

**Breaking gender barriers:  
A young woman's quest in a male-dominated profession**

One billion people will reach working age within the next decade - the best educated and best trained generation of young men and especially young women ever. But despite great efforts carried out by governments and social partners, the youth unemployment crisis is growing, and the gender barriers have yet to be overcome. Young people, particularly women in developing countries, need equal access to training and jobs. Then, as the story of Paula shows, all it often takes is determination.

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