



PARTNERSHIPS FOR DECENT WORK



International
Labour
Organization

Newsletter

November 2012 No. 33

Key Resources

[2012 Global South-South Development Expo](#)

[UN Office for South-South Cooperation](#)

[ILO Global Green Jobs Programme](#)

[IBSA Declaration on SSC](#)

[SSC at the ILO](#)

Documents

[RIO+20 Outcome Document: The Future We Want](#)

[UN Secretary-General's report on SSC](#)

[Nairobi Declaration](#)

South-South and Triangular Cooperation at the ILO

[South-South and triangular cooperation: The way forward](#)

[ILO Solution Forum at GSSD 2012: Concept Note](#)

[Newsletter: South-South and Triangular Cooperation at ILC 2012](#)

[Newsletter: South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy adopted in the Governing Body: 22 March 2012](#)

South-South Cooperation Expo 2012

The ILO will take part in the [Global South-South Development Expo](#) 2012 to be hosted by UNIDO at the Hofburg Palace in Vienna, Austria on 19-23 November. The general theme is "Investing in Energy and Climate Change: Inclusive Partnerships for Sustainable Development". The ILO is organizing a [Solutions Forum](#) on the topic of "Energy, Climate Change and Decent Work".

South-South and triangular cooperation at the ILO

The ILO has been involved in supporting South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) for the past three decades. Recent developments testify to the ILO's commitment. In March 2012 the ILO adopted a development cooperation strategy described in the document "South-South and triangular cooperation: The way forward." The framework specifies two key dimensions: 1) The ILO has greater institutional awareness and capacity to identify and implement SSTC, with a view to establishing and implementing an SSTC initiative; 2) The Decent Work Agenda is advanced through SSTC with the engagement of an increasing number of governments, social partners, UN agencies and non-state actors. At the 100th Session of the International Labour Conference (2011) a specific budget allocation was approved for SSTC.

Global South-South Development Expo 2012

The 2012 GSSD addresses the links between renewable energy, climate change and development issues. With the Millennium Development Goals rapidly approaching, solutions need to be devised for the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, while focusing on access to clean and new energy.

SSC activities include sharing technical knowledge, developing trade relationships, in-kind contributions, and exchanging services. In 2008 the UNDP Special Unit for SSC launched the first Global South-South Development Expo as a response to the UN Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly ([A/62/295](#)). It called on the international community to scale up its efforts concerning South-South cooperation, by: "(a) optimizing the use of South-South approaches in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); (b) intensifying multilateral support for South-South initiatives to address common development challenges; (c) fostering inclusive partnerships for South-South cooperation, including triangular and public-private partnerships; (d) improving the coherence of United Nations system support for such cooperation; and (e) encouraging innovative financing for South-South and triangular cooperation".

The solutions proposed by ILO at the GSSD focus on the following thematic areas: energy, climate change, industry and decent work; green jobs; occupational safety and health concerns in a green economy; public employment programmes: delivering access to clean, affordable, sustainable energy; and providing climate resilient infrastructure that can be sustained.

This year's conference comes against the backdrop of Rio+20 and the outcome document "[The Future We Want](#)". It contains commitments that are important for the ILO and the GSSD Expo.



The special section dedicated to the “*Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication*” is particularly relevant. Such policies should be supported by an enabling environment and well-functioning institutions at all levels, with a leading role for governments and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society; they should promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, foster innovation and provide opportunities, benefits and empowerment for all and respect of all human rights; take into account the needs of developing countries, particularly those in special situations; help close technology gaps between developed and developing countries; and reduce the technological dependence of developing countries using all appropriate measures. The ILO endorsed a set of nine key messages ahead of this Conference, calling for stronger coherence between the three pillars of sustainable development, with particular focus on creating more and better employment opportunities while enabling the transition to a green economy. In addition, the Rio+20 Outcome Document contains several commitments that are directly related to the ILO’s mandate.

