

Government of Japan



International
Labour
Organization

ILO – Japan

COOPERATION RESULTS OVERVIEW



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1. Introduction

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is a unique agency in the United Nations system in that each of its 183 Member States is represented not only by its government, but also by its employers and workers. The ILO seeks to achieve full and productive employment, rights at work, extension of social protection and the promotion of social dialogue. This is embodied in the concept of 'Decent Work'. In addition to providing income, decent work is the best route to broader social and economic advancement, strengthening individuals, their families and communities.

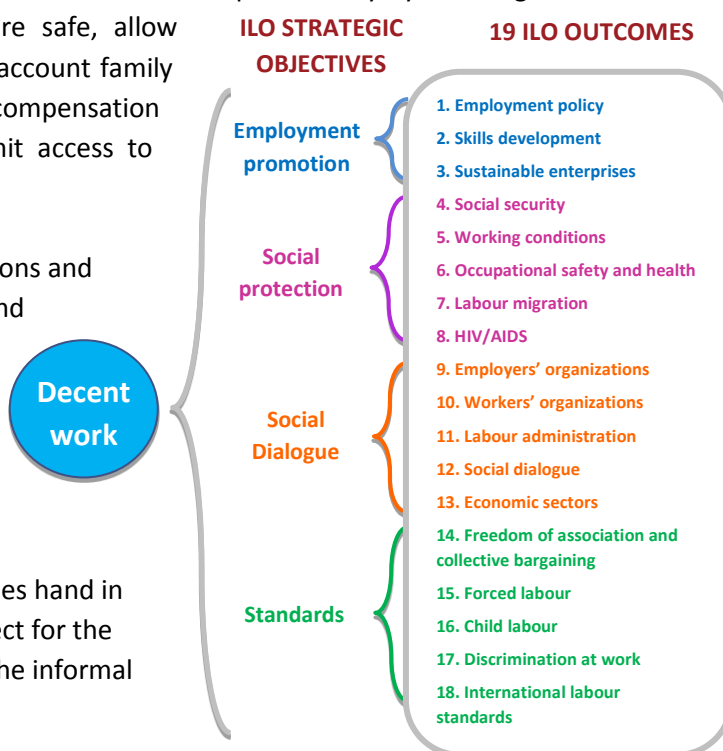
The ILO's role, mandate, and **added value** in promoting decent work capitalizes on three unique institutional advantages –

- ▶ Its *tripartite constituency* – consisting of governments and employers' and workers' organizations – allows the ILO to bring together key actors of the real economy: labour and social affairs ministries, the private sector, and trade unions.
- ▶ The ILO's body of *international labour standards* provides world recognized normative instruments for dealing with all areas of social policy. The ILO's supervisory system keeps track of the implementation of ratified Conventions and brings good practices and violations to the attention of Member States.
- ▶ The ILO works through the *workplace*, an effective location to deliver development assistance to both the formal and informal economy



Putting the Decent Work Agenda into practice is achieved through the implementation of the ILO's four strategic objectives, with gender equality as a crosscutting objective, and organized around 19 Outcomes –

- ▶ **Creating jobs:** Building societies and economies that generate opportunities for investment, entrepreneurship, skills development, job creation and sustainable livelihoods.
- ▶ **Extending social protection:** Promoting both inclusion and productivity by ensuring that women and men enjoy working conditions that are safe, allow adequate free time and rest, take into account family and social values, provide adequate compensation for lost or reduced income, and permit access to adequate social security.
- ▶ **Promoting social dialogue:** Creating efficient labour market institutions and effective and independent employers' and workers' organizations, enabling strong engagement from all sides in increasing productivity, managing labour relations, and building cohesive societies.
- ▶ **Guaranteeing rights at work:** Ensuring that economic development goes hand in hand with social development and respect for the rights of all workers, including those in the informal economy.



2. Overview of Japan's contributions to the Decent Work Agenda

Japan is an important partner of the ILO in the pursuit of Decent Work for All. For nearly 40 years the Government of Japan – a founding member of the ILO – has supported ILO projects that address the changing needs of workers and employers in Asia and the Pacific.

The Japanese Government started its technical support work with ILO in Asia in 1974 by organizing regional seminars on various workplace issues, including occupational safety and health, industrial relations and labour administration. By the 1980s Japan had expanded its contributions to include individual development projects in countries across the region.



