

# PARTNERSHIPS FOR DECENT WORK



International  
Labour  
Organization

# Newsletter

April 2014, No. 41

## Outcomes of the 102nd Session of the International Labour Conference (ILC)

Myanmar, the ILO centenary, employment, social protection, sustainable development and green jobs were on the agenda of the 102nd ILC in June 2013. Four resolutions were adopted through a constructive tripartite process. A key decision of the ILC was the lifting of all [remaining restrictive measures on the subject of Myanmar](#)'s non-compliance with the ILO Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No.29). In 2012, after a landmark address to the ILO by Ms Aung San Suu Kyi, the ILO had already lifted some restrictions which excluded the Government of Myanmar from receiving ILO technical cooperation and assistance. Governments are now asked to provide financial support to technical cooperation programmes to be developed in Myanmar. The ILO Director-General will continue to submit a report to the March Governing Body sessions until forced labour is totally eliminated from the country.



In his report, "[Towards the ILO centenary: Realities, Renewal and Tripartite Commitment](#)", the Director-General outlined seven initiatives to define the innovative areas of action that the ILO needs to

address to renew its capacity to deliver on its mandate of social justice as the Organization approaches its centenary. They stem from an examination of the major drivers transforming the realities of the world of work and their implications for the ILO. They represent an opportunity for the ILO to reaffirm its tripartite commitment, which is crucial to the achievement of its objectives.

The initiatives on governance and standards aim at achieving tasks that the ILO has set itself. The first aims at completing the reform process within the ILO, the second would consolidate tripartite consensus on a review mechanism to enhance the relevance of international labour standards.

The third initiative, the Green initiative, gives practical application to the decent work dimension of the transition to a low-carbon, sustainable development path. The fourth initiative addresses the

ILO's engagement with enterprises and its contribution to their sustainability. In similar terms, the fifth initiative, the End to Poverty Initiative, addresses the urgent requirement for an adequate living wage for all workers, including through the employment and social protection components of the post-2015 development agenda.

The Women at Work Initiative, the sixth initiative, is designed to survey the status and conditions of women in the world of work, so that tripartite constituents can be engaged in concrete action to realize equality of opportunity and treatment. The last of the seven initiatives is related to the future of work. It is proposed to establish an advisory panel on the future of work to draw up a report for discussion at the Organization's centenary International Labour Conference in 2019.

The technical committees of the 2013 International Labour conference produced valuable conclusions on crucial issues such as jobs, and social protection, demographics; green jobs and sustainable development; and social dialogue. The resolution on [employment and social protection in the new demographic context](#)



places attention on a long-term multi-dimensional, integrated and innovative policy mix that recognizes the interdependency between demographic shifts, employment, labour migration, social protection and economic development. It is part of the ILO's concern to face the challenge that fast changing demographics represent for labour markets and social security systems worldwide.

Through a resolution on [sustainable development, decent work and green jobs](#) the ILC called for all jobs and enterprises to introduce more energy and resource-efficient practices. The ILO will further develop its research capacity to share good practices with constituents and to provide guidance for SMEs and cooperatives to green their production processes with greater energy efficiency and a better use of resources.

The [framework of action to promote and strengthen social dialogue](#) was also approved during the 102nd ILC. It calls on ILO constituents to strengthen the institutions and processes of social dialogue. In this context, the ILO will provide support to the tripartite actors of social dialogue at all levels, actively promote social dialogue and enhance

## Key resources

### 2013 ILO Reports

[World of Work Report 2013](#)  
[Global Employment Trends 2014](#)  
[Marking progress against child labour](#)

### 2013 ILC Outcomes

[I. Resolution concerning employment and social protection in the new demographic context](#)

[II. Resolution concerning sustainable development, decent work and green jobs](#)

[III. Resolution concerning the recurrent discussion on social dialogue](#)

[IV. Resolution concerning remaining measures on the subject of Myanmar adopted under article 33 of the ILO Constitution](#)

### SSTC and the ILO in 2013

[South-South cooperation and decent work good practices](#)  
[City to City and South-South and Triangular Cooperation](#)

policy coherence with other international organizations. As part of the plan of action, the *Tripartite Consultation Convention, 1976 (No. 144)* and the *Collective Bargaining Convention 1981 (No. 154)* will be promoted in a new campaign.

