

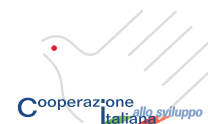


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Putting employment at the centre of public investment and poverty reduction strategies

Inter-regional Workshop on Employment-Intensive
Investment Policies and Practices

16 – 20 July 2007
Turin , Italy



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International Training Centre

www.itcilo.org

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Putting employment at the centre of public investment and poverty reduction strategies



Background

It is widely accepted that poverty is a multidimensional problem, which means that poor people would remain such due to a number of reasons, and would not escape poverty unless several conditions are met. However, there is good evidence that an improvement in living conditions can be achieved through better access to productive resources, remunerated employment, and/or basic services (transport, housing, education, health, etc.).

In this respect, the potential of infrastructure works is vast, considering for example that a large share of public investment in most developing countries and transition economies is in fact in the construction sector. But this potential, and more particularly the possibilities for employment generation, are often unrealised and/or under-exploited.

The international experience shows that employment-intensive investments programmes in infrastructure of public and community interest (construction and maintenance works) can be sustainable and competitive in low-wage, labour-surplus economies where they encourage a judicious combination of local labour with light equipment and other locally available resources.

The workshop being offered will focus on how to conceive and implement this type of investment programmes, as well as on how to mainstream the employment-intensive approaches into national policies and poverty reduction strategies, also in line with the existing decentralisation processes. Pertinent concepts will be shared, and good practice will be illustrated to guide future work in this area. The concerns of and possible benefits to ILO constituents and other national actors will also be debated.



Objectives of the workshop

The ultimate aim of the course is to contribute towards the adoption and effective implementation of national investment policies favouring the optimum use of local labour and other resources towards poverty reduction.

More specifically, upon completing their training, participants will know better the features and operational aspects of the employment-intensive investment approaches supported by the ILO and other

development partners, and have at their disposal guidelines and tools for policy and programme development.



Programme

Day 1: Employment-intensive investment

- The 'employment-intensive' concept: perceptions and definitions
- The nature of employment-intensive investment and its economic and social development potential
- Local resources-based technologies in the infrastructure sector: regional experiences and perspectives

Day 2: Local-level planning, participation and job creation

- Optimum use of local resources in the context of decentralisation
- Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning (IRAP): a participatory planning tool
- Pro-employment city development strategies

Day 3: Design and implementation of employment-intensive investment programmes

- Institutional set-up
- Involving the local construction industry
- Community contracting and local-level public-private partnerships
- Training and capacity-building aspects
- Good labour practices (construction sector)
- Asset management and quality assurance

Day 4: Mainstreaming the EI approaches into national policies and poverty reduction strategies

- Employment-intensive growth: the role of public investment in infrastructure
- Options and operational mechanisms for mainstreaming
- Employment and poverty impact assessment

Day 5: Conclusions and recommendations

- Orientations for future work
- Final wrap-up
- Workshop evaluation

This workshop is organised by the Employment and Skills Development Programme of ITC-ILO in collaboration with the EIIP Programme of the ILO.

The organisers are in a position to offer a limited number of fellowships to selected candidates.



Methodology

The Turin Centre's staff will facilitate the workshop with the assistance of specialists from ILO HQs and field units. A highly participatory approach will be adopted for ensuring an active intervention of all participants and a constructive exchange of ideas and information.

The workshop will combine individual presentations by experts and participants, panel discussions, and group work on selected topics.

In conformity with the Turin Centre procedures, an evaluation of the course will be carried out at the end of the event to determine the perceived relevance of course content to participants' needs and the effectiveness of the methodology and materials employed in achieving the course's training objectives.

Cost and financing

The workshop is fee-paying. The total cost of US\$ 2,665 includes:

(a) Tuition fees (USD 1,570), covering programme development and management, the use of classrooms and teaching equipment, office supplies, training materials, and secretarial and administrative support costs.

(b) Participant subsistence (USD 1,095), including bed & breakfast, two meals, personal laundry, pocket money (EUR12/day), insurance, minor medical care, and social life and other services (transfer from/to Turin airport and a course dinner).

Please note that the prices shown do not include the cost of travel between the participant's home and the course venue.



Language

English

Target audience

- Policy-makers and senior government officials responsible for the development of national macro-economic frameworks, or for sectoral policies, investment plans, employment policies, or poverty reduction strategies
- Staff of technical departments and agencies involved in infrastructure development.
- National associations of workers and employers (the nomination of representatives from the construction sector is highly desirable)
- National educational and training institutions in the development field
- Managers of relevant development programmes and projects
- presentatives

Deadline for Subscription

15 June 2007