As the first Expo “solely from the South and for the South”, the GSSD brings together developing countries, development partners, United Nations agencies, civil society and the private sector. The Expo will be structured as follows:

- 1) **High-Level Directors-General Meeting:** This forum brings together national administrators, senior managers and focal points directly responsible for international development cooperation, particularly South-South and triangular cooperation, and provides the space to showcase successful solutions, share knowledge and build new partnerships regarding South-South cooperation.
- 2) **Leadership Roundtable:** The Leadership Roundtable gathers representatives and senior officials of the United Nations and Member States and renowned leaders in South-South and triangular cooperation, engaging in a significant dialogue on critical issues in human development.
- 3) **The Solution Exchange Forums** provide a space for the presentation of successful development solutions regarding countries in the South. Each solution showcases its concrete contribution to one or more of the MDGs. The themes of the Solution Forum are centred on energy and climate change:

Solution Exchange Forums

- Energy, Climate Change and Industrial Development
- Energy, Climate Change and Decent Work
- Energy, Climate Change: Focus on Biodiversity, Forestry and Land Degradation
- Energy, Climate Change and Food Security
- Energy, Climate Change and Health, Youth and Women
- Energy, Climate Change and Energy Access

- 4) **Solutions Exhibition Floor** showcases development solutions for the South, using posters, audio-visual equipment and printed materials and publications regarding South-South cooperation.
- 5) **Launch of New Initiatives and Partnerships** encompasses global initiatives in South-South cooperation by leaders of inclusive development.
- 6) **Solutions Matching** in collaboration with the [South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange \(SS-GATE\)](#) is a forum for solution providers, seekers and donors to engage with partners, with the common goal of scaling up particular development solutions. The joint initiatives will be incorporated into SS-GATE.

ILO Solution Forum: Energy, Climate Change and Decent Work

The Forum will be moderated by **Peter Poschen**, Director of the Job Creation and Enterprise Development Department of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva and coordinator of the ILO Global Green Jobs Programme. For the ILO, the notion of green jobs summarizes the transformation of economies, enterprises, workplaces and labour markets into a sustainable, low-carbon economy providing decent work. Green jobs are decent jobs that reduce the consumption of energy and raw materials, limit greenhouse gas emissions, minimize waste and pollution, and protect and restore ecosystems. The programme operates at the following levels: promotion of international policy coherence through research and advocacy; support to constituents at national level through policy and technical advisory services; and capacity development of constituents and partners through training and knowledge sharing. This Initiative is a partnership established in 2007 between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the ILO, and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC). The International Organization of Employers (IOE) joined in 2008. The programme is contributing to regional and local initiatives for greening economies, and provides a comprehensive knowledge base and tools for applying practical approaches.



Promotion of Decent Work

The **Honourable Errol McLeod, M.P.**, Minister of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development of Trinidad and Tobago, will showcase his country’s experience in cooperation with other countries in the South on energy and advocating for the promotion of decent work (cooperation in the Caribbean and with other developing countries). The petroleum resources are the main driver for the growth of the country. At the national level, natural gas counts as primary energy source for fuel and feedstock. The energy sector plays a pivotal role in

Trinidad and Tobago's industry, the island being the main exporter of oil in the Caribbean region and the main producer of liquefied natural gas in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2008 the contribution of the energy sector to gross domestic product (GDP) was approximately 48%, amounting to 57% of total government revenue. The Government has expressed its commitments towards developing an Energy Policy for Trinidad and Tobago, through public consultations and discussion. In this regards, a Framework for the Development of a Renewable Energy Policy for Trinidad and Tobago has been developed for public review and discussion. This represents potential regarding investment, development, research and opportunities for job creation. In November 2008, the Cabinet agreed to the establishment of a Renewable Energy Committee, with the following duties: review the energy balance of Trinidad and Tobago and conduct a current state assessment of renewable energy applications; identify feasible and practical renewable energy technologies in various sectors; The framework acknowledges the complementary role of energy efficiency to achieve long-term sustainable development. Minister McLeod has worked for many years in the energy sector in Trinidad and Tobago and was an active trade unionist and labour leader. In 1987 he was elected President General of the Oilfield Workers' Trade Union (OWTU), from which he retired in 2008. He also served for sixteen years on the Executive of the International Federation of Energy, Chemicals, Mines and General Workers' Union (ICEM) and was a co-founder of the then local Committee for Labour Solidarity.

