

Global South-South Development Expo 2012

ILO SOLUTION FORUM (2):

“Energy, Climate Change and Decent Work”

*United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Hofburg Palace, Vienna, Austria*

First Floor - Grosser Redoutensaal

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www.southsouthexpo.org*

Concept Note

A. Introduction: South-South Cooperation and the ILO

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is committed to eliminating discrimination in the world of work and to achieving Decent Work for all women and men, based on principles of equal treatment and equal opportunities and in pursuit of universal social justice. This notion is summed up as Decent Work. The Decent Work concept was formulated by the ILO’s constituents – governments, employers and workers – as a means to identify the Organization’s major priorities. It is based on the understanding that work is a source of personal dignity, family stability, peace in the community, democracies that deliver for people, and economic growth that expands opportunities for productive jobs and enterprise development.¹

In March 2012 the ILO Governing Body adopted an ILO South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy in the document: “South–South and triangular cooperation: The way forward”.² Additionally, the 100th Session of the International Labour Conference (2011) adopted the ILO Programme and Budget for 2012–13, placing particular emphasis on South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) as a means of achieving the Organization’s objectives.

Under the framework of such international momentum, and in line with the Programme and Budget approved by the Conference last year, at the request of the Governing Body, the results framework proposed for the South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) strategy were: 1) the ILO has greater institutional awareness and capacity to identify and implement SSTC, with a view to establishing and implementing an initiative on SSTC; 2) the Decent Work Agenda is advanced through SSTC with the engagement of an increasing number of governments, social partners, UN agencies and non-state actors.

¹ILO Decent Work page available at: <http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/decent-work-agenda/lang-en/index.htm>

² Available at http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_norm/@relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_172577.pdf

The ILO has been an active participant in the Global South-South Development Expos (GSSD),³ and hosted the 2010 GSSD at the ILO headquarters.

SSTC is guided by the principles of solidarity and non-conditionality. It is based on a fundamental premise that developing countries identify their own needs and address them in part by acquiring new expertise, knowledge and technology from other countries of the global South. Such cooperation may take the form of knowledge sharing and transfer of southern-grown development solutions with the support of the donor community and the multilateral system under innovative triangular and/or public-private partnership (PPP) arrangements. SSTC strategies and mechanisms are vital in the context of climate change, which affects job security and the economic empowerment of disadvantaged sectors of society.

The ILO also recognizes the key role that SSTC can play in any future sustainable development framework. The strengthening of national response capacity and coordination mechanisms, as well as the commitment of social partners, is crucial to the sustainability of results and actions. The new development framework that replaces the MDGs in 2015 will have to include a critical social dimension along with environmental and economic concerns. Thus, concrete good practices will be essential to put decent work at the heart of the forthcoming international development agenda.

Finally, decent work is a key element that makes economic and social development sustainable, and the ILO's commitment to the goals of sustainable development acknowledges the need to enhance social dialogue as a major contributor to its governance. It also recognizes that governments have to reaffirm the goal of decent work for all as central to sustainable development, articulating the linkages between the three pillars: economic, social and environmental.

B. Solutions

The energy industry and decent work

The world is facing a number of growing and interrelated environmental challenges that may have serious negative implications for economic growth and social development. While the energy industry plays a key role in fuelling the economy, it has contributed to environmental degradation, including the loss of biodiversity and the growing scarcity of fresh water and land, which have an impact on employment and decent incomes.

In addition, further commitment to increasing access to energy is necessary. As estimated by the International Energy Agency (IEA), current global investments in improving access to energy amount to US\$9 billion, but achieving universal modern access to energy by 2030 will require global investment to rise to over US\$ 48 billion. Global partners hence have to find innovative ways to use resources to achieve this goal. Advances in scientific research show some promising paths to follow. Although investment in the energy infrastructure alone will not be enough to reach the goal, socioeconomic skills and enterprise development, as well as technology transfer and an enabling policy environment, are preconditions for improving energy access.

