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NEW EVIDENCE

New evidence on the impact of ILO's entrepreneurship training

A group of researchers from Japan and Tanzania has come out with the results of an experimental impact assessment testing a combination of ILO's entrepreneurship training SIYB and basic KAIZEN in a garment producer cluster in Dar es Salaam. All participating companies randomly assigned to treatment and control groups were small scale enterprises with an average of five workers. The companies that took classroom training as well as on site advisory services strongly improved business performance as compared to the control group. Value added increased by 50 per cent when compared to the baseline. [More](#)

PROJECT NEWS



SCORE Training has reached over 1000 enterprises

The 1000th enterprise was Inversiones Promatex, an SME from the garment and apparel sector in Medellin, Colombia. The enterprise started the first SCORE Module on workplace cooperation in August 2016 and will continue with the second module on quality during the first quarter of 2017. SCORE (Sustaining Competitive and Responsible Enterprises) is a practical training and in-factory consulting programme that improves

productivity and working conditions in SMEs. The programme receives financial support from Norway and Switzerland. The delivery of SCORE Training in Colombia is financed by public national funds and SME fees.



Peruvian Government funds SCORE Training

On November 30th, ILO and the Peruvian Ministry of Production signed an agreement to extend SCORE Training to an additional 120 SMEs in the Andean country. The training offer is open to companies operating in the agribusiness, construction, furniture, metalworking, and textile sectors. Participating companies will have to contribute to the cost by paying a fee. In addition, the Ministry will share part of the cost from its

budget. [More](#)



New productivity course launched: "In the long run, it is almost everything"

Paul Krugman's [conclusion](#) about the importance of productivity is often quoted among economists, but the issue is complex and not always a priority for policy makers working on SME promotion. Therefore, the ILO SCORE program and the OECD developed a new training course for senior officials of ministries, SME agencies, and productivity boards on measurement concepts, drivers of productivity, and enterprise level interventions. The first edition of the course took place in Bangkok in September 2016 drawing thirty-two senior officials from eleven Asian countries. The course generated several opportunities for

country-level follow-up ranging from research and policy reviews to introducing enterprise level interventions. ILO's Training Centre ITC will replicate the same [course](#) on 6th to 10th February 2017. ILO and OECD plan to bring the course to Latin America in June 2017.



Signing of ILO-WAIPA collaboration agreement

In the margin of the 21st World Investment Conference (Istanbul), ILO and the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) signed a cooperation agreement to support Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) in attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) that leads to the creation of quality jobs and decent work, sustainable enterprises and more inclusive growth. The agreement includes a joint commitment to raising

awareness among governments of the importance of incorporating the SDGs, in particular Goal 8 as well as other decent work-related goals, into their investment policies and strategies. [More](#)

Building capacity for the promotion of socially responsible business practices in Nepal

A three-day training workshop was organised in Nepal from 22nd to 24th November to enhance the knowledge of ILO constituents, value chain actors, implementing agencies/NGOs and representatives of the media on the MNE Declaration and the FPRW. As a result, a pool of advocates has been trained to promote socially responsible business practices and the uptake of the principles of the MNE Declaration. The workshop took place in the context of the UNNATI Project, a component of the Inclusive Growth Programme implemented in Nepal with the financial support of the Government of Denmark. The ILO project focuses on the value chain of agricultural sectors (tea, ginger, dairy and cardamom).



The ILO and the United Nations Climate Change Conference - COP22

An ILO delegation participated at the annual United Nations Climate Change Conference, which was held in Bab Ighli, Marrakech, Morocco from 7th to 18th November 2016. This twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties (COP22) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), followed the adoption in 2015 of the Paris Agreement on climate change at COP21 that [entered into force on 4th November 2016](#). At Marrakesh, ILO's role focused on the three-year work programme adopted in May 2016 of the improved forum on the impact of the implementation of [response measures](#) comprising "economic diversification and

transformation" and "Just transition of the workforce, and the creation of decent work and quality jobs". The ILO participated in and organised various [side events](#), notably the official UNS side event on SDG 8 "[Decent work and economic growth: A just transition towards a low-carbon and inclusive green economy](#)" held on 17th November 2016. The ILO will continue its engagement and will participate in the upcoming meetings in May at the UNFCCC secretariat. [More](#)

To watch the video "ILO at COP22", click [here](#).



