

## News Round-up

**Youth Employment Month**

The ILO declared March to be **Youth Employment Month**. Activities were held to highlight youth employment issues worldwide, including 10 national events in Asia and the Pacific - including in China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, [Philippines](#), Sri Lanka, [Thailand](#), Timor Leste and [Viet Nam](#). In addition the ILO has launched a [competition for young film-makers](#) to show how the global jobs crisis is affecting the lives of youth. Young people (aged 18-29) are invited to submit two minute videos by 10 April. The winners will be invited to Geneva to present their videos and attend the ILO [Youth Employment Forum](#), 23-25 May.

**ILO, Australia and Timor-Leste Strengthen Technical Cooperation**

The ILO and the Governments of Australia and Timor-Leste have announced a new US\$31 million (30 million Australian Dollars) project to significantly improve road transport in Timor-Leste. [Click for more.](#)

**MOU on Labour Reform and Labour Inspection in Fiji**

The Governments of the Republic of Kiribati and the Republic of Fiji signed a Memorandum of Understanding to improve technical assistance in labour reform and inspection on 19 March in Suva, Fiji. [Click for speech](#) of Mr David Lamotte, Director, ILO Country Office for the South Pacific Island Countries

**Indonesian Forum to Strengthen Protection of Migrant Workers**

Generating policy recommendations to strengthen the protection of migrant workers and their families was the subject of a Forum on Policy Development held in Jakarta on 13 March. [Click for more.](#)

**APYN Podcast on Youth Entrepreneurship**

The fourth APYouthNet discussion podcast discussed "Entrepreneurship: seizing an opportunity for youth". [Click to listen to the show.](#)

**International Women's Day**

To mark International Women's Day on 8 March, events were held throughout the region. These included a [Strategic Dialogue, Empower Rural Women – End Hunger & Poverty](#) in Islamabad, Pakistan, the launch of the [Employers' Guideline on Sexual Harassment at the Workplace](#) in Jakarta, Indonesia, a [United Nations Photo Exhibit on Indigenous Women](#) in Pasay City, the Philippines, and International Women's Day discussions in [Bangkok](#), Thailand, [Port Vila](#), [Vanuatu](#) and [Suva](#), Fiji Islands.

**Radio Talk Show on Child and Adult Domestic Workers in Indonesia**

The ILO and Smart FM Surabaya organized an interactive talk show, "Problems and Solutions on Domestic Workers and Child Domestic Workers in East Java" on 7 March in Surabaya, East Java, to raise awareness of issues related to domestic workers. [Click for more.](#)

**IBSA International Conference on South-South Cooperation**

Innovations in public employment and sustainable, inclusive growth were the focus of an international conference that took place under the aegis of the India-Brazil-South Africa Dialogue Forum (IBSA) held in New Delhi, India, 1-3 March. [Click for more.](#)

**Latest newsletters**

The ILO Country Office for South Pacific Island Countries released the February-March edition of its newsletter, [News in Brief](#). The March edition of the ILO Office in Jakarta's bilingual newsletter was also published in [English](#) and [Bahasa](#).

## Other Recent Events

Training Workshop for Staff of Cambodian Migrant Worker Resource Centres  
1 March, Prey Veng, Cambodia

Opening of Migrant Worker Resource Centres  
1 March, Xaiyaboury and Champasak, Lao PDR

Tripartite validation workshop of the Cambodia decent work country profile  
1-2 March, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Training Workshop for Staff of Cambodian Migrant Worker Resource Centres  
1-2 March, Prey Veng, Cambodia

Strategic Planning of the Provincial Child Labor Committees in the Philippines  
5-6 March, Quezon  
15-16 March, Bukidnon  
19-20 March, Northern Samar

Stakeholders Forum on Livelihoods in Northern Samar  
5-8 March, Northern Samar, Philippines

Public Finance Management and Resource Generation  
7-9 March, Manila, Philippines

Training workshops for Local Service Providers to Effectively Respond to Migrants' Needs  
7-14 March, Baguio City, Philippines