Experience shows that social dialogue is a valuable means of identifying solutions to these and other kinds of development challenges. Social dialogue⁴ is the most suitable tool for promoting better living and working conditions and greater social justice and thereby enhancing social inclusion. It is an instrument of

³ <http://expo.ssc.undp.org/>

⁴ See: <http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/decent-work-agenda/social-dialogue/lang--en/index.htm>

governance that enhances sustainable development. The active engagement of all stakeholders is essential to provide effective solutions to the challenges that energy issues raise in the world of work: this involves a legislative framework that provides the necessary protections and guarantees, institutions to facilitate collective bargaining and address conflicts between employers and workers, and strong and effective workers' and employers' organizations. These are the main elements of an enabling environment that ensures such participation.⁵

In the energy sector a number of global framework agreements (GFAs) have been established. GFAs or international framework agreements (IFAs) serve to protect the interests of workers across a multinational company's operations so as to promote social dialogue. GFAs are meant to enhance cooperation between multinational companies as employers and their workers. They are negotiated between multinational enterprises and global union federations. All such agreements are based on ILO fundamental human rights Conventions.⁶ Agreements currently in effect in the energy sector include those at EDF, Lukoil, Eni, Statoil, and Petrobras. GFAs embody the best standards of trade union rights, health, safety and environmental practices, and quality of work principles across a company's global operations, regardless of whether those standards apply in an individual country.

Green Jobs

Green jobs are defined by the ILO as jobs that “help to reduce negative environmental impact ultimately leading to environmentally, economically and socially sustainable enterprises and economies; more precisely, green jobs are decent jobs that reduce consumption of energy and raw materials; limit greenhouse gas emissions; minimize waste and pollution; and protect and restore ecosystems”.⁷ The ILO recognizes that further efforts are necessary to build Member States' capacities and knowledge of the labour market trends and developments brought about by the greening of economies and enterprises so as to enable a just transition.

The promotion of green jobs contributes to job creation; the elimination of child labour; poverty reduction; and gender equality, leading to increased labour market participation. This is particularly important considering that more than 2 million people are directly employed in the renewable energy industry on a global basis, together with a much larger proportion of people indirectly employed by the industry. The leading countries within the renewable energy industry are Brazil, China, Denmark, Germany, Spain and the United States. For example, in 2007 more than 1.1 million people were employed in the renewable energy industry in China.⁸ In 2008 the industry employed nearly 300,000 people in Germany, and had created about 120,000 additional jobs between 2004 and 2008. In the United States in 2008 nearly 150,000 people were directly employed in the wind energy sector alone, with a great potential to expand in the entire renewable energy industry in the future. This was confirmed by a case study in the United States which showed that a combination of renewable energy, energy efficiency and low carbon approaches could create over 4 million job-years between now and 2030.

The ILO Green Jobs Programme, together with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) are working on a holistic approach to suggest solutions for energy-related challenges. The ILO's Green Jobs Initiative will help to reduce negative

⁵ These include the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and the Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98).

⁶ See: <http://www.irena.org/DocumentDownloads/Publications/RenewableEnergyJobs.pdf>

⁷ <http://www.ilo.org/empent/units/green-jobs-programme/lang--en/index.htm>

⁸ http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_emp/@emp_ent/documents/publication/wcms_152065.pdf

environmental impact, ultimately leading to environmentally, economically and socially sustainable enterprises and economies. Green Jobs Initiatives will reduce the consumption of energy and raw materials; limit greenhouse gas emissions; minimize waste and pollution; and protect and restore ecosystems. Green Jobs can be generated, *inter alia*, by promoting the transformation of energy sources from fossil fuels to renewable resources (or clean energies). Mainstream forms of renewable energy (or clean energy) include: (1) wind power; (2) hydropower; (3) solar energy; (4) biomass; (5) biofuel; and (6) geothermal energy.

Another initiative to promote green jobs is the "Partnership Programme between Brazil and the ILO for South-South cooperation in the areas of forced labour and green jobs". This was signed in June 2010 within the framework of implementation of the ILO/Brazil Partnership Programme for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation. The programme aims to contribute to the prevention and eradication of forced labour and stimulate the generation of decent work and green jobs in Latin America (Peru and Paraguay) and the Caribbean. Even though the link between the two may not be evident, there is a strong correlation between land appropriation, deforestation and forced labour; and the solution to these problems has often been to engage in environmentally sustainable solutions. According to ILO Brasilia, data on workers rescued from slave-like situations show a close connection with activities related to agricultural deforestation. One of the main objectives of this initiative is to strengthen Brazilian authorities' capacity to promote and share South-South cooperation solutions in preventing and combating forced labour and promoting green jobs in the Americas. Another outcome of this initiative is increased cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean in the exchange of information and knowledge on how to promote the creation of green jobs while combating forced labour.⁹

Occupational safety and health concerns in a green economy

The green economy offers various alternatives for job creation. These involve sectors with environmental content such as renewable energy and recycling, or with activities in traditional sectors that can create green jobs by shifting to more sustainable processes. Green jobs stimulate the growth of environmentally friendly energy industries such as renewables, but they should not be regarded as necessarily safe: new occupational risks may be overlooked. Even if certain jobs are considered to be green, the technologies used may not necessarily be so green. While in general green technologies are likely to decrease the risk of harmful occupational exposure, new processes need to be carefully considered prior to their implementation.

