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International Labour Organization

Global South-South Development Expos

DECENT WORK SOLUTIONS (2010-2013)

Department of Partnerships and Field Support

Global South-South Development Expos:
Decent Work Solutions (2010-2013)

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Department of Partnerships and Field Support
International Labour Organization
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Preface

This publication presents a compilation of the good practices in the world of work that have been showcased at the Global South-South Development Expos (GSSD Expo) from 2010 to 2014, at the Regional South-South Development Expo for the Americas (Panama, 2012) and at the first Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo (Qatar, 2014). The Global South-South Development Expo is an annual international conference, the topics addressed have ranged from Social Protection (Geneva, 2010), Food Security (Rome 2011), Energy (Vienna, 2012) and Green Jobs (Nairobi 2013). The Regional expos aim at creating awareness at a regional level on specific issues of the Decent Work Agenda. The 2010 Regional expo for the Americas addressed vocational training programmes while the 2014 Expo for the Arab States explored projects for youth employment. Both expos are organized by the UN system and led by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC). The ILO and UNOSSC have joined forces to organize solution fora aimed at promoting a series of South-South development exchanges. They bring together international institutions and partners in the development world and focus on good practices of South-South and triangular cooperation that countries from the South have carried out with great success by sharing knowledge and expertise. The International Labour Organization (ILO) has been an active participant in the GSSD Expos since 2009, and hosted the 2010 GSSD Expo at its headquarters in Geneva.

South-South and triangular cooperation is guided by the principles of solidarity and non-conditionality. It is based on a fundamental premise that developing countries identify their own needs and address them in part by acquiring new expertise, knowledge and technology from other countries of the global South. South-South and triangular cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North–South cooperation. From the latter stems the concept of "triangular cooperation" which has been defined as South-South cooperation supported by a Northern partner that can take part by supporting financially the cooperation between two or more developing countries.

Both, normative and operational principles of South-South and triangular cooperation were first defined by the 2009 Nairobi outcome document and have been reaffirmed by the 2012 Framework of operational guidelines on United Nations support to South-South and triangular cooperation. Both documents have paved the way towards a more structured mainstreaming of South-South and triangular cooperation across the UN system.

The UN system supports South-South cooperation through the High-level Committee (HLC) on South-South Cooperation. It provides policy directives and guidance and reviews worldwide progress in the topic. The UN Office for South-South Cooperation which serves as secretariat to the HLC, engages partners to provide effective support for South-South and Triangular cooperation, enables countries of the South – emerging, middle income and least developed – to work together to use their wealth of resources, and monitors trends in South-South cooperation among UN agencies as well as globally.

The ILO has been involved in supporting South-South and triangular cooperation for the past three decades. For the ILO, South-South and triangular cooperation is regarded as a way to draw on its particular advantage, namely the experience and knowledge of its stakeholders from the south, as an effective means of capacity development, knowledge sharing, exchanging of experiences and best practices, and interregional cooperation, and as a means of mobilizing resources. In March 2012, the ILO Governing Body adopted a South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy embedded in the document: "South–South and triangular cooperation: The way forward". Through this mechanism, the ILO aims at acquiring a greater institutional awareness and capacity to identify and implement South-South and Triangular Cooperation projects to advance the Decent Work Agenda with the engagement of an increasing number of governments, social partners, UN agencies and non-state actors.

Within the framework of the GSSD Expo, the ILO organises every year a solution forum to promote good practices on issues related to the Decent work Agenda. Projects on green jobs, cooperatives, skills development, vocational training, etc; have been showcased in a variety of contexts. During the Expos, participants have the opportunity of learning from first hand information and finding potential solutions that can match their countries' specific needs. In addition, several agreements and memoranda of understanding have been signed and the event has contributed to document good practices that have been later on put together for dissemination in order to promote South-South Cooperation in the field of work.

Decent work is a key element that makes economic and social development sustainable, and the commitment of the ILO to the Sustainable Development Goals acknowledges the need to enhance social dialogue as a major contribu-

tor to its governance. It also recognizes that governments have to reaffirm the goal of *decent work for all* as central to sustainable development, articulating the linkages between the three pillars: economic, social and environmental.

The ILO and UNOSSC recognize the key role of South-South and triangular cooperation in the context of the current international development frameworks, especially in setting and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the Post-2015 Agenda. 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.

Particularly in the context of Post 2015, South-South exchanges will continue to be enhanced and up scaled. The UNOSSC and the ILO will continue carrying out activities in the framework of their social partnership in order to promote development cooperation, including horizontal knowledge transfers, and social justice.

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I.
GLOBAL SOUTH-SOUTH DEVELOPMENT EXPOS

A

Global South-South Development Expo 2010, Geneva, Switzerland: Social Protection and Decent Work

The Global South-South Development Expo 2010 was jointly organized by the ILO and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation. The Expo took place at ILO headquarters in Geneva from 22 to 26 November 2010, and the main theme was Social Protection and Decent Work.

The Expo brought together a wide range of actors on a platform to address the many available Southern development solutions to emerging developmental challenges. More than 600 delegates from 150 countries participated in the GSSD 2010. It was designed to highlight, showcase and promote innovative solutions to address poverty challenges that have been designed by developing countries themselves. It also discussed critical issues that all societies, and especially the Southern countries, are facing. Topics such as social protection and decent work, food security, climate change and environment, HIV/AIDS, global health and education were presented in various "Solution Forums" that also featured case presentations relevant to these themes.

In the framework of this event, the ILO organized a Solution Forum under the theme of the Expo, "Social Protection and Decent Work". It provided a fruitful exchange of experiences with regard to successful Southern development mechanisms. The discussions demonstrated that developing countries could be considered a very rich source of practices and inspiration in social protection and decent work, especially in times of crisis.

"Seldom have social protection and decent work been more crucial to our future than today.

Creating new opportunities for workers and employers is a key element for economic recovery. Creating decent work means distributing income and creating aggregate demand, two essential elements for a strong, sustainable and balanced growth.

While the crisis was not originated in the developing world, those are the ones bearing its brunt. This is why this forum of solutions is very timely. Sharing experiences from the South is therefore particularly useful. We have similar difficulties, we have similar circumstances and we can benefit from similar solutions."

H. E. Ms Maria Nazareth Farani Azevêdo, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the UNOG (Currently Brazilian Consul General, Geneva)

1. South-South Cooperation for the implementation of gender-sensitive Social Protection Floors (SPFs) at country level

Description of the South-South and triangular cooperation good practice

The project entitled "South-South and triangular cooperation for the implementation of gender sensitive social protection floors at country level" (hereafter referred to as the South-South Cooperation Initiative) is the result of increased collaboration between the ILO and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation.[1] It was presented during the GSSD Expo 2010 in Geneva. The project aims at facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation between countries and other partners that have acquired expertise in a particular area related to the design and implementation of SPF policies or specific SPF components,[2] with countries that are currently seeking assistance in their efforts to reform, design and implement SPF policies and components.

The project pays particular attention to promoting a gender-sensitive approach in introducing SPF elements at the country level. It contributes to institutional development at various levels. It (1) improves South-South and triangular cooperation in particular by facilitating the sharing of experience between partner countries; (2) improves the technical capacities of officials in government and social security institutions to plan, manage and implement gender-sensitive social services and transfers; and (3) raises awareness and provides an evidence base for national stakeholders, UN agencies, technical and financial development partners, and other partners and organizations involved in social protection by documenting and disseminating the shared experience and findings of the project (particularly through internet platforms such as the Global Extension of Social Security[3] and the Global South-South Development Academy[4]).

---

[1] http://south-south.ipc-undp.org/library/successful-social-protection-floor-experiences.html

[2] In April 2009, the UN Chief Executive Board launched the Social Protection Floor Initiative (SPF-I) as one of nine initiatives to face the financial and economic crisis and accelerate recovery. The SPF has subsequently been adopted during the International Labour Conference 2009 as a key element of the Global Jobs Pact. During the 101st session of the international Labour conference (June 2012), ILO constituents have adopted a Social Protection Floors Recommendation which provides guidance to the Members of the ILO to "establish and maintain, as applicable, SPFs as a fundamental element of their national social security schemes", and to implement SPFs within national strategies for the extension of social security.

[3] http://www.social-protection.org/gimi/gess/ShowMainPage.do

[4] http://tcdc2.undp.org/GSSDAcademy/default.aspx

Why are existing SPFs mechanisms replicable?

Many developing countries have already successfully taken measures to introduce elements of national social protection floors. Programmes in these countries show that the impact of the social floor on poverty, vulnerability and inequality can be dramatic. Considering the technical knowledge of these countries of the South, they are in a unique position to advice and support other countries in their efforts to build, expand, extend or reorient their social protection systems. It is well recognized that the knowledge, skills, and technical expertise that can be exchanged through South-South and triangular cooperation are in many cases those most suitable to meeting the development challenges faced by others in the South.

In Cambodia, the South-South Cooperation initiative supports the implementation of a national social protection strategy and the development of specific social protection schemes. It started by supporting the design of a Single Window Service, called PEOPLE Service (Promotion and Enhancement Of People, Livelihood and Equity), an innovative mechanism intended to improve the coordination, monitoring, and delivery of integrated social protection and labour market policies/interventions for the poor and vulnerable, which was launched in 2012 by the Prime Minister of Cambodia. The PEOPLE Service is a coordinating mechanism between the main social protection programmes and employment-related services which uses an integrated database. Some countries have already implemented some or all of the components of such a coordinating approach, including India, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, South Africa, Pakistan and China. The lessons learned from these countries are very useful to adapt the concept to the Cambodian context. South-South exchanges play a key role in the implementation phase to facilitate transfer of know-how and technology

In 2012, a first South-South advisory and knowledge-sharing mission with an Indian technical expert on “Mission Convergence” was organized in the framework of the design of the social protection delivery system. South-South

exchange mission took place in June 2012 with prominent Thai experts from the National Health Security Office (NHSO) and Health Insurance System Research Office (HISRO) to support the design of the IT system for the management and monitoring of the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) Health Insurance Scheme. In Togo, the South-South Cooperation initiative supports the national committee on social protection which was launched in 2012 by the Prime Minister of Togo and it is in charge of the elaboration of the National Social Protection Strategy. Upon request of the country, a first technical mission took place in October 2012 with Brazilian and Indian experts to support the elaboration of the

National Social Protection Strategy and the development of integrated social protection schemes, while focusing on the development of delivery and implementation mechanisms that will encourage coordination between schemes, institutions and different technical ministries and levels of government.

Why is this South-South practice sustainable?

The project facilitates information and experience sharing between partner countries. Only countries that have identified social protection as a priority in their national development frameworks and have requested technical assistance have been selected as beneficiary countries for this project. This will ensure commitment and ownership of partner countries. The facilitation of experience sharing and provision of technical assistance sets up a base for countries to improve their planning processes for SPF activities. All stakeholders, particularly national governments, have a key role to play in ensuring the sustainability of the project by successfully implement findings in policy making and implementation. Other financial and technical partners have been involved in the implementation of the national social protection strategy and the development of specific social protection schemes, which will enhance the sustainability of the project outcomes and impact on beneficiaries.

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2. Conditional Cash Transfer Programmes: India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) Dialogue Forum

Description of the initiative

The IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa) trilateral development initiative has been a major driver of South-South Cooperation. The bridges between IBSA and the ILO were laid at the 4th Summit of Heads of States and Governments in April 2010 when IBSA leaders reiterated the need to promote a job-intensive recovery from the economic slowdown and create a framework for sustainable growth. Flagship programmes such as Bolsa Família in Brazil, the Community Work Programme (CWP) in South-Africa, and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in India, have shown that the impact of the social protection floor on poverty can be remarkable.

Conditional cash transfer (CCT) programmes have become popular over the last decade. CCTs are programmes that transfer cash to poor households in return for fulfilling specific behavioural conditions.[5] The largest CCTs cover millions of households and are a major asset for poverty alleviation. These social protection programmes include Public Employment Programmes (PEPs), which offer multi-sectoral temporary employment to fill the gap as counter-cyclical measures – offering jobs, providing income security, stimulating the local economy and maintaining aggregate demand. The spectrum of these programmes cover from short-term emergency public works to long-term employment guarantee schemes.[6]

For instance, India's MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee (enacted in 2005) providing at least 100 days of guaranteed employment through public works every financial year at CPI (consumer price index) inflation-linked wage rates for every rural household whose members over the age of 18, volunteer to do unskilled manual work for the enhancement of livelihood security.

The Bolsa Família Programme is a conditional cash transfer programme, launched in October 2003 and instituted by Brazilian Federal Law. Its main objectives are to transfer income to the poorest families so as to combat hunger and poverty, as well as to promote these families' access to health, education and social welfare public services. Over the last years, Bolsa Família has be-

---

[5] Conditional Cash Transfers: Reducing Present and Future Poverty,World Bank Policy Research Report, 2009, available at: http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTCCT/Resources/5757608-1234228266004/PRR-CCT_web_noembargo.pdf

[6] The ILO's Global Jobs Pact called for "using public employment guarantee schemes for temporary employment, emergency public works programmes and other direct job creation schemes which are well targeted, and include the informal economy".

come one of the most important strategic axes for the integration of policies and actions that are part of the Brazilian Social Protection Network. The Unified Registry System for Federal Government Social programmes (CadÚnico – Cadastro Único) is an articulated set of procedures and techniques for registering and updating socioeconomic information about poor and vulnerable families. It contains the database on families earning no more than half a Brazilian minimum wage per capita.

The Community Work Programme (CWP) is a South African government programme aimed at tackling poverty and unemployment. The programme constitutes an employment guarantee scheme which gives participants a minimum number of regular days of work, typically two days a week or eight days a month, thus providing a predictable income stream. The programme is part of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and aims at providing income relief through temporary work using public investment schemes to carry out socially useful activities in communities.

Scope of cooperation

The ILO has worked closely with IBSA and other countries in promoting lessons learned from Conditional Cash Transfers, community work programmes, and employment guarantee schemes. IBSA countries signed, during the Global South-South Development Expo in Novem-

ber 2010, a Declaration of Intent with the ILO to further develop and promote South-South and triangular cooperation in order to effectively contribute to the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda and to enhance further policy dialogue and exchanges between IBSA and the ILO. Later in 2012, they signed a joint declaration to reaffirm their commitment to South-South cooperation and the Decent Work Agenda.

Why is this practice replicable?

Under the IBSA framework several knowledge-sharing activities have taken place, which proved effective to scale up programmes as described above. The 1st IBSA International Conference on South-South Cooperation "Innovations in Public Employment Programmes and Sustainable Inclusive Growth" held in New Delhi in 2012, was an opportunity to share positive experiences and solutions for common challenges in Public Employment Programmes. In addition, the hallmarks and concepts of the rural employment guarantee acts have already been replicated in India and South Africa, thus attesting to the adaptable nature of this initiative.

These programmes have been internationally recognized as models for sustainable development, particularly for poverty alleviation. Several countries from the South have benefited from the experience of IBSA in implementing public employment programmes and conditional cash transfer programmes.

ILO Focal Point

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3. Innovations in Public Employment Programmes (IPEP)

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

The ILO is working closely with various national partners to highlight innovations in public employment programmes (IPEPs). The Employment Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP) of the ILO has developed a modular training package, including a design exercise and a guidebook. Modular training courses have been offered annually in collaboration with the International Training Centre of the ILO (ITC-ILO) in Turin since 2009, also creating a learning platform accessible through the Internet.[7] In addition, the EIIP has facilitated South-South knowledge development and sharing of experience on the design of large-scale public employment schemes through various forums, including the Mary Robinson Foundation on Climate Justice, the IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa) International Conference on "Innovations in PEP & Sustainable Inclusive Growth", and the Global South-South Development Expos.

Public Employment Programmes can be key tools to protect women, especially the most vulnerable, against social and economic shocks, at the same time developing infrastructure, assets and social services that promote social and economic development, whether in response to a crisis or as part of a longer term counter-cyclical employment policy. EIIP has been playing a key role in facilitating these discussions and encouraging exchanges of experience and innovations, highlighting not only the benefits, but also lessons learned from the challenges faced by countries in the South.

