News Round-up

Strategic development for ASEAN Employers
A workshop to identify priorities and develop a strategy for the members of the Association of South East Asian Nations Confederation of Employers was organised by ILO and ACE in Jakarta, Indonesia, 31 March-1 April. Click for more.

Promoting registration of construction workers in India
A national tripartite consultation was held in New Delhi, 23-24 March to promote the registration of construction workers with welfare schemes. Click for more.

Promoting women’s entrepreneurship in Viet Nam
Two events to promote women’s entrepreneurship were held in Viet Nam: A provincial knowledge sharing workshop on successful strategies for women’s entrepreneurship development was held in Phu Tho Province on 31 March and an internal review of gender sensitivity issues in the Quang Nam Province Cooperative Alliance took place from 21 to 25 March.

Pakistan recognizes ILO work
Donglin Li, former Director of the ILO Country Office for Pakistan, received Pakistan’s highest civil award in recognition of his services to the people of Pakistan. The award ceremony took place on 23 March 2011 at the Pakistan High Commission in Colombo, hosted by the High Commissioner of Pakistan, H.E. Ms Seema Illahi Baloch. Click for more.

United Nations Youth Champion Monique Coleman and ILO discuss collaboration
The first United Nations Youth Champion, Monique Coleman, met ILO specialists and the APYouthNet team in Bangkok on 17 March to discuss working together to promote youth issues. Monique, co-star in Disney’s “High School Musical” trilogy, has an online talk show and website dedicated to empowering youth, ‘GimmeMo’.

Media reports reinforce gender stereotypes in Pakistan ILO study finds
The findings of a content analysis of Pakistan’s popular media were discussed at a workshop with senior media representatives on 12 March in Islamabad. The study and workshop were supported by the ILO and the UKS research centre. Click for more.

Philippines Green Jobs Initiative
Green jobs activities in the Philippines and the role of the ILO’s Green Jobs Initiative were discussed at a roundtable on 10 March in Makati City, Philippines. Plans for launching the Green Jobs in Asia Project were debated at a subsequent committee meeting. Click for more.

Gender equality in the Bangladesh civil service
A workshop on promoting gender equality in Bangladesh’s civil service was held on 3 March in Dhaka. The meeting explored strategies for promoting gender equality and improving understanding of gender mainstreaming. Click for more.

New newsletters published
The ILO Country Office for South Pacific Island Countries has published the first edition of a new, bimonthly newsletter, News in Brief. The March edition of Cambodia’s Better Factories Programme Newsletter is also available.
Better supervisors mean better business for Cambodia's factories

By Maeve Galvin, Communication and Advocacy Officer, and Ying Bun, Better Factories, ILO Cambodia

Good supervisors help workers become more efficient and productive, but when ordinary workers are promoted they often find it difficult to acquire the necessary skills. In Cambodia, a specially-created training programme is answering this need, helping train supervisors to be firm, fair and effective leaders in Cambodia’s US$2.5 billion garment industry. Click for more.

Look Ahead

Economic and productive employment in East Java & Maluku
The constraints and challenges affecting productive employment generation will be discussed by ILO constituents at two events: in Surabaya, East Java, 4-5 April and in Ambon, Maluku, 11-13 April. The aim is to formulate coherent, provincial level policies.

Global SCORE Knowledge Sharing Conference
Coordinators of ILO’s world-wide Sustaining Competitive and Responsible Enterprise (SCORE) project - including representatives from China, India, Indonesia and Viet Nam - will meet in Jakarta, Indonesia, 4-8 April to discuss ways to help enterprises become more competitive internationally and create jobs. SCORE aims to assist small and medium-sized enterprises boost quality and productivity, improve working conditions, reduce their environmental footprints and strengthen collaboration and communication between employers and workers. Click for more.

15th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting - POSTPONED
Following the unexpected events in Japan, the 15th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting, originally scheduled for 10-13 April in Kyoto has been postponed until further notice.

Viet Nam Safety Fun Run
To mark World Day for Safety and Health (28 April), ILO Better Work is organizing a Safety Fun Run in Viet Nam’s Binh Duong Province on 17 April 2011. Between 4,000 and 6,000 people are expected to take part. Click for more.

Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>ILO press conference to spotlight child labour in the Philippines</td>
<td>5 April, Quezon City, Philippines</td>
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<td>Launch of Labour and Social Trends in Indonesia 2010</td>
<td>14 April, Jakarta, Indonesia</td>
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<td>APYouthNet online discussion on labour migration and youth</td>
<td>25 April-6 May, online discussion forum</td>
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<td>Visioning Event for ILO Asia-Pacific Community of Practice on Industrial Relations (AP-IR Net)</td>
<td>26-28 April, Bangkok, Thailand</td>
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<td>Tripartite Capacity-building and Consultation Workshop on Measuring Decent Work in Cambodia</td>
<td>27-29 April, Phnom Penh, Cambodia</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Bank/AusAid/ILO Regional labour Markets Analysis Workshop</td>
<td>27-29 April, Bangkok, Thailand</td>
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Recovery, job quality and policy priorities in developing Asia – [pdf]
The paper highlights recent economic developments, examines labour market trends and identifies some emerging policy priorities in the post-crisis era, with a focus on job quality, social protection, infrastructure development and inclusive financial services.

Indonesia: Reinforcing domestic demand in times of crisis – [pdf]
This report on Indonesia shows how goals relating to both growth and equity can be combined in crisis response measures. Rather than resorting to competitive devaluations, wage cuts and financial deregulation, Indonesia opted for well designed, equity-enhancing policies to boost domestic demand and ensure prudent financial management. The study is part of the series, “Growth with Equity” which focuses on how such policy complementarities can be achieved.

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