The application of occupational safety and health (OSH) regulation systems should be universal. For all workplaces and jobs, employers are requested to ensure safe and healthy working conditions and environments for their workers. In this sense, solutions such as the promotion of green jobs have to take into account such concerns by adopting technologies and processes that are the subject of hazard and risk assessments and proper management. Such assessments are an effective way to determine the real environmental impact of technologies labelled as green.

The ILO calls for a clear framework and institutional arrangement to review, discuss, and agree on response measures to structural change in the transition to a greener economy, taking into account the active role of the social partners.

⁹ See "Brazil's Contribution to the ILO's South-South Cooperation Strategy An overview: 2010-2012", at: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/--exrel/documents/genericdocument/wcms_182879.pdf

Social protection floors and public employment programmes

Social protection floors are nationally defined sets of basic social security guarantees which secure protection aimed at preventing or alleviating poverty, vulnerability and social exclusion. Social protection floors and social security extension strategies should combine a variety of methods and approaches, including financing mechanisms and delivery systems, in accordance with a country's priorities and needs. They can enhance people's resilience to the multiple risks – short and long-term shocks and stresses associated with climate change – and smooth structural transitions by providing protection to affected populations. The ILO recognizes that in order to build resilient enterprises and communities that have the ability to adapt to climate change and serve as a stabilizer in times of economic crisis, special focus has to be given to social protection and the creation of national social protection floors.

While recognizing, *inter alia*, that the social dimension of sustainable development is essential for sustainable growth as well as for fair and inclusive globalization, the government, employers' and workers' delegates of the ILO's 185 Member States, at the International Labour Conference in June 2012, adopted a new international labour standard, the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202).¹⁰ The Recommendation provides guidance to all countries on building comprehensive social security systems and extending social security coverage by prioritizing the establishment of national floors of social protection accessible to all in need in accordance with local possibilities. It also emphasizes the need to implement comprehensive, coherent and coordinated social protection and employment policies to guarantee services and social transfers across the life cycle, especially for vulnerable groups, and specifically states that social security extension strategies should be consistent with, and conducive to, the implementation of the social, economic and environmental development plans of Member States.

Public Employment Programmes (PEP), as part of a Social Protection Floor, are a particularly effective means of promoting employment and fulfilling one of the four essential guarantees of the SPF, especially in low-income countries; PEPs are about providing assistance to the unemployed, underemployed and poor by providing stable and predictable income security and dignity through work. Moreover, PEPs have the ability to empower workers to seize new economic opportunities – based on the Decent Work Agenda – and stimulate a virtuous circle of development that provides a path out of poverty and inequality towards long-term economic resilience and inclusive growth.

A well designed PEP should be an integral part of climate change adaptation strategies aimed at generating environmentally sound public goods, reinforcing the development of climate resilient productive infrastructure, protecting and enhancing the natural resource base, and offering access to affordable energy. Such programmes can have an even larger multiplier effect on vulnerable communities by combining the multiple social, environmental and economic objectives of employment generation, income support, and asset creation. This can be achieved through the restoration of the natural resource base to reduce the local impact of climate change, while promoting energy access for all, forming part of an equitable and inclusive growth policy.

Climate change poses massive challenges to governments both in developed and developing countries. Some of these challenges relate to the sustainable provision and maintenance of infrastructure. The development of appropriate climate resilient infrastructure can also contribute to environmental preservation and land conservation and productivity, and mitigate the impact of future disasters, while at the same time providing jobs to the communities that need them the most. Flood prevention measures

¹⁰ Available at: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_183326.pdf

such as the construction of dykes, levees and embankments, the diversion of floodwater, improved water management, and strengthening existing infrastructure and facilities can all help develop much needed climate resilient infrastructure. Improving rural infrastructure, developing and improving irrigation schemes, soil and water conservation, reforestation works and improved land tenure may enhance agricultural productivity and enhance to the world's food supply and local energy production. Access to water, land, food, education and health are a key set of conditions critical to the well-being and livelihoods of people.

