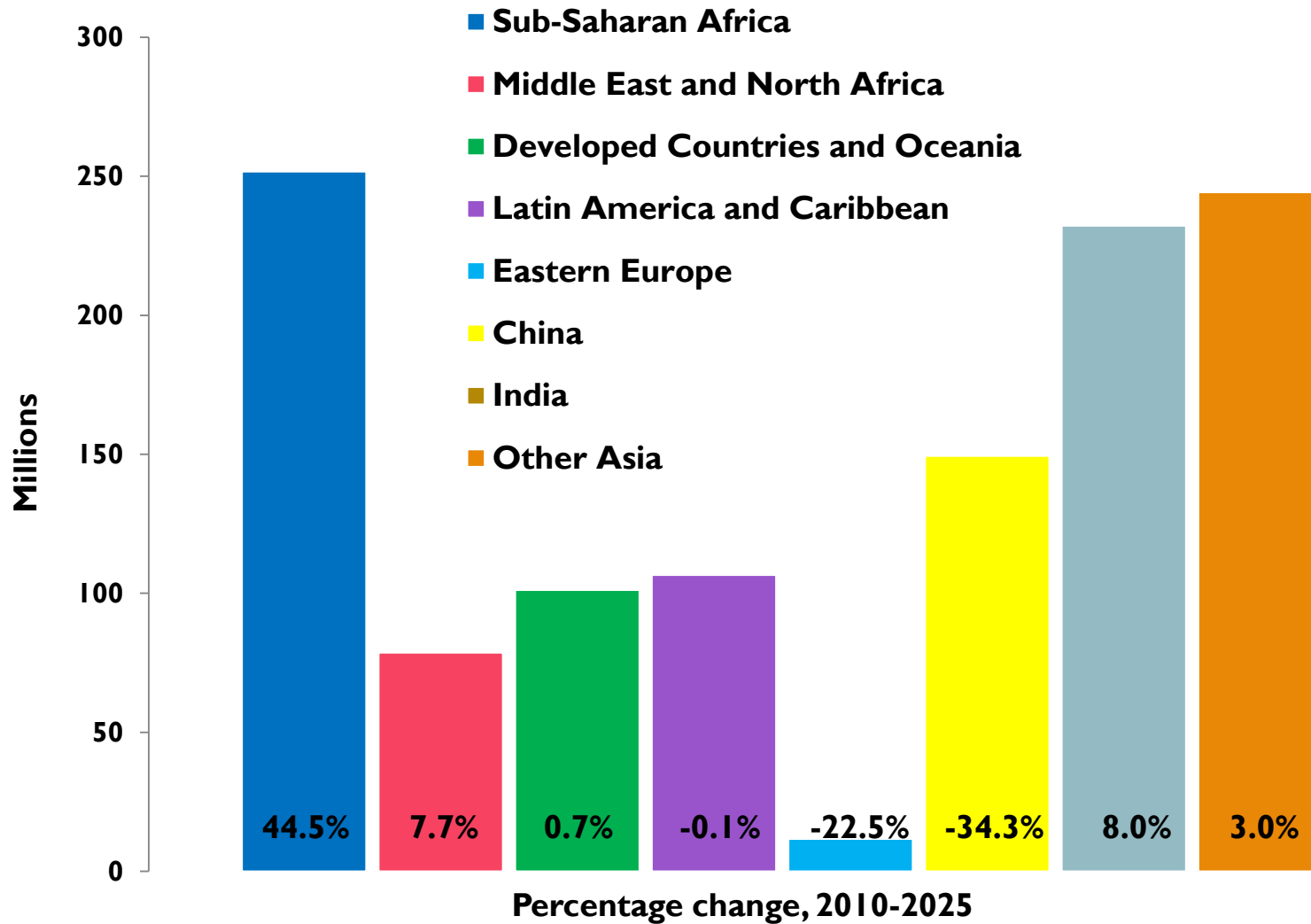
World Bank Safety Nets Core Course

December 10, 2013

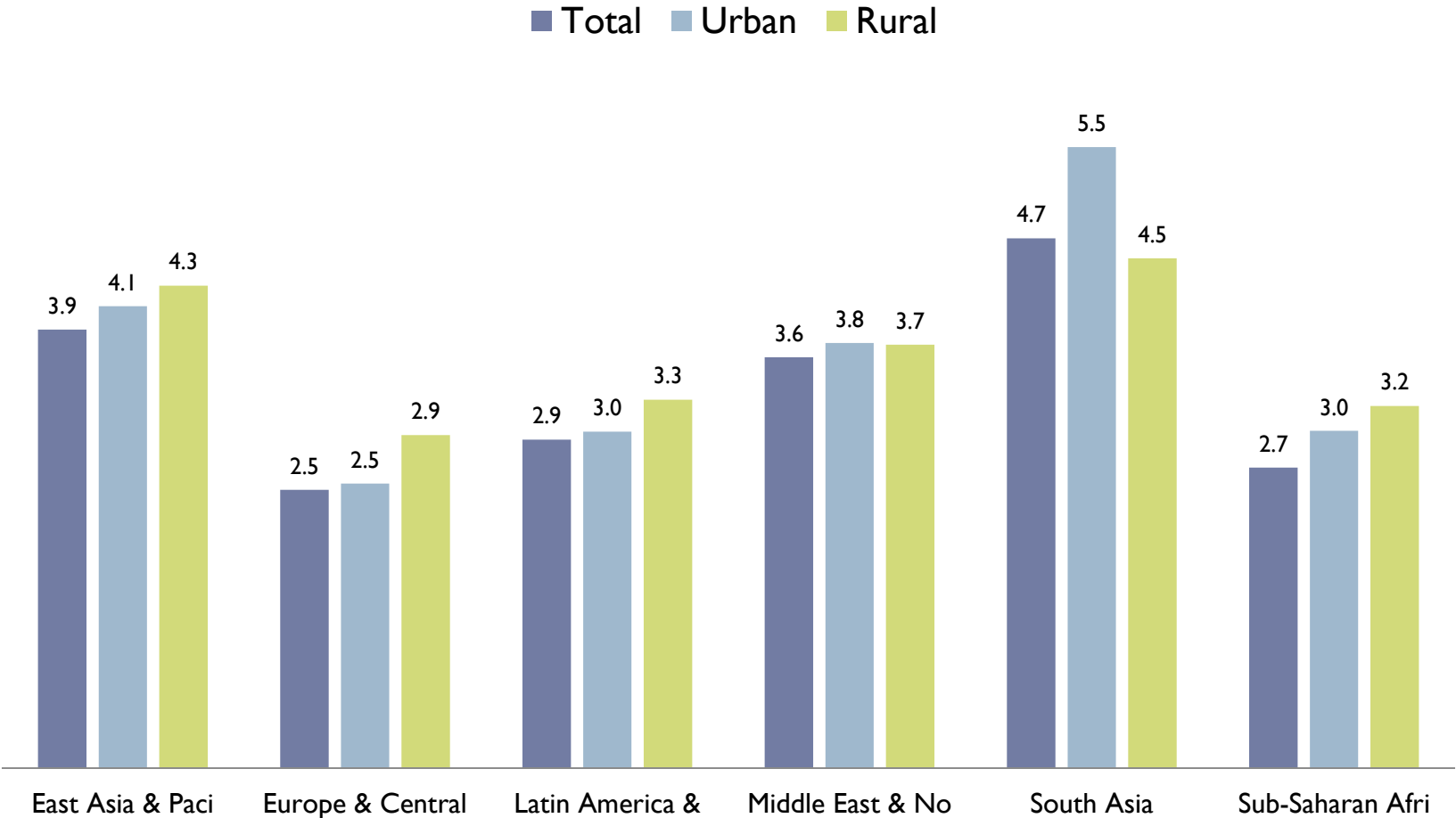
The scale of the problem

- ▶ **600 million jobs needed over next 15 years to keep employment rates constant.**
 - ▶ **621 million young people neither working nor studying.**
 - ▶ **1.5 billion working on the farm and in self-employment.**
 - ▶ **10 million per year entering the labor force in sub-Saharan Africa.**
 - ▶ **10 million per year entering the labor force in Asia.**
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Population 15-24, 2025