The Employment Intensive Investment Programme of the ILO works with governments, employers' and workers' organizations, the private sector and community associations in orienting infrastructure investments towards the creation of higher levels of productive employment and towards the improvement of access to basic goods and services for the poor. This combined use

[7] http//:ipep.itcilo.org

of local participation in planning with the utilization of locally available skills, technology, materials, and appropriate work methods has proven to be an effective and economically viable approach to infrastructure works in developing countries. In many international forums, the need for sharing and documenting these global experiences – what has worked and why – has been stressed.[8]

Why are these South-South practices sustainable and replicable?

Since the beginning of the Employment Intensive Investment Programme in the 1970s, there was a strong potential for South-South replication of various innovative aspects of employment-intensive investment through sectoral approaches to public investments. With the public employment programmes, this has expanded to a multi-sectoral approach, but very much based on South-South replication of good practices, focusing on some aspects of a national employment or social protection scheme.

The IPEP approach is grounded on a scalable and modular learning package that will continue to be hosted globally by the ITC-ILO and has already been carried out at the regional and national levels. The learning package is regularly updated based on each workshop and the learning experience of each participant country, and is offered as a stand-alone (self-paying) International Open Course in Turin. In order to promote a wider policy debate, initial discussions have already taken place to facilitate cooperation with national institutions in a selected number of key countries which have shown interest in collaborating further with EIIP to do research on issues of convergence and sustainability, and to disseminate best practices and innovations in public employment programmes. Based on the experience gained in countries such as Ethiopia, India and South Africa, many countries have established or are in the process of establishing new PEPs. EIIP has received requests and carried out international and national workshops based on the IPEP approach, in countries such as Brazil, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kenya and South Africa, to mention a few.

Promoting Employment Intensive Investment through South-South and triangular cooperation

South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) can support the development of capacities of national practitioners and decision-makers involved in policy development in different ministries. The EIIP developed a Policy Paper and a South-South Learning Package in 2009 in order to enable the solution

[8] EIIP concept note, Employment Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP) Good Practices and Successful Initiatives in South-South and Triangular Cooperation, February 2012.

developers (Ethiopia, India and South Africa) to showcase their public employment programmes. Both tools serve as a guide for countries that are currently in the process of designing their own public employment programme. Under the South-South and triangular cooperation framework, EIIP has been able to promote IPEP to a larger audience of policy makers.

In addition, SSTC mechanisms stimulate a continued debate on productive and full employment among key practitioners in the South by the South. The IPEP places full and productive employment and decent work at the centre of economic and social policies that are best suited to each country. The aim is to strengthen partnerships with relevant national experts and practitioners in this field and expand dialogue with relevant international organizations, academic institutions and development banks to facilitate their implementation. Moreover, SSTC networks of key actors involved in international policy development can be created.

The learning package mentioned above was developed based on the need to capture these experiences from the South in the form of a learning platform. It was built on experience of existing knowledge between practitioners, academia, the UN, and international financial institutions in bringing together South-South participants to learn from each other and to share experiences on the implementation of various forms of public employment programmes – from traditional public works programmes to employment guarantee schemes.

More Information

http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/recon/eiip/

ILO Focal Point

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4. Conditional Cash Transfer Programmes and Labour Inspection: Joint Action from Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

The "Complementary Agreement on Technical Cooperation with Latin American and African countries for the Implementation of the ILO-Brazil Partnership Programme for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation" was signed in March 2009. Under this framework, Brazil adopted four programmes on South-South and triangular cooperation in the following areas: prevention and elimination of child labour, promotion of social security, elimination of forced labour, promotion of green jobs and strengthening of trade unions. One of these projects was the initiative to combat child labour in Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador and Paraguay by collaborating with the reorganization of the labour inspection system and with the training of new inspectors. The initiative aimed at promoting the exchange of high-level visits to Brazil to learn from their experience of child labour in the health system and with regard to vocational training activities for youth and adolescents.

Scope of cooperation

This initiative promotes the horizontal exchange of knowledge between Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador and Paraguay through high-level visits and training activities. It has also benefited from close collaboration with a horizontal cooperation project funded by the United States Department of Labor (USDOL), which provided financial support for two of these joint visits. The ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) has played a key role in facilitating the exchange of knowledge and providing technical assistance.

Impact of the initiative

The initiative has proven effective in increasing the operational capacity of the labour inspectorate and in strengthening and scaling up the impact of the initiatives undertaken in each country to combat child labour. Specific results have been achieved such as training programmes for labour inspec-

tors in Bolivia and Paraguay. Additionally, the Self-Learning Manual on Health and Safety for Child and Youth Labour (Módulos de Auto-Aprendizagem sobre Saúde e Segurança no Trabalho Infantil e Juvenil) was translated from Portuguese into Spanish to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge to other countries of the region; a Child Labour and Health Observatory was established with support from the University of Brasilia and the Brazilian Ministry of Health, which is monitoring and providing assistance for such initiatives in the other countries.

In addition, the Brazilian model inspired the new "Child Labour Monitoring System in Bolivia", managed by the Ministry of Labour. The system includes a manual on the process and inspection procedures, tools for collecting information on inspection activities, and information management software.

In Ecuador, a Technical Working Group was created as part of an agreement between the Ministry of Labour Relations, other government agencies and employers' organizations (chambers) from the agriculture, floriculture, animal husbandry and construction sectors. The aim was to coordinate actions and promote joint programmes for the elimination of child labour such as the possibility to include child labour as an impact indicator of the cash-transfer programme "Bono de Desarrollo Humano". Moreover, the experience and the development of a National Report on the Elimination of Child Labour in Garbage Dumps and a Protocol for Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Garbage Dumps were systematized and launched by local authorities to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge with the support of the IPEC South-South Project.

In Paraguay, the IPEC South-South Project facilitated the development of an integrated service targeting the most vulnerable through the coordination of two development programmes in the country, namely "Abrazo" and "Tekopora". Pilot programmes were launched to extend the programme Abrazo in the localities of Tobatí and Encarnación. The project adapted and translated the Self-Learning Handbook on Health and Safety of Children and the Youth developed in Brazil, to introduce the issue of child labour in the public health system and the child protection network in Paraguay.

The Paraguayan Industrial Union, in partnership with the DEQUENI Foundation, and with the support of the National Committee for the Eradication of Child Labour (CONAETI), launched in March 2011 a campaign called "United for a Paraguay without Child Labour". After the exchange experience with the Brazilian Dial 100 initiative, a technical proposal for structuring the Fono Ayuda was approved. This is a phone call service to report violations of rights of children and adolescents as well as referral and monitoring, and to deal with crisis situations.

Why is this South-South practice sustainable and innovative?

The exchange visits demonstrated that developing countries can learn much by sharing their experience and that the ILO can play an effective role in facilitating the development of successful South-South Cooperation. This innovative mechanism was recognized by the South-South Expo 2010 Jury and received the 2010 South-South Cooperation Award for Innovation.

The Initiative to Combat Child Labour in Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador and Paraguay has ensured that the elimination of child labour is mainstreamed throughout the labour inspectorate system, for example with the "Monitoring System of Child Labour in Bolivia". It has resulted in concrete resolutions, agreements, campaigns and studies that provide the basis for future activities with regard to the elimination of child labour. Moreover, the translation, systematization and adaptation of models and experiences, as in the case of Paraguay which adapted Brazil's Self-Learning Handbook on Health and Safety of Children and the Youth, facilitates the current and future transfer of southern solutions at regional and interregional level. Finally, initiatives such as Ecuador's National Report on the Elimination of Child Labour in Garbage Dumps and a Protocol for Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Garbage Dumps serve as a tool and inspiration for other countries to adapt to their national context.

ILO Focal Point

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC):
ipec@ilo.org

5. The Experience of SENAI in the implementation of South-South Cooperation

Description of the initiative

The National Service for Industrial Apprenticeship (Serviço Nacional de Aprendizagem Industrial-SENAI) is a Brazilian non-profit organization, founded in 1942 with a mandate to provide technical and vocational education and training in industrial areas of expertise and to promote applied research and technology transfer for the benefit of the Brazilian industry. SENAI is one of the major Brazilian players in South-South Cooperation. Moreover, it has been internationally recognized as a model of technical vocational education and training in Latin America.

SENAI, together with the Brazilian Ministry of External Relations, has implemented 15 technical and vocational training centres in Latin America, Africa and Asia. SENAI has also been invited by the largest providers of development aid (Germany and Japan) to design and execute structural triangular projects in Latin America and Africa.

The institution is responsible for the training of 3 million professionals per year, and the administration of a network of 817 mobile and fixed operational units with 58 million students enrolled since its creation. Initially concerned with vocational education, SENAI is currently a world reference in vocational training, technical and technological assistance, and in the production and dissemination of information.

The institution has been permanently adapting itself, according to the needs of national industry, through strategic alignment based in the changes in the socio-political and economic context over its more than seven decades of existence. It promotes the implementation of an effective agenda of technology and innovation while expanding the training of the workforce.

Why is this South-South programme innovative and replicable?

SENAI reaches a wide audience through its training programmes. The organization promotes accessibility to its training materials for students with special needs. Moreover, by offering a distance-learning platform, SENAI gives access to hundreds of courses, from initial and continuing education to graduate courses. It also offers solutions tailored to companies' specific demands. These courses are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and cover more than 20 technological areas. By the same token, "SENAI Mobile" aims to enhance its educational technology, physical and pedagogic support by means of mobile applications, in-

cluding new learning methods and kits. This project is sustainable due to its extensive and updated offer of technical education and vocational training in terms of apprenticeship, qualification courses, technical courses, undergraduate programmes and postgraduate programmes. Technology and innovation are covered in areas of technical assistance, technology transfer and applied research (R&D). SENAI adapts itself to present and future industrial trends by constantly modernizing its technological resources and infrastructure.

SENAI's contribution to the world of work is consistent with the main public policies on technical education and vocational training. Methods of implementation involve expanding the skills certification programme nationwide, increasing the supply of courses in line with industrial trends through the use of prospective analysis, expanding SENAI's distance learning network, developing programmes to train teachers, technicians and managers, guaranteeing annual investments to keep facilities and technologies up to date, expanding the use of mobile technologies in distant regions, and consolidating a systematic evaluation of the educational process.

Why is this South-South programme sustainable?

South-South cooperation is mainstreamed in SENAI's planning. It has over 76 international partnerships effective in over 46 countries. For the past 50 years, ILO-CINTERFOR has been one of SENAI's main partners. Joint projects have been developed in the areas of vocational training and youth employability to support Latin American institutions. In addition, SENAI's methodology of prospective studies has been transferred and there is also the possibility of accessing its database of courses and contents.

In addition, among the lines of action of the institution are: meeting the demands of Brazilian companies with foreign operations; technologies and knowledge transfers and development; and projects with governments, international agencies and similar institutions. In line with the latter, projects are carried out in partnership with the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) and

international development agencies in Latin American, Caribbean, African and Asian countries.

More information

http://www.portaldaindustria.com.br/senai/
http://www.senai70anos.com.br/#

ILO Focal Point

Inter-American Centre for Knowledge Development in Vocational Training (CINTERFOR)
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6. Global Labour University: South-South Cooperation between trade unions and universities to strengthen knowledge and research capacity for policy interventions and organizational development

Description of the South-South cooperation initiative

The Global Labour University (GLU)[9] is a network bringing together universities, international and national trade unions, civil society organizations and the International Labour Organization (ILO). It was created as a partnership for international knowledge management, research, and capacity building.

GLU is primarily based on university campuses in Brazil, South Africa, India, and Germany. It offers post-graduate programmes and research opportunities for trade unionists and labour activists. In addition, GLU combines academic studies with practical work through close cooperation with trade unions and field-based internships.

GLU is a triangular cooperation good practice per se, as it links efforts from the North and the South to promote horizontal cooperation. It also links various IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa) initiatives to efforts by the Government of Germany to promote capacity building among workers' organizations.[10]

Disseminating knowledge and capacity building through South-South and triangular cooperation

GLU

The GLU network supports the need to enhance the analytical capacity of trade unions to understand and challenge the prevailing views of globalization, build alliances with broader civil society organizations, develop alternative ideas for a fair and inclusive globalization, and build sustainable networks.[11] Geographical diversity is an important factor for selecting the students attend-

[9] http://www.global-labour-university.org/

[10] http://www.global-labour-university.org/fileadmin/GLU_Info/Info_Booklet_South_South_cooperation.pdf

[11] Article by Frank Hoffer, Building Global Labour networks: The Case of the Global Labour University, 2006, http://www.justlabour.yorku.ca/volume9/pdfs/02HofferPress.pdf

ing the courses offered in Germany and IBSA countries. Global workshops, conferences, publications and Internet working groups facilitate genuine global dialogue and sustainable international networks.

Why is the GLU innovative?

The GLU supports the strengthening of trade unions' organizational and analytical capacities at both the national and global levels. It is based on the premise that solutions must be developed through a joint global research and deliberation process, not only through North-South knowledge transfers. The active role of labour organizations in Brazil, India and South Africa in shaping the future of their societies is an inspirational source for new ideas and reverberates in the global South. The GLU is a new channel of South-South Cooperation. It is the only network worldwide that offers global cooperation between trade unions and academic institutions, with a strong focus on South-South cooperation. Over the past five years it has strengthened the voice of the South in global debates, and many of its alumni have taken up new responsibilities and leadership functions in their organizations. The network creates new channels for trade unionists and researchers from the South bringing a confident Southern voice to the global labour discourse.

Why is the GLU network sustainable?

Trade unions and universities from countries such as Ghana, Russia, Argentina and the United States have expressed their interest in participating in the GLU network. Because of their wide reach, the following initiatives help to expand and sustain the network: GLU alumni networking and research projects such as the Alumni Summer School of 2013; the ICDD Thematic Conference in Mumbai; and the GLU conference scheduled for Berlin in 2014; video lectures;[12] video conferencing; on-line modules; the Global Labour Column (GLC), and the Conference Book. Likewise, scholarships offered to students from developing countries allow better representativity of trade unions.

The content of Masters' programmes on labour policies and globalization at various universities has created a common purpose and strong commit-

[12] Available at: http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC8EE39ABE8D7CBD5

ment among partners. This vast network of academics and trade unionists from around the world that contribute with their expertise to the network and also acquire new knowledge and skills from GLU research, conferences and publications, has inspired an initiative by the international trade union movement to build a Global Union Research Network (GURN)[13] supported by the ILO.

The GURN facilitates debate, research and information exchanges on global labour issues. It organizes workshops and on-line debates, supports research and maintains a number of websites to provide up-to-date information on important global labour issues.

ILO Focal Point

Bureau for Workers' Activities (ACTRAV)
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[13] http://gurn.info/en/

7. Agreements and Special Panels

India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) – ILO agreement for the promotion of South-South and triangular cooperation

The bridges between IBSA and the ILO were paved in the 4th Summit of Heads of States and Governments in April 2010 when IBSA leaders reiterated the need to promote a job-intensive recovery from the economic slowdown and create a framework for sustainable growth. They underlined their support for the ILO's Global Jobs Pact and reaffirmed that the ILO's Decent Work Agenda and the Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008) guided their crisis response.

In this framework, IBSA representatives signed, during the Global South-South Development Expo hosted by the ILO in November 2010, a Declaration of Intent with the ILO to further develop and promote South-South and triangular cooperation in order to effectively contribute to the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda and to enhance further policy dialogue and exchanges between IBSA and the ILO.

In June 2012, during the International Labour Conference, the IBSA Ministers of Labour reaffirmed the principles of the declaration signed in 2010 in the field of decent work, with the aim of promoting dialogue between the three countries in the areas of horizontal cooperation. On this occasion, and as follow-up to the IBSA meeting hosted by India in March 2012, the labour ministries of the three countries agreed to create a detailed action plan to implement the 2010 Declaration in the areas of social protection, youth employment, training and public employment programmes. The Declaration also launches the idea of an IBSA Tripartite Working Group on Decent Work, which would meet at least once a year during the International Labour Conference in Geneva.[14]

ILO-Brazil Declaration on Humanitarian Assistance

In November 2010,the Minister of External Relations of Brazil, Ambassador Celso Amorim, and the then Director-General of the ILO, Juan Somavia, signed

[14] http://www.ilo.org/pardev/south-south/WCMS_182923/lang--en/index.htm

a Declaration of Intent between Brazil and the ILO on the provision of humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations. The country had established numerous partnerships with the ILO since 2005, addressing child labour, forced labour and social protection.