Current initiatives aiming to improve access to sustainable energy may in some cases not reach the poorest and most vulnerable – those who have actually contributed the least to the problem and who can least afford clean energy. However, public employment programmes like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) in India, the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) in South Africa, and the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) in Ethiopia already contribute to the restoration of natural resources, addressing the causes of chronic poverty and deprivation of livelihoods. These large scale public employment programmes have significant potential as a vehicle for delivering the inclusive social development needed to provide social protection, job security and economic empowerment by offering solutions to adapt to climate change and replenish local natural energy sources. Many are starting to refocus specifically on the potential impact of climate change and the means to tackle this problem. Such experiences can be shared in regions facing similar challenges.

Accordingly, in response to the growing demand for knowledge development, sharing of innovations and dissemination of good practices in designing public employment programmes, the ILO, with its International Training Centre in Turin (ITC-ILO), has been offering a South-South modular learning package disseminating innovations and good practices, providing policy insights and practical design tools to inform decision making at policy and programme level between countries of the global South. In addition, more recently the ILO has also been offering a complementary course focusing on the contribution of local investment to climate change adaptation. On several occasions this has brought together South-South participants who learn from each other and share experience of the implementation of various forms of environmentally friendly public employment programmes – from emergency public works programmes to employment guarantee schemes. This has even influenced and led to certain changes or replications of certain innovations in programmes in other countries.

The ILO has also continued to work closely with various national experts to carry out research and document the wide range of national experience and best practices and take these discussions to a more practical level (e.g. Cambodia, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Rwanda, South Africa), in some cases facilitating study tours between these countries. International and regional seminars have contributed to South-south capacity development, strengthening partnerships with relevant national experts and practitioners in this field and expanding dialogue with relevant international organizations and development banks to facilitate their implementation.

C. Objectives


The Solution Forum aims to present development solutions relevant to social protection, job security and economic empowerment by improving access to energy for all, addressing climate change and moving towards a green economy. The Forum will aim to provide results-based presentations and scalable solutions and will ensure that employment, decent work and social inclusion are integral parts of any sustainable development strategy. It will also focus on skills and education policies to facilitate job

transition and improve employability, including equitable outcomes for vulnerable groups such as women, girls and youth. Finally, the Forum will also advocate social protection mechanisms and strategies for sustainable development.

The solution presenters will bring new technology and capacity (i.e. transfers of know-how, technology, and exchanges of information) which can be utilized through South-South cooperation and positively bring profound changes in people's lives. With the rise of new modes of dialogue and South-South cooperation, the development solutions that will be showcased in the Forum are essential tools in the fight against poverty and for the promotion of access to information and socioeconomic opportunities, especially in the areas of employment, economic empowerment, knowledge sharing, agriculture and food security, as well as climate change adaptation and its related themes.

D. Profiles: Moderator and Panellists of the Solution Forum

Moderator: Mr. Peter Poschen	
	<p>Mr. Poschen has over 25 years of experience on four continents in sustainable development, with a focus on the social dimensions of the use of natural resources.</p> <p>He is currently Director of the Job Creation and Enterprise Development Department of the International Labour Office (ILO) in Geneva, Mr Poschen also coordinates the ILO Global Green Jobs Programme. He is one of the principal authors of the ILO/UNEP/IOE/ITUC 2012 report 'Working towards sustainable development – opportunities for decent work and social inclusion in a green economy'.</p>

Solution presenter	Solution to be presented
<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>The Honourable Errol McLeod, M.P., Minister of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development, Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>The Honourable Errol McLeod served as the Member of Parliament for Oropouche during the first Republican Parliament (1976-1981). He was again elected Member of Parliament for Pointe-a-Pierre in the 10th Republican Parliament in May 2010, and appointed Minister of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development on 28 May 2010.</p> <p>Minister McLeod's professional background includes training as a 'Teacher Mentor', and training in electrical craft and refinery operations. He worked for many years in the energy sector in Trinidad and Tobago and was an active trade unionist and labour leader. In 1987 he was</p>	<p>This keynote presentation will illustrate examples of how Trinidad and Tobago has taken the initiative and leadership in cooperating with other countries of the South in the field of energy and in advocating for the promotion of decent work (cooperation in the Caribbean and with other developing countries).</p>

elected President General of the Oilfield Workers' Trade Union (OWTU), a position he held for 21 years until his retirement in 2008. He also served for 16 years on the Executive of the International Federation of Energy, Chemicals, Mines and General Workers' Union (ICEM) and was a co-founder of the then local Committee for Labour Solidarity. His knowledge of and experience in the energy sector are extensive.



