

Research workshop

Assessing the impact of employment programmes on peacebuilding

ILO HQ, Room VI (R3 South), Time: 11:00-12. 00 & 15:00-17:15, December 3rd 2018

The workshop will be an opportunity to share views between researchers and WB, UNDP, PBSO and ILO about the employment programmes contribution to peacebuilding in conflict-affected countries. The good practices for conducting evaluations of employment programmes in conflict-affected countries and the importance of interagency cooperation for reaching the goal of sustaining peace will also be examined.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development identifies the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies and decent work as key priorities. Leaving no one behind –a key aspiration of the 2030 Agenda- requires special attention to fragile and conflict-affected countries. Job creation and better quality jobs have the potential to contribute to more cohesive and equitable societies. In 2017, the ILO approved the Recommendation No. 205 (R205) on “Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience”, an innovative normative instrument providing guidance to member states, organizations and practitioners dealing with employment and decent work in fragile settings.

During the workshop, Prof. Tilman Brück will present the findings from the recent publication titled “Jobs aid peace”, requested by WB, UNDP, PBSO and ILO , that highlights the main theories linking employment programmes and the goal of building peace. The study also emphasises the lack of empirical knowledge on selection into violent behaviour, on the links between employment programs and peace, and on which programme designs maximise impact. The author’s ongoing research on the topic, trying to fill this knowledge gap, will be presented.

As a consequence of the study ILO and PBSO have strengthened their cooperation through a joint programme to reinforce both entities’ capacities to develop employment programmes as a key peacebuilding instrument and facilitate the broader UN effort to effectively use employment programmes in sustaining peace before, during and after a crisis. In this framework, the ILO is contributing to build and share knowledge on employment contribution to peace, as well as developing guidelines on how to develop peacebuilding outcomes and indicators into employment programs.

The workshop will also explore the challenges and good practices for conducting quantitative and qualitative research on the impact of employment programmes in conflict-affected countries. Experiences from ILO staff and researchers will be considered in order to facilitate future evaluations. The ILO, WBG, UNDP and PBSO will present their main projects with peacebuilding objectives. The importance of the entire UN system to work together around the goal of sustaining peace will be examined, which is the main scope of the ILO flagship programme Jobs for Peace and Resilience.

Agenda

- **Research seminar: *Do jobs aid peace?***
11:00 to 12.00

Chair: Damian Grimshaw (Director, Research Department, ILO)

Presenter: Tilman Brück (Director, ISDC - International Security and Development Center)

- **Panel on methodologies to strengthen the linkages between employment programmes and peacebuilding in conflict-affected countries.**
15.00 to 16.00

Chair: Sangheon Lee (Director, Employment Policy Department, ILO)

Panellists:

Guy Thijs (Director, EVAL, ILO), Federico Negro (DEVINVEST, ILO), Veronica Escudero (Chief Labour Market Trends and Policy Evaluation Unit, RESEARCH, ILO), Domenico Tabasso (Labour Market Trends and Policy Evaluation Unit, RESEARCH, ILO), Floriana Borino (Work Income and Equity Unit, RESEARCH, ILO).

- **Brainstorming on working together around the goal of sustaining peace**
(by invitation only)
16.15 to 17.15

ILO, UNDP, WB, PBSO