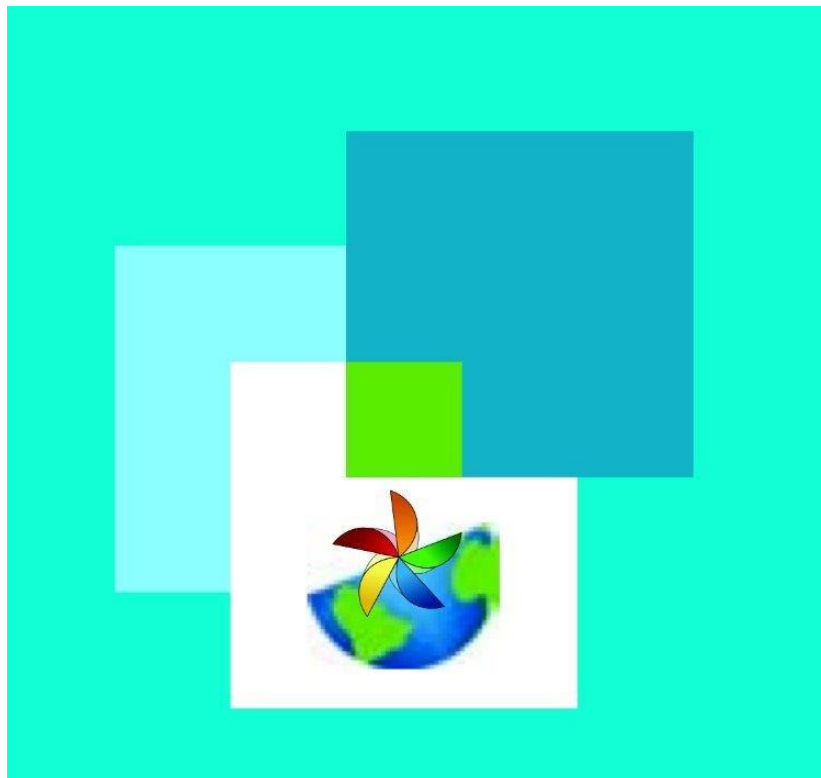


South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Decent Work Good Practices on the Road to BAPA +40 and beyond



South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Decent Work Good Practices on the Road to BAPA +40 and beyond



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John Buchwalder, Hoang Viet Tran, and Siqi Chen

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Foreword

Changes in the geopolitical and economic balance of power have brought out the importance of the Global South in the development process and enabled new actors to shape the development agenda. Innovative responses to global challenges are coming from emerging powers of the South, who are in turn becoming strategic partners for other developing countries. South–South arrangements generate development responses through policies and processes that better fit their needs. Promoting sustainable and decent work for all is central to the ILO’s mandate and South-South and triangular cooperation have a key role to play in this regard.

The combined output of the world’s largest emerging economies – China, India, and Brazil – almost equals the combined GDP of all G7 member countries. In such a context, working jointly with emerging partners from the South is essential for the ILO to advance in the achievement of decent work for all, drawing on its tripartite structure which provides a unique platform for consensus building with an integrated approach. The ILO emphasized its commitment to the promotion of South-South and triangular cooperation through its strategy: *South-South and triangular cooperation: The way forward* in 2012 and its 2018 summary: *ILO South–South and triangular cooperation and decent work: Recent developments and future steps*. The integration of new partners and the enhancement of cooperation between countries of the South are among the key goals included in this strategy, based on the principle of solidarity and non-conditionality. The ILO recognizes that cooperation between equals has enormous potential to scale up the impact of development initiatives in the world of work.

This *Good Practices Collection* is part of this commitment. It is targeted at UN agencies, governments, workers, employers, and civil society to help them learn from initiatives based on Southern solutions that have proven effective in promoting decent work. South-South and triangular cooperation provide an important mechanism to leverage resources and expertise – in particular by facilitating the transfer of knowledge and experience relevant to the world of work in the Global South. In this regard, the need to systematize the collection and dissemination of relevant projects is of the utmost importance.

Bearing in mind the central knowledge sharing dimension of South-South and triangular cooperation, it was deemed essential to give greater visibility to scalable and replicable initiatives through a good practices compendium that was accessible on-line. This *Good Practices Collection* focuses on solutions that illustrate the full involvement of ILO constituents and partners. It has informative and inspirational value. It is aimed at expanding understanding of South-South and triangular cooperation at the global and regional level by providing a sound basis for discussion, but it is not exhaustive. The potential of the results-based practices presented in this collection to help governments and social partners develop and adapt initiatives to face the employment-related challenges that lie ahead is immense. This publication is intended to inspire further initiatives to advance the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, and contribute to the discussion at the United Nations’ Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South cooperation (BAPA+40, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 20-22 March 2019). This publication is the result of the commitment and dedication of the South-South Team of the ILO Partnerships and Field Support Department, but would not have been possible without the contribution of ILO colleagues at headquarters and in the field.

Introduction

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the United Nations agency devoted to advancing opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, safety, and human dignity. Its main aims are to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection, and strengthen dialogue in handling work-related issues. The ILO is the only tripartite United Nations agency, bringing together representatives of governments, employers and workers to jointly shape policies and programmes.

ILO constituents and partners support South-South and triangular cooperation because it is guided by the principles of solidarity and non-conditionality, while promoting cooperation between developing countries. This partnership between equals is central to the mainstreaming of the Decent Work Agenda (DWA). Such cooperation may take the form of knowledge sharing and transfer of southern-grown development solutions with the support of the development partner community and the multilateral system under innovative triangular arrangements, which still maintain the horizontal dimension and southern-driven characteristics. The strengthening of national response capacity and coordination mechanisms, as well as the commitment of social partners, is crucial to the sustainability of results and actions. It is clear that South-South and triangular cooperation strategies and mechanisms are vital to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In March 2012, the Governing Body (GB) of the ILO adopted a South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy entitled “South-South and triangular cooperation: The way forward”, reaffirming that South-South and triangular cooperation are paramount to the mainstreaming of the Decent Work Agenda.¹ Performance indicators for the strategy were adopted by the Governing Body in November 2012. In addition, In March 2018, the ILO Governing Body reviewed the implementation of the strategy and agreed on future steps in this field.²

The ILO has been engaged in various projects involving South-South and triangular cooperation arrangements to address issues such as child labour, social security, employment-intensive investment, and capacity building of constituents, among others. This engagement has taken the form of project coordination, provision of technical expertise, and facilitation of knowledge sharing.

The ILO Inter-American Centre for Knowledge Development in Vocational Training (ILO-CINTERFOR)³ has promoted South-South and triangular cooperation through a regional knowledge-sharing platform and network for skills development policies since 1963. Similarly, the International Training Centre of the ILO⁴ in Turin has played a key role in facilitating South-South and triangular capacity-building and training initiatives.

¹ The adoption of this strategy followed the 100th Session (2011) of the International Labour Conference (ILC), which placed particular emphasis on South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of achieving the Organization’s objectives.

² ILO Governing Body: https://www.ilo.org/gb/GBSessions/GB313/pol/WCMS_172577/lang--en/index.htm?ssSourceSiteId=pardev ; and https://www.ilo.org/gb/GBSessions/GB332/pol/WCMS_617990/lang--en/index.htm

³ <http://www.oitcinterfor.org/>

⁴ <http://www.itcilo.org/>

Further to these developments and the growing importance of South-South and triangular cooperation mechanisms, it was deemed necessary to showcase some of these activities in a practical guide. This publication will focus on South-South Cooperation good practices that help mainstream the Decent Work Agenda (DWA). They are presented in three ways: by region, at the global level, and at ITC Turin.

Recognition of SSTC dates back to the 1970s with the establishment of the Working Group on Technical Cooperation (TCDC) unit by the UN General Assembly in 1974, and the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA), a robust framework of recommendations for promoting and implementing TCDC in the UN and its Member States, at the first UN Conference on TCDC (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1978). Marking the fortieth anniversary of BAPA, UN General Assembly resolutions 71/318 and 71/244 mandate the UN to convene a Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South cooperation (BAPA+40), hosted by Argentina in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019. BAPA+40 offers an opportunity to discuss progress made on SSTC since the adoption of BAPA and the role of SSTC in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This compilation pulls together key good practices in the ILO promoting the Decent Work Agenda through SSTC, as a basis for discussion at BAPA+40.

References

ILO Outcomes (Programme and Budget for 2018-19)

- Outcome 1: More and better jobs for inclusive growth and improved youth employment prospects
- Outcome 2: Ratification and application of international labour standards
- Outcome 3: Creating and extending social protection floors
- Outcome 4: Promoting sustainable enterprises
- Outcome 5: Decent work in the rural economy
- Outcome 6: Formalization of the informal economy
- Outcome 7: Promoting safe work and workplace compliance including in global supply chains
- Outcome 8: Protecting workers from unacceptable forms of work
- Outcome 9: Fair and effective international labour migration and mobility
- Outcome 10: Strong and representative employers' and workers' organizations

I. Good practices by region

1. Africa

Reinforce South-South cooperation among African countries in promoting social protection

Challenges: One of the main challenges for African countries, especially in the sub-Saharan region, is to build an effective social protection floor – including social security pensions, child benefits and better access to essential health services – to guarantee a minimum level of social protection for the population and contribute to realising the universal right to social security. A particularly important challenge is the lack of technical skills and awareness among African civil servants at all levels of the importance of universal social protection coverage and the methods of achieving it.

Towards a solution: In order to address these challenges and strengthen existing social protection systems across Africa, the ILO Office for the Maghreb countries in Algiers (CO Alger) has since 2015 promoted and strengthened South-South cooperation, particularly in the area of social protection. Between 2015 and 2017, some 23 subregional capacity-building workshops and sharing of experiences and good practices were organized for more than 26 African countries; three study trips were organized for the benefit of four African countries, and four bilateral partnership agreements were signed for training and capacity building (Algeria with Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Cameroon). CO Alger intends to continue its efforts and commitment to South-South cooperation by consolidating the results already achieved and continuing the actions initiated in this framework, particularly between the Maghreb countries (Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia) and certain countries in West Africa (Guinea, Mali, and Senegal).

Participating countries have the opportunity –

- to learn about the characteristics and functioning of existing social protection systems in other African countries
- to learn about different experiences and good practices in social protection
- to create opportunities for bilateral partnerships: some African countries had proven expertise in several aspects of social protection and were ready to make their expertise available to requesting countries.

African countries in this way developed partnerships to build their capacity and share their experience in the field of social protection, health and safety at work, as well as health insurance systems. A sub-regional network for the exchange of good practices in the field of social security was launched to further facilitate the sharing of experience in the region for South-South cooperation.