HE Ambassador Laercio Antonio Vinhas, Brazilian Mission to the International Atomic Agency in Vienna

Ambassador Vinhas worked at the Brazilian National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN) from 1965 to 2011. Over a period of almost forty seven years of work as a researcher, manager, university professor and as an academic adviser, he acquired broad experience in various subjects, including atomic energy, nuclear physics, nuclear instrumentation, application of nuclear energy, radiation protection, nuclear safety, nuclear security, nuclear safeguards, emergency planning and preparedness, physical protection, public information, and international co-operation. Most recently the Ambassador has held the following positions: Permanent Representative of Brazil to the International Atomic Energy Agency, (February 2012); Permanent Representative of Brazil to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (February 2012); and Governor of Brazil to the Board of Governors of the IAEA (February 2012).

This solution will show examples of how Brazil has taken the initiative to cooperate with other countries of the South in the fields of energy, climate change, environmental sustainability and decent work. As Brazil was the host country for the Rio+20 Summit, and played a key role in the finalization of the Outcome Document “The Future We Want”, reflections on the follow-up to Rio+20, especially the linkages between the three pillars of sustainable development – social, environmental and economic – would be essential. Examples of cooperation with countries from the Global South in the field of Energy (and their social linkages) will be highlighted.



Dr. Christo Marais, Chief Director, National Resource Management Programmes, Department of Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa.

Mr. Christo is a founding member of Working for Water, Working on Fire, and Working for Woodlands in the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry. He has been working as a natural resource manager in conservation

This presentation aims to highlight Dr. Marais' work on the restoration of natural capital and climate resilient infrastructure development and the links with the socio-political priorities in South Africa (including employment and rural development) and to address the potential for creating jobs in natural resource management and energy generation. He will highlight the potential of using public employment and social

<p>agencies in South Africa and has published extensively on the restoration of natural capital and the payment of ecosystem services. Winner of the Cape Action for People and the Environment (C.A.P.E.) Gold Award in 2007 in recognition of the pivotal role he has played in biodiversity protection and poverty alleviation initiatives across South Africa.</p>	<p>protection schemes to serve as a vehicle to build resilient enterprises and communities that have the ability to adapt to climate change and develop climate resilient infrastructure, and at the same time contribute to the overall goal of biodiversity. He will share knowledge of how the Government of South Africa has cooperated with other countries in this framework.</p>
<div data-bbox="493 569 693 854" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Brian Kohler, Director for Health, Safety and Sustainability at IndustriAll Global Union</p> <p>Brian Kohler started working in the chemical industry, first at Fiberglas Canada, and then at Shell Canada, in Sarnia, Canada. Gradually earning a reputation as an occupational health and safety and environmental activist, he became a full-time National Representative for his union in 1990, and since 2008 has worked for IndustriAll Global Union and its predecessor the ICEM.</p> <p>Brian studied chemistry at Simon Fraser University and the University of Waterloo. He is also a graduate of the Labour College of Canada and is presently working on a PhD in Low Carbon Energy Technologies. A researcher, educator, and award-winning writer; his technical expertise is much valued within the labour movement and beyond it.</p>	<p>This presentation will be informative for those attending to learn from the experience of the IndustriALL in the promotion of worker's rights in the Global South in the fields of energy and mining sectors particularly in developing countries, and decent, safe and sustainable jobs in the energy field through the global framework agreements (GFAs) and/or global corporate networks. Additional topics shall include triangular cooperation (e.g. North unions supporting Southern-led initiatives) projects and activities from IndustriALL, especially in the fields of energy and climate change in the framework of the promotion of the decent work agenda</p> <p><i>"As trade unionists, we have a responsibility to ourselves, our families, and our communities. We must speak for today's workers - and future workers. Sustainable development is the goal. Just Transition is the path. Sustainability must be the basis of a sound industrial policy, to preserve existing jobs and create new jobs that provide decent work in a greener economy. There are no jobs on a dead planet."B. Kohler</i></p>



Mr. Jürgen Schwettmann, Director, Partnerships and Development Cooperation Department, ILO

Jürgen Schwettmann Director of the Partnerships and Development Cooperation Department of the ILO is responsible for resource mobilization and the management of technical cooperation activities and external relations. Mr. Schwettmann has written numerous articles, discussion papers, studies, books and essays related to cooperative development, rural finance, the social economy, rural development and cash crop marketing.