The main vehicle for cooperation is the ILO/Japan Multilateral Programme, supported by the **Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan (MHLW)** and managed by the ILO's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. This programme provides for strategic and flexible funding to priority programmes of the ILO in Asia and the Pacific. In addition, the Ministry also makes specific contributions, for instance through a special fund on Social Safety Nets.

Japanese support is further provided through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for specific projects where Japanese development cooperation priorities and those of the ILO coincide.



In addition the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) makes financial contributions where its own programmes can draw upon ILO expertise and tools.

This brochure aims to provide an overview of Japan's support to the ILO and the change that this cooperation helps bring to the ultimate beneficiaries: working women and men around the world.

Beyond the scope of this brochure is the support Japan provides to the ILO through its funding to the UN Trust Fund for Human Security, where the ILO works with other UN agencies to implement a series of country-based projects that promote human security.

2.1. Japan's Partnership Cooperation Agreement

ILO/Japan Multi-bilateral Programme

Much of the Government of Japan's technical cooperation work with the ILO is conducted through the ILO/Japan Multi-bilateral Programme. This long-established partnership for development is based in Bangkok, Thailand, at the ILO's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. An on-site international member of staff from Japan oversees the programme and directs its operations.

Japan and the ILO have been working together to provide direct technical assistance in 18 countries of Asia and the Pacific region. These are the ASEAN countries plus Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Recent project works in Asia and the Pacific involve coordination with governments, workers' and employers' organizations and other multilateral bodies. The projects respond to a range of national



concerns such as unemployment, social protection, occupational safety and health standards, greener business practices, and the transition of informal workplaces and practices into the more formal economy.

ILO-JICA agreement to improve Pacific Islands waste management

The ILO and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed an agreement to support improved waste management in the Pacific Island Countries (PIC) on 18 February 2011.

The agreement's key objective is to identify, develop and implement joint activities to improve occupational safety and health (OSH) in waste management, promote capacity building among project counterparts, and facilitate the exchange of information and achievements. The ILO will provide technical expertise in OSH (through technical advisory missions) while JICA will provide logistical and administrative support.

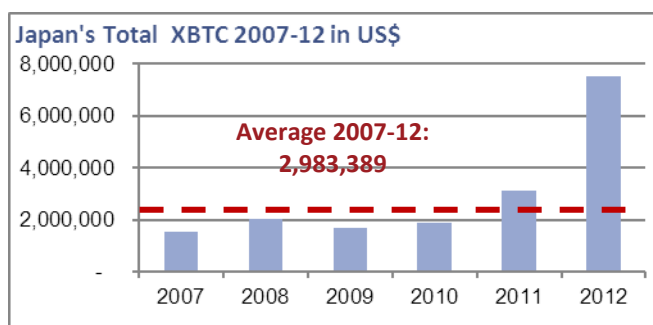
The Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in PIC Countries (J-PRISM project) will run for five years, from January 2011. It covers 11 PIC countries, including the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Fiji Islands, Republic of Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, Independent State of Papua New Guinea, Independent State of Samoa, Solomon Islands, Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu and Republic of Vanuatu.

2.2. Japan's financial contribution to the ILO's programming framework

The ILO's funding base consists of the Regular Budget (RB), Extra-Budgetary Technical Cooperation (XBTC) and the Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA). During the 2010-11 biennium, financial support from Japan consisted of the following:

Assessed contributions to the ILO Regular Budget are provided by all Member States by virtue of their membership of the ILO, with the amount set every two years by the International Labour Conference. With up to US\$ 106 million for 2010-2011, Japan is the second largest contributor to ILO's core funding to discharge its global mandate to promote social justice and decent work.

Extra-budgetary funding for technical cooperation supports specific projects and programmes with a clear and pre-defined geographic and thematic focus. In the period 2007-12 Japan provided over US\$ 15 million.