Contact: Ms Nteba Soumano, Skills and Employability Officer, ILO CO-Kinshasa

Project title: Reinforce South-South cooperation among African countries in promoting social protection

Countries/Regions: Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia, Guinea, Mali, and Senegal

Nominated by: ILO Country Office for Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 1, SDG 3, and SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 3, 7

Supported by: DWT Cairo, DWT Dakar, SOCPRO, PARDEV

Project period: 27-30 November 2018

Related resources: www.southsouthpoint.net

Establishment of an effective information system on labour markets in fragile states: Sharing of experience between Central Africa Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of the Congo, and Mali

Challenges: The Central African Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Republic of the Congo have faced enormous challenges that include high unemployment rates, and weaknesses in their labour market analysis systems. Aware of the importance of actively anticipating the need for (new) skills, the three countries asked the ILO Office in Kinshasa for support in finding sustainable solutions. This collaboration also brings together the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

Towards a solution: In the context of South-South cooperation, ILO Kinshasa, with the financial support of the ILO's Partnerships and Development Cooperation Department (PARDEV), provided an opportunity for a delegation of nine constituents, three from each country, to draw on the Malian experience by visiting the "Observatoire national de l'emploi et de la formation" (ONEF), the employment observatory in Mali. The objective was to strengthen the capacities of those countries and provide them with the tools to set up their own employment observatories, especially in the context of crises.

The visit took place in Bamako from 5 to 9 November 2018. Delegates were informed of how to set up such an observatory. This involves (i) helping participants to master the various stages of the process; (ii) enabling participants to obtain information about the difficulties encountered and the measures to be taken to reduce them; and (iii) providing participants the opportunity to discuss with development partners who have helped Mali set up the process. The visit focused on promoting regional integration (with the accession of the three countries to the Africa Network of Employment and Training Observatories, currently chaired by Mali) and capacity building (for nine constituents from ONEF, the National Confederation of Malian Patronage (CNPM), and the National Federation of Artisans of Mali (FNAM)).

The study visit used a participatory approach. For each country the activity had a country-level tripartite consultation group and an official designated by the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training. Development partners with a particular interest in establishing the foundations of a solid information system and an integrated database in CAR, DRC and Congo, also participated, in order to enable resource mobilization and support for implementation of action plans after the South-South intervention by PARDEV.

At the end of the trip an action plan was prepared by each country with specific dates for: (i) a return trip; (ii) the start of studies for the observatory; (iii) the validation of studies with the participation of Mali through the ONEF; and (iv) the search for financing from development partners to set up observatories in the countries. All countries have committed to finalizing the process of studies and validations by the beginning of March 2019. CAR has already finalized its study, and its validation workshop was held on 12 December 2018 in Bangui.

The study tour also strengthened cooperation between two community bodies: ECOWAS, which was more advanced in the process of setting up observatories, and ECCAS, which received advice on how to replicate the experience of Mali successfully in such a way as to and transfer it to the CAR, DRC and Congo. The three countries were enabled to improve their policies, identify and resolve obstacles, and devise strategies for the financing of the observatories and to establish their role.

Countries in Central Africa often face problems related to their ability to anticipate the need for skills and related work. An ongoing discussion with ECCAS will expand experience in the subregion; the models developed in CAR, DRC and Congo are replicable for Chad, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, and São Tome and Principe. Additional development partners need to be involved, especially those who have already expressed an interest (World Bank, African Development Bank, Government of China, European Union, etc.).

Contact: Ms. Nteba Soumano, Skills and Employability Officer, ILO CO-Kinshasa

Project title: Establishment of an effective information system on labour markets in fragile states: Sharing of experiences between Central Africa Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of the Congo, and Mali.

Countries/Regions: CAR, DRC, Congo, and Mali

Nominated by: PARDEV and ILO Regional Office for Africa, ILO Kinshasa

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8, SDG16

ILO Outcomes: 1

Supported by: PARDEV, DEVINVEST, SKILLS, CO-Abidjan

Project period: May 2018 – April 2019

Related resources: www.southsouthpoint.net

Enhancing Sierra Leone women entrepreneurs' empowerment and resilience in cross-border trade within the Mano River Union (MRU) through learning and experience sharing from the East African Community (EAC)

Challenges: Women in Sierra Leone, and particularly women entrepreneurs, continue to face a number of challenges such as low literacy levels, lack of business and technical skills, limited access to business development and financial services, and limited access to profitable markets, including difficulties in accessing outside markets through cross-border trade with neighbouring countries, notably Liberia, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire, which are also fragile states and members of the Mano River Union (MRU). The East African Community (EAC) women cross-traders face similar challenges, but have developed a simplified guide on customs tariffs and immigration procedures to facilitate trade



*Women in cross-border trade within the Mano River Union (MRU).
Credit: PARDEV*

across borders within the EAC in order to minimize the challenges. The MRU secretariat, with headquarters in Freetown, Sierra Leone, was keen to adapt and replicate the EAC experience in the subregion, starting with Sierra Leone as a pilot country in its commercial exchanges with other members, and progressively adding the other economic community Member States.

Towards a solution: A study tour to the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat in Arusha, Tanzania and to the Namanga One Stop Border Post was organized for the MRU officials and women cross-border traders. It was designed for participants to learn and benefit from experience in managing cross-border trade by women entrepreneurs within the EAC economic community and to initiate networking between women cross-border traders of both regional economic communities. The MRU received advice on how to develop an instrument conducive to cross-border trade, especially for women entrepreneurs, and to identify good practices on how to effectively implement the instrument from both regional and country-level perspectives.

Based on the findings of the visit, the ILO supported MRU (in collaboration with experts from the East African Women in Business Platform (EWAIB) to conduct a situational analysis in the framework of a technical cooperation visit to share experience, which examined the legal, regulatory, institutional, and social conditions affecting Sierra Leone women engaged in cross-border trade within the MRU subregion. The “Simplified Guide for Micro and Small-Scale Women Cross-Border Traders and Service Providers within the East African Community” was adapted to the MRU context and the pilot experience in Sierra Leone, building on the conclusions of the situational analysis and based on the lessons generated through the study tour.

The development objective of the project was to contribute to women’s economic empowerment and resilience in Sierra Leone through the promotion of inter-regional trade

and economic cooperation within the MRU, building on evidence-based learning from the EAC. By engaging with stakeholders in Sierra Leone and with MRU and EAC, the project encouraged the inclusion of more countries under the SSTC modality. It included: (i) reflections on innovative and easy-to-access dissemination channels for women, such as mobile apps that might be more handy and useful than a printed booklet; and (ii) information sessions with service providers on how to channel information on trade rules and regulations to female cross-border traders. In this context, ILO contributed by providing information on how to improve cross-border trade and advice on its formalization; capacity building activities; and access to diversified and adapted financial services for women cross-border traders, which was of great added value in complementing the activities of other development actors. This made possible technical and financial partnerships with other stakeholders working on the same issue. It also addressed issues of poverty alleviation, as it aimed at increasing the sources of livelihood for women cross-border traders.

Contact: Dennis Zulu, Director, ILO Country Office for Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Project title: Enhancing Sierra Leone women entrepreneurs' empowerment and resilience in cross-border trade within the Mano River Union (MRU) through learning and experience sharing from the East African Community (EAC)

Countries/Regions: Sierra Leone

Nominated by: ILO Country Office for Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 4, 6

Supported by: ILO Country Office for Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone and Liaison Office for ECOWAS

Project period: August 2018 – December 2019 (18 months)

Related resources: southsouthpoint.net

Employment promotion, skills and enterprise development through peer-to-peer learning and the use of labour-intensive technologies in road construction: Zambia

Challenges: Despite strong and sustained economic growth over the last decade, the Zambian economy has undergone little change. Zambia was faced with an unemployment challenge, especially among women and vulnerable groups such as youth and people with disabilities. The ILO was supporting the Government of Zambia in ensuring that productive and decent employment creation becomes a reality. It was doing so through the creation of livelihood opportunities for young women and men through the promotion of employment-intensive investment approaches to stimulate the demand side of the labour market and to support the creation of decent employment opportunities, facilitating skills development and access to finance and markets.

Towards a solution: The ILO, together with the Government of Zambia, local government and the private sector collaborated on a rural community project in Lubombo, Mazabuka, in the southern part of Zambia. The Lubombo road rehabilitation project was intended to promote peer-to-peer learning and showcase the use of labour-based road paving technologies, while at the same time promoting skills, enterprise development, and job creation for rural communities.

The Lubombo road rehabilitation project addressed youth unemployment and skills upgrading, and introduced alternative innovative road paving technologies that also supported existing livelihoods among the vulnerable rural communities. It also addressed a perennial road access challenge, providing an all-weather access for the rural communities served by the road. The road to be rehabilitated was a vital link to markets for the communities living in this area, and provided a connection with Lusaka. The project also promoted “shared value” and public private partnership (PPP) approaches, and demonstrated local resource technologies that empowered local authorities by improving service delivery for the rural community.

The initiative demonstrated appropriate public employment approaches by promoting SSTC initiatives advancing sustainable and decent youth employment and rural development. The project was innovative and scalable, and addressed the current job crisis particularly affecting youth. It helped strengthen national and regional response capacity and coordination mechanisms, as well as the commitment of social partners in tackling youth employment and supporting rural development. The Government of Zambia through its Road Development Agency rehabilitated and constructed 2000 km of roads using concrete block paving and cobblestone technology. At regional level, good practices and peer learning between developing countries were promoted through collaboration with regional counterparts in Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Mozambique and Swaziland. The ILO in collaboration with NCC and regional experts from Kenya and South Africa provided training of trainers for engineers and technicians from Zambia and their counterparts from Mozambique and Tanzania. As a pilot project, experiences were also documented and shared with national training institutions in other countries to encourage peer-to-peer learning.

Contact: Mr. Alexio Musindo, Director, ILO Country Office for Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique.

Project title: Employment promotion, skills and enterprise development through peer-to-peer learning and the use of labour-intensive technologies in road construction: Zambia

Countries/Regions: Zambia

Nominated by: ILO Country Office for Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 1

Supported by: Development and Investment Branch, Geneva, ENTERPRISE, Geneva, COOP, Geneva, Decent Work Team – Pretoria

Project period: May-December 2018

Related resources: southsouthpoint.net

Transform

Challenges: Despite some success stories and champion countries, sub-Saharan Africa remains the region with the world's lowest social protection coverage.⁵ The challenges include a lack of technical skills and awareness among African civil servants at all levels of successful pathways towards universal social protection coverage. There is a lack of capacity for operational and administrative processes for the successful governance and implementation of social protection policies and programmes. This is also reflected in the discrepancy between the rights-based aspirations often articulated in national legislation, development plans and social protection strategies, and the weak performance of social protection systems and schemes in practice. While there is a wealth of experience in Africa, there is no systematic harvesting of such experience, and no African curricula or learning opportunities to acquire technical or practical skills relevant to the African context. Yet social protection is paramount to achieving the 2030 Agenda, in particular its potential to deliver on the promise of leaving no-one behind. Social protection is explicitly included among the targets of the SDGs, and cuts across the five dimensions of people, prosperity, peace, planet, and partnerships.