This presentation will demonstrate the ILO's engagement in South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) under the framework of the ILO South-South and triangular cooperation strategy: "South-South and triangular cooperation: The way forward" adopted by the ILO Governing Body in March 2012. It will highlight the benefits of SSTC strategies and mechanisms in the context of climate change and the way it affects the job security and economic empowerment of the disadvantaged sectors of society. The presentation will also focus on the potential of the ILO's tripartite constituency in advancing the sustainable development agenda, which addresses poverty reduction, social protection and the low-carbon economic development. Finally, specific examples will be given of South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives with partners from the South, such as Brazil, China, and India with the Indian Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, which links social protection with environmental policies.

E. Structure of the Solution Forum on Energy, Climate Change and Decent Work

The Solution Forum will be conducted in an interactive manner, involving presentations of applied development solutions by technical experts.

Each panellist will have 15 minutes to present their solution. After each presentation there will be a brief question and answer session. After the presentations the Moderator will invite further questions from the audience to facilitate discussion on how these innovative solutions can contribute to energy and climate change and how other countries in the South may be able to benefit from these solutions.

The Moderator will summarize the discussions and give his closing remarks, including possible recommendations on how to strengthen national, regional and continental policy cohesion to boost investment and the sustainable use of renewable energy technologies, on the creation of innovation and competence centres, on capacity building in renewable energy technologies, on pilot projects for the transfer of renewable energy technologies, and on the integration of renewable energy technology into national innovation systems, plans, and investment priorities.

The summary report and the recommendations will be issued prior to the closing ceremony on the fifth day of the GSSD Expo.

ILO Focal Point:

Anita Amorim,
Senior External Relations Specialist
South-South Cooperation and UN affairs
amorim@ilo.org
+41-795931355

Annex

Criteria for good practices

As cross-cutting criteria the question of the ILO's role is fundamental: "What is the role of the ILO in facilitating this practice? Does the practice make use of the ILO's comparative advantage and its unique access to governments, employers' and workers' organizations?" Another important cross-cutting criterion is the question of mainstreaming gender equality, and whenever possible, environmental sustainability. The good practices to be selected should meet at least three of the following criteria:

- **Good practices that include "horizontal" cooperation:** cooperation between two or more 'South' countries that share similar geo-political and socio-economic circumstances and values. Cooperation could be in the form of sharing knowledge, training manpower or replicating proven strategies in similar settings. Some guiding questions: Is this a practice that was allowed to be implemented based on principles of equality and international solidarity? One of the principles of South-South cooperation is the absence of conditionality, based on non-discrimination and information sharing. Was this possible?
 - In many cases middle-income countries also contribute to least developed countries (LDCs) through development cooperation, similar to traditional "North-South" cooperation. In order to be defined as "South-South cooperation", the criteria mentioned in the Nairobi Declaration (2009) should be met, including principles of demand-driven international solidarity.
- **Good practices that include triangular cooperation:** cooperation of one 'North' country and two or more 'South' countries. Assistance from the North can be in the form of a financial contribution or technical expertise.
- **Innovative:** What is special about the practice that makes it of potential interest to others? Note that a practice need not be new to fit this criterion. Practices at this level may not be substantiated by data or formal evaluation, but they have been tried and a strong logical case can be made for their effectiveness, in accordance with the above criteria.
- **Adaptability:** Is this an SSC practice that can be adapted in similar situations or settings? Have they proven to be successful, with demonstrable results? Although the practice is localized, it has characteristics that are transferable to other settings or situations.
- **Sustainability:** Is the SSC practice and/or its benefits likely to continue in some way and to continue being effective, in the medium to long term? This could involve continuation of a project of activity after its initial funding is expected to expire or the creation of new attitudes, ways of working, mainstreaming development cooperation in the field of decent work, or the building of capacity, etc.