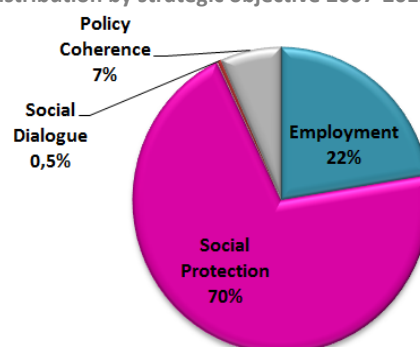


Japan's contributions have supported the following strategic objectives of the ILO:

In Employment Promotion, by supporting the creation and development of micro and small enterprises to promote employment creation (outcome 1); fostering youth employability and entrepreneurship through improved vocational training opportunities (outcome 2) and by promoting capacity building and bipartite cooperation to support greener workplaces and sustainable enterprises (outcome 3);

In Social Protection, by promoting and building unemployment insurance and employment and supporting the establishment of Social Safety Nets in Asia and the Pacific to improve social security schemes (outcome 4); by facilitating formalization of the informal economy (outcome 5), by improving occupational

Funding distribution by strategic objective 2007-2012



safety and health working conditions on farms and in small and medium size enterprises (outcome 6); and by improving labour migration governance in Asia (outcome 7);

In Social Dialogue, by promoting constructive industrial relations among ASEAN countries (outcome 12);

In Policy Coherence, by supporting Associate Expert programmes in ILO's offices in Asia.

Japan also funds the Associate Experts Programme in the ILO, which supports young, well qualified young professionals to have hands-on experience of ILO development projects. The young professionals are an important asset to the ILO. Japan currently funds one associate expert in the ILO department of NORMES.

3. Programme Cooperation Agreement 2010 - 2011: Achievements

EMPLOYMENT

ILO P&B Outcome 1: More women and men have access to productive employment, decent work and income opportunities

Youth Employment for Sustainable Development in Kenya – 2012 (US\$ 1,610,000)

The aim of this project funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan is to create and develop some 130 micro and small enterprises (MSEs) owned by up to 2,500 young women and men who will be trained and engaged on labour intensive infrastructure development and maintenance as well as the use of Japanese “Cobblestone Paving” and “do-nou (gunny bags filled with soil) technologies. The MSEs in turn will create thousands of jobs through labour intensive works in the Northern Region of the country (affected by the drought), the Rift Valley (affected by political violence), and Nairobi.

The project aims to achieve the following results –

- ▶ Youth employment opportunities created through MSE development using Japanese cobblestone and do-nou technologies:
 - Youth owned MSEs trained and operational
 - Small scale contractors trained on two technologies and ILO's business training packages
 - An association of MSEs established and operational
 - 45,000 and 90,000 work-days of employment created directly by the project related to road pavement activities and road maintenance.
- ▶ Partners' capacity strengthened to adopt green jobs approaches and promotional materials developed on green jobs, and partners adopting green jobs policies and/or actions plans.

Capacity Building to District Development Stakeholders in Sierra Leone – 2012 (US\$33,606)

The overall goal of this collaboration between ILO and JICA is to strengthen the structure and function of districts in Sierra Leone in managing district and rural development more effectively and efficiently. Training will be carried out to expose internal auditors and finance officers of five districts to procurement of works process and contract management. The project aims to assist rural communities to identify their needs and develop the capacities to meet them, as well as to provide support through infrastructure development, including feeder roads, water well rehabilitation, markets, etc.

Expected main achievements include –

- ▶ It is estimated that 15 – 20 people will undergo training.
- ▶ Participants interact and share experiences through group assignments, case studies, role plays, etc.
- ▶ Internal auditors and finance officers of five districts being covered by JICA will be exposed to procurement of works process and contracts management.

ILO P&B Outcome 2: Skills development increases the employability of workers, the competitiveness of enterprises, and the inclusiveness of growth.

The Promotion of Decent Work for Youth in Sri Lanka – 2008-2010 (US\$ 997,006)

Sri Lanka faces a unique youth employment challenge, particularly in the country's tea and rubber growing regions. Young people on plantations – who are often part of Sri Lanka's Tamil minority – lack employment choices because of language barriers, limited educational opportunities and geographical isolation.

The project alleviates unemployment and underemployment among rural young people by directing them to vocational training opportunities; providing entrepreneurship training; improving employment and recruitment services for employers and young workers; and developing a curriculum to improve English teaching at schools on plantations.

The project contributed to poverty reduction by helping rural young people enter the labour market and developing the capacity of local staff and institutions. It also improved labour market and employment services. Working closely with plantation companies, the project promoted corporate social responsibility, factory improvement and a good work-life balance.