TRANSFORM training. Credit: PARDEV/ILO

learners to take leadership on the change and transformation of nationally defined social protection systems. Social protection is accorded major attention in the 2030 Agenda, in particular Goal 1 (achieving substantial coverage of the poor – target 1.3 in the results framework), and plays a key role in facilitating the structural transformation of the economy and the slow transition towards nation-wide state-administered social assistance systems in many African countries. TRANSFORM is an indispensable tool to strengthen the capacity of African governments to improve their social protection systems through South-South cooperation and peer learning between experts. Many training curricula exist in the field of social protection, and thus fundamental ideas, concepts, approaches and techniques are available. However, institutions and individuals have been struggling with the complexity of developing a broad, encompassing social protection system. This complexity requires a transformational approach to teaching and knowledge sharing.

The Transform learning package is available to social protection practitioners at national and subnational level, and includes a full set of modular materials for trainers and learners to deliver a range of customizable learning events – either face-to-face or online. It is a platform for collaborative development, bringing trainers and practitioners together. The learning

Towards a solution: The prime objective of Transform is to build critical thinking and capacities among policy makers and practitioners at national and local levels to improve the design, effectiveness and efficiency of social protection systems. Transform aims not only to impart state-of-the-art knowledge that can address the challenges faced by countries in the region, but also to encourage

⁵ ILO World Social Protection Report 2017-19, p. 9.

package focuses on the concrete environment of the participants and not only describes what works, but also addresses the complexities of how and why things work. In this regard, it stimulates South-South cooperation and peer learning.

Most importantly, Transform is developed by and delivered through African experts and practitioners, empowering African experts to become master trainers and to keep learning from each other. A South-South network of trainers and experts is hence developed. The first Transform training of trainers course was held in October 2017 in Zambia. The 23 trainers represented government, academia, the private sector, and the UN system from Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. So far, more than 250 practitioners from five different countries in Southern and Eastern Africa participated in face-to-face training workshops between 2017 and 2018. Courses were available online to reach a wider audience. To date more than 100 participants from 26 countries and 27 countries in participated in the first and the second courses respectively. Some 29 participants successfully completed the first online course, and approximately 30 are set to complete the second. Efforts are also under way to adapt and tailor the content of the curriculum to other regions in west and northern Africa and Asia. Transform helped lay the right foundations for progress towards universal social protection and sustainable development. Strengthening social protection systems involves institution building, which is a long-term process. It is too early to assess the extent to which Transform has contributed to building better performing social protection systems in Africa. However, it has undoubtedly provided the right starting blocks. While interventions that present ready-made solutions in the form of good practices risk imposing pre-determined approaches to system building that do not fit local circumstances, Transform helps develop the critical thinking that enables local leaders to find their own successful pathways to developing sustainable social protection systems that leave no-one behind.

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Project title: Transform

Countries/Regions: Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Africa regional

Nominated by: ILO

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 1, SDG 3, SDG 5, SDG 8, SDG 10

ILO Outcomes: 3, 10

Supported by: African Union, UNICEF, UNDP, ILO, IPC-IG, EU-SPS, Irish Aid, Southern Africa Social Protection Experts Network-SASPEN

Project period: Jan 2015-Dec 2020

Related Resources: Brochure:

http://socialprotection.org/system/files/Transform%20Brochure_Digital_0.pdf

Background materials:

- *Legal framework:* <http://socialprotection.org/discover/publications/legal-framework-module-summary-document>
- *S&I Selection & Identification:* <http://socialprotection.org/discover/publications/si-module-summary-document>
- *ADM Administration:* <http://socialprotection.org/discover/publications/administration-module-summary-document>
- *COO Coordination:* <http://socialprotection.org/discover/publications/coordination-module-summary-document>
- *MIS Management Information System :* <http://socialprotection.org/discover/publications/mis-module-summary-document>

2. Asia

South-South and Triangular Cooperation to strengthen the Pakistani compensation system for workplace injury, based on learnings from Malaysia and Thailand

Challenges: The workplace injury compensation system in Pakistan is governed individually by each Provincial Government under their respective “Employees Social Security Acts”, which exist in only three of its four Provinces. The system is challenged by a number of limitations including coverage, quality, adequacy and alignment with international standards (the Employment Injury Benefits Convention, 1964 [Schedule I amended in 1980] (No. 121).

It covered only a fraction of formal economy workers. In addition, delivery of benefits was delayed due to use of manual systems (i.e. not computerized). The ILO has been working with the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province to pilot a One Window Operation for various social protection benefits in two districts, and a technical cooperation project was launched in Sindh to support primarily the



Knowledge sharing workshop on upgrading Social Security Institution in Pakistan. Credit: PARDEV/ILO

implementation of the so-called Baldia Arrangement (additional employment injury to victims or their dependants of the Ali Enterprises Fire in 2012 in Baldia, Karachi). Through the exchange with Malaysia and Thailand, the project contributed to capacity building.

Towards a solution: A comparative analysis of similar countries in the region showed that the contributory social security system in Malaysia provides income security to employees and their dependants in cases of work-related accidents and occupational disease, as well as non-work-related invalidity and death. In this regard, South-South Cooperation with Malaysia can be extremely useful to share experience and enhance peer learning on social security matters. The scheme was supplemented by a holistic network of services, including occupational safety and health promotion programmes, healthy lifestyle campaigns, and rehabilitation centres that prevent accidents and diseases and facilitate the reintegration of injured workers into the workforce. In 2017 the Malaysian Social Security system (SOCSO) provided coverage of social security to self-employed taxi drivers. The scheme provides protection to self-employed insured persons from employment injuries including occupational diseases and accidents during work-related activities.

Thailand also set a good example in this regard. The Thailand Social Security Office (SSO) covers the smallest enterprises, even those with only one employee. Despite minor practical implementation issues, there was much to learn about how to gradually extend coverage to the smallest enterprises in history. They have also sophisticated contribution rates set for different industries and a merit rating system to adjust the contribution rate on the basis of enterprise accident rates. The Government of Pakistan shared lessons with other countries outside South Asia, in particular, Malaysia and Thailand, which share some economic

features. Through South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC), the project contributed to the following results:

Outcome: Four employees of the Social Security Institution (ESSI) supported to improve governance, adopt computerized management systems, and expand coverage to micro-enterprises and self-employed workers

Outputs:

- Four Pakistani employees' social security institutions (ESSIs: Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Baluchistan) were facilitated, through local capacity development and study visits, to learn from experience on effective implementation of employment injury compensation systems in Malaysia and Thailand.
- Technical assistance provided to four Pakistani ESSIs to adopt at least one good practice from Malaysia and Thailand in terms of improved governance, adopted modern technologies, and expanded coverage of micro-enterprises and self-employed workers.
- Facilitated two officials from ESSIs to attend training courses in ITC-ILO Turin on social security;
- Knowledge products such as case studies and IEC materials developed for Pakistani social security institutions to adopt good practices.

The SSTC project improved governance and computerized management systems and expanded coverage and the effective delivery of benefits, which ultimately leads to a sustainable social security system. The system covers the full lifespan of the registered workers – mostly in need of support for health-related issues and workplace injuries. As a priority, the benefits of SSTC could be extended to other relevant national authorities subject to meeting satisfactory conditions and performance after the project. The project also developed the capacity of existing institutions responsible for employment injury insurance. The results of this project provided a strong and sustainable foundation for effective employment injury compensation for all workers – including SMEs and self-employed workers – who are not currently covered. The cut-off point for sustainability is largely linked to the capacity of national institutions to take over the autonomous oversight and implementation of social security benefits for all workers – with a lot of ease as compared to what they are getting at present and with dignity – based on good practices in the two countries. The ILO facilitated the continuation of exchanges between the countries, e.g. through bringing in resource persons from Malaysia and Thailand or the establishment of networks such as WhatsApp groups.

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Project title: South-South and Triangular Cooperation to strengthen the Pakistani compensation system for workplace injury – based on learnings from Malaysia and Thailand
Countries/Regions: Pakistan

Nominated by: ILO Islamabad

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 4, 7

Supported by: ILO PARDEV, Global Employment Injury Programme (GEIP), ENTERPRISE, ILO Geneva, DWT-Delhi.

Project period: June 2018 – April 2019

Related resources: www.southsouthpoint.net

Peer learning seminar on a just transition and climate resilience in Samoa

Challenges: Samoa and neighbouring island countries face such challenges as climate change; lack of employment opportunities for decent sustainable jobs in agriculture; food insecurity; lack of skills matching and labour market management, green jobs, and decent work policies; as well as lack of funding to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. These countries require an ambitious, holistic and transformative approach with respect for the means of implementation, in particular by building genuine partnerships at community, national, regional and international level. Samoa needs effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, robust legislation, sound policies, and good governance to ensure common understanding and a cohesive approach to contribute to the 2030 Agenda. Recent ILO experience in recovery from natural disasters shows the need for more proactive measures to realize more resilient systems, instead of taking reactive measures in the aftermath of natural disasters.

Towards a solution: There have been a number of initiatives to motivate Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to work collaboratively to share best practices on addressing the future of work, including green jobs and climate change resilience. One outcome of the dialogue at the ILO Future of Work Forum (Suva, Fiji, 2017) was a resolution to complement the new climate initiatives implemented by each country. Regional forums of Pacific Island leaders held every three years enable dialogue on shared interests and relevant resolutions. Heads of States discussed and examined ways to finance the 2030 Agenda.

Based on the outcomes of that Forum and building on the ILO South-South Cooperation Facility and the ILO Green Centenary Initiative, the project aimed to strengthen the capacity of eleven ILO Member States in the Pacific on resilience to climate change and disasters by providing tools for disaster preparedness, identifying business opportunities in the local public sector to prevent disasters, and promoting green entrepreneurship in areas related to climate resilience. Through South-South exchanges of good practices and lessons between the Pacific countries, China, Republic of Korea, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, the project fostered (a) new knowledge of solutions for resilience and job creation gained through mutual learning of what works and what doesn't; (b) new resource mobilization targeting development partners, including GCF, Republic of Korea, Japan and China; and (c) new collaborative and trust-building partnerships, including complementary knowledge partners in the region such as SPREP and the Pacific Forum, and organizations and partners working on gender at the local level.

