EMPLOYMENT FOR PEACE, STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE HORN OF AFRICA
The Horn of Africa
Labour market in the Horn of Africa: key data

- 213 million people live in the Horn of Africa (one fifth of the continent’s population);
- The labour force in the seven countries of the Horn is estimated at 89 million people;
- With the exception of Djibouti, between 70% and 85% of the active population is employed in agriculture;
- The median age of the population ranges from 15 years (Uganda) to 21 years (Djibouti);
- Official unemployment rates range from 3% (Uganda) to 43% (Djibouti); no data about underemployment and the “working poor”;
- The percentage of people living below the poverty line ranges from 35% to 50%
- Annual per capita income ranges from 150 $ (Somalia) to 1.130 $ (Djibouti);
- The Horn is home to 800,000 refugees and 3 million internally displaced people
Factors of Instability

- Conflict, tension and civil strife;
- Migration and internal displacement;
- Environmental degradation, climate shocks and water scarcity;
- Crime and piracy;
- Disenfranchisement and lawlessness;
- Poverty and unstable livelihoods;
- Population growth and the importance of youth.

All these factors are either the cause or the effect of unemployment!
The virtuous triangle

Empowerment

Protection

Opportunity

..focus on local initiatives and communities, not on central governments
Opportunity and protection:  
Protection is indispensable for risk taking and to secure livelihoods;  
Employment creates the income necessary to finance protection.

Opportunity and empowerment:  
The existence of opportunities is a prerequisite to empower people;  
Empowered people have voice and bargaining power and can make better use of existing opportunities.

Protection and empowerment:  
Social protection empowers people, for example through micro-insurance;  
Empowered people can organize themselves to provide protection through solidarity, mutuality and reciprocity.
Creating opportunities

- Local economic recovery and development:
  - Enterprise development;
  - Social economy, microfinance and cooperatives;
  - Livelihood diversification.

- Labour-intensive investments
  - Road construction and maintenance;
  - Social infrastructure (schools, hospitals, community centres);
  - Environmental protection and climate change adaptation.

- Skills development
  - Vocational training;
  - Upgrading of traditional apprenticeship systems;
  - Distance training.

Participatory assessment and planning; participatory implementation and evaluation; participatory management
Enhancing Protection

- Adapt the concept of the “Social Protection Floor” to the situation in the Horn of Africa:
  - Capacity building for constituents;
  - Foster the link between social protection and employment
- Provide social assistance
  - (conditional) cash transfers
  - Cash-for-work programmes
- Organize community based protection schemes
  - Modernize, upgrade and upscale existing traditional systems of mutual protection and assistance;
  - Create self-managed community funds
  - Develop micro-insurance systems
Empowering people and communities

- **Strengthened social dialogue:**
  - Capacity building for emerging social partners;
  - South-South cooperation between social partners in the Horn of Africa

- **Organizational development at the local and community levels:**
  - Support to social economy organizations and their unions and federations;
  - Delivery of economic and social services through community-based organizations
Employment for Peace – a tripartite Partnership

African Union Commission

International Labour Office

Intergovernmental Authority On Development
Conference Follow-up – the Roadmap

- AU-ILO-IGAD task team;
- Prioritization of strategies and target countries;
- National consultations in target countries;
- Preparing, finalizing and negotiating project documents;
- Launch of projects in September 2011;
- Submission of the joint strategy to the highest decision-making bodies of AU, ILO and IGAD
- Contribution to the EU strategy on the Horn of Africa