

Revision and Enhancement of the Labour Market Data Sources: Towards Setting Up the Labour Market Information System in Brunei Darussalam



AT A GLANCE

→ Partners

Department of Economic Planning and Development, Prime Minister Office, Department of Labour, Ministry of Home Affairs, Workers' organization: Brunei Oil Field Workers Union (BOWU), Employers' Organization: Brunei Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)

→ Donors

Government of Brunei

→ Duration

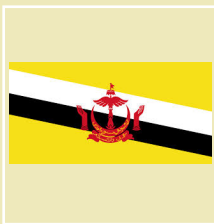
May 2014- April 2016

→ Target beneficiaries

Department of Statistics of the Department of Economic Planning and Development at the Prime Minister's Office (JPKE), Labour Department, Ministry of Home Affairs, and other national producers and users of Labour Market Information (LMI), Businesses operators and associated organization, workers of Brunei

→ Geographical focus

Brunei Darussalam



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Brunei Darussalam is one of the wealthiest countries in the world, with oil and gas generating a substantial amount of foreign investment, income and jobs. The government is trying to diversify its economy to help create more employment and upgrade the labour force. There is an apparent mismatch between job-seekers expectations, job opportunities and the skills requirements of employers. It is estimated that just under half of the workforce is employed in the public sector, while private sector jobs tend to be filled by migrant workers.

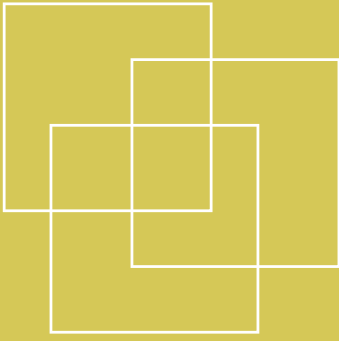
In 2011, the Brunei Government requested for the ILO technical cooperation on the update and analysis of the available labour statistics, in order to effectively respond to the labour market data needs in the country.

In response to the request, this project aims to improve the availability, quality and use of labour market information to effectively contribute to the development, monitoring and implementation of the National Human Resource Development Strategy. The Project expects to assess and enhance the labour statistics system and statistical capacity of Brunei to collect timely, reliable and consistent labour market statistics from different sources, laying the foundation for the production of a comprehensive labour market information system. The project will do so by supporting the institutional development of the major target institutions involved in its implementation.

The Project objectives are:

Development objective: Contribute to increased employment opportunities for young men and women through the improved and use of labour market information system.

Immediate objective: Increased country's capacity to collect and produce comprehensive, up-to date and internationally comparable labour market data and labour market information, and to design and monitor data-informed policies and programmes promoting decent work.



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MAIN ACTIVITIES

Project strategy:

Building the capacity of Brunei constituents in the collection and analysis of labour market data will constitute the main implementation strategy. Training is not only targeted as one major immediate objective of the project, covering the major concepts of labour market information, but it is also included in various outcomes of the project such as the labour force survey, the decent work indicators, or during the preparation of the LMIS framework.

The involvement of employers and workers in the Project implementation will be another key implementation strategy of the Project, such as in: capacity building activities, preparation, implementation and analysis of the labour force, identification of priority decent work indicators for Brunei, as well as in preparation of Brunei LMIS framework.

Another key strategy will be to prepare and advise on the way forward for the Project to contribute to implementation and monitoring of the national development agenda: one of the key exit strategies will be a proposal for the country's surveys master plan to include regular labour surveys (annually and if possible quarterly), and the other will be the continuation of the Project achievement through a LMIS proposal.

More specifically, the Project will carry out the following tasks:

- Prepare and implement the labour force survey,
- Update administrative data including jobseekers' records,
- Analyse labour market statistics and decent work indicators,
- Develop a framework for a labour market information system,
- Build up the capacity of the Brunei constituents - Government, workers' and employers' organizations - to collect and analyse labour market data.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- Training of national data producers and users in concepts, definitions and data collection methods, and technical capacity of national specialists in the analysis of labour market information for monitoring and evaluation of macroeconomic and labour market developments and trends; a strong participation of women in the training is strongly recommended.
- A comprehensive national Labour Force Survey (LFS) for 2014, including tabulation, analysis and dissemination of the survey results.
- Review and enhancement of other labour market data sources (other household-based surveys and administrative records) produced by Brunei major LMI producers. Data and processes to be reviewed include: surveys and survey master plan of the Department of Statistics, the labour market production from the Research and Statistics Section of the Department of Labour, data collection systems by Brunei Employment Centres, data sources from other governmental agencies, and data sources from employers' and workers' organizations.
- ILO constituents and stakeholders have at their disposal a comprehensive set of decent work indicators to measure progress on decent work: ILO support will include identifying priority decent work indicators by Brunei data producers and users, and training in the production and analysis of a full range of ILO recommended Decent Work indicators.
- A framework for setting up a functional Labour Market Information System: the current Brunei LMIS will be reviewed and recommendations for its update will be provided. The review and proposed recommendations for update shall cover the main components of a LMIS, i.e.: (i) the institutional framework (databases host and LMIS manager), (ii) legal framework (all provisions for collecting, communicating and use of data), and (iii) the technical design (LMIS databases design, web system design, networking, management software, etc.)

Contact information:

ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Building, Rajdamnern Nok Ave
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Tel. +66 2288 1234

Fax. +66 2280 1735

Email: BANGKOK@ilo.org

Web site: www.ilo.org/asia