In the context of the project, a knowledge sharing Dialogue on Just Transition, Decent Work and Climate Resilience was held in Apia, Samoa on 7-9 November 2018. As a result of the event, a programme to achieve mutual learning and multidimensional learning loops was designed. It focused on the process of mutual learning to develop trust for a sustainable learning platform. A session on Pacific SIDS to SIDS cooperation, including a plan of action or roadmap with inputs from participants provided the frame for future collaboration between participating countries and the establishment of continuous learning. The seminar also included learning dynamics and a country consultation for the proposal to the GCF which will include the Pacific Just Transition and Climate Resilience KSP as part of the outputs.

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Project title: Peer Learning Seminar on a Just Transition and Climate Resilience in Samoa

Countries/Regions: Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Samoa, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, Palau, Cook Islands, Tonga.

Nominated by: ILO Country Office Suva

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8, SDG 13

ILO Outcomes: 1, 4.

Supported by: ILO PARDEV, Green Jobs, ITC Turin, CO-Suva

Project period: November 2018

Related resources: www.southsouthpoint.net

South-South expert knowledge sharing forum on policy innovations and lessons learned on enterprise formalization to achieve decent work in the Philippines through peer-to-peer learning

Challenges: Efforts to facilitate the formalization of the informal economy have been accelerating worldwide with the historic adoption of the ILO Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204). With the launch of the SDGs, interest is growing to help the more than 60 per cent of the world's workforce operating in the informal economy to make the transition to formality. Since the adoption of R204, the ILO has strengthened its support to Member States. Despite encouraging progress, several challenges have been identified in implementing R204 further, as experience needs to be supported by clear evidence of impact, and adapted to the specific circumstances of other countries. Procedures and programmes for exiting the informal sector face challenges concerning enterprise registration and licensing, as well as enterprise development, taxation, business development services, access to finance, markets and procurement opportunities, etc. and of formalization measures, where available.

Towards a solution: To address this challenge, the South-South expert knowledge sharing forum on policy innovations and lessons learned on enterprise formalization was organized to support the Philippines to achieve decent work through enterprise formalization by further empowering policymakers and informal economy leaders to design and implement an appropriate policy mix. The three-day forum brought together some 30 high-level policy makers and experts from the Philippines, with experts from the Global South (Brazil, Chile, India, and Uruguay) and ILO specialists.

At the country level, the Forum directly facilitated South-South knowledge transfer and mutual learning, and deepened ongoing ILO support for the advancement of national dialogue on the Informal Economy Bill. It also facilitated ongoing policy reform initiatives such as the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTAP) and its implications for enterprise formalization, and on the reform of the anti-poverty policy proposed by the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC).

The peer-to-peer learning led to research and analysis on the informal economy (as a continuation of the informal economy diagnostics) and related policies, starting with collaboration to strengthen informal economy statistics, which was discussed between the NAPC and the President at the NAPC as an imminent action point of the Administration for better-informed policymaking on the informal economy. Constituents and policymakers also took their own initiatives, tapping the newly established network with the experts from the Global South to advance their informal economy policy agenda and expanding the scope of coordination across government departments and agencies, social partners and other stakeholders.

At the regional level, the peer-to-peer learning through South-South knowledge sharing benefited India and Nepal by integrating the formalization of informal economy into their broader policymaking agenda (e.g., linking it to ongoing tax reform in India). It also furthered subregional collaboration between the ILO (DWT-Bangkok) and the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), who are exploring a first collaborative study on informal employment statistics to support decent work promotion. This South-South knowledge sharing is expected to generate further ideas on collaboration beyond the study.

At the global level, the new knowledge products on enterprise formalization would help facilitate and accelerate the design, adjustment and implementation process of the policy mix for enterprise formalization in different country contexts. It contributed more solid and updated evidence on the impact of such policy innovations, and practical tips and lessons collected from good practice cases in the Global South. PARDEV contributed to dissemination by funding the publication of the new knowledge products through the SSTC Facility and hosting them on its South-South knowledge sharing site “SouthSouthPoint.net.” It demonstrated how the horizontal dimension of cooperation is facilitated through the global network of the ILO and ITC-Turin.

In addition to the direct impact of the outputs, the very process of organizing an inter-regional knowledge sharing on enterprise formalization produced additional benefits. ITC-Turin was able to tap high-level knowledge on global knowledge sharing to better respond to the demand from other regions and subregions. The ILO may document the eventual experience of the Philippines in integrating the formalization agenda in a broader policy framework as a case study on South-South knowledge sharing for policy innovation and enhancement. This will showcase how a long-time champion of the informal economy agenda has adopted and replicated the best practice policy mix of enterprise formalization elsewhere in its specific country context, and will encourage many other countries that are facing the same challenges.

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Project title: South-South expert knowledge sharing forum on policy innovations and lessons learned on enterprise formalization to achieve decent work in the Philippines through peer-to-peer learning

Countries: Philippines

Nominated by: ILO Country Office Manila

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 6

Supported by: INWORK, ENTERPRISES, ITC-Turin, DWT-Bangkok, DWT- Yaoundé, DWT-Santiago, CO-Brasilia

Project period: April -December 2018

Related resources: www.southsouthpoint.net

3. Latin America and the Caribbean

Building capacity of state institutions to implement Convention No. 169 through South-South and triangular experience sharing

Challenges: The ILO is responsible for the only legally binding international instruments addressing the rights of indigenous peoples, i.e. the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169). State action to apply Convention No. 169 overall remains fragmented. The capacity for doing so within public administrations remains low, including in medium and higher income countries. Weak state institutions, however, are a root cause for lack of appropriate public policies and programme for implementing Convention No. 169 and impede their effective execution, where they exist. The ILO supervisory bodies frequently point to insufficient efforts in putting in place laws, institutions and practice that are conducive to ensuring full compliance and there is a need for practically all countries in the region to take action to follow-up to comments of the supervisory mechanisms with regard to Convention No. 169.

Towards a solution: The project aims at increasing the number of States that have taken action to apply Convention No. 169. While the ILO has provided ad hoc technical advisory services upon request and targeted interventions in a few countries, activities with a South-South cooperation element assist in amplifying the reach of ILO actions, building national ownership, while leveraging existing expertise of direct beneficiaries and related regional processes. The fact that countries in the region are at different stages of implementation of Convention No. 169 makes peer-to-peer learning through South-South cooperation a potentially effective approach.

In 2018, country profiles were established which document the laws, policies and institutions set up by the countries in the Latin American region that have ratified Convention No. 169. The profiles are currently being technically reviewed and also shared with participating



*Network meeting in Geneva, September 2018.
Credit: PARDEV.*

countries for validation. The profiles will be used in project activities in 2019 to create a shared understanding about existing laws and policies among participants.

A first network meeting was held in September 2018 in Geneva with tripartite constituents from Chile, Peru, Guatemala and Honduras, including ministerial-level participants. Participants from Chile and Peru shared their know-how and experiences with regard to key issues such as consultation and participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making. Participants have acquired in-depth knowledge, through peer learning, with regard to public management and administration tools and practices for implementing Convention No. 169.

A second network meeting will be held in April/May 2019 in the Latin American region which will again include representatives of ILO constituents. In addition indigenous peoples' representatives will be invited. Back to back, a network meeting for judges will be held to

familiarize them with Convention No. 169 and enable them to exchange experiences with regard to jurisprudence related to the Convention across countries.

Knowledge and experiences captured will feed into ILO knowledge products including the virtual learning platform developed with AECID support and a training manual for judges on Convention No. 169. Likewise, experiences and practice emerging from the network will feed into future training on Convention No. 169 for tripartite constituents.

The project, as a SSTC pilot for action cornering indigenous peoples, has started to create increased interest by countries to support such action through SSTC and to enhance ILO's capacity to identify and implement SSTC projects with regard to Convention No. 169. A key lesson learned is that the involvement of ILO constituents in development of action to implement Convention No. 169 is essential and that there is consensus among ILO constituents that the effective implementation of Convention No. 169 is for achieving the SDGs. The project also linked up to regional effort to promote SSTC on indigenous peoples in Latin America, led by AECID, Iberoamerican Secretariat (SEGIB) and the Development of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC).

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Project title: Building capacity of state institutions to implement Convention No. 169 through South-South and triangular experience sharing

Countries/Regions: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela

Nominated by: ILO Regional Office in Lima

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 8

Supported by: ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, NORMES and TURIN

Project period: April 2018– July 2019

Related resources: <http://southsouthpoint.net/>

Regional Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour: New South-South trends

Challenges: In the last 20 years, Latin America and the Caribbean have expanded their efforts to end child labour. The latest ILO global estimates on child labour (2017) indicate that the Americas region still has 10.7 million children and adolescents in child labour (5.3 per cent of all children in the region are 5-17 years old), of whom 6.5 million are involved in hazardous work. The estimates showed that the rate of decline in child labour prevalence in the region had improved, but was still slower than the rate required to meet the goal of full eradication by 2025. In the Caribbean, as in other parts of Latin America, a significant proportion of young people in child labour are above the minimum age for admission to employment, but work in the informal economy, in unacceptable or precarious work.

Towards a solution: The acceleration strategy of the Regional Initiative is based on a combination of two fundamental approaches: a focus on the identification of and timely intervention for children (born 2010 onwards) at significant risk of or

already on a trajectory toward child labour, in order to impede their early entry to the labour market; and protection of children, including the withdrawal of children in situations of child labour, whether they are below the legal age for work or in the worst forms of child labour, such as hazardous child labour, slavery, commercial sex work, or being used for illicit activities. A key element in the effective deployment of the strategy is the systematic sharing of high-quality information based on extensive experience, knowledge and evidence accumulated from the continuous work done by various actors in the countries of the region. In order to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and successful replication of good practices in the fight against child labour, several tools have been developed and are hosted on the virtual platform of the Initiative, including a specific, interactive capacity map for South-South cooperation.⁶ It maps a substantial number of good practices, as well as the capacity building “demand and supply” within the region (and outside), based on eight priority areas: agriculture, education, youth employment, indigenous communities, migration, value chains, decentralization, and information technologies. These areas were assessed as having the potential to accelerate the pace of reduction of child labour in Latin America and the Caribbean. In developing and using this map, the Regional Initiative was able to identify a common demand for capacity-building among Caribbean Members to address school to work transition and recommend the supply through Brazil’s experience and good practices in apprenticeships and child labour inspections.