Green Economy Academy

The second edition of the [Academy on the Green Economy](#) was hosted by the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organisation, organised within the framework of the [Partnership for Action on Green Economy](#) (PAGE), from 3rd to 14th October 2016. The Academy brought together some 150 participants from 35 countries, gathering policy makers, development practitioners, researchers, representatives of workers, employers and civil society organisations.

A High Level Policy Dialogue on the theme [The Future of Work in the Transition to Inclusive Green Economies](#) opened the Academy on 3rd October, recognising the significance of employment, the distributional impact in the transition to greener economies, and the need to ensure a just transition for enterprises, workers and communities. Researchers from the [London School of Economics](#), [McKinsey and Co](#), the [Club of Rome](#) and United Nations agencies shared new findings at the event. Policy makers from Barbados, China, Finland, Kyrgyz Republic, South Africa, and other PAGE [partner countries](#) and [funding partners](#) brought policy perspectives that highlighted that clearly, a future of work is only possible if it is enshrined in sustainable development. The outcomes of this policy dialogue will contribute to the ILO's

Future of Work Initiative. This two-week learning event, held every other year, aims to solidify current knowledge and foster an exchange of practices among countries and organisations to build environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive green economies.

Environmental Sustainability Committee

The second meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) of the ILO was held at the Headquarters in Geneva on 24th November 2016. The objective of the meeting was to present progress made so far in implementing the Environmental Sustainability Policy and to discuss important subjects related to environmental sustainability in the organisation, in particular the ILO Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS). With the first year of the Action Plan biannual cycle (2016-2017) coming to an end, oral reporting by staff highlighted that progress made is on track and targets are being met. The Committee endorsed the creation of an ILO task force on ESS by senior management for the drafting process, as well as the issuance of a Minute to formally announce the initiation of the process. The ESS consist of a set of standards which support the management of social and environmental risks with the objective to avoid adverse impacts and identify opportunities to maximize positive impacts. ILO's ESS would focus primarily on Development Cooperation (DC) projects.

Four new innovation and change management partners

As part of the partnership with Financial Sector Deepening Africa (FSDA), the Facility has launched four new innovation and change management projects with the following organisations: Britam (Kenya), Nyala Insurance Company (Ethiopia), AXA Mansard (Nigeria) and SUNU Assurances Vie (Côte d'Ivoire). In addition, Kifiya and Equity Insurance Agency, our existing innovation partners will receive support on implementing a systematic change management process to more effectively provide insurance to the low-income market. [More](#)

The Fellowship Programme: Introducing our new fellows

We are proud to present our new fellows, who will support innovation projects with leading practitioners in Africa over a two-year period. To learn more about the Impact Insurance Facility's Fellowship Programme, click [here](#).

The Impact Insurance Forum 2016

Every year, the ILO's Impact Insurance Facility organises a highly interactive and engaging knowledge exchange forum, bringing together practitioners from around the world to share their experiences and reflect on lessons learned on key topics in inclusive insurance. The first Forum was conducted in 2008 among partners and grantees of the Facility. Since 2014, it has been opened to the public and has been organised as a pre-conference session to the International Microinsurance Conference organized by the Munich Re Foundation and the Microinsurance Network. This year's forum attracted more than 80 participants from insurance and reinsurance companies, enablers, donors, and government agency representatives. [More](#)

Sub-regional "Start and Improve Your Business. Make it work. Make it last" course held in New Delhi

Given the strong and growing emphasis on entrepreneurship in the South Asia sub-region, it is imperative that organisations offering services such as SIYB maintain quality standards and deliver their services on a financially sustainable in order to achieve high impact and to remain reliable partners to help enterprises grow. With this in mind, the SME unit of the Enterprises department, the DWT/CO-India and ITC-Turin jointly organised a training course for SIYB managers and partner institutions entitled "Start and Improve Your Business. Make it work. Make it last". The course took place from 21st to 25th November in New Delhi and was attended by over 40 participants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka. The four days were dedicated to the topics of planning, implementing and monitoring SIYB, securing partnerships for it, and making it financially sustainable. Its key outputs are national action plans which are expected to result in high quality, high outreach and sustainable SIYB programmes in the participating countries.