The 2013 Session of the International Labour Conference was also honoured by the presence of President Banda of Malawi, European Council President Van Rompuy, and African Union Commission President Dlamini Zuma, who addressed the delegates.

### Trends in ILO voluntary funding

Over the last five years, 27 countries and the European Commission contributed more than one million US dollars in voluntary funding. In 2013, the United States remained the ILO's largest development partner, with US\$ 34 million in approvals. The same year saw a considerable increase in Norwegian support (US\$ 22.7 million of lightly earmarked resources), whereas UN funding (all sources) rose to US\$ 24.4 million, composed of many relatively small individual allocations. Following the Rana Plaza tragedy in Bangladesh the ILO launched a comprehensive, multi-partner programme of assistance with a volume of US\$ 22.5 million. Also of note is the fact that the UK (DFID) and New Zealand both resumed funding of ILO's technical cooperation at the field level. Twelve governments contributed some US\$ 7 million of domestic funds to finance ILO technical cooperation in their own countries. At the end of 2013 RBSA contributions amounted to US\$ 36 million. RBSA approval figures are recorded on a biennial basis, since the RBSA is aligned with the regular budget. Six development partners are currently contributing to the RBSA. ILO's TC expenditure in 2013 (\$224.6 million) were the highest ever recorded by the Office; at the same time, delivery rates reached a record 80 per cent.

| Development partners, contributing over 1 million USD over the last three biennia, 2008-2013 |           |                    |           |
|--|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| Contributors   | US \$'000 | Contributors       | US \$'000 |
| Australia  | 98,157    | Kuwait             | 2,500     |
| Austria  | 2,269     | Luxembourg         | 17,580    |
| Belgium and Flanders   | 54,904    | Netherlands        | 83,082    |
| Brazil   | 7,871     | New Zealand        | 1,627     |
| Canada   | 52,100    | Norway             | 99,775    |
| China  | 1,000     | Panama             | 1,044     |
| Denmark  | 70,345    | Portugal           | 4,911     |
| European Commission  | 112,385   | Republic of Korea  | 6,789     |
| Finland  | 17,651    | Russian Federation | 4,000     |
| France   | 18,151    | Spain              | 56,945    |
| Germany  | 27,448    | Sweden             | 41,616    |
| Ireland  | 42,232    | Switzerland        | 28,696    |
| Italy  | 20,452    | United Kingdom     | 61,917    |
| Japan  | 22,405    | United States      | 269,380   |

| Other sources                          |         |
|--|---------|
| Domestic development funding           | 58,738  |
| International financial institutions   | 39,696  |
| Multi-donor programmes                 | 7,446   |
| Other Inter-governmental organizations | 7,913   |
| Public-private partnerships            | 51,606  |
| Social Partners                        | 1,958   |
| UN organizations and agencies          | 206,079 |

For 2014-15 the outlook remains challenging. While we expect to enter into new multi-annual partnerships with the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and France, funding from traditional sources is unlikely to grow given reduced overall ODA levels and greater competition for resources. The Office must harness new funding opportunities from international and regional financial institutions, the European Union, the private sector and emerging economies.

### South-South and Triangular Cooperation and the ILO in 2013

2013 continued to bring major advances for South-South and triangular cooperation in the world of work. ILO constituents, including workers' and employers' organizations were actively engaged in activities undertaken as part of the implementation of the [ILO Strategy for South-South and Triangular Cooperation](#)

In 2013 the ILO developed its institutional awareness and capacity to identify and implement South-South and Triangular Cooperation activities aimed at advancing the Decent Work Agenda. Under this framework, the ILO organized and facilitated knowledge exchange forums aimed at showcasing, replicating and scaling-up development solutions originating in the South to tackle labour-related challenges. The ILO also sponsored experts from the global South to attend conferences aimed at promoting South-South and triangular cooperation, particularly in the field of Social and Solidarity Economy. During 2013 the ILO strengthened its partnerships. Projects included South-South cooperation activities to support actions to advance the Decent Work Agenda at the local level through a local economic development (LED) approach within the framework of city-to-city cooperation; and activities to reinforce interreligious cooperation on decent work. Similarly, cooperation between the ILO and the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) increased in 2013, especially on topics such as child labour. Overall, 2013 was a very positive year for South-South and Triangular Cooperation.



