



Newsletter

KEY RESOURCES

Toolkit, second edition:

[English](#) – [French](#) – [Spanish](#)

Toolkit, Country Level Application:

[English](#) – [French](#) – [Spanish](#)

[Toolkit Website](#)

[2009 UNDAF Guidelines](#)

VIDEO

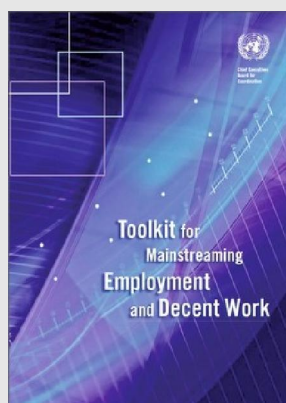
Watch an [introduction](#) to the Toolkit on ILO TV

The TOOLKIT in ARGENTINA

ILO office in Argentina (in Spanish): www.oit.org.ar (see section on the Toolkit application)

UNCT in Argentina: <http://www.onu.org.ar/>

Focal point: [Guillermo Dutra](#)



Mainstreaming Employment and Decent Work

UN Agencies and UN Country Teams are expanding their use of the Toolkit on Mainstreaming Decent Work in order to improve their programmes and projects. Decent work as an effective route out of poverty was endorsed by all United Nations' Member States through the adoption of a new target for Millennium Development Goal 1 (MDG1). The goal is to halve the proportion of people living on less than US\$1/day by 2015 and the new target is to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all. The entire UN system has been called upon to support countries in this effort. To help the UN system in this, the Chief Executives Board (CEB), a body comprised of heads of all UN agencies and Bretton Woods institutions, asked the ILO to take the lead in developing a *Toolkit for Mainstreaming Employment and Decent Work*. The Toolkit enables CEB organizations, UN Country Teams and social partners to determine how their policies, strategies, programmes and activities are interlinked with employment and decent work outcomes and how they can be enhanced.

The Toolkit has also been adapted for use at the country level by multilateral agencies and national stakeholders. A checklist specifically for those users has been developed (see side box).

The [2009 Guidelines](#) for developing UN Development Frameworks (UNDAF) have incorporated the Toolkit to analyse the national context prior to the joint programming exercise. UNDAFs outline common goals, outcomes and programmes for the UN agencies at the country level.

The Toolkit includes three elements.

- ✓ a diagnostic and awareness raising checklist of questions for self-assessment
- ✓ an interactive website for knowledge management and sharing of tools <http://cebtoolkit.ilo.org>
- ✓ a capacity building and awareness raising component

Capacity Building for Mainstreaming

The first capacity building workshop on the Toolkit took place in May this year at the ILO International Training Centre in Turin. The training objective was to strengthen participants' knowledge of the Decent Work Agenda and to enable them to use the Toolkit to mainstream decent work into national development frameworks. Participants were officers involved in the UNDAF process from FAO, UNESCO, UN DESA, UNDP, ILO, and the resident coordinators from Argentina, Nigeria, Uruguay and Yemen. The training was funded by the European Commission.

Since then, the CEB Toolkit team has helped train ILO officials in Anglophone and Francophone Africa (May 2009), Europe (July 2009) and the Americas (July 2009). October workshops are planned for Asia, Africa and for ILO Officials from Headquarters.

Highlights to Date:

- ✓ Currently, fourteen CEB member agencies have done a self-assessment: FAO, IAEA, UN-HABITAT, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNODC, UNRWA, UNWTO, UPU, WHO and the World Bank.
- ✓ The Toolkit has been used in Argentina and introduced to the UN Country Teams in Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Iraq, Liberia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.
- ✓ The Knowledge Sharing Platform, developed as a prototype in 2008, contains approximately 1,000 tools from the CEB organizations and has 460 registered users. It also includes all self-assessments by organizations and the country level. Passwords for access can be requested from toolkit@ilo.org
- ✓ A workshop on Decent Work and International Labour Standards was carried out with UNIDO project staff in Vienna in May 2009
- ✓ A workshop was held at the Universal Postal Union in September 2009 to help mainstream employment and decent work into the organization's activities. The workshop will focus on Social Dialogue, Gender and HIV/AIDS in the work place. UPU was one of the first organizations to complete its self-assessment in 2008.
- ✓ The ILO has received support from the European Commission for a Technical Cooperation project to develop the CEB Toolkit within the Decent Work Campaign. The project supports the dissemination of the Toolkit in the UN system, the development of a knowledge-sharing application and a pilot application of the Toolkit at the country level to collect lessons learned and to further improve policy and operational tools.

Using the Toolkit at the Country Level

Mainstreaming Decent Work in Argentina

When the first UNDAF for Argentina was being prepared in 2008, eight out of the fifteen resident agency members of the UN Country Team (UNCT) went through the Toolkit checklist to identify the links between their own activities and the Decent Work Agenda. A presentation was then made to the UNCT and the technical committees to demonstrate how decent work contributes to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. At the same time, FAO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO, the World Bank and ILO-Buenos Aires also went through the country-level checklist with Technical Assistance from the ILO focal point. Tools for mainstreaming employment and decent work were identified and final reports elaborated.

The UNDAF was signed in May 2009 and will cover the period 2010-2014. The application of the Toolkit by the UNCT contributed to the inclusion of employment and Decent Work in 83% of the UNDAF effects, 93% of programme outcomes and 75% of outputs.

UNDP representatives involved in the implementation of the Toolkit in Argentina have indicated that the Toolkit has helped organizations understand how their mandates, programmes and activities are related to decent work outcomes and that better results can be achieved by working in collaboration with other agencies. The Toolkit facilitates interagency work and helps to promote coherence at policy and operational levels. [See page 1 for Argentina resources and contacts]

UPCOMING

- Ø **Development of Plans of Action:** Based on their self-assessments, agencies have committed to prepare plans of actions.
- Ø **Awareness raising and capacity building in UN agencies:** The ILO has engaged with interested United Nations agencies in policy dialogue, awareness raising and capacity building on employment and decent work issues.
- Ø **Development of Training Materials** - In cooperation with the ILO International Training Center in Turin and with the support of the European Union, training materials on decent work will be developed.
- Ø Implementation of the Toolkit at country level has begun in **Indonesia, Syria and Uruguay.**

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External Relations Branch
Partnerships and Development Cooperation Department
International Labour Office
CH-1211 Geneva 22
Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 799 7604
exrel@ilo.org
www.ilo.org/pardev