The ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalisation of 2008 institutionalised the Decent Work concept, developed by the ILO since 1999. Decent Work is captured in four strategic objectives – fundamental principles & rights at work and international labour standards, employment and income opportunities, social protection and social security, social dialogue and tripartism. Ensure national commitment, and focus both national and international resources towards labour-related priorities. In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the ILO supports the elaboration and implementation of the DWCPs.

Phase II builds on the achievements of the previous Phase I (2010–2013), which covered the countries of Central Asia and Southern Caucasus. Phase II focuses on a deepened intervention.
The project is part of the Wider Europe Initiative (WEI), a bilateral cooperation programme in Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus and Central Asia, launched by Finland in 2008, which seeks to promote stability, prosperity and well-being in the countries of the region.

Project beneficiaries

Beneficiaries are female and male workers both in the formal and informal economy. Special focus will be put on target groups, such as youth and those that are disadvantaged on the labour market, i.e. persons with disabilities, etc.

Project objectives

(1) Improving labour market information and analysis system and modernisation of its institutions

Focus is on actors that use labour market information, mainly ministry of labour (MoL), public employment services (PES) and agency of statistics. Training will centre on compiling, analysing and disseminating information. Also support to review existing labour statistics concepts, definitions and data collection tools, according to international standards, in view of appropriate employment and labour market policy elaboration. A pilot labour force survey, according to ILO standards, is planned in at least one country.

(2) Targeting labour market policies and programmes, applied by constituents, to facilitate transition to decent work for young people

Review of labour market (LM) policies affecting youth employment (YE) is planned. PES and MoL staff will be trained to develop and implement effective LM policies that facilitate young people’s transition to decent jobs. MoL/PES will be supported to participate in the Regional Cooperation Network of YE, and also to design, monitor and evaluate youth-targeted LM programmes, based on international and sub-regional good practices. A pilot on LM YE programme is also planned.

(3) Strengthening National Social Protection Floors (SPF) to guarantee minimum standards of living, through reforming of social security system

There will be support to set up a working group of line ministries, state agencies, social partners, UN and other international financial agencies, to implement the ILO Recommendation on SPF. Training will be conducted for social partners on SPF concept, and a report will be produced. Roundtables are planned to discuss findings of the assessment, identify areas for government interventions, and reach consensus on the implementation of social protection programmes.

(4) Enhancing capacity of the constituents to provide support and promote occupational safety and health (OSH) in the small- and medium-sized (SME) sector

Support is planned to constituents to set up an OSH tripartite body and implement a national OSH programme. Also it is planned to up-date the national OSH profile, increase knowledge on ILO Conventions, strengthen the role of social dialogue on OSH development issues, and enhance constituents’ capacity to contribute to OSH-related policies. There will be training of labour inspection, including inspection management, investigation and reporting of occupational accidents, etc.

(5) Enhancing constituents’ capacity to promote transitioning from informal to the formal economy

Awareness-raising seminars for social partners will promote transitioning from informal to formal economy, including social dialogue techniques and macro-economics.