



INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF THE ILO'S DECENT WORK COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS IN THE MEKONG SUBREGION, 2012-2017



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Quick Facts

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

The countries of the Lower Mekong subregion are economically, geographically and socially closely connected. The single regional common market and production capacities brings to the subregion freer flows of goods, services, investment and labour. It also brings both benefits and challenges to the world of work. This high-level evaluation assesses the work of the ILO during 2012-16 in the Lower Mekong subregion. It provides an opportunity for the ILO, tripartite constituents and other stakeholders to consider whether Decent Work Country Programmes (DWCPs) have been effective in supporting the achievement of the Decent Work Agenda.

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY



ILO's work in the Mekong subregion represents:

58 million US\$

89 projects

73 Country Programme Outcomes

What is a DWCP?

A Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) is the primary framework for delivering ILO support to member countries in an effort to promote decent work as a key national development strategy. Each DWCP respects specific country programme priorities and outcomes.

103 Member States with finalized DWCP or are in process of DWCP elaboration (as of August 2017)

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eval@ilo.org



SOME KEY FINDINGS



Leveraging the strengths of the ILO
The DWCP framework provided a solid foundation to collaborate on decent work in the Mekong countries. The ILO has used its comparative advantage to good effect in the subregion, and is considered as a highly capable and trusted partner.



Sustaining impact
The short-term perspective fostered by project funding, under-funding of the DWCPs, and capacity constraints in the field continue to hamper efforts to enable the type of deep

and long-term changes and financing models that will sustain progress and impact towards decent work in each country.



Addressing gaps and challenges
Although there has been some ratification of ILO Conventions, this is an area in need of attention regarding their implementation. Work on gender, indigenous communities and people with disability will require concerted attention over the next few years.

SOME KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



Give appropriate momentum to progress towards decent work.

Implement strategies that increase effective integration and coordination of stakeholders in an effort to encourage and support the mainstreaming of decent work.



Improve cross-cutting outcomes
Synthesize the progress towards impact as well as the challenges regarding mainstreaming and capacity strengthening related to gender, people with disability and indigenous communities.



Strengthen engagement with the SDGs and ASEAN

Make an integrated normative and business case for the implementation of decent work in the region within the SDG framework. Follow this by showcasing the key elements and achievements of the DWCPs in reports.



Prioritize monitoring & evaluation
Continue harmonizing DWCP-related M&E systems and devise processes to synthesize and use information from evaluation findings and recommendations.

LESSONS LEARNED

Unless tripartite constituents are the most influential forces in their sectors, progress towards decent work can easily be obstructed by powerful organizations or coalitions with direct access to influential government ministries.

DWCPs have to be designed and implemented to closely reflect local and evolving contexts and capacities, with a strong focus on ownership and sustainability

Monitoring and evaluation are important at all levels within the ILO context, as well as part of institutional capacity development support to partners

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