Training Programme for Conciliators of the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment for Effective Prevention and Settlement of Disputes Pertaining to Migrant Workers  
8-10 March, Colombo, Sri Lanka

ILO TRIANGLE Project Advisory Committee Meeting and Training on the International and Regional Normative Frameworks on Migration in Viet Nam  
9-10 March, Da Lat, Lam Dong Province, Viet Nam

Third Meeting of the National Skills and TVET Data Working Group  
12 March, New Delhi, India

Building a National Social Protection Floor: Capacity Building Workshop for Trade Unions in India  
12-13 March, Bangalore, Karnataka, India

Addressing Labour Issues in Aquaculture, Shrimp and Seafood Processing Sectors in Thailand - Role of the Department of Fisheries. A Joint-Initiative DOF-ILO-IPEC  
16 March, Bangkok, Thailand

Review Meeting on Training Manual on Child Labour for Trade Unions  
19-20 March, New Delhi, India

Working with Men to Address Gender-based Violence in the Workplace  
19-20 March, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Entrepreneurship Development for Youth  
19-21 March, Manila, Philippines

Tripartite Validation Workshop of the Philippine Decent Work Country Profile  
20-21 March, Manila, Philippines

ASEAN Seminar on Unemployment Insurance and Active Labour Market Policies  
20-22 March, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam

**Southeast Asia Launch of the Global Employment Trends 2012 Report**

21 March, Singapore

**Going Back, Moving On: Final Project Conference**

27 March, Manila, Philippines

**Workshop on the Establishment of a Recruitment Agency Association**

27 March, Vientiane, Lao PDR

**National Policy Dialogue on Improving Social Protection and Promoting Employment**

28-29 March, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

**Social Protection Floor and Global Jobs Pact: Knowledge sharing workshop for Employers' Organizations in India**

29-30 March, Karnataka, India

## Feature

### Social Protection for Thailand's Informal Economy Workers

*By Alice Molinier and Kakkanang Ghettae, ILO Social Protection Consultants, and Poonsap Tulaphan, Foundation for Labour and Employment Promotion*



People working in the informal economy are often vulnerable and frequently lack social protection. But now the ILO and other United Nations agencies are working with the Thai Government to change this and create a suitable, sustainable social protection system. [Click for more.](#)

## Look Ahead

### Decent Work for Youth in India

A one-day event to promote dialogue between young people, policymakers and the social partners on India's youth employment challenge will be held on 3 April in New Delhi. [Click for more.](#)

### New Code of Conduct for Thailand's Fishing Workers

The development of an employers' code of conduct on the protection of fishing sector workers - including migrant workers - is being discussed at workshops organized by ILO and the National Fisheries Association of Thailand between February and May. [Click for more.](#)

### Lao Job Fair

A job fair will be held in Champasak, Lao Peoples Democratic Republic on 27-29 April to provide information about employment opportunities at home and abroad, and to raise awareness of how to migrate in a safe and legal way. [Click for more.](#)

## Calendar

**Public Validation Workshop on the National Human Resources and Employment Policy**

5 April, Colombo, Sri Lanka

**Improving Recruitment Practices of Employment Agencies Recruiting Migrant Workers**

9 April, Colombo, Sri Lanka

World Day for Safety and Health at Work: "Promoting Safety and Health in Small and Medium Enterprises"

30 April, Kampong Som City, Sihanoukville, Cambodia

Visioning Event on Managing Skills and Employability for Decent Work through Building a Community of Practice and a Roadmap for the Regional Skills Programme  
22-24 May, Bangkok, Thailand

## Bookshelf

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### **Decent work in Jakarta: An integrated approach - [pdf]**

ILO: Jakarta, February 2012, 44 pp.

This working paper analyses urbanization trends in Jakarta and details a number of policy initiatives being undertaken in the city related to the promotion of decent jobs, skills upgrading and social protection, among others, with the aim of supporting urbanization that fosters decent work.

### **Monetary policy and employment in developing Asia - [pdf]**

ILO: Bangkok, February 2012, 18 pp.

An assessment of the role of and challenges facing central banks in Asia in using monetary policy to promote productive employment and achieve positive labour market outcomes.



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