

Doc 1.1 Role of the ILO in implementing TREE

ILO has experience implementing TREE-related technical cooperation projects across the globe. The ILO can play a guiding role in the early stages of the process until local actors develop an independent capacity. This may include developing and implementing pilot or demonstration projects.

ILO's goal is that national and local actors are able to plan, design and implement TREE programmes. Therefore, ILO's focus is on building understanding and capacity so that the approach can be incorporated into national employment and training strategies and programmes aimed at poverty reduction and empowerment in rural areas.

The ILO may:

- Organize introductory workshops to introduce the principles of TREE, with the objectives of:
 - assessing current developments in the field of training provision as part of poverty alleviation with a view to identifying the most significant trends, opportunities and problems;
 - introducing planners and implementers to the ILO TREE methodology for rural economic empowerment, income generation and poverty alleviation, and to obtain their feedback for possible applications of TREE;
 - introducing ILO's various complementary programmes aimed at the creation and expansion of micro- and small-enterprises as part of an overall employment strategy, such as SIYB, WEDGE, social funds, safe-work, etc.;
 - providing a forum for exchange of information and experience for developing ideas and projects on the promotion of (self-) employment and income generation as part of local economic development initiatives;
 - preparing a preliminary action plan that could form the basis of a technical cooperation project to launch a TREE programme with ILO support.
- Advise on appropriate institutional and governance arrangements to best support the TREE programme.
- Assist in training and developing capacity amongst community groups, local associations, national and local coordinating units and training institutions.
- Call upon its specialized departments to provide specific advice on particular technical areas, such as the organization of savings and credit schemes, social protection mechanisms, building peace and resilience, micro- and small- enterprise start-up and development, occupational health and safety, association and representative organization building and management, the establishment and operation of cooperatives and other collective approaches to economic activity, gender mainstreaming, disability inclusion, etc.
- Help developing training modules and guidance manuals.
- Act as a global clearinghouse for concepts, methodologies, etc.

- Develop and make available (with feedback from pilot tests in different countries) country specific manuals on Training for Rural Economic Empowerment. These are aimed to provide detailed guidance in the planning and implementation of TREE programmes. The manuals would include a detailed description of the processes and instruments used in the organization, delivery and follow-up of TREE in a specific context.