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Our Skills to Succeed efforts in the UK help address youth unemployment by providing young people with the opportunity to build skills and by supporting them into employment. Our programmes focus on demand-led skilling—building relevant skills aligned to local market opportunities. We are forging partnerships to build new talent pipelines to fill urgent business needs, such as the need for digital skills, and create greater opportunity for individuals across the UK.

Youth unemployment is a persistent social and economic challenge in the UK with more than one million young people not in education, employment or training (NEET).
Movement to Work, a voluntary collaboration of UK employers tackling unemployment, is one of our flagship Skills to Succeed initiatives in the UK.

The collaboration brings together employers, both large and small, to offer young unemployed people from disadvantaged backgrounds access to vocational training and work experience linked to entry level roles.

Movement to Work employers commit to provide a number of placements equivalent to one percent of their UK workforce. Collectively, employers aim to support more than 100,000 unemployed young people by giving them the skills and confidence to find a job and to break the cycle of: “no job, no experience; no experience, no job.”

A founding company, Accenture played a leading role in the establishment of Movement to Work, and the company and its leaders continue to serve an integral role.

By collaborating with other employers, charity partners and the Government through Movement to Work, we have been able to scale our efforts to provide young unemployed people in the UK with much needed skills training and work experience opportunities. It is amazing what a difference this makes for them and over 50% of those who have been involved have found employment.”

Olly Benzecry, Senior Managing Director, Accenture UK & Ireland; Movement to Work Trustee Board and Steering Group Member
Gaining Momentum

Participating employers are engaging their suppliers and customers to join Movement to Work to create a nationwide ripple effect to reduce youth unemployment.

Since 2013, Movement to Work has grown from 14 founding employers to more than 200 participating employers and has provided more than 30,000 placements. More than half of the young people have already successfully transitioned into work.

A Steering Group of CEOs from participating employers govern Movement to Work, including Accenture, BAE Systems, Centrica, Civil Service, HSBC, Marks and Spencer, The Prince’s Trust and Trades Union Congress (TUC). This Steering Group also keeps the Government up to date with progress and the Movement has the endorsement of the Prime Minister and senior ministers.
Subject matter experts in our technology and digital businesses have developed training based on their knowledge of what businesses need to be successful in the digital age.

With this in mind, Accenture has developed two types of “train and try” programmes—Go Tech and Go Digital. At least 100 people who are not in education, employment, or training and aged 18-24 years old have the opportunity to participate each year. The programmes consists of four to six weeks of vocational training, including programming, testing, social media strategies, web creation, email marketing and user experience. We also include employability skills training to help young people improve their interview skills, CVs and job search. As part of our employability skills training, individuals have an opportunity to participate in our online Skills to Succeed Academy. Each programme includes a two to three week work experience placement for the young people to apply the training.

Accenture's Movement to Work programme helps address the skills shortage in the digital and technology sectors, and supports young people to apply for entry level roles and apprenticeships with Accenture, other corporations and small to medium sized enterprises.
Since 2014, Accenture has provided over 200 placements, and more than 50 percent of the young people completing a placement have subsequently gone into work. We have run programmes in London, Newcastle and Edinburgh and work closely with our network of regional charity partners and training providers to deliver our programmes.

More than 150 of our employees have played a vital role in the creation of our programmes, and once engaged, they remain involved. Employees demonstrate a continued commitment to our programmes and the participants through creating content, delivering training, being buddies, project managers or conducting interviews, inspirational talks and tech demos.

Movement to Work has helped us embed our Skills to Succeed commitment into our own business by offering in-house placements and employment. In fact, some of those young people completing Movement to Work have successfully applied and become technology apprentices and experienced hires at Accenture with 30 working as full-time employees.
The Path Forward

As we work toward our global Skills to Succeed goal of equipping more than 3 million people with the skills to get a job or build a business, we will continue to:

- Create a minimum of 100 training and work experience placements this fiscal year for disadvantaged unemployed young people to help them kick start their technology and digital careers.

- Engage our suppliers and clients to join Movement to Work. To date, 18 of our suppliers have pledged more than 950 placements.

- Encourage the technology sector to join the Movement, which could help multiply its impact and build a stronger talent base for the UK. These efforts have already generated 1,385 technology-focused placements.
Hear from our Beneficiaries

In these video portraits, meet Shajida, Faybin and Aneysha, young people who joined Accenture's Movement to Work programme and are now employed in our three-year Technology apprenticeship programme, which culminates with a Foundation Degree in IT.
Skills to Succeed

Skills to Succeed, Accenture’s corporate citizenship initiative, helps address the global need for skills that open doors to employment and economic opportunity.

We launched Skills to Succeed in 2009 to advance employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in markets around the world. Since 2010, together with our strategic partners, we have equipped more than 800,000 people with the skills to get a job or build a business, and we are setting our sights even higher for the future.

We plan to equip more than 3 million people globally with workplace and entrepreneurial skills by the end of fiscal 2020, and we will increase our focus on the successful transition from skill-building programmes to sustainable jobs and businesses.
Further Information:
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About Accenture

Accenture is a leading global professional services company, providing a broad range of services and solutions in strategy, consulting, digital, technology and operations. Combining unmatched experience and specialised skills across more than 40 industries and all business functions—underpinned by the world’s largest delivery network—Accenture works at the intersection of business and technology to help clients improve their performance and create sustainable value for their stakeholders. With approximately 373,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries, Accenture drives innovation to improve the way the world works and lives. Visit us at www.accenture.com.