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International
Labour
Organization

Green Jobs in Asia & Pacific

An introduction

ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

19 August 2012



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Content


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1. Brief overview



International Labour Organization

- Discussions on sustainable development (2007, HQs)
- Launch of Global Green Jobs Initiative (2008)
- Creation of the ILO GJ Program (2008/2009)
- **In Asia Pacific region, Introduction Phase** (2008-2009)
 - Niigata Meeting, April 2008;
 - Pilot activities (BGN, CHN, IND) (RBBSA)
- **Expansion Phase** (2010-2011)
 - New projects: Greener Business Asia (2010-2012), Green Jobs Asia (2010-2012), China (II), India (II), others;
 - 10 countries
 - Building a Green Jobs products line;
- **Consolidation Phase** (2012-2013)

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1. Brief overview



International Labour Organization

- The **Green Jobs Program** currently collaborates with ILO constituents in Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand;
- The program targets three main focus areas:
 1. **enhance the capacity of ILO constituents** to take part in dialogue on green jobs at local, national and regional levels;
 2. influence national policies and so contribute to an inclusive growth model that is job-centered, environmentally sustainable and that promotes decent work; and
 3. promote gender sensitive opportunities for green jobs by supporting demonstration activities and the greening of existing national programs;

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1. Brief overview



- Sources of funds include
 - the Australian Government – ILO Partnership Agreement (2010-2012),
 - the ILO/Japan Multi-bilateral Program,
 - the ILO/Korea Partnership Program,
 - UNDAF, MDG and ILO resources,
 - Co-funding by national Governments,
 - [GEF (Philippines), REDD+ (Indonesia),];

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1. Brief overview



Means to achieve these objectives

- **Country Programs for mainstreaming GJs** (research, information sharing, national road maps, greening of DWCP & policy development, Tech Coop.)
- **Green Jobs product line** (greening existing ILO products, new products);
- **Regional/national info-sharing and advocacy activities** (Community of Practice on green jobs, regional meetings, radio and video shows, etc.);
- **Close collaboration with all ILO departments** (Integration, Skills, Enterprise, IP/INVEST, etc.)

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2. Conclusions of the 15th APRM, Dec. 2011



- The region has prioritized Green Jobs under its labour agenda (APRM 15, December 2011, Kyoto);
- the only region having done so !
- The challenge is now is less,
 - Whether constituents should address the need for greener growth and green jobs, but rather,
- **HOW?**

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2. Conclusions of the 15th APRM, Dec. 2011



- ⊕ the greening of our economies hold great potential for increased opportunities for Decent Work (C.22)
- ⊕ DW and full employment are at the heart of policies for strong, sustainable and balanced growth and inclusive development (C.31);
- ⊕ The need for well-designed (...) regulatory environment for business, including one that uphold L & E Stand. (C. 40);
- ⊕ Promoting greener growth and green jobs, (...) (C. 51);
- ⊕ Full use of Social dialogue (..) in the transition to low-carbon economies (C. 58);

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3. The outcomes of the Rio +20 Summit



- ILO's involvement in Rio+20 preparations:
 - Publication of global report "Working towards sustainable development", June 2012;
 - Input to zero draft outcome document "**The future we want**";
 - GB discussions on ILO's key messages for Rio+20

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3. The outcomes of the Rio +20 Summit



- Agreement on development of green economy strategies as pathways to sustainable development (and poverty eradication);
- General agreement to kick-start a Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Formulation process;
- Call for concrete actions – at national and global level (i.e. through General Assembly working groups)

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3. The outcomes of the Rio +20 Summit



- **Strong social pillar** - multiple references to full and productive employment, decent work, youth employment, social protection, SMEs, skills for green jobs, labour rights and gender equality
- Role of social partners (major groups) recognized
- Social dialogue largely absent
- Explicit call for role by ILO on social protection initiatives (incl. R.202) and on youth employment

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3. The outcomes of the Rio +20 Summit



...and their implications.

“Productive, quality jobs and social protection are at the core of an integrated approach to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development”

Juan Somavía, Director General ILO

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3. The outcomes of the Rio +20 Summit



...and their implications.

- ILO's involvement in the formulation of SDG indicators - UN wide follow-up strategy;
- Further provision of ILO tools and technical support to member countries (green jobs creation, social protection, labour standards, etc.)
- Internal strategic follow-up
 - GB discussions on RIO+20 outcomes in November 2012
 - ILC discussions 2013 on sustainable development, decent work and green jobs

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4. Some lessons learnt from A&P



- ❑ Green Jobs a new topic, requires time for Constituents to absorb, for new collaborations and partnerships (ENV, Energy, CC, etc.);
- ❑ Specific training required for Constituents, tailored to their needs for integrating GJ into national agendas;
- ❑ (very) High number of requests from traditional partners, and non traditional ones;
- ❑ ILO limitations, need to build on existing ILO Tools (greening, new);

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4. Some lessons learnt from A&P



- ☐ Green Jobs can be a good vector of tripartite collaboration, e.g. working conditions, productivity, skills at the work place, environmental protection & resource efficiency;
- ☐ Adaptation to climate change is a priority, including at the work place (climate resilient enterprises);
- ☐ Potential for accessing new sources of funds to the benefit of ILO Constituents (GEF, REDD+, others,);
- ☐ 2012- 2013 entering into a new phase, further to APRM 15 and to Rio+20;

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Thank You



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