International Labour Organization

THE FUTURE OF WORK AND
South-South and triangular Cooperation

ITC International Training Centre

Strengthening national and regional response capacities and coordination mechanisms, as well as the commitment of social partners through South-South and triangular cooperation modalities is crucial to the sustainability of actions for promoting youth employment. South-South and triangular cooperation mechanisms provide innovative and scalable solutions to address youth employment challenges. Workers' and employers' organisations have a key role to play in the promotion of decent work for youth in the Arab States.

Three underlying threads of logic can be detected in that system: the need to establish a level playing field between member States on the basis of common standards; the shared objective of establishing universal respect for fundamental principles and rights at work as set out in the 1998 ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work; and the idea that international labour standards – including non-binding Recommendations – should provide a framework of guidance for member States as they seek to marry economic growth with social progress. South-South and triangular cooperation is bringing innovation in the FUTURE OF WORK, by bringing solutions from the Global South.

- Generate a better understanding of the forces transforming the world of work and the implications for governments, workers and employers and how SSTC can support this change processes in a new development cooperation environment
- Provide a constructive forum for the exchange of ideas and information between the tripartite constituents, through peer-to-peer approaches, as well as other key stakeholders in the formulation of policies and new approaches
- Articulate and promote policy alternatives, innovative partnerships and good practices that can be replicated by governments, employers and workers and other key partners in countries of the Global South through SSTC

The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet consists of ILO constituents – the Tunisian General Labour Union (UGTT) and The Tunisian Confederation of Industry, Trade and Handicrafts (UTICA) – along with the Tunisian Human Rights League (LTDH) and the Tunisian Order of Lawyers were awarded in 2014 the Nobel Peace Prize. In January 2013, during the commemoration of the 2nd anniversary of the Jasmine Revolution, the ILO Director-General was invited to witness the signing of the "social contract" between the Government, the UGTT and UTICA. This social contract, which has benefited throughout its development from the support and expertise of the ILO, has been instrumental in paving the way for improvements in the areas of labour law and labour relations, employment policies, social protection and vocational training, as well as balanced regional development.

The ILO and the government of Algeria initiated in January 2016 a project aiming to support Algeria, in particular the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security and its structures and the social partners - employers and workers - in their efforts to consolidate what has been done at national in the areas of social dialogue and social protection, and to share its experience with countries partners of Africa. Below are the 3 main objectives of South-South cooperation program:

- Objective 1: Sharing the experience of Algeria in terms of Social Protection with African countries through South-South and triangular cooperation;
- Objective 2: Share the experience of Algeria on Social Dialogue with African countries.
- Objective 3: Support the National Institute of Labour Studies and Research to allow sharing the Algerian experience in social dialogue towards African countries through South-South Exchanges

Cooperative development can create more equitable distribution of income, democracy, and economic and social development. The Union of Cooperative Associations for Saving and Credit (UCASC) in the Occupied Palestinian Territories became the only legal entity of its kind, on the national level, to adopt the saving and credit concept. It supports women integration in rural development and their empowerment at the social, economic and political levels. These efforts resulted in the establishment of women groups and they collectively formed the nuclei for many women clubs in several villages. UCASC targets mainly vulnerable women, especially those in rural areas, through their saving and credit cooperative associations, and it also focuses on young women providing them with employment in coops with the first 3 months of salary subsidized. The work of UCASC inspired other women financial coops in the region and elsewhere like in Lebanon.

New partnerships with and among developing nations are both the right thing to do and one of the best ways to meet the Sustainable Development Goals

Guy Ryder, ILO Director-General