The ILO organized a [Solution Forum on "Sustainable Development and Decent Work"](#) in the framework of the Nairobi Global South-South Development Expo (GSSDE) 2013, where representatives of governments, workers, employers, civil society organizations, UN agencies and cooperation agencies shared results-based presentations and scalable solutions based on South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives. The event focused on the theme: "Building Inclusive Green Economies: South-South Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication". The ILO has been an active participant in the GSSDs as a way to advance the Decent Work Agenda through South-South and Triangular Cooperation with the engagement of an increasing number of governments, social partners, UN agencies and non-state actors.

During 2013 the ILO contributed to activities related to Social and Solidarity Economy by linking them to South-South and Triangular Cooperation mechanisms with the purpose of reaffirming the effectiveness of South-South and triangular cooperation to develop new and stronger networks and partnerships to maximize results in the field of Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE). The ILO Department of Partnerships and Field Support, through its Emerging and Special Partnerships Unit, granted scholarships for researchers from the South to attend the [2013 session of the ILO Academy on Social and Solidarity Economy](#) (SSE) held in Agadir, the conference on "Potential and Limits of Social and Solidarity Economy", and the International research conference "Assessing Green Jobs for evidence-based policy making". The 2013 session of the ILO Academy on SSE helped participants to better understand areas in which the SSE can be successfully applied and implemented.

Following the Academy, the scholarship beneficiaries created a knowledge-sharing platform on SSE, and this “Collective Brain” has helped continue the South-South exchanges beyond the event. Similarly the UNRISD-ILO conference on the Potential and Limits of Social and Solidarity Economy was another milestone towards linking South-South cooperation and the social economy in the field of decent work.

The international research conference "Assessing Green Jobs for evidence-based policy making", organized by the ILO Green Jobs Programme under the framework of the Green Jobs Assessment Institutions Network (GAIN) built on the work of the ILO and its partners in the area of national green jobs assessments and policy support and served as a platform to let participants from the Global South share their experiences on the topic

### South-South and Triangular Cooperation activities with the Global Network of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

#### - Maputo and Durban

Within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement between the ILO and the World Organization of United Cities and Local Governments, both partners carried out activities aimed at developing South-South and city-to-city cooperation to reinforce the capacities and business skills of market vendors. This project involved the cities of Maputo and Durban.

In June 2013, a Maputo delegation consisting of nine participants including members of workers’ organizations and of the local government went on a technical visit to Durban to be trained and to exchange knowledge on the way in which workers, micro-entrepreneurs and the local government in Durban carry out their work. In August 2013, a technical visit by officers of Durban’s municipality to Maputo took place. Its main objective was to explore further the dynamics of the economy of food markets in Maputo in order to devise appropriate interventions and support to the city. In September, a trainer from Durban facilitated a five-day training course on advocacy skills for small business focused on developing leadership and entrepreneurial skills among Maputo’s food vendors. This project allowed workers, employers, and government representatives to share ideas and learn from each other; and learn how to improve Maputo’s food system by adopting decent work practices.

#### - Seminar for Intermediary cities

During 2013 UCLG and the ILO continued to strengthen their links. UCLG organized a seminar for intermediary cities, where workers’ and employers’ organizations and representatives of local governments from the Global South recognized that South-South and triangular cooperation is an important modality for the development of city-to-city cooperation, especially in the area of local economic development. The ILO sponsored the participation of representatives of the Confederation of Municipal Trade Unions from Argentina, whose work was highly valuable for the purposes of the conference. They also expressed their interest in continuing working within the framework of the UCLG and the ILO agreement.