ILO supports Algerian youth social and solidarity economy initiatives

Through the A'AMAL project, a part of the Youth Employment Support Programme ("PAJE") that is co-financed by the Algerian Government and the European Union, the ILO supports the Algerian Government's efforts to implement youth-centred policies and strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations (CSOs). In August 2016, as part of its strategy, the project launched a call for proposals promoting youth entrepreneurship and their employability in the two wilayas for local CSOs. Proposals

covered agribusiness, tourism, aquaculture, vocational training, handicraft, and public works sectors. The committee, with representatives from the ILO, local authorities, trade unions, employers' organisations and development partners, selected nine projects for funding.



[ILO Academy on Social and Solidarity Economy in Costa Rica](#)

The 7th Edition of the ILO Academy on Social and Solidarity Economy took place in San José, Costa Rica from 21st to 25th November 2016. Social economy in Costa Rica has been a significant actor for many years, in particular through cooperative enterprises. A draft Social and Solidarity Economy law is also currently being debated at the Costa Rican parliament. This edition of the ILO SSE Academy focused on the role of social and solidarity economy enterprises in the creation of decent work through

local development strategies. In addition to bringing in experiences of other countries, a [report](#) on public policies on SSE in Costa Rica was launched during the event. [More](#)



[Formalizing informal employment of domestic workers through cooperatives in Trinidad & Tobago](#)

The ILO, through its Port of Spain Office and in partnership with the Cooperatives Unit is working with the National Union of Domestic Workers (NUDE) in strengthening its cooperative, the Service Workers Centre Cooperative Society Limited (SWCC). The cooperative aims to provide improved access to decent work opportunities, improve livelihoods and access to services for its members. From 11th to 12th November, the ILO and NUDE organised a workshop and consultative meeting with SWCC members

to engage in dialogue on the economic viability of employment and other services to be provided through the cooperative. [More](#)



[ILO holds Egypt Entrepreneurship Summit in recognition of Global Entrepreneurship Week](#)

In celebration of Global Entrepreneurship Week, the ILO Cairo office held the Egypt Entrepreneurship Summit in El Gouna City from 16th to 19th November 2016 to discuss ways to tackle challenges and unlock the MSE potential in Egypt to create more and better jobs and promote business innovation. It was organised by the ILO's Canadian funded "Decent Jobs for Egypt's Young People Project" (DJEP) in partnership with the

Ministry of International Cooperation, the International Council for Small Business (ICSB) and its affiliate the Middle East Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (MCSBE). The 250 participants Summit was inaugurated by the Minister of International Cooperation, and attended by several distinguished guests including the Governor of the Red Sea and the Ambassador of Canada to Egypt. "Nawah" competition and an Entrepreneurship Academy were held for the youth within the summit activities.

FRESH OFF THE NEW PRESS

[Green Jobs: Progress Report 2014-2015](#)

This report provides an update on the activities which unfolded in 2014 and 2015 with the continued support of the Green Jobs Programme's networks and partners. [Full report](#)

[A just transition to climate-resilient economies and societies: Issues and perspectives for the world of work](#)

This technical paper addresses the negative impacts of climate change on employment and livelihoods and explores how climate-related policy, investment and consumption responses to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change can affect labour markets in their entirety with overall job gains. It stresses the need of accompanying social and economic policies to achieve a just transition for all that leaves no one behind and promotes decent work. [Full paper](#)

