



ILO/EC Project
Monitoring and Assessing
Progress on Decent Work (MAP)



MEETING ON MEASURING AND MONITORING DECENT WORK
Lessons learnt from the MAP project
Geneva, 27-29 June 2012
ILO Building, Room IX, R2 South

Concept Note

Decent work is central to efforts to reduce poverty and is a means for achieving equitable, inclusive and sustainable development. It involves opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income, provides security in the workplace and social protection for workers and their families, and gives people the freedom to express their concerns, to organize and participate in decisions that affect their lives.

In this regard, monitoring and assessing progress towards decent work at the country level is an important concern for the ILO and its constituents. In September 2008, the ILO convened an international Tripartite Meeting of Experts (TME) on the Measurement of Decent Work, and consequently adopted a framework for developing Decent Work Indicators that was presented to the 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians in December 2008.

The project Monitoring and Assessing Progress on Decent Work (MAP) (2009–2013), funded by the European Union, works with government agencies and employers' and workers' organizations to strengthen their capacity to monitor and assess progress towards decent work in their own countries. To date, the MAP project has supported nine countries in collecting data and identifying and compiling decent work indicators. The compiled indicators form the basis of a Decent Work Country Profile, which is an integrated policy analysis that can be used to inform national programmes and policy-making on decent work. The project is also providing guidelines and tools for measuring and assessing progress on decent work.

This meeting will bring together the producers and users of decent work indicators to share experiences and discuss main challenges for measuring and monitoring decent work at the national level. Participants will include officials from national statistical offices, ministries of labour, and workers' and employers' organizations, ILO experts, and representatives from the European Commission and relevant UN agencies.

More specifically, it will give an opportunity to those countries which have participated in the MAP project to present lessons learnt from their experience in several important areas: how the ILO framework on measuring decent work has been applied; how it has been adapted to national priorities; what are the main challenges; and what are the tools and supports that are developed by ILO to respond to these challenges.

The discussion will focus on the following themes:

- what is measured (indicators identified at national level, definitions);
- how is it measured (data collection tools, compilation and databases);
- for what purpose decent work is measured at national level;
- main outputs (national assessments on progress and deficits on decent work); and
- for whom (main users and links to policy-making).

This meeting is intended to contribute to strengthening ILO constituents' capacities to measure and monitor decent work. A full report on lessons learnt and main challenges will be produced from the proceedings. Recommendations will be formulated for tools and guidelines and on a global methodology for self-monitoring and self-assessment of progress towards decent work. This global methodology will be further developed and discussed at the MAP project's Global Conference (mid-2013), and presented at the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (end 2013).