### International seminar on interreligious dialogue for representatives of faith-based organizations

During the event participants developed national roadmaps to reinforce interreligious cooperation on decent work and expressed their commitment to promoting exchanges of experience and best practices among themselves and with other relevant partners. They explored opportunities for interreligious dialogue and cooperation on decent work. Christian and Muslim delegations from Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt and Senegal attended the conference to discuss topics such as skills training and job creation for youth employment, the role of religious leaders, and support and protection for the most vulnerable. The event was organized by the Ethiopian Interfaith Forum for Development, Dialogue and Action

(EIFDDA), in partnership with the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the ILO.

### South-South and Triangular Cooperation between the ILO and the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP)

2013 was a rewarding year for the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP). In June, during the VII Annual Review Meeting of ILO-Brazil cooperation held in Geneva, tripartite representatives of Brazil and representatives of workers’ and employers’ organizations and governments from CPLP countries agreed that national achievements are crucial for South-South Cooperation, as they fully allow for the promotion of good practices at the international level. The meeting revealed a strong commitment by the tripartite representatives to promote and sustain such practices.

Enterprises have a key secondary focus on standards (39% of their funding). They mainly collaborate with the ILO in areas that relate closely to their operations and supply chains, promoting decent work in economic sectors – the garment sector in particular – skills development, the elimination of child labour and sustainable enterprises.

In this spirit, a bipartite workshop for workers and employers in Brasilia was organized by the Employers’ and Worker’s Confederation of the CPLP. The main outcome was the adoption of the Brasilia Bipartite Declaration that reinforced action against child labour in order to contribute to the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda in the framework of South-South and Triangular Cooperation and in follow-up to the Third Global Conference on Child Labour held in Brasilia in October 2013.

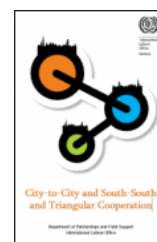
### ILO - Union for the Mediterranean partnership agreement to foster productive employment and decent work through South-South cooperation

The ILO and the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) signed an agreement to promote initiatives in the fields of business development; job creation; water; energy and the environment; training; and knowledge sharing. The main objectives are to establish cooperation in the appraisal of technical cooperation project proposals and resource mobilization for the UfM; to promote South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives within the region; and to strengthen the capacities of both the ILO and UfM secretariats to promote productive employment and decent work for all in the countries of the region.

### 2013 publications on South-South and Triangular Cooperation



The good practices collection was published in 2013 as part of the ILO commitment to promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the world of work. These results-based practices help governments, workers, employers, and civil society develop and adapt initiatives to face the employment-related challenges. A similar publication of good practices in the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) was concluded in 2013 and will be published soon.



The booklet on “City-to-City and South-South and Triangular Cooperation” is intended to stimulate further South-South and Triangular Cooperation between cities for the promotion of decent work and to disseminate the results of the projects that the ILO has implemented in that field.

### The ILO Knowledge Management Gateway

The ILO Knowledge Management Gateway will provide user-friendly access to legal, policy, standards and statistical data aggregated by country and by topic. Publications, good practices, information on technical cooperation projects and programmes will also be available.



As a component of an Office-wide knowledge management strategy, the Gateway will help improve the quality of services and delivery to constituents, central to the reform efforts. The Gateway will be publicly launched at the International Labour Conference (28 May - 12 June 2014). For more information, please contact [gateway@ilo.org](mailto:gateway@ilo.org).

## Public-Private Partnerships

During the last three biennia (2008-13) the ILO has concluded 145 partnerships with 108 different actors. The number of partnerships has been steadily increasing, allowing work across a broader spectrum of areas. Most PPPs are with enterprises (56%), followed by foundations (20%), academia (15%) and non-state actors (9%). The evolution of PPPs demonstrates their increased added value to ILO's operations, knowledge, visibility, and networking capacity, and especially the added value to enterprises, who appreciate ILO's global reach, as well as its capacity, expertise and advice on labour rights issues. Employment is the main focus for all partners.