The project's activities began in Sabaragamuwa province, main achievements include –

- ▶ Over 920 participants benefited from equipment and youth employment services such as training of trainers (e.g. career guidance training), life skills and business English training, and OSH training;
- ▶ A baseline study of 21 estates and a mapping of Microfinance Institutions and Vocational Training Centres were carried out to enhance understanding and encourage entrepreneurship and small businesses among plantation youth. Tools include trainers' guides, student handbooks and career guidance services through youth information centres and labour market units;
- ▶ Access to jobs through job bazaars, on the job training, Start and Improve your Business training (SIYB), and career guidance training: 95 young people started small businesses, six job bazaars were conducted in Sabaragamuwa, followed by two job bazaars in the Kegalle region;
- ▶ Sustainable interventions resulted in the following: Youth Employment Coordination Committees are an integral part of the District Coordination Committees; Labour Market Units set up in the two districts and provinces, as well as 14 Youth Information Centres.



ILO Regional Skills Programme

The ILO **Regional Skills Programme** (RSP) for Asia and the Pacific is drawn from skills development priorities under the Decent Work Country Programmes of Member States. It is supported by the ILO and the Governments of Japan and the Republic of Korea. The RSP builds upon the earlier work of both the Asia and Pacific Skill Development Programme and the Regional Skills and Employability Programme, which provided a sound technical basis and wealth of knowledge to the RSP.

The ILO/Japan Skills Programme enables better integration within ILO regional priorities and outcomes. Themes pertain to regional priorities in the areas of skills development, human resources development and a national skills strategy with tripartism at the core of all activities.

Year	Themes of activities funded by the Government of Japan
2007	- Skills Development for Economic Empowerment and Poverty Reduction - Development Skills and Employability for Young People in Asia and the Pacific - Developing National Skills Strategies
2008	- Workplace Learning in Japan: Improving Skills Recognition, Quality and Qualification Systems for IMT-GT and GMS Countries
2009	- Skills Development and Training in the Workplace
2010	- Addressing Skills Mismatch through Public Private Partnerships - Global Jobs Pact
2011	- Responding to the Needs of Member States in Anticipating Skills Demand
2012	- Improving Skills and Employability of Youth in line with Youth Employment

The ILO/Japan Skills Programme will continue to provide a forum where Member States are able to gain information on Japan's experience and know-how in the field of skills development.

ILO P&B Outcome 3: Sustainable enterprises create productive and decent jobs

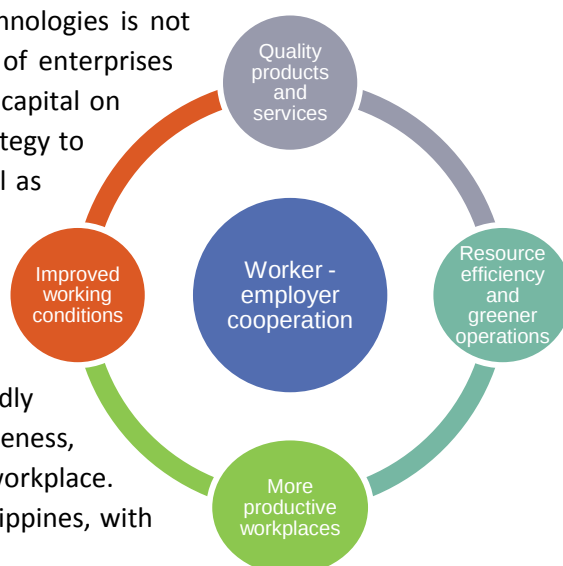
GREENER BUSINESS ASIA

Greener Business Asia – 2009-2012 (US\$ 1,210,504)

In coordination with the ILO's global Green Jobs Initiative, (www.ilo.org/greenjobs), the Government of Japan supports the ILO initiative Greener Business Asia, with the aim of promoting capacity building and bipartite cooperation to support greener workplaces and sustainable enterprises.

Adopting environmentally-sound practices and technologies is not only necessary to ensure the longer-term viability of enterprises and economic sectors, by safeguarding the natural capital on which they depend, but it can also be part of a strategy to maintain or improve firms' competitiveness, as well as bringing cost-savings or the discovery of new market niches.

