The Development Cooperation Strategy pursues a single overarching objective: to enable the Office to provide better services to constituents so as to better deliver decent work outcomes at all levels.

Decent work has become a global aspiration and a universal commitment. Anchored in its standard-setting mandate and tripartite nature, the ILO should remain the global reference for knowledge and expertise, as well as an operational reference for the promotion of decent work, in order to avoid any dilution of the decent work concept covering employment, social protection and social dialogue as well as fundamental principles and rights at work and international labour standards with the cross-cutting theme of gender.

Given the central place of decent work in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, there are high expectations placed on the ILO. Renewed emphasis is required on the way in which the Organization implements development cooperation.

The ILO Development Cooperation Strategy 2015–17 is based on 4 key elements:

**Focus**
- Greater focus and effectiveness (including country ownership and constituents’ involvement) will produce better results.
- Greater transparency and better reporting will enhance visibility.
- Systematic evaluations and external assessments will improve the design of development cooperation interventions, programmes and projects.

**Effectiveness**
- High quality and results: Ensure the focus is on attaining results and on providing a relevant, high-quality service mix, including research, knowledge, networks, policy, capacity building and direct support.
- Taking action on challenges: as outlined by evaluations and reviews of development partners.
- Decentralization: projects must be managed where activities take place.
- Value for money: delivering development cooperation in an effective and cost-efficient way.
- Improving staff development on development cooperation.

**Capacity Development**
- Compliance: with the capacity-development approach of constituents.
- Increased and consistent quality of the Organization and the ITC-ILO’s capacity development activities with constituents: enhancing the impact and sustainability of development cooperation operations.

**Resource Mobilization**
- Consolidation and diversification: consolidating partnerships with the top contributors, while developing alternative funding.
- Greater predictability: by concluding multi-annual partnerships with core funding partners, as well as with emerging and private partners.
- Flexibility: by flexibly allocating resources to country and global priorities associated with programme and budget outcomes.
- Local resource mobilization: through Decent Work Country Programmes (DWCPs) resource mobilization plans.
- Converging efforts: the Organization has the potential to reinforce resource mobilization by the Office.
- Visibility: extending communication on results and human impact.

Development cooperation will be central to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, more specifically, to making decent work a daily reality for all.

International labour standards are the foundation of the ILO; now, even more than before, they form the basis of its development cooperation programme, and contribute to the advancement of employment, social protection and social dialogue.

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