The commitment to humanitarian assistance was linked to Brazil's efforts to combat hunger and to assist countries in need of humanitarian support. Following the establishment, on 27 October 2010, of a three-year programme aimed at enhancing the capacity of countries to respond to social and natural disasters, Brazil and the ILO would further consider ways to provide humanitarian assistance to populations in countries at risk and to encourage prevention, rehabilitation and recovery by strengthening institutions and promoting tools for sustainable development. The Declaration would pave the way for the establishment of new partnerships with the ILO International Training Centre (ITC-ILO), the ILO Programme on Crisis Response and Reconstruction and the Brazilian Government.

In the framework of this Declaration, the Training Programme on Humanitarian Assistance, Disaster Prevention and Post-Disaster Recovery was developed, having a timeframe of 3 years (2011-2014). The main objectives of the programme were: a) to promote policies and actions for disaster risk reduction and its application to climate change adaptation in the context of sustainable local development processes and participatory strategic planning; b) to share and develop theoretical knowledge and practical tools to incorporate disaster risk reduction and adaptation as an integral part of local development processes; c) strengthen the capacities of local authorities and local socio-economic groups for a greater involvement in the issues of disaster risk reduction and climate change; d) promote the exchange of experiences and identify best practices.

This Programme aimed at capacity building and institutional strengthening is the result of a technical and financial partnership between the General Coordination of International Actions against Hunger (CGFOME) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the International Training Centre of the ILO (ITC-ILO).

Packages of high-level training on disaster risk reduction and local development were made available in Portuguese to institutions of the PALOP (Portuguese-speaking African countries) and Timor-Leste. Training sessions had a very positive impact on the reinforcement of participant's skills and contributed to the enhancement of institutional performance. In addition, there was a strong political and institutional support, at the highest level, to training activities in all countries covered by the programme, which ensured its effectiveness.

In the framework of this Programme, support was provided to nine countries (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Mozambique, Niger, São Tomé

and Príncipe, and Timor-Leste) working specifically in training technicians and management officers of the entities responsible for the definition and establishment of policies and measures aimed at reducing the level of vulnerability of local populations and communities to the risk of environmental disasters and encouraging prevention and recovery processes through facilitation tools for a sustainable development of the territories.

The Project activities have served for the establishment of networks and partnerships in the spirit of South-South Cooperation between the participating institutions, for instance between the PALOP and Timor-Leste. There is also greater cooperation after completion of the courses, particularly among state institutions involved in the civil protection system and other humanitarian institutions such as the Red Cross.

IBSA panel

In 2003, the Brasilia Declaration formalized the India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) Dialogue Forum. It was a significant milestone in the evolution of South-South Cooperation, promoting horizontal cooperation among these countries and canalizing greater cooperation between the three different continents where they are located. Several South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) initiatives in different fields have already taken place under the IBSA framework.

During the 2010 Global South-South Development Expo (GSSD), an IBSA panel was organized with the objective to provide an overall presentation of the IBSA Dialogue Forum and the IBSA Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation, including its objectives and workings. In addition, the panel also aimed at providing the opportunity to the beneficiaries of an IBSA's project in Guinea-Bissau to describe the difference that this IBSA project has made in their lives. The beneficiaries explained their limitations before participating in this project, and how becoming functionally literate, learning about more efficient agricultural production techniques and becoming involved in solar energy production has made a substantial impact in their lifestyles.

ILO Focal Point

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"South-South Cooperation is an important and strategic partnership development tool capable of promoting sustainable growth and contributing to social development. It constitutes a complementary path to traditional North-South relations and encapsulates the idea that through a spirit of solidarity, equality, and non-conditionality developing countries can provide sustainable solutions to their own problems at lower costs.

Currently, the ILO has South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives linked to the four decent work strategic objectives and within interregional, regional, sub--regional projects and the joint activities for South-South knowledge.

The Brasilia Declaration (June 2003) established the IBSA Dialogue Forum as a trilateral joint commission between India, Brazil and South Africa, and recognizing the common interest in and priorities placed on "the promotion of social equity and inclusion", recognizing "trilateral cooperation as an important tool for achieving the promotion of social and economic development" and stating their intention to give "greater impetus to cooperation among their countries". Affirming also their agreement that "globalisation must become a positive force for change for all peoples and that it must benefit the largest number of countries".

Furthermore, the IBSA Joint Summit Declaration (Brasilia, September 13, 2006), and the Prime Minister of India, the President of Brazil and the President of South Africa's commitment to the "promotion of peace, security and sustainable economic and social development in the world and in their respective regions" and reaffirming the need to strengthen the voice of the South for a fair and equitable world order"

Guy Ryder, current ILO Director-General, during the IBSA Panel, GSSD 2010, ILO Headquarters, Geneva (at the time, Executive Director for Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

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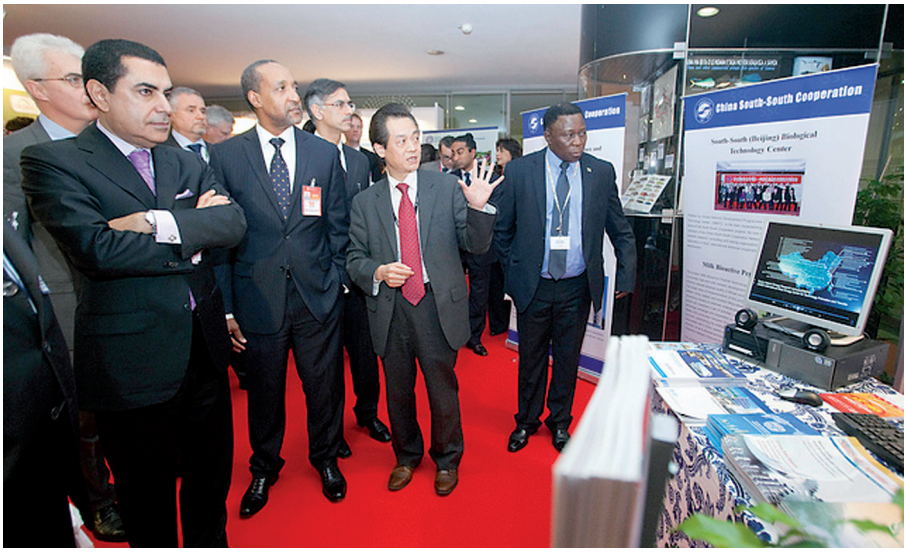
Global South-South Development Expo 2011 Rome, Italy: Food Security



The Global South-South Development (GSSD) Expo 2011 was hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome, Italy. It was focused on the urgent crisis of food insecurity in the South, a development challenge that cross cuts virtually all of the significant development challenges of today. The ILO organized a Solution Exchange Forum entitled "Social Protection and Food Security" showcasing innovative Southern solutions and mechanisms to improve food security through decent work and social protection.

The ILO Solution forum responded to the challenges regarding food security and nutrition. ILO partners from Africa, Asia, and the Americas came to discuss the important question of the linkages of food security with the Decent Work Agenda. As much of the world's population does not enjoy social guarantees, many voices in the development community have called for the development of social protection floors to protect people through the recognition of basic social rights and services that all citizens should have access to. Social protection instruments have played an important role in addressing acute food crises through cash transfers, school feeding and public works programmes. The ILO Solution Exchange Forum showcased successful Southern mechanisms for ensuring the availability, continuity, and geographical and financial access to essential services that ensure food security and adequate nutrition.

1. Towards a Systematic approach in South-South Cooperation anchored on Decent Work: Tangible Labour Market Examples and Lessons Learned from Kenya

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

Kenya has successfully adopted South-South cooperation approaches to enhance national responses to promote decent work. There are several experiences from Kenya on South-South cooperation that have been implemented in the framework of bilateral and multilateral agreements and/or protocols. Among these initiatives are experience-sharing activities with Brazil, the East African region, and the Philippines.

Scope of cooperation and adaptability of the initiative

(a) Food Supply Chain Initiative and social protection: horizontal cooperation between Brazil and Kenya

Employment and labour matters are very much linked to food security and the food chain. To better integrate these components in food policies, a technical mission to Brazil was organized from 16-20 May 2011.

Integrated initiatives that have benefited from international experiences have influenced the integration of decent work in food chains and it has also supported the development of the Food and Nutrition policy in Kenya. This was influenced by the Brazilian Food and Nutrition Security Programme, which is anchored on a broad strategy called Zero Hunger. This strategy promotes access to adequate nourishment as a basic human right that must be supported by social policies. In Kenya, only 13% of the population has access to some form of social security; therefore, there is an urgent need to implement innovative actions to cover the rest of the population especially the most vulnerable categories in society.

The social security system in Brazil is based on three pillars: a) social security, social health insurance and social assistance. In line with the above, the two main outcomes of this exchange were a comprehensive mission report on lessons learned and experiences from the Brazilian social protection networks and interventions, and an agreed work plan on the Kenya-Brazil- United Kingdom (Department for International Development) trilateral cooperation agreement on social protection.

The Kenyan Government adopted a multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary process for the establishment of an overarching policy and strategy for social protection

The mission was useful to identify key aspects from the Brazilian experience that could be adapted to the Kenyan context. Among these aspects are: (i) decentralization of social protection services to the municipalities; (ii) strategic investment in social protection programmes; (iii) intensive and comprehensive training of civil servants for an effective management of social protection programmes; (iv) enhance leadership to ensure the effective implementation of policies.

In addition, the initiative was also enriched by a number of valuable lessons derived from the mission such as: i) the importance of having social protection programmes grounded in sound policies and legal frameworks; (ii) the need to develop a comprehensive social protection system in order to enhance effective delivery of services; (iii) the fact that political commitment is key for the successful implementation of an effective social protection programme; (iv) the assessment that inter-sectoral collaboration is important for comprehensive and effective delivery of the services; (v) the need for a monitoring and evaluation system to track the various processes and impact; and (vi) the need for Kenya to re-evaluate its resource allocation so as to ensure expansion of funding to social protection.

The project of the single registry and management information system will contain information on the poorest and the most vulnerable families, involving socio-economic data. The South-South exchange of experiences with Brazil provided an opportunity to make informed decisions while developing an integrated single registry and monitoring and evaluation framework. It is aimed at providing information and data for the management of a National Social Protection System for Kenya.

(b) East African Region

The East African Community (EAC) Protocol[15] on free movement of people and labour was launched on 1 July 2010. This was an ambitious project achieved through South-South exchange of experiences and benchmarking of good practices from other Economic Regional blocks and influenced by practices in five countries, namely Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda. A survey was ran in the five countries to inform a skills depository as well as other labour market and labour administration topics such as social security and portability issues, labour migration and common entry documents, labour law, and labour market institutions, among others.

A bilateral agreement between Kenya and South Sudan created opportunities for public sector support and close collaboration between Kenya and

[15] http://www.eac.int/commonmarket/cm-background.html

South Sudan. It involved capacity building for the public sector; training of South Sudan medical personnel in Kenya; and an exchange programme in labour administration.

In addition, the lnter-Governmental Agency for Development (IGAD), a sub-regional grouping that covers the horn of Africa (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda), has assisted member states to share their experience and progress. This support has been mainly focused in developing their national social protection frameworks through lessons learnt and best practices. It has also created an opportunity to discuss and build consensus on the possible outlook of an IGAD Regional Social Protection Strategy that will feed and inform the overall IGAD Regional Social Development Framework. One of the major pillars concerns the Employment and Labour Sector.

(c) Labour Migration: horizontal cooperation between the Philippines and Kenya

A South-South cooperation initiative between the Philippines and Kenya supported the development of a Labour Migration and Diaspora Policy in Kenya. It adapted good practices from the Philippines to the Kenyan context. The ACP Observatory16 was also a major contributor to this outcome, particularly in labour migration data management.

In addition, drawing upon lessons learned from the Philippines, Kenya signed bilateral agreements with Middle East Countries establishing benchmarks and standards on labour migration issues. It is mainly focused on an integrated approach, seeking to protect and regularize vulnerable migrants as well as harmonize diaspora remittances, which are a major boost to the Kenyan economy.

[16] http://www.acpmigration-obs.org

2. South-South Cooperation in the Field of Social Security between Brazil, Paraguay and El Salvador

Description of the initiative

The Brazilian Social Rural Pension system of 1988 is a successful experience illustrating the virtuous connection between social security and food security based on important and empirically verifiable outcomes. The experience is particularly relevant for other countries in the South facing the challenge of extending coverage to a large rural population including non-wage labour relations such as small farmers working in their family business, while also providing additional protection to women. The Social Rural Pension system is a semi-contributory subsidized system, which can be understood as a social right safeguarded by constitutional arrangements. It is one of the most important income distribution initiatives of Brazil's social policy, covering 95% of the rural economically active population and it costs about 1% of the GDP. The system positively affects the purchase power of the targeted population and it plays a role in fostering the production of food, thus combating nutritional risks and food insecurity.

The horizontal cooperation initiative between Brazil, Paraguay and El Salvador started in July 2006 with training in the field of social security organized by the International Training Centre of the ILO (ITC-ILO) for the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP). In October 2007, another course was organized by the ITC-ILO in Brasilia and in Rio de Janeiro. The success of these events culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Brazil and the ILO on March 2008 to promote cooperation in the field of social security and the development of actions for CPLP and Latin America.

Following the signature of the agreement, several activities were organized. In March 2008, a seminar on actuarial methods and financing of social security systems for participants from Portuguese-speaking African countries was organized with representatives from Cape Verde and São Tomé and Príncipe. In addition, in May 2008, the I Latin American Meeting of Directors of Social Security Schemes for Civil Servants, with participants from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Costa Rica was held. Moreover, in July 2008, Brazil, Spain, Switzerland, Honduras, Costa Rica, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Panama, Honduras, Argentina,

Venezuela, Paraguay, Colombia, France and Italy participated on a study tour focusing on the extension of social protection to rural workers in the Brazilian Amazon.

In June 2009, the signature of an agreement between the Brazilian Agency of Cooperation (ABC) and the ILO promoted South-South cooperation in the area of social security. Following this agreement, Brazil ratified the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102),17 which establishes minimum standards and benchmarks for social insurance replacement rates and conditions regarding social eligibility, including medical care, sickness, unemployment, work accidents and occupational diseases, retirement, disability, death, maternity and family allowances. In the process of ratification, the ILO provided technical support to Brazil.

Scope of Cooperation

In February 2010, the ILO Office in Brazil initiated the work of the Alliance Programme Brazil/ILO for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation in the Field of Social Security. A work plan for the implementation of this programme was established, including activities in Timor-Leste, Paraguay and El Salvador. The first activity, after establishing the work plan, was the meeting of the Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs of the member states of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) in February 2010 in Fortaleza.

The aim of the South-South cooperation programme in Timor-Leste was to support the development of social protection policies, through active participation in the development and implementation of a Public Social Protection (Social Security) System. It also aimed at developing training tools designed to strengthen the institutional capacity in the field of social protection. In the case of Paraguay, support was aimed at the development of a social protection floor and assisting the government with the ratification of Convention 102 - already ratified by Brazil and Uruguay and in the process of ratification by Argentina. This would support the establishment of a minimum level of social protection within MERCOSUR. Moreover, the initiative also supported the implementation of unemployment insurance in the country.

Why is the initiative replicable?

In the framework of the horizontal cooperation initiative between Brazil, Paraguay and El Salvador, best practices and lessons learned from Brazil were

[17] https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312247

documented to be accessible to its peer countries. These include experiences in rural social security schemes, the social security system in Brazil, social protection and education, health system, and the «Bolsa Família“ Programme.

During the GSSD Expo 2010, when this initiative was showcased, a Joint Declaration between Brazil, France and the ILO was signed.

3. Eliminating Child Labour in the Fishing and Aquaculture Sector: Lessons Learned from Cambodia

Description of the good practice

Cambodia has implemented a variety of policy frameworks at the national level focusing on the topic of child labour. At the same time, the Royal Government of Cambodia committed to the ILO Global Goal to ending the worst forms of child labour by 2016.