The project supports an integrated approach to improve companies' triple-bottom line performance. It links environmentally friendly practices and productivity and overall competitiveness, while advancing the Decent Work Agenda in the workplace. The project is implemented in Thailand and the Philippines, with

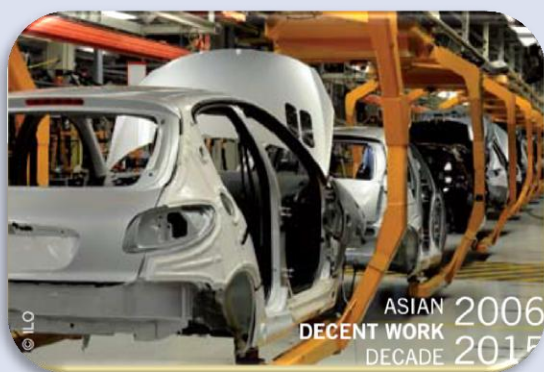


Greener Business Asia - approach

a focus on the tourism and automotive industries, respectively.

Achievements so far include –

- ▶ Development of training materials for Green Jobs, Greener Business for tripartite organizations. The training design and content are tailored to the needs and interests of constituents at the national level identified through training needs assessments;
- ▶ Design and development of training packages for enterprises in the hotel and automotive sectors integrating tools and knowledge resources for improvements in environmental, labour and business practices through workplace cooperation;
- ▶ The Employers' Confederations of the Philippines and of Thailand supported to develop a web page with information resources on issues related to the environment and sustainable enterprises. Used also as a platform to disseminate the project's model, achievements and good practices;
- ▶ A community of practice established on green jobs for Asia and the Pacific (Greenjobs-AP) - <http://greenjobs-ap.ilobkk.or.th>



SOCIAL SECURITY

ILO P&B Outcome 4: More people have access to better-managed and more gender-equitable social security benefits

Promoting and building unemployment insurance and employment services in ASEAN – 2010-2014 (US\$ 1,900,000)

Most countries in the ASEAN region do not have fully functional public employment services or unemployment insurance (UI) systems. Of the ten Member States of ASEAN, Thailand established the first UI scheme in 2004 in response to the economic crises of late 2000s, and to cushion against the impact of future economic shocks. Viet Nam launched its own UI scheme in 2010.

The ILO/Japan project offers support to ASEAN member governments as they set up instruments and institutions that allow immediate measures to guarantee income replacement, to help the unemployed re-enter the labour market and to identify opportunities for decent work.

Main achievements so far include –

- ▶ Technical assistance provided to Viet Nam to improve its unemployment insurance (UI) scheme. Eighteen months' evaluation review of the UI scheme conducted. Twelve recommendations to improve the scheme endorsed by Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs and social partners;

- ▶ A regional knowledge and expertise platform created with technical inputs to countries, such as Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, who are planning their own UI systems;
- ▶ In close collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat, the project raised government and social partners' awareness of the importance of UI and other income security programmes, as well as linkages with employment promotion. In 2011 two representatives of each of the Governments of Thailand, Viet Nam and Malaysia participated in a study visit to Japan's employment insurance institution. An Experts' Meeting (national tripartite) was organized in Jakarta to share preliminary findings of the research on UI and other income security measures for informal economy workers, as well as active labour market policies). In 2012 a tripartite ASEAN seminar on UI, income security and active labour market policies (ALMPs) was organized in Ho Chi Min City.



Japan and the ILO: working together to boost social protection in Asia-Pacific – 2011-2012 (US\$ 2,779,305)

In recognition of the growing importance that social safety nets play in times of financial crisis and unemployment, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) is increasing its contributions to strengthen social protection for people in Asia and the Pacific through the ILO/Japan Fund for Building Social Safety Nets in Asia and the Pacific. The Fund aims to strengthen the capacity of Asian countries to develop social protection systems for working women and men in the formal and informal economy.

Progress includes –

By carrying out statistical analysis and human resource development, the Fund is contributing to projects and events that build the capacity and influence the effectiveness of research institutions, trade unions, employers' organizations and NGOs in working to improve social protection. The project will also concentrate on such activities as employment services, vocational training and interventions on occupational safety and health.

ILO P&B Outcome 5: Women and men have improved and more equitable working conditions

Way out of informality: facilitating formalization of the informal economy in South Asia – 2012-2016 (US\$ 5,000,000)

Decent work deficits in the growing informal economy coupled with limited growth in formal sector employment are becoming a pressing challenge for Member States in South Asia. Vast informal economies could also limit the growth



potential of domestic demand and fuel the polarization of these societies.