## Delivering Results Together Fund

The new fund (DRT) has been designed and launched by UNDG members as a pooled development financing mechanism to support the effective achievement of sustainable development results under UNDAFs/One Programmes in line with national priorities in Delivering as One countries. This will be pursued through the achievement of three inter-related outputs:

- a) Increased coherence of the UN system's development response at the national level.
- b) Stronger normative and operational linkages within One Programmes.
- c) Strengthened partnerships between governments, donor partners and the UN system.

The DRT Fund is open to contributions from all UN Member States, intergovernmental organizations and other sources.

## ILO's role in disaster response

ILO played a key role in post-crisis job creation and livelihood initiatives. Its extensive experience in these areas, coupled with its clear social development mandate



give the ILO a comparative advantage. During 2013 the ILO set emergency response programmes for Bangladesh and the Philippines. Following the collapse of the Rana Plaza building in Bangladesh in 2013, an unprecedented coalition of international brands, trade union organizations, Bangladeshi ILO constituents and the ILO itself started working on a comprehensive multi-partner programme of assistance to address poor and unsafe working conditions in the garment sector in Bangladesh. The ILO programme now in place supports the government to coordinate the inspection of factory buildings, expand and improve labour inspection, engage management and workers in factories on occupational safety and health. In addition support is provided to victims of industrial accidents.

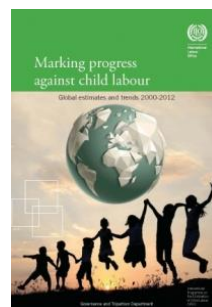
Another disaster response in 2013 was put in place after Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. While specialized humanitarian agencies provide emergency aid, the ILO initiated public employment schemes to get people paid work in debris clearing and recovery. The overall purpose of the emergency employment programme is to help restore sustainable livelihoods. This and other interventions make an important contribution to people rebuilding their livelihoods. ILO is receiving significant support from Norway for this programme, as well as other donors.

## ILO Reports

The ILO published three main reports during 2013, with the purpose of providing an outlook on topics related to the global employment situation, labour market performance, and other projections at the global and regional levels, including the evolution of wages and progress made against child labour. The reports offer the latest information and projections on several indicators of the labour market, including employment, unemployment, working poverty and vulnerable employment. Policy considerations have also been included in view of the challenges in the labour market.

The [World of Work Report 2013](#) "Repairing the economic and social fabric": the uneven international situation can be improved by implementing comprehensive reform packages to consolidate the rebalancing process in emerging and developing countries, while advanced economies must find the right balance between employment and macroeconomic goals. Progress towards reducing economic and social inequalities would pave the way for a lasting recovery. The report, issued in June 2013, revealed improvements in the crisis recovery process, especially in emerging and developing economies, which are seeing rising employment rates and reducing income inequalities. The scenario for advanced economies was less encouraging. While some managed to recover, Europe's labour market and social outlook continues to face enormous challenges.

The ILO's [Global Employment Trends 2014](#) shows that the labour force continues to grow, but employment is not expanding fast enough to keep pace. Globally, in 2013 almost 202 million people were unemployed, which represents an increase of almost 5 million compared with 2012. If current trends continue, global unemployment is set to worsen further, reaching more than 215 million jobseekers by 2018. Putting greater attention to labour market and social policies and rebalancing macroeconomic policies and increased labour incomes would significantly improve the employment outlook.



The investment, efforts and attention paid to the elimination of child labour have clearly paid off, but this will not be enough to achieve the goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labour completely by 2016. The estimates of the ILO report, [Marking progress against child labour](#), showed that the global number of child labourers has declined since 2000, from 246 million to 168 million, but that there are still 168 million children worldwide in child labour. The report, published in

September 2013, fosters hope and determination to stay the course, but it is also a reminder that the elimination of child labour in the foreseeable future is going to require a substantial acceleration of efforts at all levels.

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