ILO Skills Innovation Network
2nd Core Group Meeting

November 26, 2020

Report
The second Core Group meeting took place on 26 November 2020 for the Core Group members to identify the shared vision for the Network. The meeting focused on:

1. members’ needs: how and what ILO can support with its expertise in skills development areas
2. members’ strengths: what can you provide to the network;
3. opportunities for collaboration: what kind of peer-support you want to see in the network

Core Group consists of 17 teams out of 30.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14:00 – 14:10</td>
<td>Welcome to participants</td>
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<td>14:10 – 14:20</td>
<td>Check-in in breakouts:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1) Share a few words about yourself and your project / application</td>
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<td>2) What is one skill-related question that you currently have?</td>
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<td>14:20 – 14:40</td>
<td>Presentation of ILO to update on</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1) Vision of platform &amp; community</td>
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<td>2) Update on categories and further steps</td>
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<td>3) ILO contribution to the Network</td>
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<td>14:40 – 15:30</td>
<td>Coaching circles – peer-to-peer support</td>
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<td>15:35 – 15:35</td>
<td>Short break</td>
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<td>15:35 – 15:55</td>
<td>Group feedback on next steps as community. Mainly as voting on:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1) My contribution to the network</td>
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<td>2) Communication platform and technical support</td>
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<td>3) Relevant themes / ILO contribution</td>
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<td>4) Peer-support</td>
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<td>15:55 – 16:00</td>
<td>Closing</td>
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Check-in in breakouts

To kick off the meeting, participants were invited to briefly introduce themselves and their organizations, and share one work-related question or challenge they currently have.

Some questions shared by participants included:

• How do we expand our projects?
• How do we effectively deliver training modules for digital skills to workers?
• How do we embed digital skills training module into national education and training system?
• How do we institutionalise the entrepreneurship education to university via online platform, but still reducing digital divide?
• How best can we capture prior experience in informal sector?
• Where to start when mapping existing skills to provide the workforce with the right skills for the market?
• How to find fund-raising opportunities to finance our initiatives
The first session of the meeting consisted of a brief recap of the purpose of the Skills Innovation Network, including main objectives and characteristics.

- **ILO Skills Innovation Network**
  - Networking and collaboration: Facilitate discussion and exchange of ideas among members, encourage learning from the others to turn ideas into real-world innovations.
  - Knowledge development: Develop members' knowledge and expertise on skills development and innovation by accessing a wide range of e-learning tools.
  - Match challenges and solutions: Identify the most pressing skills challenges in the world and invite innovators to solve them.

A member-driven network
Update on Skills Innovation Network

The presentation also included the role of the Core Group vis-à-vis the Network.

Network levels of participation

“Leader”
Those who are leaders in the Network sustaining his membership with active participation.

“Regular”
Those who contribute to an online platform, or an e-mail thread, or come to events.

“Visitor”
Those who consume the network’s content but never contribute to it.
Finally, participants were guided through the process of co-designing the Skills Innovation Network.

**Update on Skills Innovation Network**

- **The co-design process**
  - 1. Conducting an audience analysis
     - 19 November 2020
  - 2. Identifying Network shared value
     - 26 November 2020
  - 3. Identifying pilot activities
     - 3 December 2020
  - 4. Designing Network Charter
     - 10 December 2020
  - 5. Soft Launch
     - January 2021

Expanding the Network
ILO Contribution to the Network

Participants were invited to share their thoughts on how the ILO could contribute to the Network/what kind of support the ILO could provide to its members.

Some ideas included:

- Develop a map of skills
- Provide expert input on specific topics
- Provide SDG training to be integrated/linked with projects
- Facilitate coordination between different organizations,
- Foster knowledge exchange
- Promote engagement
- Map possible funds/financial opportunities
- Support joint proposal writing for wider project scope
- Visibility
Coaching circles – peer-to-peer support

Participants were given the opportunity to share their organization’s current needs and pain points and to receive coaching from the other members.

The objective of the activity was to show how peer-to-peer support helps accelerating ideas and overcoming obstacles jointly.

The activity was well received by participants as can be seen in the comments below.

### How was the coaching circle for you? ¿Cómo fue el círculo de entrenamiento para ti?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very interesting</th>
<th>It was useful especially the concept of sharing ideas and thoughts.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>marvellous</td>
<td>It was interesting to discuss what is happening in other countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interesante e instructivo</td>
<td>Enriqueheimer la posibilidad de articular proyectos y sinergias en las necesidades y propositas de cada uno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interesting to see many overlapping challenges (and solutions!)</td>
<td>Its great and efficient.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I could connect with individuals having similar issues, was helpful</td>
<td>Very inspiring and useful but too short and maybe they should be pre categorized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muy interesantes, exploramos los desafíos conjuntos y salieron buenas ideas</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Awesome, it was really interesting knowing about the other programs and see all the common points with others</td>
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<tr>
<td>Useful, and informative as we shared some commonalities on Skills Development initiatives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FANTASTICO, the tool helped me to visualize how the ideas are structured and support each other to make our project better.</td>
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<tr>
<td>It was a very interesting exercise because we could interact with people from other projects and share our experience and also know from them.</td>
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Participants were invited to identify what kind of peer-support activities they would benefit from in the network.

They noted the importance of peer-coaching and knowledge-sharing for refining their proposals, establishing new joint projects or scaling existing work.

Group feedback on next steps as community.

Which peer-support activities would you benefit from? ¿De qué actividades de apoyo entre pares se beneficiaría usted?

![Bar chart showing the preferences for peer-support activities.]

- Peer coaching: 8
- Internal platform: 6
- Starting new projects jointly: 9
- Partnerships to scale: 8
- Skills sharing: 11
Participants were asked to describe what their role would be in the network.

The main roles identified by participants included: technical expert, bridge builder (e.g. connecting to externals), lead role (facilitating meetings & peer sessions), organizer (e.g. events & training), researcher (e.g. data analysis), and mentor.
Group feedback on next steps as community.

Participants were also asked to provide further insights on the support that the ILO can provide to their projects and/or organizations.

Expert inputs and mapping of possible funds/financial opportunities were the two items with the most votes.

How much would you benefit from the following ILO support? | ¿Cuánto se beneficiaría usted del siguiente apoyo de la OIT?
Participants also voted on their preferred tool of communication for the network.

The majority chose a private group in LinkedIn. Other tools that were also mentioned during the discussion included: Zoom, Trello (for specific projects or tasks), Discord, Google services zoom, YouTube and Google drive. One participant mentioned that emails work better and another one said that there is no need for a platform or online tool.
A glance at our 2nd Core Group Meeting Participants
Advancing social justice, promoting decent work

A glance at our 2nd Core Group Meeting Participants
For further information and any enquiry

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