The project will address these challenges in three ways. First, it will help improve the regulatory and policy environment at local level, to incentivize the creation of formal jobs and the formalization of informal businesses and jobs. It will then demonstrate how an integrated decent work strategy could promote formalization on the ground. Finally, it will disseminate good practices and tools supporting formalization, which can be replicated and mainstreamed.

Supported by the ILO/Japan Multi-bilateral Programme, this five-year project will facilitate the formalization of informal businesses and jobs in Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

These innovative measures not only aim to address the needs of formal employees but also those of workers in the informal economy.

Currently in its preparatory stage, the project team is being consolidated. Liaison with relevant government and social partners has been initiated in preparation for the knowledge sharing workshop together with the project launch activities.

Expected achievements include –

- ▶ The project will provide job-rich growth strategies and integrated formalization assistance in local areas.
- ▶ Constituents and key stakeholders at the national level in South Asia will have a better understanding of good practices and tools to promote formalization, which can be replicated and mainstreamed.

ILO P&B Outcome 6: Workers and enterprises benefit from improved safety and health conditions at work

Occupational Safety and Health: Protecting Workers, Improving Productivity – 2008-2011, 2012-2014 (US\$ 2,120,442)

The ILO's occupational safety and health projects (OSH) take a practical approach to improving working conditions on farms, in small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) and in home workplaces. These projects have improved working conditions in countries across Asia, including Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Introducing easy workplace safety measures – such as a guard covering moving parts on a machine or warning labels on chemical or fertilizer containers in the local language – have been the key to the project's success. Workers and employers learn from examples of safer working practices in their communities, using inexpensive, local materials to make their workplaces safer and healthier.

The Japanese-supported OSH work continues in Southeast Asia with an emphasis on reducing risks from hazardous work.



Main achievements include –

- ▶ The project has contributed to the implementation of Viet Nam's 1st National OSH Programme, leading to the development of the 2nd National OSH Programme for 2011-2015. With reference to

the ILO Promotional Framework for OSH Convention (No. 187, 2006), the project aims to strengthen national OSH systems, resulting in the delivery of adequate OSH protection for all workplaces.

- ▶ The project has strengthened OSH in hazardous industries and expanded its technical cooperation in Cambodia and Viet Nam within the framework of respective National OSH Programmes and OSH Master Plans.

ILO P&B Outcome 7: More migrant workers are protected and more migrant workers have access to productive employment and decent work.

Managing Cross-Border Movement of Labour in Southeast Asia – 2006-2010 (US\$ 2,090,328)

People have been crossing borders in South-East Asia to find work for decades, but migration through informal channels has increased in recent years. Without proper documentation, many of these migrant workers lack protection under the law and are vulnerable to exploitation by employers.

The Managing Cross-border Movement of Labour in Southeast Asia project aims at protecting migrant workers in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos and Thailand by developing a knowledge base on migration issues for policy makers and building up the capacity of governments to manage orderly labour migration. It also advocates sound national labour migration policies, assists with raising migrant workers' awareness of their rights, facilitates their access to legal systems, promotes low-cost and efficient remittance systems, and supports skills training and enterprise development.



Main achievements include –

- ▶ Extended coverage to foreign employment reflected in administrative decrees for better management of labour migration and a manual developed on employment services in Laos
- ▶ Formulation of labour migration policy in Cambodia
- ▶ Understanding and support to migration from social partners and governmental organizations in Thailand through reports edited, printed and disseminated on existing labour migration policies, programmes and administrative structures
- ▶ Cooperatives developed by migrant workers, and entrepreneurship support and amendment of local ordinance in East Java.

Improvement of Employment Service Job Centres in Laos for Migrant Workers – 2011-2012 (US\$ 71,691)

An initiative evolving from the earlier Cross-Border Migration Management project, the ILO/Japan-MOLSW Cooperation Project aims at further advancing the services of domestic and overseas employment for Lao migrant workers under the six pilot employment service job centres.