Energy, Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability

The presentation by **Ambassador Laercio Antonio Vinhas**, Brazilian Mission to the International Atomic Agency in Vienna, illustrates Brazil's experience in South-South cooperation. The ILO and Brazil have collaborated on South-South initiatives for more than 15 years, from individual projects to overarching programmes, tailored by themes such as green jobs, child labour, social security, forced labour. In 1987 the ILO signed an agreement with the Government of Brazil to undertake technical cooperation with other countries in Latin America and Africa. In 2007 and 2008 Memoranda of Understanding were signed on South-South Cooperation on the prevention and elimination of child labour; and on the promotion of social protection in several regions, focusing on Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa. In 2011 two new projects were approved on the elimination of child labour in Haiti and the PALOPs in partnership with the United States Government. A new Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the ILO and the Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger in Brazil to promote technical cooperation and exchanges of knowledge, information and experience in the field of social protection, socio-economic inclusion and poverty eradication. In an interview to the UN Non-governmental Liaison Service, the former head of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABS) stated: "South-South technical cooperation will be a powerful tool available to governments in their efforts to turn the future global commitments resulting from the Rio+20 Conference into concrete and effective actions on the ground. Knowledge sharing and technology transfer, complemented by capacity development, will be essential elements in enhancing relevant national capacities to formulate and implement successful policies and actions that will lead to a more inclusive and uniform transition in all developing countries to a new global paradigm that integrates environmental sustainability with social development".

Ambassador Vinhas has extensive experience in the field of energy, having worked at the Brazilian National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN) from 1965 to 2011. Recently, the Ambassador has held the following positions: Permanent Representative of Brazil to the International Atomic Energy Agency – IAEA (February 2012); Permanent Representative of Brazil to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization – CTBTO (February 2012) and Governor of Brazil on the Board of Governors of the IAEA (February 2012). His presentation showcases examples of Brazil's initiative in cooperating with other countries of the South in the fields of energy, climate change, environmental sustainability and decent work. Brazil is playing a fundamental role in promoting implementation of the Outcome Document of Rio+20 "The Future We Want", especially on the links between the three pillars of sustainable development – social, environmental and economic.

Job creation in natural resource management

Dr. Christo Marais, Chief Director – National Resource Management Programmes, Department of Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa, is a founding member of Working for Water, Working on Fire, and Working for Woodlands in the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry. South-Africa has been a long-standing partner of ILO in the field of South-South Cooperation. The ILO's work in South Africa started in 1996 with the introduction of labour-based road works and research, leading to further work with the Department of Public Works and the establishment of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) in 2003, and most recently collaborating on



highlighting innovations in South-South public investments and employment programmes. A new IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa) joint declaration was signed on 12 June 2012. The signatories were the Minister of Labour of South Africa, Ms Nelisiwe Mildred Oliphant, the Minister of Labour and Employment of India, Mr. Mallikarjun Kharge, and the Minister of Labour and Employment of Brazil, Mr. Brizola Neto. It reaffirms the principles of the India-Brazil-South Africa Declaration of Intent on South-South Cooperation and Decent Work, which was initially signed on 22 November 2010 at the ILO. Dr. Marais has experience working as a natural resource manager in conservation agencies in South Africa, having published extensively on the restoration of natural capital and the payment of ecosystem services. In 2007, he received the C.A.P.E. Gold Award for his contribution to biodiversity protection and poverty alleviation initiatives across South Africa. The presentation focuses on Dr. Marais' work on restoration of natural capital and climate resilient infrastructure development and links with

socio-political priorities in South Africa, discussing the potential for creating jobs in natural resource management and energy generation. The presentation includes an overview of the potential avenues for using public employment and social protection schemes to serve as a means to build resilient enterprises and communities that can adapt to climate change and develop climate resilient infrastructure, at the same time promoting biodiversity. It also showcases examples of how the Government of South Africa has cooperated with other countries on this topic.