To support the National Plan of Action on the elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, the ILO implemented a project known as the "Support to the Cambodian National Plan of Action on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour: A Time Bound Approach", whose first phase lasted from 2004-2008 and the second phase from 2008-2012. A central component of this project was the strengthening of the capacity of various provincial government committees to effectively respond to the child labour situation in their region. Various stakeholder groups were specifically targeted to participate in capacity building efforts, including specialized provincial government committees and workers' and employers' organizations.

Why is this practice replicable and sustainable?

The positive involvement of relevant stakeholders represented a key success towards the implementation of Action Programmes in different provinces. Two Action Programme Implementing Committees were established in order to support and assist with the implementation of this Action Programme. These committees are chaired by provincial government representatives, employers' and workers' organisations, and some civil society organizations. In addition, various agencies have actively engaged in the implementation of Action Programmes. Employers' Associations have cooperated with the agencies involved in the Programme as well as with Trade Unions to disseminate knowledge on child labour issues. Employers Organizations have also issued an Employers Order to prohibit the owners of salt farms and owners of fishing boats to employ children in these areas.

Trade unions in the salt and fishing sector have been established in two provinces and their mobilization has been important to raise awareness on child labour issues. The trade unions also established the Trade Unions' Code of Conduct against Child Labour. This Code of Conduct has been disseminated to all Trade Union members and allows them to participate in the fight to eliminate child labour. The initiative has received strong support by partners and local authorities at all levels, especially the Employers' Association of Salt

Production, owners of fishing boats, the Provincial Council and the Provincial Committee on Child Labour.

Workers' organisations also participated in the Civil Society Network against Child Labour, which has conducted awareness-raising activities and provided school materials to targeted children. This network has also mobilized resources from outside the Programme. After the termination of the Programme, workers' organisations will continue to play an important monitoring role in order to ensure that workplaces in targeted provinces remain child labour free.

This initiative could be replicated and adapted to different contexts through South-South cooperation mechanisms. Another South-South learning opportunity is twinning the «child labour free provinces» with different countries of the Global South.

ILO Focal Point

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4. South-South Cooperation between Panama, Nicaragua and Paraguay on water management and sanitation in indigenous and dispersed rural communities, with a gender perspective and an inter-cultural approach

Description of the South-South and triangular cooperation good practice

The Water Management and Sanitation projects in Panama, Nicaragua and Paraguay[18] – which are part of the United Nations Joint Programmes – aim at strengthening governments' capacity to manage water provision and water quality. The target groups are dispersed rural communities and indigenous peoples comprising Miskito and Afro descendants from Nicaragua; Ngöbe Buglé from Panama; and Guaraní from Paraguay. The methodology of intervention builds on the added value of each specialized agency of the UN system. ILO's technical expertise for these projects comprised capacity building on labour based techniques[19] and rights, including the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).[20] Under this framework a series of knowledge sharing events have been organized and have allowed the countries to learn from each other's experience in the implementation of the projects. The goal is to strengthen equity and overcome the gaps (safe water and sanitation, empowerment of the local population). Strategies are adapted to the political social and economic conditions and the approach is one of mutual sharing of knowledge, establishment of focal points and good management. Important factors include ownership, greater participation of the community, knowledge sharing and awareness raising.

Scope of cooperation

The joint programmes on water and sanitation in Panama, Nicaragua and Paraguay were developed under the window of Democratic Economic Governance and constituted the framework to develop a knowledge sharing initiative where indigenous and dispersed rural communities cooperated with the exchange of experiences. This initiative has a triangular dimension as it was funded by the Achievement Fund (MDG-F) of the Government of Spain for the United Nations system. The partners involved are the ILO, as one of the UN implementing agencies,[21] indigenous communities, and national institutions.

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[18] Further information on the project is available at: http://www.ilo.org/pardev/ partnerships-and-relations/south-south/ WCMS_173249/lang--en/index.htm

[19] Technology choice for infrastructure development and employment creation developed by the EIIP.

[20] http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO:12100:P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312314:NO

[21] The other UN agencies were: UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, PHO, UNEP, UNODC, UNCDF , and UNV.

Why are these South-South practices replicable and effective?

The programme led to a drastic reduction in poverty due to greater access to water, participation of women, investment at the local level, and training of community guards to strengthen the work of the local community. There was an increase in the number of organized communities implementing their projects through a community contracting scheme, in which 350 entrepreneurs were involved and there was an exchange of knowledge between the communities through the network.

In March 2011, the ILO's Employment Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP) and the Green Jobs Programme organized a regional event in Lima. ILO coordinators of the United Nations Joint Programmes (MDG-F) involved in the formulation and implementation of the water and sanitation projects in Nicaragua, Panama and Paraguay[22] participated in the event. The event allowed coordinators to exchange their experience on the project implementation process and to identify strengths and weaknesses at different stages of project development. It also enabled them to address some common bottlenecks such as women's participation, cultural diversity and social exclusion. Panama and Nicaragua had already started the implementation of the project, and Paraguay was in the planning stage. Consequently, Paraguay could incorporate and draw on the lessons learned from the on-going projects in the other two countries.

Following the event, the first experience-sharing meeting took place in Paraguay on August 2011. The meeting focused on three main topics: (i) planning and consultation with indigenous communities as a way to support communities in the prioritization and identification of local knowledge on water provision (Paraguay); (ii) coordination and empowerment through the management of water systems and sanitation (Panama); and (iii) technical capacity building in construction and maintenance to participate in the local labour market (Nicaragua).

Given the positive results of the first experience-sharing meeting in Paraguay, a second meeting was proposed to take place in Nicaragua in August 2012.[23] This workshop allowed the exchange of experience in the framework of the national closing event of the Joint Programmes with the active participation of the district-funded projects, national authorities of the water sector, and of

[22] Nicaragua: "Democratic economic governance in the Water and Sanitation sector in the RAAN and RAAS"; Panama: "Strengthening equity in access to safe drinking water and sanitation by empowering citizens and excluded indigenous groups in rural areas"; Paraguay: "Strengthening the ability to define and apply water and sanitation policies".

[23] By then, the Panamanian project would be closed; however, under the umbrella of the ILO's South-South and Triangular Cooperation strategy, financial support was given for the participation of one of the women leaders and the project coordinator.

the UN-JP agencies. It also involved a field visit to the Pearl Lagoon district in Bluefields, where the communities themselves described the different systems for water storage, distribution, and treatment put in place during the project implementation phase. These events were organized in the framework of the South-South learning initiative, and were relevant for the stakeholders as they shared the successes and challenges of promoting sustainable water management and sanitation practices.

Why is this South-South practice sustainable?

The initiative centres on empowering rural and indigenous communities. It enables them to manage their own natural resources, namely water, to ensure a supply of drinking water and sanitation. This is done by using an intercultural and a gender-based approach that can be applied in and adapted to different settings. In addition, national counterpart organizations are improving their central and local institutional capacities to provide efficient basic services to communities suffering from extreme poverty and to ensure the sustainability of the projects' outcomes. The overall aim of the programme was to empower rural and indigenous populations to manage their own water resources and thus improve the quality of and access to public water and sanitation services. Moreover, the geographical areas of intervention in Nicaragua and Panama are lands legally recognized by the governments as being owned by an indigenous population.

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5. Brazil's Workers' Feeding Programme

Description of the good practice

The Workers Feeding Programme (Programa de Alimentação do Trabalhador – PAT) seeks to improve worker's nutritional conditions, with positive repercussions to his/her quality of life, reductions in terms of accidents at work and occupational diseases, and an increase in productivity. PAT is part of the global actions developed by the Department of Safety and Health at Work of the Ministry of Labour aiming at improving working conditions and it represents an important asset regarding worker's health. Food security guarantees allows the access to quality food, on a regular basis and in a sufficient amount.

The main characteristics of the programme are: employer voluntary adherence; inclusion is a priority target (eligible workers who earn up to 5 minimum wages monthly); it was designed in a cost share basis (employer/employee); it has strong government participation (tax reduction); and it is delivered through meal vouchers or prepared food. The participants are the beneficiary companies, collective food suppliers and providers.

Why is this practice sustainable and replicable?

PAT has shown several advantages for the employer and the employee. For example, expenses with food given to the worker do not constitute salary or wages, there is a discount up to 4% in the Revenue Tax for the participatory firms, productivity increases, and on the other hand accidents at work, occupational diseases and abstention decrease. In addition, the programme ensures accountability by a tripartite PAT Commission, which is composed by the government, and workers' and employers' organisations.[24] The Commission

[24] The Government members of the PAT Commission are: the Ministry of Labour and Employment; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Social Security; and the Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger. The members representing the employers are: Confederação Nacional do Comércio de Bens, Serviços e Turismo; Confederação Nacional das Instituições Financeiras; Confederação Nacional da Agricultura e Pecuária do Brasil; Confederação Nacional das Indústrias; e a Confederação Nacional dos Transportes. Finally, the members of the PAT Commission representing the workers are: Central Única dos Trabalhadores; Força Sindical; União Geral dos Trabalhadores; Nova Central Sindical de Trabalhadores; and Confederação Geral dos Trabalhadores do Brasil.

proposes improvements to the regulations and provides statements over bills proposed to change PAT regulations.

This model has South-South cooperation potential, especially in MERCOSUR countries and it has been internationally recognized as a good practice. The main characteristics that make PAT easily replicable and adaptable are that it is a low-cost programme, it is easily accessible, the control by the labour inspectorate is simple, and the tripartite participation fosters social dialogue and ensures its effective implementation and sustainability.

6. Publications

Launch of the FAO-ILO Good Practice Guide for Addressing Child Labour in Fisheries and Aquaculture: Policy and Practice

A preliminary edition of the "FAO-ILO Good Practice Guide for addressing child labour in fisheries and aquaculture: policy and practice"[25] was launched in December 2011, mostly based on the experiences of Southeast Asia. The publication of this document was made possible thanks to Swedish funding through the FAO Multi-Partner Programme Support Mechanism.[26] The document draws on available information and material on child labour, fisheries and the aquaculture sector. Inputs were also provided in a FAO-ILO workshop for capacity development on child labour in agriculture (including fisheries and aquaculture) organized in Sega Bay, Malawi, in May 2011. The official publication, Guidance on addressing child labour in fisheries and aquaculture[27] was launched in 2013.

The Good Practice Guide is global in scope and is intended to encompass all the different fisheries and aquaculture sub-sectors – small and large-scale capture fisheries, aquaculture and post-harvest activities. Some specific good practices in this respect include adapting and integrating aspects of children's work and labour in fisheries and aquaculture into standard household and living standard measurement surveys.

The international legal framework to address child labour, based on the Minimum Age Convention 1973 (No. 138) and the worst Forms of Child Labour Convention 1999 (No. 182), is still not effectively applied in many contexts and child labour remains prevalent especially among informal, small-scale informal fisheries and aquaculture enterprises. Accordingly, the ILO and FAO worked jointly to prepare this document with the aim to provide insights for different stakeholders to find ways to break out of the vicious cycle of child labour and poverty in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

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25 http://www.ilo.org/ipec/WCMS_173624/lang--en/index.htm
26 http://www.fao.org/tc/resource-mobilization/resourcepartnerships/en/
27 Available at http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3318e/i3318e.pdf

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Global South-South Development Expo 2012, Vienna, Austria: Investing in Energy and Climate Change: Inclusive Partnerships for Sustainable Development

The Global South-South Development Expo 2012 was hosted by the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Vienna, Austria. It allowed for exchanging and scaling up innovative solutions to cross-cutting energy insecurity and climate change challenges. The conference was organized in conjunction with more than 20 UN agencies and partners, and it provided a platform to highlight, showcase and promote best practices that have been designed by developing countries themselves.

The theme of the GSSD Expo 2012 was 'Investing in Energy and Climate Change: Inclusive Partnerships for Sustainable Development'. It was a concrete response to the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative of the UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon.

The ILO Solution Forum was entitled "Energy, Climate Change and Decent Work". It aimed to present development solutions relevant to social protection, job security and economic empowerment by improving access to energy for all, addressing climate change and moving towards a green economy. The

Forum provided results-based examples and scalable solutions ensuring that employment, decent work and social inclusion are integral parts of any sustainable development strategy. It focused on skills and education policies to facilitate job transition and improve employability, including equitable outcomes for vulnerable groups such as women, girls and youth. Finally, the Forum also advocated social protection mechanisms and strategies for sustainable development.

1. Triangular Cooperation between Unions supporting Southern-led initiatives in the fields of Energy and Climate Change and Decent Work Agenda: The Case of IndustriALL Global Union

Description of the South-South and triangular cooperation good practice

IndustriALL Global Union (IndustriALL) represents 50 million workers in 140 countries in the mining, energy and manufacturing sectors and is a new force in global solidarity taking up the fight for better working conditions and trade union rights around the world. IndustriALL negotiates with multinational companies on a global level. IndustriALL fights for a different globalization process and a new economic and social model that puts people first, based on democracy and social justice. Energy is an essential human need, a prerequisite for economic and social development, and one of the major contributors to environmental problems. However, the energy sector is where many solutions can be found, for example some of the best examples of union-employer cooperation and Global Framework Agreements. Countries need to implement a national climate change policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and shift to more sustainable energy sources. There is a need for a "Just Transition"– i.e. a transition to a greener economy in which the interests of those employed in the conventional energy sector (whose jobs and welfare might be affected as a result of the transition) are taken into account. Trade unions hence have an important role to play in the movement towards cleaner and renewable energy sources, and the transition to a sustainable economy. As social partners they must be included in policy dialogue and decisions.

A Just Transition is the necessary pre-requisite for further dialogue and discussions between various stakeholders. In the framework of networks such as IndustriALL's, potential areas for South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) include energy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, water management, agriculture, forestry, tourism and land use, biodiversity, technology transfer and sustainability. In addition, Global Framework Agreements, Global Corporate Networks, Regional Corporate Networks, and Regional Union Networks are all possible ways of enhancing SSTC.

"I am honoured to be part of such an important Solution Forum at an event which has become the hallmark of co-operation and partnerships among countries of the South.

As the global community continues to grapple with the fall-out from the economic crisis, we cannot help but acknowledge that we are all witnesses to history in the making with the gradual emergence of a new global economic order. That the South is rising and moving toward paramount place on the global stage cannot be disputed. A recently released Oxford Economics report, for example, indicates that by 2021, much of the talent required internationally will come from the South. As deliberations continue in United Nations and other forums on the post-2015 agenda, issues such as South-South and triangular co-operation require renewed attention.

As a Member State of the International Labour Organization since 1963 and the current Caribbean representative on the Governing Body, Trinidad and Tobago actively promotes the Decent Work Agenda and is seen as a leading voice on labour issues in the Caribbean region. The creation of opportunities for sustainable employment through job creation and enterprise development as well as the protection of rights at work, including safety and health at work and non-discrimination in employment, and meaningful social dialogue, underpin the labour agenda in Trinidad and Tobago.

The issues of energy, climate change and decent work are very much intertwined in the Trinidad and Tobago context. In this regard, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Caribbean, have recognized that these three issues of energy, climate change and decent work must be addressed together and actions must be taken to enhance policy coherence among labour and employment, economic, industrial and environmental issues.

The development of green jobs and green enterprises as essential inputs to achieving sustainability is being accorded high priority at the national level. With the assistance of the ILO, we were able to train a group of practitioners, policy-makers, small business entrepreneurs and young persons in May of this year on the basic concepts associated with the green economy, including ways of identifying opportunities for creating green jobs and the mechanisms of 'greening' existing jobs, processes and enterprises.

With regard to exploration of renewable energy, Trinidad and Tobago is actively interested in learning from the experiences of other countries as this is relatively new terrain.

South-South and triangular co-operation activities in the areas of climate change and energy are not new to Trinidad and Tobago.

Memoranda of Understanding in relation to energy development have been signed with Algeria, Brazil, Chile, Republic of Equatorial Guinea, South Africa, Tanzania, Venezuela and Panama to name a few. Other agreements exist with Malaysia and a number of African countries. With respect to Africa, steps are being taken to

develop a revised African initiative in the form of a business strategy that will be used to access and develop opportunities in the emerging oil and gas-based African economies. Over the past few years, there have been a number of exchange visits by high-level delegations between African nations and Trinidad and Tobago resulting in opportunities such as training of young persons from Uganda and Nigeria by local energy experts and exchange of knowledge and information. One of the more recent Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with Panama in March 2012 and this is aimed at establishing a framework for co-operation in energy for the purpose of identifying business opportunities for the national energy and energy related companies of both countries.