From 2014 to 2017, the Regional Initiative’s role in information and knowledge generation and in facilitating targeted exchanges and collaboration between governments, workers, the



Meeting of the Regional Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour. Credit: ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean

⁶ <http://www.oit.org.br/accelerar>

private sector, and civil society actors has been a catalyst for South-South cooperation becoming a primary modality for development cooperation between regional stakeholders. South-South cooperation principles guide the consultative process through which the well-documented, systematized database of good practices is created. The high-quality information outputs of this process also contribute to the cost-effectiveness of SSC, as they become economical inputs for the adaptation or replication of successful, validated models and strategies to deal with child labour. As cooperation agreements are made bilaterally and subregionally, this intensification of SSC has also resulted in the establishment of fluid, continuous channels of communication between participating countries, which are nurtured through the use of direct messaging, social media, and other modern communications technology.

As an innovative feature of this regional alliance, the Focal Points Network ensures leadership and ownership of actions by ministries of labour and secures partnership and vital resource inputs from employers' and workers' organizations at both national and regional levels (SDG 17-Partnerships for the Goals). In building the capacity of the Focal Points, it has been observed that national stakeholders increasingly respond in a manner that bolsters and accelerates actions to fight child labour. The Regional Initiative provides an excellent platform for scaling up triangular cooperation projects between member countries and other development partners. The secretariat of the Regional Initiative within the ILO closely coordinates with Global South and traditional partner countries, as well as with other United Nations specialized agencies and relevant regional bodies, for advocacy, resource mobilization, and additional technical assistance as required by member countries.

The Caribbean support project evolved as a direct result of open and reciprocal exchanges between countries at the First Roundtable on South-South Cooperation to accelerate the reduction of child labour, hosted in 2015 by the Government of Brazil within the framework of the Regional Initiative. The project, using a subregional approach, aimed to address the five Caribbean countries' shared demand for capacity building to address school-to-work transition (and in particular the role of apprenticeships), in the context of preventative and protective national strategies against child labour. The project was funded through the Brazil/ILO Partnership Programme for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation and was centred on the exchange of knowledge and technical resources by the Government of Brazil and coordination support and technical expertise through ILO Brazil and the ILO Decent Work Team and Office for the Caribbean. As additional Caribbean countries became signatories to the Regional Initiative during the period of implementation, the project also extended support to St. Lucia and Grenada.

The Buenos Aires Declaration on Child Labour, Forced Labour and Youth Employment, issued at the close of the IV Global Conference on Child Labour held in Argentina in 2017, signalled the participating countries' commitment to "support widened sharing and application of best practices, as well as the implementation of cooperation actions through strengthened international development assistance, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation." In that context, it is clear that the Regional Initiative, which has become an important point of reference in international discussions on child labour, has significant potential for replication in other regions of the world in terms of its institutional structure, operational processes, interventions, projects and results, all of which are underpinned by the core principles of South-South Cooperation. The multi-causal nature of child labour also dictates that, for successful replication, there has to be consistent and equitable engagement at various levels with other key partners (including government

ministries) in the areas of social development, education, health, economy and finance, and with national development cooperation agencies.

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Project title: Regional Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour: New South- South trends

Countries/Regions: Bahamas, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago

Nominated by: ILO Partnerships and Development Cooperation Department and Regional Office for the Americas

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8.7

ILO Outcome: Outcome 2.

Supported by: Government of Brazil; ILO-Brazil South-South Cooperation Partnership

Implementing entities: ILO Office for Brazil, ILO Decent Work Team and Office for the Caribbean, Ministry of Labour, Brazil

Project period: 2014 to present

Related resources:

- www.iniciativa2025alc.org
- www.southsouthpoint.net
- http://www.ilo.org/caribbean/projects/WCMS_525556/lang--en/index.htm
- <http://www.ilo.org/caribbean/information-resources/publications/lang--en/nextRow-10/index.htm>

South-South Cooperation between Business and Disability Networks in Latin America

Challenges: People with disabilities are often the target of discrimination in the workplace. However, there is a rising awareness that an effective way to work towards the attainment of SDG 8, particularly its target 5, and to counter the widely held belief that persons with disabilities are unsuitable for waged employment in the private sector, is to demonstrate that employees with disabilities can indeed make valuable contributions to their employing companies. Private enterprises that already employ persons with disabilities increasingly join forces in the area of disability inclusion by creating National Business and Disability Networks (NBDNs), often in collaboration with the ILO Global Business and Disability Network. Companies in and close to NBDNs increase their demand for workers with disabilities and thus create employment for people who are frequently pushed into self-employment in the informal economy, especially in developing countries, due to discriminatory practices. In Latin America, several NBDNs have already been created – in Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Peru – and are being discussed in several other countries in the region, and other are being discussed in several other countries in the region.

Towards a solution: The ILO Global Business and Disability Network (GBDN) is a unique employers-led network of more than 25 global companies, more than 20 National Business and Disability Networks (NBDNs), and eight non-business organizations working in collaboration to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the workplace. Often in collaboration with the GBDN, private enterprises that employ persons with disabilities increasingly join forces by creating NBDNs with a view to establishing regional and sub-regional business and disability networks to provide peer-to-peer support, share knowledge, develop joint tools and products, and organize meetings and events. Such NBDNs serve as inspiration for good policies and practices not only for their members, but also for the wider business community. NBDNs are instrumental in increasing companies' awareness of disability issues and of the business benefits of inclusion, and in preparing companies to welcome and retain staff with disabilities.



*Global Business and Disability Network Workshop, Peru 2017.
Credit: PARDEV*

The Ibero-American Social Security Organization (OISS) has established an Ibero-American Network of Inclusive Companies. However, no coordinated exchange between existing and potential Latin American NBDNs has yet taken place. To fill this gap, a regional one-and-a-half-day workshop was organized for the first time in Lima, Peru, in July 2017. The South-South experience and exchange workshop brought together more than 30

representatives from 12 Latin American countries, including from existing NBDNs, from companies interested in establishing NBDNs, and from other relevant actors, e.g. organizations of and for persons with disabilities and government agencies. GBDN company members present at the meeting were Adecco, Carrefour, L'Oréal, Repsol and Legrand. GBDN non-business member HI (Humanity & Inclusion) was present too. The workshop

provided a platform for a South-South multi-stakeholder discussion on challenges and successes NBDNs and private companies have had in Latin America. Actors from existing and potential Latin American business and disability networks learned about each other's approaches and activities, and identified lessons learned and potential areas for South-South cooperation and for adapting policies and practices from other countries within their specific national contexts.

As a result, sustainable mutual learning and South-South cooperation on Latin American business and disability networks was fostered, existing business and disability networks were strengthened, and more business and disability networks in the region are being established. In addition, the workshop also aroused interest among business and disability networks, such as Movimiento Congruencia from Mexico and the Working Group on Disability of the Panama CSR network SumaRSE, in becoming members of the GBDN and to participate in regular South-South and triangular exchange of knowledge, experience and good practices through the GBDN. The workshop helped to improve coordination and exchanges between Latin American NBDNs, the OISS-led Ibero-American Network of Inclusive Companies, and the GBDN. This productive collaboration between the ILO and the OISS on the employment of people with disabilities is being formalized and the roles regarding their work in Latin America on the topic clarified to create synergies and promote regular exchanges between countries in the region. To contribute to the base of knowledge on business and disability networks and promote further exchanges and adaptation of good practices in the region and beyond, participants developed case studies of their national experiences highlighting the importance of peer-to-peer learning and good practices in regional exchanges strengthening and establishing Latin American NBDNs. A compilation of these experiences was launched and made available for other countries wishing to establish business and disability networks.

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Project title: South-South Cooperation between Business and Disability Networks in Latin America

Countries/Regions: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Uruguay

Nominated by: ILO

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8.5, SDG 17.

ILO Outcomes: 1, 10

Supported by: ILO

Project period: ongoing.

Related resources:

- Publication on good practices on business and disability networks in Latin America (Spanish): http://www.ilo.org/pardev/south-south/WCMS_590108/lang--en/index.htm
- ILO Business and Disability network: <http://www.businessanddisability.org/index.php/en/>
- Presentation of good practices on business and disability networks: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/js1jbskmy0stzn8/AABEsDQU4JUWuc_zaHQAikNa?dl=0

4. Europe and Central Asia

Peer-to-peer learning on employment policies in the Western Balkans

Challenges: Given the current employment challenges of the Western Balkans, the most vulnerable groups include young people (particularly those not in education, employment, or training), people with disabilities, informal workers, the long-term unemployed, and others. Very often these situations overlap, creating a compounded disadvantage that individuals cannot overcome on their own without the support of government institutions. However, the awareness and policy-making capabilities of employment agency staff regarding labour inclusiveness are very limited and should be promoted.

Towards a solution: The project aimed to improve awareness of shortcomings in the design and implementation of active labour market policies (ALMPs) for the most vulnerable among employment policy practitioners in Western Balkan countries, including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

The project helped secure more practical support by government for disadvantaged groups and contributed to the realization of SDG 8 on decent work and inclusive growth. The project brought together public employment agency staff from five countries for a peer learning exchange which facilitated the knowledge and experiment sharing, expert guidance, and support from peers who have learnt from their failures and successes. This cross-country transfer of good practices among countries in the region ensured that no country would have to address the development challenges alone. The ILO first helped



*Exchanges during the peer learning event among Western Balkans countries on employment policies.
Credit: PARDEV*

countries identify issues and provided recommendations on improving the design and implementation of ALMPs for Western Balkan countries, and then organized a peer-learning event to facilitate knowledge sharing.

The ILO technical team supported practitioners from the public employment agencies of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo,⁷ North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia to peer-review their practices related to adult training, traineeship, self-employment programmes, and other services for disadvantaged clients. Representatives of the employment services from Portugal, Ireland, and Austria also brought their knowledge and expertise to the table. During the programme participants become aware of shortcomings in inclusiveness and committed to ending them. Thanks to the ILO programme, participants have become familiar with the peer learning approach and contributed to the formulation of concrete policy recommendations for each delegation.

The two-day peer learning event (June 2018) comprised an expert meeting, a peer learning exchange meeting, and a high-level meeting. The expert meeting involved practitioners of national public employment services (PES) and discussed the technical review and policy

⁷ All references to Kosovo in this paper are made in the context of UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

recommendations stemming from the peer learning exercises held in October 2017 and April 2018. The peer learning exchange meeting involved representatives from Austria and Ireland and offered an opportunity for PES practitioners of the Western Balkan countries to discuss the experiences of Ireland's First Steps programme and of Austria's Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan (for all young people under the age of 25 years). The high-level meeting provided a platform for national representatives of the ministries of labour from the Balkans to discuss the valuable experiences shared by Austria and Ireland. The event was of great value in helping Balkan countries develop an inclusive labour market, and in reinforcing South-South development cooperation between members in the region.