Through the provision of employment services tools, training workshops, knowledge sharing and other technical assistance, the project particularly focuses on migration in order to develop and expand employment services, and strengthen the protection of migrant workers throughout the country. The

main objective is thus to improve labour market efficiency and socio-economic development by means of training and job placement, ultimately leading to poverty alleviation.

Main achievements include –

- ▶ Improved and enhanced capacity of employment service job centre officials to improve the functioning of the system and for better delivery of services for migrant workers
- ▶ Employment counselling training at national level which reached out at provincial levels, completed by 24 key employment service job centre participants; district level training on the same topic for 67 district officials, and orientation workshop for the three new employment service job centres;
- ▶ Progress in service delivery of ESJC with 10% increase in jobseeker registration and 3% increase in job placements at employment service job centres.

Social Dialogue

ILO P&B Outcome 12: Tripartism and strengthened labour market governance contribute to effective social dialogue and sound industrial relations.

ASEAN Industrial Relations Project – 2008-2011, 2012-2014 (US\$ 770,959)

The ASEAN-ILO/Japan Industrial Relations Project was launched in 2008, with the ILO (as the implementing partner) supporting the goals of [ASEAN's](#) Member States and working closely with the ASEAN Secretariat on delivery. The main objectives of the project are to promote constructive industrial relations among the ASEAN countries, support the ASEAN Secretariat in building its capacity to disseminate knowledge and information about good industrial relations practices among its members, and to strengthen the relationship between ASEAN and the ILO's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.



The project's objective is to identify new issues and trends in industrial relations (IR), to add to the existing body of information and knowledge on the subject, and to review IR institutions and processes with a view to enabling ASEAN countries to address emerging IR issues in the changing world of work.

Main achievements include –

- ▶ The project has contributed to building tripartism and dialogue at ASEAN level (as called for in the ASEAN Labour Ministers Work Programme 2010-2015)
- ▶ Annual tripartite seminars organized to examine issues of common interest in the context of industrial relations, which provide opportunities for constituents to discuss and share experiences
- ▶ Country reports prepared by tripartite constituents on selected topics to be presented at regional seminars. This provides opportunities for the social partners and government to work together on a particular report. Reports of the regional seminars are disseminated to the participating Member States.

4. Further Cooperation with the ILO

15TH Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) - December 2011

In December 2011, nine months after the catastrophic earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan, the Government of Japan hosted the ILO's 15th quadrennial Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) in Kyoto.

The 15th APRM attracted more than 400 delegates from 38 countries. H.E. Yoshihiko Noda, Prime Minister of Japan, opened the meeting. Apart from the official proceedings, four special sessions were convened, including an Asia-Pacific Youth Forum on Employment, a session on Partnership Development, another on Green Jobs, and a fourth on Responding to Natural Disasters and rebuilding livelihoods in their wake.

Recognising that rebuilding lives and livelihoods is central to planning recovery from such traumatic events, the Government also hosted a "Special Session on National Disaster Response with a Central Focus on Employment Policy." The special session focused on lessons learned and good practices for employment-led recovery efforts, based on natural disaster responses in Japan and elsewhere in the region.

Responding to crisis in Asia-Pacific – 2011

In addition to its multi- and bi-lateral cooperation, the Government of Japan has extended its support to the ILO's natural disaster responses in the region by organizing an ILO experts group meeting on crisis response.

The Asia-Pacific Region has been hit by a number of massive natural disasters in recent years. In 2004 the Indian Ocean Tsunami devastated countries from Sri Lanka to Indonesia. Earthquakes struck South Asia in 2005 and again in 2008 – as well as Szechuan, China that same year. Meanwhile, Cyclone Nargis left a trail of death and destruction in Myanmar. In 2011 the Greater Mekong Subregion experienced some of the worst flooding in decades. These disasters have made evident the need for the ILO to strongly focus on employment-led reconstruction and pre-disaster preparedness as part of the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda in the countries of the region.



Dissemination of employment and labour measures for recovering from the great east Japan earthquake as international public resources – 2012-2014

A one-and-a-half-year project has been approved by the Government of Japan to contribute to a Fund in 2012 to 2014 for employment policy in natural disasters, using experience and know-how from Japan. The aim is to recognize the employment and labour problems in the affected areas and the measures that can be taken against them by the public and private sectors with the developing countries in Asia and the Pacific where natural disasters frequently occur. The project aims to support the research, analysis, and dissemination of information by the ILO.

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