I wish to emphasize that while energy and climate change are among the most important issues confronting our existence today and our future, the quality of our existence is largely based on accessibility to resources and goods and services. Decent work plays a significant role in facilitating that access. It is therefore imperative that we promote decent work mainstreaming in all of our policies and strategies and enhance policy coherence at the national, regional and international levels."

H.E. Mr Errol McLeod, Minister of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development, Trinidad and Tobago. Extracts from his keynote presentation during the ILO Solution Forum, GSSD 2012, Vienna.

Why is this practice sustainable?

IndustriALL advocates for enhancing the participation of social partners in policy dialogue and decisions. The definition of policy options and actions based on a win-win scenario requires the involvement of all parties. Sustainable development is the goal and Just Transition is the path. IndustriALL has identified the opportunities arising from corporate responsibility initiatives in the energy sector such as making companies accountable through standards applying to upstream oil and gas industries; adopting the best environmental, labour and human rights practices; building communities for the long term; beneficiation, stewardship and care; and eschewing corruption and violence. In order to take advantage of these opportunities, governments are required to view energy as a human need rather than just another commodity, to support truly sustainable sources of energy, adopt best technologies for fossil fuel generation (including e.g. carbon capture and storage/sequestration), and to examine nuclear energy as a low carbon emitting energy source.

For IndustriALL it is essential to put special emphasis on the social dimension of sustainable development. Sustainability is integrative and is fundamentally a question of public dialogue to identify who benefits from and/or as-

sumes the cost of environmental protection. Hence, the burdens and benefits of climate change adaptation must be addressed through dialogue between workers, employers and governments. South-South activities might include bringing occupational health and safety into Global Framework Agreements, promoting on-going campaigns for the ratification of the ILO Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176), developing a long-term project on HIV and AIDS, enhancing further engagement with other international organizations, and providing assistance to affiliates on the complete range of occupational health and safety issues.

The environment, economy, and society must be approached as an integrated whole rather than three separate pillars. IndustriALL promotes capacity building in the South and the implementation of sound industrial policies based on sustainability in order to preserve existing jobs and to create new jobs that provide decent work for all in a sustainable economy.

Why is this practice replicable?

Trade Unions had been long standing partners in developing SSTC mechanisms. This is effectively the essence of international trade unionism: "helping trade unions in all countries to develop their capacity to win decent working conditions everywhere, and promote workers' rights and interests". One example of union capacity building was the establishment of a cooperative network between COSATU (South Africa), CUT (Brazil) and KCTU (Korea).

More Information

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2. Unlocking Employment Opportunities by Restoring Natural Infrastructure in South Africa: Key Lessons in Rural Development for Developing Countries

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

The Expanded Public Works Programme covers various sectors, mainly infrastructure, non-State, environment and culture and social sectors.

The South African Natural Resources Management Programmes, which is part of the EPWP, address the threats to the productive use of land and water, and the functioning of natural systems, by invasive alien species, wild fires and land degradation, as well as the opportunities for value-added industries in doing this work (including fibre production and furniture production), whilst ensuring meaningful livelihood opportunities are supported for those employed in doing this work. The two main programmes are the Working for Water (WfW) programme (with sub-components of the Working for Land, the Working for Forests, the Wildlife Economy, the Working for Energy (Biomass) and the Eco-Furniture Factories, and the Working on Fire (WoF) programme.

The WfW[28] programme aims to improve the integrity of biodiversity by preventing the introduction of new invasive species; undertaking early detection of and rapid response to emerging invasive alien species; and containing the impact of established invasive alien species, which are causing enormous damage to water security and the use of agricultural land. The South African government is not only addressing the environmental impacts caused by these invasive alien species, but also creating jobs and promoting social protection in the process.

The WoF[29] programme aims to enhance the sustainability and protection of life, property and the environment through integrated fire management policies. In doing this, it has to develop capabilities and provide resources and services to Fire Protection Associations, land-management and jurisdictional agencies; empower communities affected by fire in order for them to understand the benefits as well as potential harm caused by fire; advocate and assist

[28] http://www.dwaf.gov.za/wfw/

[29] http://www.workingonfire.org/

with the implementation of appropriate land-management strategies; create a platform for fire awareness and education amongst land-users and the general public, and promote greater awareness of relevant laws, ordinances, by-laws and compliance among partner groups and local communities. Value added factors of this type of projects are the development of skills, the creation of formal jobs and the promotion of social protection.

In line with the objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and other agreements, the South African experience through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) can be replicated in neighbouring countries facing similar threats from invasive alien species, which would also help to forge greater cooperation between governments of the region.

Why is this practice innovative and replicable?

Countries in the region have shown their interest in EPWPs' approach to environmental restoration. It involves a holistic approach to biodiversity conservation, linking it with social outcomes such as social inclusion, job creation, promotion of health, and poverty reduction. The engagement of local communities and other stakeholders is also an innovative aspect of this initiative.

The EPWP is highlighted and presented as a public policy of one of the three countries showcased in the "Innovations in Public Employment Programmes (IPEP)", a South-South learning approach and international course offered by the International Labour Organization (ILO). IPEPs "ability to impact on multiple objectives of employment generation, income support, asset creation, and social protection; and as a scalable response to specific circumstances is a key strength of public employment programmes, and makes them highly desirable from a policy perspective."[30]

In the meantime, the employment-intensive investments and its approach in South Africa has moved beyond traditional infrastructure and construction programmes. Public Works Programmes (PWP) and Employment Guarantee Schemes (EGS) had become "strongly associated with infrastructure and construction 'works', but this has changed, with examples of employment-intensive

[30] http://www.ilo.int/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/publication/wcms_142973.pdf

work in the social sector, environmental services, and multi-sectoral, community driven programmes".[31]

In line with the objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and other agreements, the South African experience with the EPWPs can be replicated in neighbouring countries facing similar threats from invasive alien species, which would also help to forge greater cooperation between governments of the region. Moreover, the approach of these programmes scales up its outcomes, having an impact not only for the environment, but also in social and political spheres.

Why is this practice sustainable?

The sustainability of the programmes described above is ensured by a strong political support, and a focus on capacity building, empowerment of local communities and engagement of different social and political partners. Moreover, there are frameworks in the region such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development that facilitates cross-country cooperation and knowledge sharing.

The EPWP started in 2004-05 and is entering its third 5-year phase in 2014-15. The programme has evolved and has been part of the South-South training offered by the ILO on Innovations in Public Employment Programmes. Many aspects of these programmes have been shared and exchanged with other large PEPs, like the Indian MGNREGA and the Ethiopian Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), and also with other countries who have shown interest in designing new PEPs.

More Information

http://www.ilo.org/emppolicy/units/employment-intensive-investment-unit-empinvest/lang--en/index.htm

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[31] Ibid.

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Global South-South Development Expo 2013, Nairobi, Kenya: Building Inclusive Green Economies: South-South Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

The GSSD Expo 2013 was the first to be held in the South. Its overall objective was to provide a powerful platform for the sharing and exchange of scalable, replicable and innovative southern solutions that have had significant development impact on the ground. Under the overarching theme "Building Inclusive Green Economies: South-South Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication", the GSSD Expo 2013 was an occasion to demonstrate the collective response of the UN to relevant provisions of the Rio+20 Outcome and its capacity to facilitate South-South cooperation through an exchange of experiences on green economies. The 2013 edition of the GSSD was co-hosted by UNEP and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.

In the framework of this event, the ILO organized a Solution Forum titled Promoting Sustainable Development and Decent Work through South-South Cooperation, bringing together governments, workers, employers and practitioners from the South, who are engaged in horizontal cooperation in the field of decent work and sustainable development. It focused on experiences of workers' and employers' organisations that are increasingly promoting sustainable development in the world of work.

1. South-South cooperation to strengthen national initiatives based on Brazil's Bolsa Verde Programme

Description of the South-South cooperation initiative

The Government of Brazil has been a contributor to the ILO's South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiative since 2005, and it has stimulated the engagement of many countries of the Global South to support these initiatives. There are several examples of how Brazil has taken the initiative to cooperate with other countries of the Global South in the fields of sustainable development and decent work. The Bolsa Verde programme (green grant) was launched in October 2011. The main objectives are to encourage the conservation of ecosystems; raise awareness of their sustainable use; improve living conditions and raise the incomes of the very poor through the conservation of natural resources in rural areas; and encourage the participation of beneficiaries in environmental training activities and social, technical and vocational education. This initiative has been internationally recognized as a good practice and several countries are interested in exchanging experiences with Brazil to strengthen their national programmes.

A new project implemented with the ILO and financed by the Brazil's Ministry of the Environment aims at tackling the challenges related to the scaling up of the Bolsa Verde programme and similar initiatives in peer countries, and the promotion of sustainable development, which may generate employment and income to the benefited families. The Ministry of Environment demonstrated interest not only in learning about best practices examples from other countries, but also in organizing a knowledge sharing workshop to discuss challenges and opportunities for social and environmental protection floors.

What have been the achievements of the initiative?

The Bolsa Verde programme has become well known within Brazil, but also among other countries in the region. The suggested project brings along the opportunity to raise more awareness about this issue. It has benefitted 23 000 families who live in national forests, extractive reserves, traditional communities and new settlements. The objective for 2014 is to reach 73 000 families. Under this programme, Brazilian families living in extreme poverty (those with a monthly per capita income of up to R$ 70, approximately US $30)

who preserve the vegetable cover of the areas where they live, receive R$ 300 (approximately US $132) in grant funds every three months.

The idea of Bolsa Verde is to reduce pressures for woodcutting and for the creation of areas for cattle-raising, by increasing the income of local families. They receive a quarterly transfer of money in exchange for the commitment to develop activities of environmental conservation, maintenance of the vegetation covering, and sustainable use of natural resources.

Scope of cooperation and sustainability of the initiative

The cooperation foresees mapping of best practices as well as a knowledge-sharing workshop including governmental bodies from China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Mozambique and South Africa who are in charge of the implementation of similar programmes in their countries.

The mapping of best practices and the knowledge-sharing workshop with other countries take place at a very timely moment as the Ministry of Environment is looking into the opportunities for upscaling and improvements. It is therefore guaranteed that the project outcomes will directly be incorporated into the Ministry's work.

"Brazil's key factors of success in the implementation of South-South and triangular cooperation are the creation of institutionality to coordinate South-South Cooperation (Brazilian Cooperation Agency – ABC); cooperation is centred in strengthening our partner institutions and building the capacity of human resources, and this cooperation is structured through technical projects

The ILO has been a major partner of Brazil in the promotion of South-South cooperation. This close collaboration started in 1987 with the Agreement to undertake technical cooperation with other countries in Latin America and Africa. Later on, in 2005 letters were exchanged to support the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Portuguese-speaking Countries in Africa (PALOP). In December 2007 and in March 2008, two Memoranda of Understanding were signed on South-South Cooperation. The first addressed the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour, and the second the promotion of social protection in several regions with special focus on the PALOP countries. Those Memoranda expressed the commitment of the ILO and the Government of Brazil, and outlined the need for technical cooperation among developing countries, as well as the support to financial resources mobilization to enable such cooperation.

The most overarching framework agreement was signed in March 2009 – the "Complementary Adjustment to the Basic Agreement on Technical Cooperation with Latin American and African countries for the implementation of the ILO-Brazil Partner-

ship Programme for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation". This agreement emphasized on the following areas: prevention and elimination of child labour; elimination of forced work; promotion of green jobs; strengthening of trade unions; and the promotion of Social Security. Furthermore, in 2011 a new Memorandum of Understanding was signed to promote technical cooperation on the Creation and Exchange of Knowledge, Information and Experiences in the Field of Social Security.

The ILO and Brazil have also worked closely in the promotion of triangular cooperation. In 2010 the first triangular cooperation agreement was signed between Brazil, the United States, Haiti and the ILO to protect the most vulnerable children after the earthquake, to develop capacities for the reconstruction of public services, including educational services and to promote the programme "safer school", school as safer place in the event of a disaster.

Brazil has cooperation projects in over 80 developing countries; many of these are in the areas of sustainable development, namely water, food security, sustainable agriculture, health (radiotherapy, nuclear medicine) and energy, to mention some.

Brazil is committed to the promotion of South-South and triangular cooperation and believes in the benefits of the exchange between equals under a principle of solidarity to face common challenges."

H.E. Mr. Laércio Antônio Vinhas, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the IAEA and CTBTO. Extracts from his presentation during the ILO Solution Forum, GSSD 2012, Vienna

Why is this practice innovative and replicable?

A number of countries have experience in public work programmes for climate change adaptation. The combination of social protection floors with efforts to restore and safeguard forests and protected areas is relatively new. In Brazil, it mostly benefits indigenous tribes and people living in rural areas, which are often left out from other social programmes. Another innovation of the programme is the pro-active approach from the Brazilian government to engage partners from other countries in a discussion about social and environmental protection floors.

The exchange of best practices and experience will be documented allowing Brazil and other countries to draw their lessons and further improve the already existing social and environmental protection floors. It also may further help countries to set up new programmes.

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2. Developing skills for Green Jobs through South-South Cooperation between Technical and Vocational Education and Training Institutions of Central America and the Dominican Republic

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

In 2004, the technical and vocational education and training institutions (TVET institutions) of Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama) and the Dominican Republic created a regional network with the objective of jointly standardizing and improving technical and vocational training programmes in line with the latest labour market developments through South-South exchanges between peer countries. In the framework of the Spanish funded project FOIL (Formación, orientación e inserción laboral), the ILO is collaborating with the regional network of TVET institutions. The overall objective of FOIL is to strengthen the institutional capacity of public labour institutions and to facilitate the labour insertion of marginalized groups in Central America.

In 2010, the network members decided to focus on the creation of learning standards and methodologies for the promotion of green occupations due to a labour market demand for workers with knowledge and skills in environmental protection and new technologies and techniques.

Horizontal dimension of cooperation

The elaboration of learning standards and curricula for green jobs is characterized by a process of consultation and collaboration that can take up to one year for each new standard and includes several meetings of experts. In the first meeting of the technical experts, participants review the work plan, take stock of existing knowledge and define responsibilities. Each institution, depending on experience and knowledge, volunteers to elaborate a first draft standard. For example, the Instituto Nacional de Aprendizaje (National Learning Institute - INA) from Costa Rica, having an expertise in recycling, worked on a first draft for waste management. During the second meeting, all experts have the possibility to review, comment on and improve this draft standard, which is then used to elaborate the respective training curriculum. All members of the network review the training curriculum during the third meeting. Once the learning standard and the curriculum are finalized and supported by all members of the network, it is each institution's responsibility to incorporate this new standard into the existing training portfolio. Taking the differences

among the member countries into consideration, there is the rule that the standard can be slightly adapted to the reality of each country. However, 70% of the jointly agreed learning standard and curriculum must be maintained.

The ILO's role in this context is to act as a facilitator to ensure that meetings are held regularly and that the technical experts have all the required information to work on one particular issue.

What have been the achievements from a South-South cooperation perspective?

Based on previous cooperation experiences, the members of the network elaborated learning standards and curricula for eight green occupations. These occupations include organic agriculture, installation and reparation of photovoltaic systems, water management (drinking water and waste water), sustainable forestry, environmental risk management in selected sectors, watershed management, installation and maintenance of hybrid power systems and waste management.[32] All of these eight standards were incorporated into the national training portfolios.

With support from the ILO project FOIL, the workshop "Vocational training: towards a carbon neutral economy" was held in Costa Rica in November 2011. During this workshop, the regional priorities in terms of vocational training for green jobs were defined. Good practices in vocational training for green jobs were presented by various institutions from within and outside the region, thus providing a platform for capacity building and knowledge sharing.

In addition, the network decided to conduct national assessments on technical vocational training needs for green jobs and is applying an assessment methodology developed by the Brazilian National Service of Industrial Learning (SENAI). SENAI has provided training to all seven TVET institutions on its methodology.

INA, the Costa Rican TVET institution, has already gathered experience in applying the SENAI methodology and provided, in May 2013, the second training programme for technical staff of its counterpart institutions.