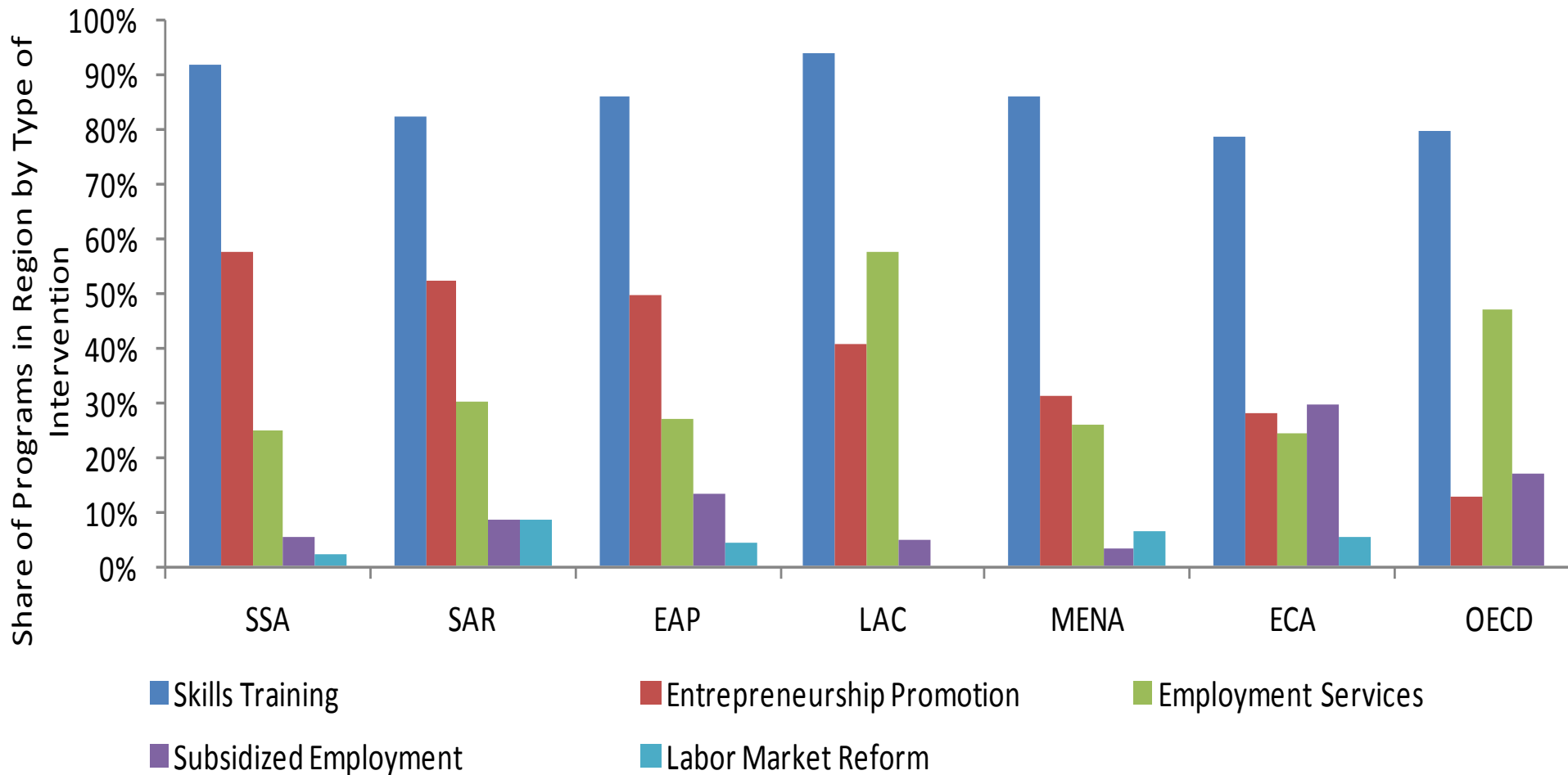
Ratio of Youth to Adult Unemployment rates



Un- and under-employment



What have countries done?



Outstanding questions for discussion

- ▶ **Do youth bulges lead to unemployment?**
- ▶ **Does unemployment lead to unrest and violence?**
- ▶ **Does it matter that young people are more likely to be unemployed than older people?**
- ▶ **Is unemployment the most important problem facing youth?**
- ▶ **Should we target jobs to young people or have untargeted programs for the general population?**

Outstanding questions for discussion

- ▶ **What kind of skills really matter for success in the labor market or in self-employment?**
- ▶ **Should we target high-flying “gazelles” with great entrepreneurial potential, or should we focus on skills for self-employment among the poor?**
- ▶ **How can you deliver effective skills training to poor young people with few assets and little education?**
- ▶ **Are young people more likely to be credit constrained? If so, why?**