

RURAL DEVELOPMENT through DECENT WORK

FOR GROWTH, PRODUCTIVE JOBS, INCOME, FOOD SECURITY, GOOD WORKING CONDITIONS, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, RIGHTS, VOICE, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, CRISIS RESILIENCE

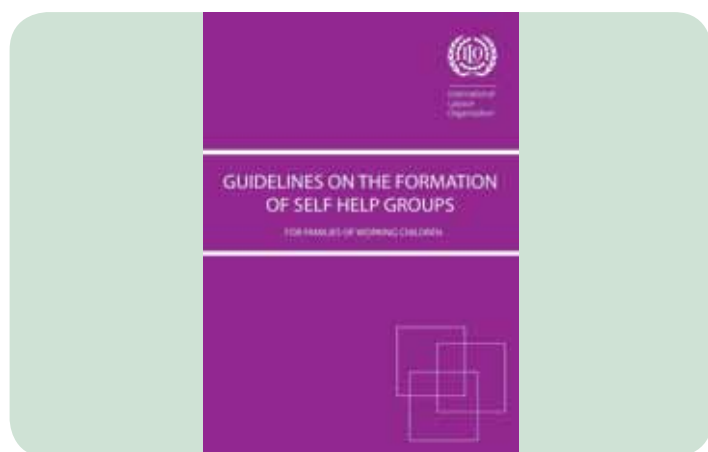


International Labour Office

Rural-Relevant Tools

Guidelines on the Formation of Self-help Groups for Families of Working Children

People



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What are the Guidelines on the Formation of Self-help Groups?

Guidelines for forming sustainable Self-Help Groups (SHG) that will contribute to equitable and gender-sensitive community development, and reduce disadvantaged families' need to send their children to work. SHGs are often considered a key mechanism for improving access to microfinance and capacity building opportunities among women and men living in poverty

This tool, in use since 2006, contains detailed guidelines which explain the rationale for establishing SHGs, possible project contexts in which this model is helpful, and key points to be considered when an organization establishes a self-help group. It contains detailed advice on how these groups can be established and guided towards sustainability, through the establishment of internal regulations

For whom?

- **Direct beneficiaries:** Trainers in organizations working on women's socio-empowerment in rural settings
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** SHG (families of working children, women entrepreneurs), women and men living in poverty

For what purpose?

- Promote SHG and their role in community development
- Improve access to micro-finance services for women and men with micro-enterprises
- Promote the establishment of sustainable SHG that contribute to gender equality and have strong management
- Promote the participation of and decision-making by women in SHG
- Improve the living conditions of rural women and men
- Ultimately, reduce child labour

How is it delivered?

- Training of Trainers (guide)
- Training of SHG members
- Hand outs

What are its components?

Six sections:

- Introduction
- The Basics of SHG
- Guidance for Executing Agencies on the Steps in Creating SHG
- The Management Committee
- Conducting a Meeting
- Example of Internal Regulation
- Pictures for Use in Promotional Activities
- Example Savings Book
- Example Loan Book
- Example Individual Savings and Loan Card
- Example Cash Book

Which technical areas are covered?

- SHG creation, management and internal regulation
- Microfinance principles and functioning
- Gender equality promotion or economic empowerment of women

Can it cover more technical areas?

No, this is a very specific tool. However, it can be easily combined in projects working on Occupational Safety and Health, child labour, micro-insurance, working conditions, HIV and AIDS, women's entrepreneurship development, indigenous and tribal peoples



Where has it been used?

In 2 countries: Cambodia and Lao PDR

Which languages?

Available in 2 languages: English and Khmer

Is it suitable for rural areas?

Yes, it is specifically targeting poor rural areas

What are its strengths?

- Practical
- Step-by-step approach
- Affordable and easy to reproduce
- Clear, accessible to illiterate audiences
- Illustrated
- Adaptable to meet different target group's culture and needs

Is there a training course in ITC-Turin?

No, however these guidelines are promoted through ITC-Turin's "Sustainable Enterprise Academy"

Where to find more information?

- Tool available at:
http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/---emp_ent/documents/publication/wcms_116168.pdf
- See also:
www.ilo.org/wed
www.ilo.org/socialfinance

Who to contact?

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