[Guidelines for consumer education for index-based insurance](#)

The increasing availability of index-based insurance offers a big opportunity to both farmers and providers. However, its complexity can lead to poorly-understood products that may do more harm than good. To tackle this challenge, the Facility, together with the Global Action Network (GAN) and with support from USAID, have put together guidelines for how to educate customers about these products. [Full paper](#)



Report "Multinational enterprises, development and decent work – Report on the promotion and application of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy in Asia and the Pacific"

This [report](#) presents an overview of trends in foreign direct investment (FDI) in Asia and the Pacific and the Arab States and the opportunities and challenges in presents towards decent work. It also summarizes the views from constituents regarding what areas of the MNE Declaration are relevant in their national context, with training and employment promotion emerging as the most important ones for governments, employers' and workers' organisations. Furthermore, findings of the report highlight the relevance of the MNE Declaration in Asia and the Pacific and the need to further promote it. The report is available in 3 languages: [English](#), [Arabic](#), and [Chinese](#). The new brochure "[More and Better Jobs through Socially Responsible Labour Practices in the Asia-Pacific Region](#)" summarizes how the principles of the MNE Declaration are being promoted in Asia and the Pacific.

Policy Note "Inclusive business practices in Africa's extractive industries" now available in French

The policy note provides an overview of key factors contributing to inclusive growth linked to the extractive industries in Africa, reflecting on the distinctive yet complementary roles of governments and multinational enterprises. It highlights the need to create an enabling environment to establish local linkages for indirect and induced employment, to strengthen training and skills development, and to minimize livelihood losses and link green jobs to extractive industries. The brief provides an overview of lessons learned from African countries at various stages of development of their mining, oil and gas sectors. The Policy note is now available in [English](#) and [French](#).

Case studies of the combination of SIYB and vocational training published

Vocational Training schools and centres are an effective platform to provide entrepreneurship training in addition to vocational education. The results so far are encouraging: a tracer study from the ILO "Education and Skills Training for Youth Employment" (EAST) project in Indonesia shows that start-up rates of graduates taking a combination of TVET and the ILO's entrepreneurship training [SIYB](#) are up to 2.25 times higher as compared to students only taking entrepreneurship training. Based on country cases from the Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Senegal, and Vietnam a new publication gives practical guidance on how to best combine vocational and entrepreneurship training. [More](#)



Global Good Practices in Setting Up an SME Agency

If you are ever asked to advise a government on the appropriate set-up of a SME agency you should have a look at the new ILO publication on "SME Promotion Agencies: Is there a best set-up? A quest for good practices". This study was originally written for the Government of Costa Rica. They had asked for ILO's advice in establishing a new SME promotion agency by making experiences from other countries available. The publication covers specific operational issues such as service delivery models, funding, or staffing. Six different SME promotion agencies from the USA, Chile, Brazil, South Korea, South Africa, and Spain were examined in order to extract good and less good practices. [Full paper](#)



Policy Briefs on Formalization of SMEs

A series of thematic policy briefs provide information on relevant interventions to foster enterprise formalization. The briefs draw on lessons learned from various regions, and are compiled into an Introductory brief which synthesizes the most significant findings. [Full briefs](#)

What is a Market Systems Approach to Decent Work?

A new brief produced by the ILO project [The Lab](#) provides a concise overview of what it means to take a market systems approach to improve the qualitative aspect of employment. The brief includes cases of what The Lab has done to further this systemic approach to enterprise development and some of the evidence it has uncovered to date. [Full brief](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Seminar on market systems approach to decent work

On 2nd February 2017, the ILO's [Lab project](#) will share learning and insights generated in the last three years in testing market-based mechanisms to improve job quality in local, national and global value chains. The seminar is aimed at policymakers, funders and donor staff interested in developing their understanding of sustainable and scalable solutions to the global employment challenge. In case you want to participate, please contact thelab@ilo.org.



The ILO's Enterprises Department promotes sustainable enterprises development to help create more and better jobs. To learn more, visit [our home page](#).

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