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Project title: Peer-to-peer learning on employment policies in the Western Balkans

Countries/Regions: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia

Nominated by: ILO Country Office in Budapest

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 1

Supported by: Austrian Development Agency, the EU, ILO PARDEV, and ILO International Training Centre (ITC-Turin), EMP/LAB.

Project period: July 2018

Related resources:

- www.southsouthpoint.net
- <https://www.sozialministerium.at/cms/siteEN/attachments/8/0/1/CH3839/CMS1459340234319/youth-garantee-implementation-plan.pdf>

Mutual learning between Mongolia and Kyrgyzstan on green economic policies and practices to advance the 2030 Agenda

Challenges: The Government of Mongolia has recognised the challenges of transitioning to a more socially inclusive and environmentally friendly economy, given its high economic growth on the back of its mining boom. The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) seeks to put sustainability at the heart of economic policies and practices to advance the 2030 Agenda. UN PAGE began implementation in Kyrgyzstan in early 2017 in partnership with the Ministry of Economy as a key national government partner. Mongolia has been a PAGE member since 2013, and has already achieved significant results that can serve as reference for other countries that have recently joined the partnership such as Kyrgyzstan. Mongolia has demonstrated strong leadership and ownership to achieve sustainable results with the support of PAGE, including green development policy and planning; green development planning at subnational level; mainstreaming gender into the National Green Development Policy (NDGP); assessment of the alignment between NDGP, the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Vision of Mongolia; green development indicators; modelling and policy assessment; green jobs; green building and construction; green economy learning; sustainable public procurement; sustainable financing; waste management; and green economy and trade.

Towards a solution: South-South and triangular cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and Mongolia provides an opportunity to build and strengthen mutual exchanges on green economy policy development and practice between the two neighbouring countries, which is



Exchanges between Kyrgyzstan and Mongolia during PAGE Week, Mongolia, 2017. Credit: PAGE Secretariat

key to the successful implementation of green economy objectives. This initiative emerged in the framework of an agreement between ILO and UNITAR to strengthen South-South cooperation between PAGE countries. Kyrgyzstan is at the starting point to promote green economy, and the experience of other countries is of great importance. Accordingly, there was interest from Kyrgyzstan to learn from the PAGE Mongolia

experience, including its challenges and achievements, at a point when Mongolia was approaching the end of its PAGE-supported programme.

Two study visits by stakeholders from the two countries took place to enhance exchange and dialogue on green economy themes. It facilitated peer-to-peer learning between Kyrgyzstan in the Central Asian region and Mongolia in the Eastern Asian region. The Kyrgyzstan delegation attended a PAGE Week in Mongolia devoted to green economy issues in September 2017. The delegation involved representatives of the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, the Council on Business and Entrepreneurship Development under Parliament, the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry, as well as the business association JIA.

The visit provided an excellent opportunity for peer-to-peer real-life exchanges of stakeholders directly involved in developing and implementing policy reform for green economy in the two neighbouring countries. The participation of the Kyrgyz counterparts in a number of PAGE events organized throughout the week allowed targeted learning from Mongolian experience and provided insights into how specific areas of work can be realized in Kyrgyzstan more effectively, including the Sustainable Finance Strategy, Business and Experience of the Bank and the Mongolian Green Credit Fund; platforms for bringing in global climate capital to the country; non-banking sustainable finance instruments; better understanding of the principles of sustainable finance by business associations, unions of banks, and others.

Kyrgyzstan representatives highly appreciated Mongolian experience in the introduction of green procurement at the government level. The introduction of green procurement in Kyrgyzstan could have a positive effect on the economic situation in the country and contribute to sustainable development. Based on the learning of their Mongolian counterparts, there are now plans and a commitment to replicate the best practices in the Kyrgyzstan context. During the second study visit, current developments in Kyrgyzstan also offered Mongolia opportunities to learn and benefit from practices on green economy in Kyrgyzstan. The Mongolian delegation visited Kyrgyzstan in November 2017, and participated in the Forum entitled “Green Economy: from Theory to Practice: New Opportunities for Business”. The Mongolian counterparts shared their achievements in introducing green economy at the national level and at the same time learned about Kyrgyz experience in the use of green technologies in business. The Mongolian delegation comprised representatives of the Ministry of Finance of Mongolia, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia, HacBank, and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) in Mongolia.

Kyrgyzstan and Mongolia share political, historical, cultural, economic and social features. These similarities make peer-to-peer learning effective, and practices from one country are easily adapted to the other. Kyrgyzstan benefited from learning the challenges and barriers in implementation faced by Mongolia and the ways to avoid and address them. The sustainability and replication elements of this South-South exchange have been very strong. The gained benefits are being put into action in the medium and longer term. There are plans to continue such successful South-South cooperation, both with PAGE and non-PAGE countries. These work streams include sustainable financing, sustainable public procurement, green economy in education, and green skills and jobs. The two key work streams of high interest for the delegation are the development of a sustainable finance road map and applying Threshold 21 (T21) economic modelling focusing on employment.⁸ Mongolia has used T21 in its Green Development Policy. The Green Employment Projection Model was explored under the leadership of the ILO in 2018. The green jobs agenda has been a cross-cutting and integral element of the exchange. Both countries have examined the findings of the Green Skills Assessments conducted by the ILO in Mongolia in 2014 and in Kyrgyzstan in 2017. Within PAGE in Kyrgyzstan, work is planned to continue with the ILO on green employment projection. The two countries are using other similar UN and government programmes to maintain the momentum of the exchange. One example is a new OECD-led work stream on sustainable finance, and the Kyrgyz Finance Ministry initiative regarding sustainable public procurement. Kyrgyzstan-Mongolia exchanges can also serve as a good practice of triangular

⁸ A dynamic simulation tool designed to support comprehensive, integrated long-term national development planning by comparing different policy options across a wide range of sectors and identifying those leading towards a desired goal. https://openei.org/wiki/Threshold_21_Model

cooperation in view of the GIZ Sustainable Economic Development programme's assistance in the form of technical expertise and financial contribution to support the study tours.

Contact: PAGE Mongolia: Altantsetseg Sodnomtseren, PAGE Coordinator for Mongolia, altansodnom@hotmail.com

Project title: Mutual learning between Mongolia and Kyrgyzstan on green economic policies and practices to advance the 2030 Agenda

Countries/Regions: Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia

Nominated by: ILO-UNEP

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8, SDG 13, SDG 17

ILO Outcomes: 4, cross-cutting policy driver: just transition to environmental sustainability.

Implementing entities: Partnership for Action on Green Economy (ILO, UNEP, UNITAR, UNIDO, UNDP)

Supported by: ILO

Project period: September 2017- end 2019

Related resources:

- http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---exrel/documents/publication/wcms_619139.pdf
- <http://www.un-page.org/countries/page-countries/mongolia>
- <http://www.un-page.org/countries/page-countries/kyrgyz-republic>
- https://openei.org/wiki/Threshold_21_Model

5. Arab States

Promoting a decent work approach to crisis response and recovery: A South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) initiative between Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq

Challenges: The Syrian crisis is one of the largest, most protracted and complex humanitarian emergencies of modern times. It has had spill-over effects into social and economic spheres of neighbouring countries, particularly Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey. Hosting a total of 5.6 million registered Syrian refugees, these three countries have witnessed considerable pressures on their natural resources, public services, and labour markets. In Iraq, the 250,000 Syrian refugees – although fewer in number than those in other neighbouring countries – added to the complexity of the already existing significant challenges of reconstruction and economic recovery necessary to accommodate the 2.3 million internally displaced people (IDPs). Providing access to jobs for both refugees and host communities has been central to the international dialogue on responding to the Syrian crisis since 2016. The London Conference for Supporting Syria and the Region, held in February 2016, made specific reference to creating job opportunities for both refugees and host communities in neighbouring countries. Neighbouring countries hosting refugees had committed to open up their labour markets to refugees and improve the domestic regulatory environment. The international community also committed to supporting employment creation programmes and facilitating access to both concessional financing and export markets. An ambitious target of creating 1.1 million jobs for Syrian refugees and host country citizens by 2018 was set. These commitments were very much in line with ILO’s Syria Refugee Crisis response strategy, which from the outset has been development-focused and employment –driven.

Towards a solution: The ILO’s response strategy is firmly anchored within the broader institutional refugee response policy framework outlined in the ILO’s 2016 “Guiding Principles on the Access of Refugees and other Forcibly Displaced Persons to the Labour Market”. In recognition of the patent importance of fostering dialogue amongst host countries around challenges faced and appropriate policy responses, in 2015 the ILO organised a workshop in Istanbul entitled: “Regional Dialogue on Labour Market Impact of the Syrian Refugee Crisis”. The workshop provided an excellent forum for tripartite constituents to exchange views and experiences on the challenges faced in addressing impacts on local labour markets, to examine potential options for developing appropriate policies and to draft recommendations for each key group, which will have to be re-assessed in light of past achievements.

Since the workshop, the ILO has made significant progress and achievements towards promoting decent work amongst Syrian refugees and host communities in Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey. It has also faced a number of challenges along the way, responding to which has helped in adapting and redesigning its initiatives. The important lessons yielded during this period can further hone and optimise the expansion of the Syrian response programme to local contexts and challenges. These lessons, particularly from Jordan and Lebanon are also invaluable for the ILO and its constituents in improving the efficiency of recovery programmes in Iraq and other conflict and post-conflict settings

Over three years since the Istanbul workshop and more than five years into the roll-out of its Syrian crisis response strategy, it was timely for the ILO to convene with the tripartite constituents of Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Iraq in order to follow on from the 2015 Istanbul

workshop. In this context, at the end of January 2019, a South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) initiative aimed at assessing achievements, key challenges, and lessons learned with regard to the promotion of decent jobs for refugees and host communities was launched. The first component of the SSTC initiative was a study tour organised in Turkey to visit the various project sites there, including the first women-only centre, which functions as a one-stop shop for Syrian refugee and host community women. The study trip to Turkey served as a platform to exchange knowledge, experiences, and good practices experiences on how to promote decent work, as well as to discuss approaches to job creation in crisis settings

A second study tour is planned for Jordan in April 2019, followed by a regional workshop, entitled “Promoting a Decent Work Approach to Crisis Response and Recovery: A SSTC Dialogue among Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Iraq”. The second study tour will be organised to shed light on the Jordanian experiences in the crisis response, while the regional workshop will allow participants to further discuss achievements and lessons learned and exchange experiences on the promotion of decent work.