Triangular cooperation

The concept of triangular cooperation is defined as South-South cooperation supported by a Northern partner. Examples of ILO engagement in triangular arrangements are the agreement between the United States and Brazil to support Haiti in combating child labour in the construction sector, and the 2011 Brazil-United States Memorandum of Understanding to promote Decent Work through South-South and trilateral cooperation. This presentation showcases examples of triangular cooperation. **Mr Brian Kohler**, Director for Health, Safety and Sustainability at IndustriAll Global Union will illustrate its experience in promoting workers' rights in the Global South in the energy and mining sectors, especially in developing countries, and decent, safe and sustainable jobs in the energy field through global framework agreements (GFAs) and/or global corporate networks. Mr Kohler will also discuss triangular cooperation (Northern unions supporting Southern-led initiatives), and projects from IndustriAll in the area of energy and climate change linked to the decent work agenda.

“As trade unionists we have a responsibility to ourselves, our families, and our communities. We must speak for today’s workers and future workers. Sustainable development is the goal. Just transition is the path. Sustainability must be the basis of a sound industrial policy, to preserve existing jobs and create new jobs that provide decent work in a greener economy. There are no jobs on a dead planet.” – B. Kohler

ILO engagement in South-South activities

Mr. Jürgen Schwettmann, Director, Partnerships and Development Cooperation Department, ILO is responsible for resource mobilization and the management of technical cooperation activities and external relations. Mr. Schwettmann has written numerous articles, discussion papers, studies, books and essays related to cooperative development, rural finance, the social economy, rural development and cash crop marketing. This presentation will demonstrate the ILO’s engagement in South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) under the framework of the ILO South-South and triangular cooperation strategy: “South–South and triangular cooperation: The way forward” adopted by the ILO Governing Body in March 2012. It will highlight the benefits of SSTC strategies and mechanisms in the context of climate change and the way it affects the job security and economic empowerment of the disadvantaged sectors of society.

Criteria for good practices in South-South and triangular cooperation

In answering “What is the role of ILO in facilitating this practice? Does the practice make use of the ILO’s comparative advantage and unique access to governments, employers’ and workers’ organizations?” Five criteria were identified as fundamental. The Good Practices should include at least three of the following criteria:

- **Horizontal cooperation:** between two or more Southern hemisphere countries sharing similar geopolitical and socio-economic conditions. Cooperation can take the form of knowledge sharing, training manpower or replicating successful strategies. In order to define it as South-South cooperation, the criteria specified in the Nairobi Declaration (2009) should be met on principles of demand-driven international solidarity.
- **Triangular cooperation:** including one country from the North and at least two countries from the South. The Northern contribution could be in the form of financial assistance or technical expertise.
- **Innovative:** A practice does not necessarily need to be new to fit the criteria of innovation. However, practices should be able to make a strong logical case for their effectiveness.
- **Adaptability:** A practice needs to be adaptable to similar situations or settings. Even though the practice itself is localised, it must have characteristics that lend themselves to being transferred to other settings or situations.
- **Sustainability:** the practice has to be effective in the medium to long term; this might entail continuation of a project/activity after its initial funding has expired, or the creation of new attitudes, ways of working, mainstreaming development cooperation in the field of decent work, or the creation of capacity etc. representing legacies of particular practices.

For all further information, or for registering for the Expo, visit www.southsouthexpo.org

To unsubscribe from the list, click here



Copyright and Permissions 1996-2010
International Labour Organization (ILO) - Disclaimer

Partnerships and Development Cooperation Department
International Labour Office
CH-1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 799 7604
exrel@ilo.org – www.ilo.org/pardev