[32] http://foil.oit.or.cr/documentos/index.php?searchword=empleos+verdes&ordering=newest&region=0&searchphrase=all&Itemid=55&option=com_search

Why is this practice sustainable and replicable?

The eight curricular standards, incorporated into the respective countries' vocational portfolios, provide evidence regarding the sustainable nature of the initiative. The joint elaboration and validation of the technical standards has led to a strong ownership among the TVET institutions. Moreover, the findings from the national assessments will enable the identification of country-specific training, standards and curricular needs. This will clearly contribute towards ensuring their long-term implementation.

As the project is based on a network of institutions, this model can easily be replicated in other regions and likewise be scaled-up.

More Information

http://www.ilo.org/sanjose/programas-y-proyectos/formacion-orientacion-insercion-laboral/WCMS_232620/lang--es/index.htm

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3. Knowledge-sharing for promoting Green Entrepreneurship among young women and men in the framework of the Youth Entrepreneurship Facility (YEF)

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

The Youth Entrepreneurship Facility (YEF) is a partnership between the Africa Commission, the Youth Employment Network (YEN) and the International Labour Organization (ILO). Implemented from 2010 to 2014 in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania, the partnership is funded by the Government of Denmark.

Six components guide the activities of the partnership: a) fostering a culture of entrepreneurship among young people; b) introducing entrepreneurship education in schools; c) ensuring access of potential and existing business development services; d) enabling access to finance for young entrepreneurs; e) strengthening youth-led organizations through a youth challenge fund; f) promoting evidence based advocacy to better understand what works in youth entrepreneurship development.

In 2010, the Youth Entrepreneurship Facility formed a partnership with the ILO's Green Jobs Programme. The latter was in response to the identification of green jobs and green entrepreneurship as one of the key priorities during the initial national and local stakeholder consultations.

The ILO-YEF Enablis Business Plan Competition promoted ecological best practices. It had previously proved to be a successful mechanism to promote interaction, elicit greater interest in green business, and kick-start green ideas among partner countries. The Kenyan start-up, Cobitech – won the Enablis Business Plan Competition 2010 in the Green Business category, and received business skills training, advisory services and mentorship. Several knowledge-sharing events have been organized in this framework and have provided a great boost for young entrepreneurs; platforms for knowledge and experience sharing were beneficial to scale up initiatives by young entrepreneurs from the Global South, and as a way to access opportunities and receive support to implement initiatives.

Horizontal Dimension of cooperation

Regular knowledge exchange takes place in and among countries and has led to the replication of successful experiences.

YEF activities have also led to a direct exchange between partners of the participating countries and project independent knowledge exchange has started to unfold. A green jobs awareness raising workshop was held in Kenya in September 2012. During this workshop, ILO programme staff from East, Southern, Central and West Africa were introduced to the beneficiaries and visited some of the green business start-up supported by the YEF.

Workshops and field visits allowed the ILO to then link international partners interested in learning more about green business options with Kenyan partners. As a result, green entrepreneurs from Kenya have been invited by partners in Uganda and Tanzania to present and share their experience and know-how.

Furthermore, some of the most successful green entrepreneurs have also been invited to describe their achievements at international meetings. A case in point is the recently held summer academy in Turin (July 2013) where a young entrepreneur shared her business model and received several invitations to different countries in the South to explore further collaboration.

Achievements and impact from a South-South cooperation perspective

During the YEF's first phase, 2010-2011, various activities promoted green entrepreneurship.

In 2010, ILO-YEF entered into a sponsorship agreement with ENABLIS, a business network supporting youth companies and business creations, to support a business plan competition and introduce a category focusing on green business. The competition creates opportunities for people with a business idea or existing business who find it difficult to secure conventional commercial funding or to access start-up or expansion capital. The Green & Ecological Business category was established to identify businesses that contribute significantly to environmental sustainability and ecological best practices; businesses that have developed new sustainable technologies that can address Kenyan energy, water and pollution concerns and products and services that are designed to save, preserve, or reduce consumption of finite natural resources.

Out of the 721 business plan entries, 81 entries (11%) were in the Green & Ecological Business category. The green business plan competition and prizes

proved to be a successful motivator to elicit greater interest in green businesses and kick-start green ideas. Experience exchanges between Kenya and Uganda has led to a replication of the green business plan competitions in Uganda.

Another major activity implemented by the YEF to promote green entrepreneurship is the development of an education programme. Under a partnership with Junior Achievement (JA), a global non-for-profit youth organization, a 15-week long green enterprise course was developed and rolled out for secondary school students. During the course, students learn about theoretical concepts and practical tools on how to develop a green business plan and start and manage their business. The overall objective of the course is to make youth reflect on the input and production processes of businesses and their adverse impacts on the environment. A yearly competition between the student-run businesses allows for high motivation levels.

The partnership with JA to promote green entrepreneurship is expected to be replicated and adapted to Uganda, based on the successful implementation in Kenya.

Why is this practice sustainable?

The various capacity building activities in promoting green entrepreneurship ensure the sustainability of the initiative. Training of trainers allows for continuous training activities after the end of funding. The partnership approach focuses on creating capacity among national institutions that can then carry out activities without further support from the ILO.

Why is this practice innovative and replicable?

Guiding young people towards new business opportunities is an innovative approach, particularly in countries where youth unemployment rates are high. Green entrepreneurship has a beneficial impact on the social and economic situation of young people and on the protection of the environment. Moreover, it supports the shift of the national economy from unsustainable to more sustainable processes.

The green entrepreneurship training modules can be easily replicated in other countries. However, to achieve sustainability it is important to undertake these trainings in cooperation with national institutions.

The initiatives undertaken in the context of the YEF have gained visibility thanks to successful ex-

perience sharing. A presentation on the experiences in Kenya was given during a side event of the Rio+20 Conference. Moreover, in other events, organized or co-organized by the ILO, the experiences and lessons learnt from this partnership were shared. Mr Samson Gichia, CEO of Cobitech, introduced the Youth Entrepreneurship Facility during the ILO Solution Forum and won the GSSD 2013 Partnerships Award that recognizes innovative and replicable South-South cooperation initiatives.

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4. South-South Cooperation for implementing good environmental practices in construction – Building & Renewable Energy

Description of the South-South Cooperation good practice

Workers' Union of Argentina (UOCRA) implemented a project aimed at training workers, technicians and professionals in the construction sector to ensure the adoption of good environmental practices on construction sites. The training allows them to acquire knowledge to build photovoltaic solar bags (independent equipment able to provide electricity by converting solar energy for domestic use), which are then donated to schools with no access to electricity in different rural areas. This system is capable, in its most basic configuration, to provide basic lighting for at least 4 hours, with 5 days of autonomy (days without sun).

The initiative had been internationally recognized as a good practice. A number of major study tours and South-South and triangular cooperation events had boosted the promotion of the project, such as the II Workers Union Conference on Labour and Environment (2009), which had as its main objective the strengthening of relations between countries of the region for the exchange of experience in the areas of work and environment, in order to address several common challenges in the region. The conference was organized by the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (CSA), UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) and Sustainlabour. The UOCRA initiative has great potential for South-South cooperation and has already been presented at several international forums.

Horizontal dimension of cooperation

The initiative has been presented during the «Inter-regional trade union training on Decent Work, Sustainable Development and Green Jobs» in Turin in 2012. This training had two main objectives: a) sharing knowledge on various roads for trade union action on environmental issues at different levels: from the workplace to the land, at the national, regional and international levels. It was mainly focused on experiences on sustainable workplaces and both

bipartite and tripartite social dialogue in environmental issues; and b) presentation of experiences of union action on environmental issues.

The ILO Bureau for Workers' Activities (ACTRAV), the International Training Centre of the ILO, the International Labour Foundation for Sustainable Development and the Green Jobs Programme of the ILO have jointly developed this learning course on decent work, sustainable development and green jobs. It was initially targeted at trade union representatives from Latin America, being later replicated in Africa and it is now offered as an interregional learning course in Turin, Italy.

Why is this practice sustainable and replicable?

In the framework of this initiative, manuals for awareness of good environmental practices were developed to ensure its sustainability. The courses use training manuals prepared by UOCRA, developed with support from ILO/ACTRAV. The manuals of good environmental practices are intended to explain concepts and contribute to reducing the ecological footprint, i.e. to create awareness among the population in order to achieve a rational use of energy.

Besides, the aim of the «Conference on Good Environmental Practices" is to change people's habits to promote the rational use of natural resources, which further strengthens the sustainability of this initiative.

This initiative has the potential to be replicated, particularly through the abovementioned manuals. The impact at the national level of the initiative "Good Environmental Practices in construction - building & renewable energy» has been recognized, as well as its potential to be implemented in other countries. For instance, UOCRA has been invited to various international forums in order to showcase the initiative.

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5. Triangular Cooperation between Brazil, Peru and Germany to boost Vocational Training and Skills Development

Description of the triangular cooperation good practice

The National Service for Industrial Apprenticeship of Brazil (SENAI) partnered with the Vocational Training Institute of Peru (SENATI) and the German Cooperation Agency (GIZ) for the creation of the Centre for Environmental Technologies (CTA) in Peru. The CTA aims at training professionals in areas related to clean production and environmental conservation.

Since 1952, SENAI has worked jointly with the ILO to promote knowledge and experience sharing to strengthen vocational training, particularly through the Inter-American Centre for Knowledge Development in Vocational Training (ILO-Cinterfor). In addition, technical cooperation between Brazil and Peru has a longstanding history as a bilateral cooperation agreement was signed in 1975. The Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) and the Peruvian Agency for International Cooperation (APCI) have worked jointly to support bilateral and triangular cooperation projects in several areas.

The role of each party involved in this triangular cooperation initiative was as follows: a) SENATI, apart from being the beneficiary institution was the leader of the initiative as there was a formal request from Peru to Brazil to learn from their experience; b) SENAI was the knowledge and technology provider; c) GIZ provided environmental policy guidance, technical advisory services and budgetary contribution as well as support to the integration of CTA in global environmental networks; d) the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) supported with the coordination and budget execution, and it also provided political orientation and guidance on the design of the triangular cooperation model; finally, e) the Peruvian Agency for International Cooperation (APCI) in collaboration with ABC provided advice on the design of the triangular cooperation model for this project.

The German dual system of vocational training, a combined programme of practical training in a company and theory taught at a school, has inspired both SENAI and SENATI's pedagogical approaches. The positive institutional relationship between SENATI, SENAI and GIZ played a key role in the implementation of the triangular cooperation agreement and establishment of the CTA. The interests and expectations of the three participating players were in balance, ensuring their full engagement. . The CTA developed a marketing and

communications strategy as well as a monitoring and evaluation framework to measure impact and outcomes.

Why is this initiative sustainable?

This initiative is grounded in a solid partnership in strategic areas of interest for all partners and with benefits for the industrial sector. Accordingly, the CTA could become a centre of excellence in the field of environment and a knowledge hub in the region. In addition, given the different partnerships already existing between SENAI and SENATI with other training institutions in the region, the experience can serve as inspiration for other countries.

In addition, the Environmental Technologies Programme is a unique professional programme in Peru created and implemented in the framework of the triangular partnership between SENAI, SENATI and GIZ and led by a solid and prestigious institution as SENATI, which guarantees its sustainability. The Programme is oriented to generate competences and capabilities for sustainable development in Peru in order to preserve and regulate the environmental activities in production activities, mitigating any further effect in the degradation of air, soil, water and environment. The CTA will contribute and provide tools for a better environmental management and sustainable development in the country and abroad.

Why is this initiative innovative?

There are several characteristics of this project that makes it innovative. First, the triangular arrangement allowed applying technological transfer strategies from Brazil and Germany, which is benefiting SENATI. It allows the institution to have a broader experience to contribute to Peru's environmental development. Second, the project developed a unique professional programme with great future perspectives and labour demand applying the German dual learning methodology (80% practical sessions), which increases the access of low-income young men and women in the labour market improving their quality of life. Finally, the establishment of the CTA promotes permanent research and technology innovation, which could be beneficial for the region.

Why is this initiative replicable?

The model applied in this triangular arrangement could be easily replicated as it is grounded on a solid partnership between vocational training institutions that are part of several networks in and outside the region. The CET could become a centre of excellence in the field of environment and a knowledge hub in the region, which could potentially result in more SSTC initiatives. Moreover,

in Peru, the programmes created under the framework of this tripartite cooperation are being replicated across the country through the SENATI network. SENATI has 80 operational units at the national level and strategic alliances with 2500 manufacturing enterprises, in which the students can apply for the "dual" learning programme. In addition, young men and women with low income will have access to professional and technological education in the field of environment, improving their quality of life and allowing them to earn a decent income.

More information

http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=37888185
http://www.ilo.org/pardev/south-south/WCMS_220453/lang--en/index.htm#Solution5

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II. REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH DEVELOPMENT EXPOS

A

Regional South-South Development Expo for the Americas 2012: Knowledge from the South, Panama, May 2012

Based on the positive results of the Global South-South Development Expos, the initiative was extended to the regional level. Under the coordination of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation and in partnership with the Government of Panama, a regional knowledge-sharing event entitled "Saber del Sur"[33] (Knowledge from the South) was organized in May 2012.

The event brought together cooperation offices and agencies of Latin America and the Caribbean region, UN agencies, and representatives of workers, employers, governments and civil society organizations. The aim of Knowledge from the South was to highlight enriching experiences of knowledge exchange and transfer between countries of the region, and to promote future South-South exchanges. The Expo allowed countries to share policies and mechanisms used to implement successful South-South cooperation initiatives in the context of solutions to common development challenges.

The booth of the ILO Inter-American Centre for Knowledge Development in Vocational Training (ILO/CINTERFOR) in the exhibition of the event showcased concrete examples demonstrating the commitment of the ILO in the promotion of knowledge and experience sharing in the region.

[33] http://www.saberdelsur.org/en

1. Inter-American Centre for Knowledge Development in Vocational Training

Description of ILO/CINTERFOR involvement in South-South and triangular cooperation

The Inter-American Centre for Knowledge Development in Vocational Training (ILO/CINTERFOR) was established by the ILO in 1963 at the request of Latin American countries, and it is based in Montevideo, Uruguay. It has over 65 member organizations in Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Cape Verde. ILO/CINTERFOR promotes capacity building and the development of national training institutions, vocational training as a tool for social inclusion, and social dialogue in vocational training. One of its primary tools for knowledge sharing is its online community.[34] Since its creation, ILO/CINTERFOR has been promoting collective construction of knowledge and South-South and triangular cooperation, especially in issues related to the development of human resources. It is a specialized centre of the ILO that articulates and coordinates the largest and most prestigious network of public and private institutions and entities, devoted to strengthening professional skills.

Replicability of good practices through ILO/CINTERFOR

ILO/CINTERFOR actively promotes and facilitates cooperation, coordination and exchanges between its member institutions and entities. It facilitates dialogue on issues at regional and global level, and it helps to establish and strengthen links between its members. It systematizes and shares knowledge and practices that are generated from these exchanges and collaboration. Comprising more than 65 institutions from 27 countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Cape Verde, it is a key partner in permanently updating the knowledge management platform available in the world of vocational training. ILO/CINTERFOR offers this platform, which comprises several services such as:

- Teaching Resources Bank: Access to over 12 000 resources. After SENAI's contribution in 2009, the contributions of other Vocational Training Institutions (VTIs) in the network were added. The value of these resources is beyond measure, not only in monetary terms, but because of their content, quality and relevance.
- Experiences database: Experiences in fields such as the use of ICTs in training, improving productivity, social dialogue and competency recognition.
- Skills profiles database: Access to over 6 000 occupational profiles, identified and validated by social partners, in numerous countries and different

[34] http://www.oitcinterfor.org

productive sectors. Curriculum designs and means of evaluation and certification are also available.

- Specialists database: Over 150 CVs of professionals are accessible, most of them connected to the Vocational Training Institutions (VTIs) and Ministries, which are members of the network.
- Communities of apprenticeship and practice: ILO/CINTERFOR coordinates several virtual forums and practice communities.

Cinterfor's member institutions network. South-South and Triangular Cooperation

More information

http://www.oitcinterfor.org/en/general/mission-vision-and-functions

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B

First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo 2014, Doha, Qatar: Youth and women employment, energy efficiency/renewable energy, and water security

The Office of the United Nations for South-South Cooperation and the UNDP's Regional Bureau for Arab States through the Regional Centre in Cairo, organized the First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo (18- 20 February 2014).