Contact: Shaza Ghaleb Jondi, Senior UN Coherence and Partnerships Officer, ROAS Beirut

Project title: Promoting a decent work approach to crisis response and recovery: A south-south and triangular cooperation (SSTC) initiative between Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, and Iraq

Countries/Regions: Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, and Iraq

Nominated by: ILO

Sustainable Development Goals: 8

ILO Outcomes: 1, 7, 8

Supported by: ILO/ PARDEV, EMPINVEST, MIGRANT

Project period: June 2018 – December 2019

Related resources: www.southsouthpoint.net

II. Good practices with global scale

Global Initiative to Improve Occupational Safety and Health for Young Workers

Challenges: Every day some 7,600 people die from occupational accidents or diseases, and around one million workers are injured on the job. Safety and health at work should be strengthened for all workers, but particularly for young workers, who face a 40 per cent higher risk of suffering non-fatal work-related injuries. With approximately 40 million young people entering the global labour market every year, a major challenge for the international community lies in creating safe and healthy work opportunities for all, and especially for the younger generation, large numbers of whom work in the informal economy and in hazardous activities in sectors such as agriculture and construction.

Towards a solution: The SafeYouth@Work Action Plan aims at improving safety and health for young workers by proposing key actions to be implemented by governments, employers and workers and their organizations, young people, and youth organizations. Aligned to the

strategy of the SafeYouth@Work Project, action is organized in five priority areas: compliance; data and research; education and training; advocacy; and networks. The Action Plan provides a framework for collaboration and cooperation among all interested parties and South-South exchanges to promote safe and secure working environments for



Youth Champions at SafeYouth@Work. Credit: ILO

all workers, including young workers and those in precarious employment. The SafeYouth@Work Action Plan has been developed under the framework of the ILO Global Action Programme on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) flagship programme, which aims to reduce the incidence of work-related deaths, injuries and diseases.

The SafeYouth@Work Action Plan will contribute to the achievement of SDG targets 8.7 on ending all forms of child labour by 2025 and forced labour, human trafficking and modern slavery by 2035, and target 8.8 on protecting labour rights and promoting a safe and secure working environment for all workers. The Action Plan was developed starting at the XXI World Congress on Safety and Health at Work in September 2017. The ILO SafeYouth@Work Project organized a cross-generational and multi-national exchange among OSH experts, policymakers, employers' and workers' representatives, young workers, and youth organizations on the subject of OSH vulnerability of youth. Approximately 125 Youth Champions, representing a wide range of regions and backgrounds, were invited to participate in the event, providing them with basic OSH knowledge, giving them a voice in the development of the SafeYouth@Work Action Plan, and promoting peer-to-peer learning. Over the next six months, further consultations to gather inputs for the Action Plan were undertaken with governments, employers' organizations, workers' organizations, OSH

experts, and young people during the A+A Congress in Düsseldorf, Germany; the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour in Buenos Aires, Argentina; the Labour Inspection Academy and OSH in SMEs training programmes at ITC-ILO in Turin, Italy; and at a subregional consultation in Jakarta, Indonesia. These consultations were further supplemented by recommendations received from youth and other stakeholders via an online platform.

More than 670 inputs were collected and processed by the ILO SafeYouth@Work project team and considered for inclusion in the Action Plan. To bring together the inputs received, and finalize the SafeYouth@Work Action Plan, a tripartite-plus Drafting Committee was convened in February 2018 comprised of OSH and hazardous child labour experts, and representatives of employers and workers. Half of the Committee members were Youth Champions. The result of these efforts, representing extensive consultations, was launched as the SafeYouth@Work Action Plan. The Action Plan methodology actively incorporated Southern demands for cooperation, capacity and innovation on OSH. In this specific action, the main methodology involved tripartite and tripartite-plus consultations. They were organized around three components –

- a technical presentation of the issue and selected good OSH practices
- facilitated small group work to clarify how the good practices actually worked, and how they could be enhanced
- discussions among stakeholders on how the practices could be adapted in beneficiary countries.

The Action Plan also makes clear that young people must be part of finding OSH solutions, and will help ensure that their voices are both informed and heard. Directly involving young workers and their organizations in the development and implementation of preventive measures is critical, as it makes it possible for their concerns to be addressed during the discussion about how to create a generation of safe and healthy workers. Civil society and traditional OSH institutions and their social partners often lack the knowledge and means to advocate effectively on young people's behalf. Moreover, because large numbers of young workers are involved in non-standard forms of employment and in informal work, they are effectively invisible and deprived of bargaining power and effective representation. Their relative lack of power and voice contributes to the unfortunate situation whereby young workers a group are overlooked in the OSH legal and policy framework, and also overlooked during the design of OSH training and awareness campaigns, and when research priorities are determined. Public institutions must be prepared to support young people in their efforts to determine their future by providing them with resources and opportunities to be actively engaged. In this regard South-South cooperation and peer-to-peer learning are effective means to strengthen public institutions to attain this goal. The Action Plan initiative therefore provides an excellent platform for scaling up South-South and triangular cooperation projects among member countries and other regions, and has the potential for replication in other regions of the world. The conditions for replication include the following:

- A conducive institutional environment exists at the national level.
- Improving OSH national systems particularly for young workers is a priority in the national policy agendas and/or legal frameworks.
- Member countries are committed to undertake similar initiatives and share results with others.

-
- Member countries agree to apply the Action Plan framework document containing guidelines that can be followed or adapted during the process.
 - Sufficient information technology is in place that allows for fluid, continuous communication among countries.

Key partners include ministries of labour, social protection and education, OSH institutions, and development cooperation partners and agencies.

Contact: safeyouth@ilo.org

Project title: Global Initiative to Improve Occupational Safety and Health for Young Workers

Countries/Regions: Argentina, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Uruguay, and Viet Nam

Nominated by: ILO LABADMIN/OSH

Sustainable Development Goals: 8.7, 8.8

ILO Outcomes: 1, 7, 8

Supported by: United States Department of Labor

Project period: 2014-2019

Related resources:

- www.southsouthpoint.net
- The Technical Brief goes hand in hand with the SafeYouth@Work Action Plan to better explain why young workers are so much more vulnerable:
http://www.ilo.org/safework/events/safeday/WCMS_625223/lang--en/index.htm
- The ILO Info Story is an interactive and fun way of sharing with a wider public the key findings of the Technical Brief <http://www.ilo.org/infostories/en-GB/Stories/safety-health/youth#intro>

ILO Social and Solidarity Economy Academy

Challenges: Conventional economic policies have shown their limits in the area of human development. Social economy, solidarity economy, popular economy, and the third sector are only a few terms used to refer to a concept designating enterprises and organizations that through the production of good, services and knowledge, pursue explicit social and often environmental aims, and foster solidarity. Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) actors are often excluded from policy-making processes, and the many stakeholders of the SSE (policy makers, academicians, workers' and employers' organizations, SSE practitioners, etc.) have various responsibilities and agendas and do not necessarily communicate with each other, leading to policies disconnected from local realities. This is even truer for SSE stakeholders in the Global South, who have little possibility to influence policy, while at the same time they are those who need favourable policies for SSE the most.

Towards a solution: Including all these stakeholders, the ILO SSE Academy seeks to –

- contribute to a better understanding of the SSE concept.
- underline the relevance of SSE as an alternate/complementary development paradigm, both within the ILO's Decent Work Agenda and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda
- build new and strengthen existing SSE networks
- facilitate sharing of best practices and knowledge
- create and foster a SSE community of practice.

The ILO SSE Academy enjoyed the presence of participants from the Global South, thanks to scholarships funded by the ILO's SSTC programme. Covering travel, accommodation and participation fees to the Academy, the scholarships allowed selected individuals to attend the



*Social and Solidarity Economy Meeting, Campinas, 2014.
Credit: PARDEV, ITC/ILO*

Academy and share knowledge, best practices, and challenges with other SSE stakeholders that they usually would not have the opportunity to meet.

The Academy's flexible and interactive dynamics allow for an enriching experience for both new and experienced SSE actors. Discussions,

debates and exchanges are geared towards achieving the Academy's objectives, listed above, through the specific theme of the Academy. The Academy also featured field visits where participants can see at first hand the concrete initiatives in SSE in the city and country hosting the Academy. Field visits allowed participants to discuss directly with SSE actors and take stock of local experiences. Participants had access to an online distance-learning platform before the Academy, so that all participants could become acquainted with the basic principles and notions of SSE.

South-South and triangular arrangements can expand the impact of Social Economy in national contexts by building regional and inter-regional networks and platforms for knowledge and experience sharing. There are already many SSE networks between countries from the South, for example the Latin American Coordination Bureau of Fair Trade (MCLACJ), MERCOSUR Solidario, the ASEC Network in Asia, and RIPPES (Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania), to name a few. Participants are requested to write an article in line with SSTC and the specific theme of the Academy. The various articles have touched upon topics such as youth employment, sustainable development, and social innovation for decent work, local development, innovative SSE ecosystems, and the future of work. The articles are used to feed the discussions during the various sessions of the Academy, namely the elective session on SSTC. The Academy is demand-driven, with constituents reaching out to the ILO to host an Academy in their country. In some instances, the Academy has led to further development cooperation projects with the funding ministry, or directly with constituents themselves.

Contact: Roberto Di Meglio, Senior Technical Specialist, COOP, dimeglio@ilo.org

Project title: ILO Social and Solidarity Economy Academy

Countries/Regions: Global (so far Italy, Canada, Morocco, Brazil, South Africa, Mexico, Costa Rica, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Spain)

Nominated by: ILO Country Office for Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia

Sustainable Development Goals: 8.3

ILO Outcomes: 1, 4

Supported by: ILO & partnering constituents

Project period: Continuous

Related resources:

- www.sseacb.net
- <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0B4hK77sxP-XXfmlESFFRdDI1bWQ4eUwyV2Y3OGtyckMtcUIQTzRrLUw4ZTJRUm50eUc2TUk>

III. Good practices at the ILO International Training Centre in Turin

Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Local Development Training Courses

Challenges: There are increasing pressures on communities as a result of climate change and natural resource depletion, which in turn raise challenges for local development policy makers and practitioners to adapt to the new development landscape, especially in the field of disaster risk reduction, a precondition for sustainable development and decent work. To address this challenge, the ILO has developed training courses for local development in 2018-19, focusing on increasing resilience of business and livelihoods. The training courses aim at capacity building and knowledge exchanges for stakeholders in the Global South on local development issues, with specific emphasis on disaster risk reduction. This training contributes to ILO's Outcome 4: Promoting sustainable enterprises, and is aligned with the UN Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, with SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities, and with the Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience Recommendation, 2017 (No. 205).