The Regional Expo was aimed at bringing together representatives of governments, workers, employers, civil society organizations, and academia to discuss the current challenges and present development solutions relevant to youth and women's employment, energy efficiency/renewable energy, and water security. Additionally, the Expo sought to showcase southern development solutions while contributing to a better understanding of the existing regional trends in South-South Cooperation. It was also aimed at identifying, and sharing relevant good practices in different countries and contexts in order to support actors in the development and implementation of effective youth employment policies. Moreover, it contributed to identify potential solutions to address youth employment challenges in the region, as well as pinpointing partners to support the replication and adaptation of initiatives from the Global South.

The ILO Solution Forum was entitled Promoting Youth Employment through South-South and Triangular Cooperation. It encompassed a series of good practices and lessons learnt on South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) on the theme of Youth Employment. It also allowed for combining and better understanding the interrelation of fundamental principles and rights at work, labour standards, employment creation, social protection mechanisms,

and social dialogue in strategies aimed at tackling youth employment. With the rise of new mechanisms of dialogue and cooperation among developing countries, the development solutions showcased in this regional forum represented essential tools that bring new technologies and capacities (i.e. transfers of know-how, technology, and exchanges of information), which can be utilized in the fight against youth unemployment.

1. Knowledge Management Facility on Youth Employment and Migration and South-South exchange

Description of the South-South cooperation initiative

The thematic window on youth, employment and migration (YEM) of the UNDP-Spain Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund (MDG-F) was launched in August 2007 to support the implementation of 14 joint programmes (JP) on youth employment and migration for generating and sharing knowledge through a community of practices.

The Knowledge Management Facility (KMF) is a knowledge-sharing platform aimed at organizing thematic and global workshops to share experiences, lessons learnt and good practices on youth employment and migration across national partners including representatives of government and civil society, at national and local levels — and the participating UN agencies. It also aims at supporting the collection and dissemination of data, information and tools generated by the joint programmes as well as conducting research and studies on topics of common interest to the joint programmes. The KMF represents a tool to support the implementation of UN joint programmes through the YEM. It consists of joint programmes being implemented in countries in Africa, Asia, South-East Europe and Latin America.

What is the impact of this South-South cooperation initiative?

The Knowledge Management Facility has allowed countries from the Global South to learn from each other regarding the effective implementation of policies on youth employment and migration, and draw on the lessons learnt from the different JPs. The Knowledge Management Facility has encouraged several South-South exchanges to take place. Several workshops have been organized and have raised the interest from some participants to further cooperate with their peer countries and learn from their experience.

In order to foster a community of practice among the joint programmes, the Knowledge Management Facility organized two training workshops, one in Budapest (Hungary) from 30 March to 1 April, 2011 and another in Lima (Peru) from 13 to 15 April, 2011. During these workshops participants discussed the most challenging areas of work of these programmes and the lessons learnt, and shared effective policy instruments and tools. In addition, a global workshop of the youth employment and migration window of the MDG-F was organized in Punta Cana (Dominican Republic) from 29 to 31 October 2012. It conveyed representatives of national teams from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Serbia, Tunisia and Turkey. The workshops raised interest from some participants to further cooperate with their peer countries and learn from their experience. A cooperation agreement between Ecuador and Peru was concluded in the field of youth migration. Another concrete example of South-South cooperation in the framework of the KMF is the exchange between Albania and Tunisia on youth employment policies and practices.

Why is this practice sustainable and replicable?

Since 2010, the ILO, through its Youth Employment Programme, has been assisting in knowledge development and sharing in the framework of the aforementioned KMF. It has allowed countries from the Global South to learn from each other on the effective implementation of policies on youth employment and migration, and draw on the lessons learnt from the different Joint Programmes. In accordance with the KMF's purpose, several South-South exchanges have already been implemented. The KMF combines several knowledge-sharing tools to ensure its sustainability. For example, global workshops are organized on a regular basis to share experience, lessons learnt and good practices on youth employment and migration across national partners including representatives of government and civil society, at national and local levels. In addition, the KMF also foresees collection and dissemination of data, information and tools generated by the joint programmes in each country. Moreover, there is an online platform that allows constant exchange of knowledge and experience.

More Information

http://www.ilo.org/employment/areas/youth-employment/kmf-yem/lang--en/index.htm

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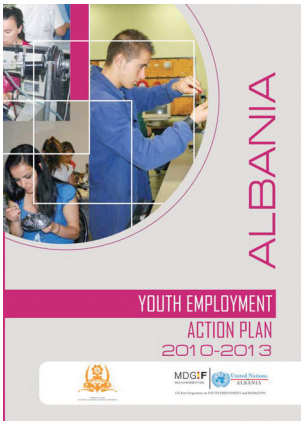
2. Horizontal Cooperation on Territorial Youth Employment Pact: Albania and Tunisia

Description of the initiative



In Albania, Territorial Employment Pacts pooled local resources to ease the transition of young workers from the informal to the formal economy. An articulated social dialogue focused on decent work principles was expected to support the implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) for Youth Employment (2010-2013). Territorial Employment Pacts for Youth (Y-TEP) in Albania were developed to implement decent work objectives for youth in consultation with representatives of workers, employers and civil society organizations. Information campaigns and training activities were organized to increase young people's awareness about their rights at work. This initiative emerges as a major factor regarding participation at the local level and decision making on employment policies.

In the framework of this initiative, factors and conditions that were considered (in the spirit of a collaborative approach) are: the active participation of regulators, local authorities, national framework, technical support, supervision from the perspective of complementarities and synergy at different stages of the policy development and implementation (public authorities, social partners, technical, financial, international and bilateral).

Horizontal cooperation between Albania and Tunisia was done under the framework of the Knowledge Management Facility (KMF) on youth employment and migration. The KMF was established to promote cross-country sharing of experience, information, data and tools. It is instrumental to identify and document successful practices involving the design, monitoring and evaluation of youth employment and migration programmes. In addition, it builds a body of evidence to support policy dialogue and programme development on youth employment and migration issues. Among the knowledge-sharing tools used by the KMF are face-to-face workshops, e-helpdesk, virtual forums and online discussions.

These tools have contributed to the following: enabled joint programmes to interact and exchange information on the technical areas covered by their

programmes; established a community of practice to share knowledge, lessons learnt and good practices; made available policy tools developed by the various national and international partners; and supported the exchange of lessons on how to ensure the sustainability of results.

What was the impact of the horizontal cooperation initiative?

Following Albania's experience on Territorial Youth Employment Pacts (Y-TEP), Tunisia developed "Regional Action Plans for Youth Employment" (PARE) in three targeted governorates, El Kef, Gafsa and Ariana. The three PARE were defined as proposed strategic actions that needed to be undertaken to improve the employment situation of young people in these vulnerable regions. Public-private consultation platforms were established to develop the PARE and resource mobilization was launched at the local level for the first time. The Knowledge Management Facility (KMF) allowed for the organization of face-to-face workshops, e-helpdesk, virtual forums and online discussions on this initiative. The initiative was considered a successful experience in the context of the post-revolutionary transition.

The pilot initiative was adapted and implemented in Tunisia with success as it helped to strengthen the capacity of regional structures through training on how to identify, plan and develop regional actions plans for youth employment through collaborative technical committees. This support began in July 2011, six months after the revolution, in a context of transition and allowed the regions to locally decide on their economic development.

Why is this horizontal cooperation initiative innovate and sustainable?

The Territorial Employment Pact (Y-TEP)/Regional Action Plans for Youth Employment (PARE) represent an institutional innovation based on negotiated planning, in which different actors at the local level (local authorities, public employment services, business associations, trade unions, cultural and environmental associations, professional bodies, financial institutions, private enterprises) assume complementary roles and responsibilities in the achievement of youth employment objectives. Regional Employment Boards were established to identify local youth employment needs, design interventions to promote the generation of youth employment and/or the shifting of informal young workers to the formal economy, and mobilize financial resources to ensure the sustainability of the initiative.

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3. Promoting Youth Rights at Work: Lessons learnt from Indonesia and Jordan

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

ILO launched the Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) for Jordan (2012-2015), which was signed by the Ministry of Labour and social partners. A DWCP tripartite committee was established and a coordination mechanism between the Ministry of Labour, social partners and the ILO was established.

Under this framework the "Tripartite Action for Youth Employment in Jordan" Project was launched. It aimed at increasing productive and decent employment for young women and men in the country. The specific objectives of the initiative were: 1) Improved signalling of skills, and market value of the technical vocational education and training (TVET) certificates to facilitate training-to-work transition (through access to a national certification system); 2) Increased capacity of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to contribute to the quality of the skills supply through upgraded apprenticeship; 3) Improved capacity of trade unions to increase their outreach to young women and men to advocate for their rights at work through the manual on youth rights at work including non-gender based discrimination.

Considering the challenges on youth rights at work in Jordan, manuals were created and piloted with youth to enhance the understanding of young people of their rights in the workplace and how to defend them through collective bargaining and protection of trade unions.

Indonesia shared similar challenges regarding youth rights at work, mainly the large informal economy. In this context, the initiative of the manual on youth rights at work was adapted and implemented. Stakeholders participating in this initiative included the General Federation for Jordanian Trade Unions; Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions; youth non-profit organizations; Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Jordan; Organisations of people with disabilities and all four trade union confederations in Indonesia.

A tripartite steering committee constituted by the government, Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions, trade unions and employers was established. In addition, an Editing Board – including tripartite partners – for reviewing and

approving the manual on youth rights was created. Moreover, two focal points from the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions were assigned to work on the initiative.

What was the impact of the South-South cooperation initiative?

The initiative has created greater awareness of young people on rights, and it has improved outreach of trade unions to youth at the informal economy. Developing a manual on youth rights at work and training has helped to raise awareness of young people on their rights, entitlements and responsibilities at work and to facilitate the replicability of the initiative in different contexts. It has also been effective to revive the culture of youth rights at work, build capacities of trade unions and other parties, raise awareness of youth on labour rights and linking them to the decent work dimension in informal apprenticeship programmes. The capacities of the countries were strengthened by providing a user-friendly tool to trade unions and civil society organizations to reach out to young people in the informal economy.

Why is this practice sustainable and adaptable?

Among the instruments and tools used for this initiative were a participatory approach in initiating and implementing the solution among trade unions and civil society organizations. In addition, the methodology and structure of the manual on youth rights was based on learning outcomes and sub-outcomes, while training of trainers activities were also undertaken to ensure the sustainability of the solution in the future.

In Indonesia, manuals were developed by the trade unions themselves to ensure the applicability.[35] In addition, a global manual is being prepared with interactive exercises to be adapted to each country, in order to integrate their national legal frameworks and existing collective agreements.

The solution joins the national efforts and contributes to Jordan's National Agenda 2006-2015 under the theme "Employment support and vocational training" to increase workforce employability, improve labour market productivity, and increase workforce size through effective job placement. It also contributes to the National Employment Strategy (NES), which was formally endorsed in May 2011. The Strategy seeks to address structural employment, calling for policies and programmes to amplify job creation with a greater focus on youth employment. It also emphasizes the need to upgrade the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system.

[35] http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-jakarta/documents/publication/wcms_166070.pdf

The adaptability of this initiative requires a review of the national legal framework, building a coalition to support design and use of the manual and pilot tests of the manual with young workers to check its usefulness. One of the main characteristics of this practice was the participatory approach involving trade unions and civil society organizations.

More Information

http://www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/WCMS_213478/lang--en/index.htm

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4. Barefoot college South-South cooperation initiative: Women's Empowerment for Solar Electrification of Rural Villages

Description of the South-South Cooperation Good Practice

Barefoot College (India) is a non-governmental organization that has been providing basic services and solutions to problems in rural communities for more than 40 years, with the objective of making them self-sufficient and sustainable. For the solar electrification of villages, Barefoot College annually trains about 100 grandmothers from India and 80 grandmothers from international rural villages from the Global South. The grandmothers complete a comprehensive six-month solar engineering training programme at Barefoot College campus in India where they learn how to light up solar home units, solar lamps, and charge controllers. Upon completion of training, the grandmothers return to their village to electrify up to 250 households with solar lighting units and assume the responsibility of repairing and maintaining them for a minimum of five years.

The Barefoot College South-South cooperation experience between Jordan and India aimed at creating green jobs related to solar systems installation and maintenance while empowering rural women entrepreneurs to become barefoot solar engineers. The initiative had an overall objective which was to demystify photovoltaic technology in remote areas of Jordan, transferring technical knowledge on a peer-to-peer basis to people from non-electrified communities to install, use, repair and maintain solar systems in their communities.

The initiative also sought to contribute to poverty alleviation through the creation of women cooperatives in the villages running a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) assembly and a training centre. Other objectives included enhancing education for school students by providing a sustainable source of illumination; minimizing the country's carbon footprint by using a renewable energy source; improving the standard of living for

rural communities by introducing a socio-economic project based on selling solar energy systems; and encouraging young men and women to develop economic opportunities in rural and remote villages.

In Jordan, 80 rural homes of local community members have been fitted with Solar PV light systems. In addition, a recently formed local cooperative provides a financial sustainable income for local women. Young and old women are empowered to become net economic providers in the poverty stricken rural communities.

Scope of cooperation

As of 2013, the Worldwide Solar Domestic Lighting of the Barefoot College has reached 64 countries, trained 859 people in solar engineering, and has been active in 1 081 villages and 45 000 houses. The main outcomes of this initiative are: a) illiterate rural women have been trained in solar engineering and acquired the necessary administrative and financial skills to run cooperatives sustainably; b) trainees have been equipped with technical skills necessary for building and maintaining solar photovoltaic energy systems for small houses; c) trainees have received the necessary tools and solar systems necessary to establish assembly centres in local communities.

Two illiterate women from a rural village in Jordan spent six months in India in the framework of the Barefoot College initiative and received training on the Solar PV electrification project. Despite the enormous language barrier, the participating women were trained and returned to Jordan with this knowledge. Parts, tools and components were shipped from India to Jordan and 80 houses were fitted with solar PV electric energy lighting.

Why is this practice sustainable and replicable?

The Barefoot solar electrification model is renowned worldwide for its technical and financial sustainability. It trains women to provide local technical assistance in their communities, solving problems in case of solar system problems and foresees the creation of a Solar Committee and a common fund for paying the women for their technical support and for replacing solar system parts due to failures or lifespan, guaranteeing the system will work over the average lifespan of solar panels.

The structure of the Barefoot College related to the implementation of the International Solar Grandmother Project comprehends three pillars: a) the Indian government paying travel, food and lodging expenses for participant women to live 6 months at the Barefoot facilities in India; b) the Barefoot College offering the infrastructure and expertise on solar electrification training; and c) an organization donating the solar equipment and financing activities related to community scouting, women selection and community solar electrification.

This remarkable social impact on empowering women and improving the livelihood at marginalized rural communities has attracted public attention and the interest of companies to incorporate in their corporate social responsibility agenda.

In addition, trained women are expected to transfer the knowledge and skills acquired to the communities where they belong to ensure the sustainability of the initiative.

Finally, the experience of Jordan has raised the interest of other Arab countries in the initiative. Therefore, there is the potential of drawing on the experience from Jordan to implement the initiative in other countries, with similar cultural and linguistic contexts. This would reduce the length of the training and manuals would be provided in the local language.

More information

http://www.barefootcollege.org

5. Green Entrepreneurship Success Stories in the Arab Countries

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

Empower people and supporting green initiatives by different community stakeholders is essential to address unemployment challenges. There is an emerging need to support the government in disseminating information about green technologies, and benefits of coupling economic and environmental considerations within the context of a 'green economy'. The green economy success stories research report for Egypt supports the government and creates an inclusive community dialogue to showcase the benefits of green business ventures, and to reinforce the facilitating role that the government should play in support of green projects. The report showcases eight selected case studies to highlight opportunities and challenges related to green initiatives and presents to the government a set of solutions that streamline a green economy national transition. In addition, prior research has been done to identify success stories of sustainable entrepreneurship in Arab Mediterranean countries.

Why is this practice sustainable and replicable?

The report has been a significant policy-lobbying document for decision makers to harness national political and public consensus on the definition and importance of green businesses, programmes and initiatives. In addition, it has provided needs assessment of the current challenges and policy gaps faced by active businesses and green initiatives. Moreover, the report has underscored the importance of the government's role in engaging different community stakeholders in the design and implementation of a green economy policy framework. It has positively showcased that ventures which adopt green practices could grow into successful and profitable business models with the ability to replicate and scale-up.

In the same line, it also demonstrates the potential of creating green jobs through successful and profitable businesses, which in turn will contribute to address one of Egypt's most pressing and chronic problems. It is also relevant for other countries in the region to find ways to integrate green policies and simultaneously create knowledge hubs and gather research material to reinforce public governance and policy decision-making. Discussions are underway to replicate the success stories survey and the green economy scoping study for other countries in the region.

Green businesses have the ability to be profitable through the adoption of innovative technologies, and by consolidating environmental and business approaches that favour green jobs and benefit young people. The success stories

can be used as lobbying and evidence-based material that attest the success of green related initiatives vis-à-vis governmental institutions and investment organizations such as banks in order to obtain the required funds for young people to start their own green businesses.

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Think Sustainably: Facts and Figures of the Arab World

Over the next 15 years an additional 600 million new jobs need to be created worldwide to absorb working age population (WDR, World Bank 2013). The number of people in working ages, 25-59 years, is also at an all-time high in the region, totalling 145 million and it is expected to almost double by 2050, reaching 278 million (HDR, 2010).

54% of the population is under the age of 25; 121 million children and 71 million young people represent the most rapid growth in the number of young people in the region in modern history (HDR, 2010). The unemployment rate in Arab countries is estimated at 15% of the population, 30% among youth (AFED, 2011). Additional jobs are needed in the Arab countries; they are estimated at 94 million by 2030 {about 5 million/annually} (HDR, 2010).

Arab development strategies continue to be dominated by investments in extractive commodity products earmarked for export. These activities require high initial investments, but generate low levels of employment. Despite generating relatively high GDP growth, this model leaves Arab economies more vulnerable to volatility in the global markets, while failing to significantly create jobs. "National studies show that green investments tend to be more employment intensive even in the short to medium term." (UNEP, 2011).

Opportunities in different sectors

- **Agriculture**
  - A 1.06% investment of global GDP in sustainable agriculture would generate about 50 million jobs in that sector by 2050 (UNEP, 2011).
  - Shifting to sustainable agricultural practices would result in savings between 5-6% of GDP, about US$100 billion annually, as a result of increased resource efficiency, increased productivity and improved public health (AFED, 2011).

- Greening agriculture sector in the Arab world would increase the share of labour force to almost 40% and generate about 10 million jobs (AFED, 2011).

- **Water**
  - Allocating 1.5% of GDP to investments in sanitation, water infrastructure, water efficiency, and recycling is estimated at about US$28 billion annually, based on 2010 GDP (AFED, 2011).
  - Additional investments in the water sector are expected to result in an increase (between 20%-30%) in jobs in the sector (GESS, 2013).

- **Energy**
  - A reduction in the average annual per capita consumption of electricity in the Arab countries to the world average through energy efficiency measures would generate savings estimated at US$73 billion per year (AFED, 2011).
  - A 25% reduction in energy subsidies would free over $100 billion over 3 years, an amount that could finance the conversion to green energy sources (AFED, 2011).
  - Global experiences indicate that shifting to renewable energy technologies tends to generate more jobs than conventional energy technologies (UNEP, 2011).
  - Investing in solar photovoltaic systems generates an employment rate between 7-11 jobs/megawatt for a plant with average capacity. This is high when compared to coal-fired energy, which generates between 0.27-0.95 jobs/megawatt and natural gas between 0.25-0.95 jobs/megawatt for a plant with average capacity (ILO 2011).
  - The renewable sector is estimated to employ, directly and indirectly, more than 5.7 million people worldwide and this is expected to be tripled by 2030 (IRENA 2013).

- **Building and Construction**
  - Investing US$ 100 billion in retrofitting activities for 20% of existing building stock in Arab countries over 10 years would create 4 million jobs (AFED, 2011).

- **Industry**
  - A 30% reduction in energy requirements due to more efficient industrial processes is estimated to result in annual savings of 150,000 b. kWh or US$12.3 b. (AFED, 2011).

- In 2011, industry contributed an estimated US$ 107.3 billion representing 4.5% of the region's GDP, and accounted for 4.5 million jobs, almost 7% of total employment (World Bank, 2013).
- Greening the industrial sector will create new activities and businesses and consequently create new jobs.

■ **Tourism**

- While the growth rate of global tourism is 4%, eco-tourism is 20%-34% (The International Ecotourism Society, 2006).
- Promoting sustainable and eco-tourism in the Arab region is likely to increase the number of jobs in the sector, while conserving natural resources and improving human wellbeing.

■ **Transportation**

- Greening the transportation system involves support to public transportation systems and the introduction of fuel efficiency standards and use of clean energy sources.
- Greening 50% of the transportation system in the Arab region would result in savings of about US$ 23 billion per year (AFED, 2011).

■ **South-South cooperation mechanisms that contribute to address these challenges**

- Promote further South-South collaboration: sharing of experience, good practices, technologies and expertise.
- ILO Green Jobs Assessment Institutions Network (GAIN) initiated in 2013.
- South-South Cooperation Solution Forum: Sustainable Development and Decent Work organized in the framework of the Global South-South Development Expo (GSSD) in Nairobi 2013.
- Partnership for Action on Green Economy (UNEP, ILO, UNIDO, UNITAR).

Source: Presentation by Mr Hussein Abaza, Director, Centre for Sustainable Development Solutions, Egypt, First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo, Doha, 2014

6. Advancing equal opportunities for the economic participation of young women and recent female graduates in the Arab Countries

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

The Union of Cooperative Associations for Saving and Credit (UCASC) in the Occupied Palestinian Territories supports women's integration in rural development and their empowerment at the social, economic and political levels. It contributes to building stronger communities through the promotion of opportunities for youth and recent graduates, while enhancing their economic participation. UCASC targets vulnerable women, especially young women in rural areas, through their savings and credit cooperatives. The work of UCASC inspired other women's financial cooperatives in Yemen where UCASC provided support to develop manuals. In Lebanon, project components on women's cooperatives were developed in some areas of the North and South as well as in the Palestinian Camps, building on the UCACS experience.

The work of UCASC contributes to building stronger communities through the creation of opportunities that favour the economic inclusion of young women and female graduates. Adopting the Savings and Credit initiative enabled poor households to increase their income and improve their living standards; it allowed for a better control of financial resources by providing a facility for depositing savings, and an easy channel for the start-up phase of an income-generating project; it also fostered the development of the financial and administrative capacities of cooperative leaders.

What was the impact of the South-South cooperation initiative?

Given the positive results of the work of UCASC in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, success factors were identified to facilitate the replicability of the initiative and to evaluate its adaptation to different contexts. Among the factors identified were: a) building capacities to organize members and provide them with skills and cooperative management knowledge (e.g. income generation activities); b) ensuring trust and active participation of the members in the cooperative; c) availability of microfinance services through savings and credit

cooperatives to fund start-up projects; d) capacity of cooperatives to provide on-the-job training for recent graduates in order to increase the number of qualified professionals who can compete in the labour market; e) ensure financial resources to support traineeship programmes.

Women were given professional experience in accounting, banking and financial service at the union or member cooperatives. After finishing the training some of them were hired by the same cooperative while others found jobs outside the cooperative. In addition, 95 per cent of participating women are now able to establish asset ownership for the first time; 3,918 job vacancies were provided for women through owning income-generating projects. Moreover, 547 rural women acquired financial skills to become the village treasurer, taking all the financial responsibilities of her group as a loan officer.

Based on this experience, manuals on cooperative development were elaborated and disseminated in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Similar tools were adapted to the Yemeni context through a South-South exchange. The tools developed were also shared with women cooperatives in Lebanon.

Why is this practice sustainable and replicable?

The methodology used for the UCASC initiative consisted of capacity building and skills development activities such as training, workshops, consultancy, on-the-job training, coaching, research and studies. In addition, a Management Information System (MIS) and a financial system were created to allow for compatibility with an accounting platform, so that the cooperatives can introduce reporting and monitoring functions at all levels. These tools increased the availability of financial resources needed to start up the programme, and the capacity to develop and introduce services and products that are essential for developing the cooperatives' future capacities in responding to clients' needs ensuring its sustainability.

The success of the Saving and Credit Cooperative initiative in the Occupied Palestinian Territories has inspired other countries such as Yemen and Lebanon. UN agencies, namely ILO and IFAD provided support to facilitate the transfer of the experience with peer countries through study tours, project evaluation, setting up an operational plan, work methodologies and guides that would assist in the capacity building of women involved in the project, expand services and enhance its outreach.

In March 2012, the ILO invited the Saving and Credit Cooperative to join the Expert Meeting on Youth Employment in the Arab States in Beirut in order to introduce the savings and credit initiative as a learning experience that could contribute to solve the youth unemployment problem by increasing employment opportunities, particularly for young female graduates.

More Information

www.ilo.org/coop
www.ucasc.ps
http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms_195164.pdf

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7. Managing your Agricultural Cooperative – My.COOP

Description of the South-South and triangular cooperation good practice

Managing your Agricultural Cooperative (My.COOP) is a training package published in 2012. It covers managerial challenges that many agricultural cooperatives face. It is based on the idea that strong cooperatives are necessary for a more equitable distribution of income, democracy, and economic and social development. My.COOP is a partnership initiative that draws on the success of the ILO's materials and techniques for Cooperative Management (MATCOM) Programme (1978-early 1990s) that developed over 40 trainers' manuals and 60 learning elements in over 60 languages. The My.COOP training package includes a trainer's manual, four modules, a mobile learning toolkit, and an online learning environment and platform. It uses a five-pronged delivery strategy:

- Face-to-face training of trainers and training of managers delivered by the ITC-ILO
- Distance learning training of trainers programme by the ITC-ILO
- Face-to-face training by partner organizations and accredited trainers
- Use of a My.COOP community e-learning platform for networking, learning and sharing
- My.COOP materials are freely available at the online platform for self-learning.

Scope of cooperation

The My.COOP partnership was initiated by the ILO Cooperative Facility for Africa and the ILO's Cooperatives Unit (COOP). The partnership and other support organizations include ITC-ILO, FAO, WFP, Agriterra, the Wageningen University and Research Centre, and the Royal Tropical Institute, in addition to numerous cooperative colleges, universities and support organizations in countries where the package is being used.

What is the impact of the initiative?

My.COOP training activities are designed to strengthen the management of agricultural cooperatives so they can offer high-quality, efficient and effective

services to their members. Moreover, the training materials provide guidance to ensure member satisfaction, facilitate business opportunities and increase effectiveness, and address social considerations. Direct beneficiaries of the training package include existing and potential managers of agricultural cooperatives and members involved in managerial tasks, as well as organizations and individuals that train agricultural cooperatives. Employees and members of the agricultural cooperative and the local community indirectly benefit from the programme due to organizational strengthening.

Why is this South-South practice sustainable and replicable?

The My.COOP training materials have been translated and adapted in ten languages including English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Swahili, Nepalese, Sinhala, Indonesian Bahasa, and Tamil. It has also been implemented in over a dozen countries, including Bolivia, China, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Nepal, Peru, Sri Lanka and Uganda. The My.COOP network of partners works actively in extending the training package to other countries.

The materials have been adapted to local situations through the development of context specific case studies. The adapted tools are then validated through a workshop with the participation of representatives from a range of cooperative stakeholders and cooperative experts with good knowledge agricultural cooperatives in the country, allowing for further revision of contents to ensure the quality of the package. In some instances an introduction module, a "Module 0", has been developed to complement the existing training package outlining specificities of a country's history in cooperative policy and legislation, sectoral development trajectories and the establishment of secondary and tertiary cooperatives.

My.COOP was translated into Arabic by the ILO's Regional Office for the Arab States for use in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Yemen and Lebanon. It was then adapted to the Egyptian context within the framework of the Pro-poor horticulture value chains in Upper Egypt, a joint UN programme, after which it was tested and validated with government and cooperative institutions as well as cooperative managers in a number of horticultural value chains. The further potential of My.COOP to promote South-South Cooperation in the Arab States includes:

- Peer support and review in adaptations to different country contexts, and replicability of good practices;
- The My.COOP e-learning platform can be further used in exchanging good practices and examples of successful initiatives around agricultural cooperatives, as well as to connect with cooperatives and cooperative movements in other countries of the region;

- There is the potential to offer online training of trainers in Arabic in case of sufficient interest. This could further enhance possibilities for interaction between cooperators from different countries.

The training package is very flexible because of the delivery strategy mentioned above. It leaves space for self-learning and offers self-assignment opportunities. Similarly, face-to-face and distance learning (My.COOP resource platform) target cooperatives worldwide and contribute to the success of the programme.

More Information

www.ilo.org/coop
www.agriculture-my.coop/

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8. Upgrading Apprenticeships: A Cross-Country Experience from Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan

Description of the South-South cooperation good practice

In many countries with large informal economies, skills are acquired informally on the job through informal apprenticeships. Some countries like Egypt and Tunisia have devised legislation to respond to this reality. The ILO is assisting in strengthening existing systems and has helped to design a pilot approach in Jordan through different youth employment projects. The approach aims to recognize informal apprenticeships as a contributor to building the national skills base. Improved quality of skills, a better focus of formal skills development towards local market needs, and a strengthened transition from the informal to the formal economy are objectives of the solution.

A regional knowledge-sharing workshop in South Africa held in April 2013, brought together participants from 20 African countries to exchange experience on upgrading informal apprenticeships. The workshop was held in partnership with the annual conference of INAP (International Network on innovative Apprenticeships), which benefited from the contribution of the African experience.

What was the impact of the initiative?

The major outputs of the initiative are research studies that help to understand how the informal system currently functions and how the existing legislation (if in place as in the case of Tunisia and Egypt) responds to the reality. National and local level dialogues helped to identify challenges and weaknesses in current approaches and have delivered a set of measures to improve existing systems and practices in collaboration with social partners and civil society.

The outcomes of the approach in Egypt and Jordan demonstrate that young people received improved apprenticeship training through complementary off-the-job learning, tracking of skills progress on the job and certification upon graduation. In addition, this initiative has served to increase the understanding of skills acquisition in informal economies, and interlinks with the formal economy; capacity building of policy makers; and piloting of improved approaches

that respond to the country's context to improve youth's employability and the access to decent work.

Why is this practice sustainable and replicable?

Upgrading informal apprenticeships is an integrated approach responding to the skills development needs of countries with large informal economies taking account of a traditional system that was long neglected, but has considerable potential to be exploited for the benefit of decent employment for youth and more effective skills development systems.

This initiative has been recognized as a good practice, which is relevant for different contexts in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. To be implemented, the aforementioned approach needs a proper understanding of how informal apprenticeships are currently undertaken in the country and/or in specific sectors: a good understanding of how current legislation positively (or negatively) influences apprenticeships; and to consider that associations that organize small businesses in the informal economy are an asset in making the solution work.

More Information

http://www.ilo.org/cairo
www.ilo.org/skills

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III.
THE WAY FORWARD

The good practices contained in this compilation represent a strong signal that southern demand-driven solutions can effectively address development challenges. They highlight the dynamism and the enormous potential of the countries from the global South in terms of innovation to utilize their limited resources and identify lessons learned in their efforts to bring about genuine transformative change.

Knowledge sharing is essential for the expansion of SSTC strategies, and scaling up these projects requires political will at all levels and an active participation of social partners. The promotion of forums and platforms for knowledge sharing is of the utmost importance for South-South Cooperation. Under that premise, the commitment of the International Labour Organization to continue implementing joint activities with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation arises. Both organisations have a responsibility emanated of their mandates and therefore a key natural role to play in bringing together governments, workers, employers and civil society to share their experiences and collaborate towards common goals.

The Global South-South Development Expos are a unique and inclusive forum that inspires and encourages participants to share, think and act in a cooperative, coordinated way as they develop partnerships. The commitment of the ILO towards activities that promote the exchange and collection of good practices in the world of work is fundamental to achieve its strategic objectives.

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