Towards a solution: Over the past few years the ITC-ILO and PARDEV/SSTC have developed a series of training programmes for local development policy makers and practitioners based on South-South and triangular cooperation modalities. The training programme directly contributed to the Flagship Programme on Jobs for Peace and Resilience. During the training programme, practitioners learnt about South-South and triangular cooperation principles, theory and practice. They then themselves brought these principles into practice by becoming part of the established community of practice on topics related to local development and disaster risk reduction.

The role of ITC-ILO and PARDEV/SSTC in this programme was to enrich South-South cooperation, providing the participants in the programme with high quality training inputs on local development and DRR-related topics; supporting participants to develop articles on successful policies and practices in their respective countries; and supporting the knowledge sharing platform and network of practitioners. Past experience in the programme has showed strong evidence of the existence of a solid network of policy makers and practitioners providing mutual support on topics of common interest, the creation of a growing knowledge base on successful policies and practices at the disposal of the network of practitioners, and the adoption of successful policies and practices in the different countries as a result of participants' active participation in the training programme and the network of practitioners.



Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Local Development Training Course, ITC Turin, 2018. Credit: PARDEV, ITC/ILO

This training course expanded the network of South-South practitioners on disaster risk reduction and local development and strengthened linkages with various Outcome 4 initiatives in the Global South. In the context of increasing pressures on communities as a result of climate change and natural resource depletion, this project helped to facilitate knowledge acquisition, mutual learning and mutual support among policy makers and practitioners in developing countries with respect to policies and strategies that reduce the risk of disasters in the context of sustainable local development processes.

Concretely, this initiative provided scholarships to policy makers and practitioners working on local development, who were invited to prepare articles/posters on the policies and strategies under their responsibility. They benefited from participation in the training programme at ITC-ILO on disaster risk reduction, organized by ITC-ILO in cooperation with PARDEV/SSTC. They also learnt about SSTC principles and modalities, and will themselves become members of the community of practice nurtured by ITC-ILO and PARDEV/SSTC. Participation in the training courses then contributed to the ILO Country Programme Outcomes (CPOs), as participants in the programme were able to bring the acquired knowledge and skills into practice in the framework of CPO implementation. Such implementation in turn enriched the training programmes and the knowledge base available to the community of practice. The specific learning outcomes of the disaster risk reduction and sustainable local development training programme were –

- improved knowledge on the components of disaster risk reduction
- improved capacities to identify vulnerabilities and to deal with natural hazards
- enhanced capacities for the design of policies and actions to reduce the risk of disasters in the context of sustainable local development processes
- promote the Making Cities Resilient Campaign and expansion of the network of South-South resilient cities
- enhanced knowledge of SSTC principles and modalities.

Contacts: Maria Jose Mallo, ILO/ITC Specialist, mallo@itcilo.org. Federico Negro, Spec, Capacity Building and Knowledge Development, negro@ilo.org

Project title: Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Local Development Training Courses

Participants: Experts from Latin America

Countries/Regions: countries in Latin America

Nominated by: ITC ILO

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 3, 4, 7

Supported by: ILO PARDEV

Project Period: 11-15 June/2018

Related resources: www.southsouthpoint.net

Expert meeting on the Future of Work Initiative

Challenges: Demographic change has profound impacts on the world of work, bringing challenges but also opening up new economic development opportunities, particularly in the care-giving service industry. Specifically, new jobs are being created as a result of fast growing public and consumer expenditure related to population ageing and the specific needs of the population over 50 (e.g. mobility equipment, elder-friendly medicines, home-based care devices, and other services or goods). Along with the promotion of employment prospects for young jobseekers, there is a high risk of a decent work deficit stemming from precarious employment relationships and gender stereotypes that need to be addressed. According to data and projections from the United Nations, Asia will eventually become home to the largest number of older people in the world. A development strategy for an employment-rich and equitable growth of the care economy in Asia is thus increasingly imperative.

Towards a solution: To address this urgent need, and under the umbrella of its established South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) collaboration framework with the ILO, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of China (MOHRSS) collaborated with ILO/ITC Turin to organize an expert meeting on the Future of Work in Asia to strengthen the capacity of ILO constituents to mitigate risks and unlock opportunities in the wake of the large-scale labour market transformation processes taking place in Asia.

This event applied the SSTC modality, which gathered and facilitated knowledge and experience exchanges among public labour market research and social security research institutions from China, Europe, and selected ASEAN countries. The outcome of the expert



meeting was to increase knowledge of skills development strategies and to promote decent work in the care economy, especially by enhancing South-South cooperation between countries in the region. The meeting reaffirmed the commitment of the ILO to SSTC activities and contributed to the celebration of the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation on 12 September 2018.

*Expert meeting on the Future of Work in Asia, ITC Turin, 2018.
Credit: PARDEV, ITC/ILO*

The three-day expert meeting included two days of knowledge exchange and a study tour. The keynote address concerned care jobs and the care economy with a focus on SSTC, and was followed by a discussion on disseminating and promoting good practices among countries in the region. On the second day, a presentation on SSTC in the framework of the FOW Initiative and BAPA+40 was delivered, highlighting the importance of the FOW Initiative, the ILO centenary, and the ILO's SSTC Strategy adopted in 2018. A compendium of articles on SSTC and the Care Economy prepared by the participants was presented and used as a knowledge sharing exercise. During the meeting all participants showed strong interest in and commitment to promoting SSTC as an efficient modality for ASEAN countries to address the needs of their ageing populations and stimulate employment-rich and equitable growth in the care economy of the region.

Contact: Yordanka Tzvetkova, Manager BRICS, ILO-ITC, tzvetkova@itcilo.org.

Project title: Expert meeting on Future of Work Initiative

Participants: Experts from South East Asia, China, Japan, and other stakeholders.

Countries/Regions: South East Asia, China, Japan

Nominated by: ITC ILO

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 5, 7

Supported by: ILO PARDEV

Project period: 17-19 September 2018

Related resources:

- Interview with Wai Mun Hong (ASEAN) about SSTC and the Care Economy in Asia: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrA2XdT4_O0&feature=youtu.be
- Article on South-South Point:
<http://www.southsouthpoint.net/2018/09/05/celebrating-international-south-south-cooperation-day-and-the-care-economy-in-itc-ilo-turin-expert-meeting-on-the-future-of-work-in-asia/>
- Article on UNOSSC webpage during the South-South day:
<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/09/05/celebrating-international-south-south-cooperation-day-and-the-care-economy-in-ilo-turin-expert-meeting-on-the-future-of-work-in-asia/>
- Compendium of articles on SSTC and ASEAN Care Economy prepared by meeting participants:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fHZswnvJ7_VZCLAetR9u9B2JRRtqDrlP/view
- Meeting agenda: <http://www.southsouthpoint.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Agenda.pdf>

Sustainable Tourism for Decent Work and Green Jobs

Training Course: Sustainable tourism and local development in rural areas

Challenges: Rural areas frequently find themselves in situations of economic decline as a consequence of the fall in agricultural production, the loss of human resources who emigrate to the cities, and thin infrastructure. The promotion of sustainable tourism in these regions may be an instrument for development that permits not only the protection of heritage and environment and the promotion of the cultural identity of the community, but also diversification of the economy and the creation of new jobs that help to settle population and improve the quality of life. This approach entails strategies that base tourism on the development of the natural and cultural resources of the territory, including its agricultural and agro-livestock products and traditional livelihoods. The course on Sustainable Tourism and local development in rural areas, held at ILO ITC in Turin in 2018, aimed to analyse the potential of sustainable tourism for local development in rural areas.

Towards a solution: The 23 course participants represented a variety of Latin American countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, and Ecuador, with very diverse professional backgrounds (representatives from governments, NGOs, universities, and the private sector) working on rural tourism in their countries. During an “experiences fair” all participants were requested to present their projects on rural tourism, identifying already existing or potential components for South-South collaboration, as well as highlighting good practices. The training course included a session on tourism and decent work in rural areas, which included a presentation underlining the potential of decent work for a sustainable, green and inclusive tourism sector and explaining how the tourism sector can contribute to social inclusion, poverty reduction and diversification in rural areas.

A session on South-South and triangular cooperation facilitated by Ms. Anita Amorim (ILO PARDEV) provided audiences with a practical definition of SSTC, its main principles, the processes that should be followed to implement projects in an SSTC framework, the actors involved, as well as existing SSTC modalities (South-South cooperation, triangular cooperation, cooperation between regions, city-to-city cooperation, and fragile-to-fragile cooperation, etc.) and various forms of SSTC (capacity building, exchanges of experience and good practices, creating and strengthening networks and platforms, and establishing partnerships and alliances, etc.). After facilitating the understanding of SSTC, the presentation then showcased the importance of SSTC in achieving the Decent Work Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 8 and SDG 17, by explaining the ILO’s SSTC work on various topics such as child labour and forced labour, green jobs, social protection and employment, social dialogue, and labour migration. A presentation on applying the SSTC modality in the context of promoting sustainable tourism for local development in rural areas highlighted the fact that many of the latter are experiencing economic deterioration, and the promotion of sustainable



Training course on Sustainable tourism and local development in rural areas, ITC Turin 2018. Credit: PARDEV, ITC/ILO

tourism for local development in rural areas highlighted the fact that many of the latter are experiencing economic deterioration, and the promotion of sustainable

tourism in such areas allows not only the protection of heritage and the promotion of the cultural identity of the community, but also the diversification of the economy and the creation of new jobs that help the population and improve the quality of life. Acknowledging that many countries from the South have been implementing innovative approaches to rural development that serve as inspiration for other countries are facing similar challenges, the session was followed by a group work exercise (Fishbowl) where participants presented good practices in South-South and triangular cooperation in the tourism sector, focusing on current and future partnerships. Participants also worked on presentations of their good SSTC practices through an EXPO in the afternoon session.

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Project title: Training Course on “Sustainable tourism and local development in rural areas”

Countries/Regions: Participants: Experts represented a variety of Latin American countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba and Ecuador.

Nominated by: ITC ILO

Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 8

ILO Outcomes: 5, 7

Supported by: PARDEV

Project period: 5-9 November 2018

Related resources:

- Archive:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1X13Y8kxKlexC1U_zoIaI_V2Wtc9JM9i2
- ILO’s SSTC thematic works on rural development:
<http://www.southsouthpoint.net/themes/rural-development/>