



Panama and the ILO



Panama has been an ILO member State since 1919, and has ratified 78 ILO conventions (amongst which 58 are currently in operation in the country) and 1 Protocol, including all eight fundamental Conventions, three governance Conventions and 67 technical Conventions.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Panama supports the ILO's mandate both through contributions to the ILO's core budget and development cooperation programmes and projects. Panama has always been very committed to the promotion of dialogue and cooperation and has been an active contributor to the ILO since the 1990's. It has helped to finance both a project and an office in Panama in support of the development of labour statistics in the region. One of the projects that Panama has been funding since the 1990s in relation to South-South cooperation is the 'System of Labour Information and Analysis' (SIALC).

The system of Labour Information and Analysis (SIALC) is a regional program of the ILO specialized in Labour statistics. It has been in operation in Panama since the mid-1990s. Thanks to an extraordinary contribution from the government of Panama and the support of technical cooperation resources of the ILO Regional Office.

The SIALC is based on accumulated information and knowledge capital of the former ILO World Employment Program of the 1980s, institutional relations of collaboration with statistical institutes and responsible entities for employment surveys in the Latin American countries. The SIALC maintains collaboration relations between the ministries of labour in development and their systems of job information. The SIALC databases are used for specialized reports from headquarters and field offices of the ILO. They are also used for special studies required by the ILO Constituents in the various themes of the world of work. These bases

are the basis for disseminating information and knowledge among Governments, employers 'and workers' organizations, from regional to global reports such as the World Wage, The ILO Labour outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean (annual reports). Thanks to the extraordinary contribution from the Government of Panama and the ILO technical cooperation resources, SIALC assists countries in the development of their labour information systems. Unlike other regions, Latin America is able to make a follow up on the short term designs policies and programs for the promotion of employment and decent jobs.

Thanks to the development of labour information systems, and particularly of employment surveys, the Latin American countries know that employment and decent work challenges are very important

PANAMA'S FINANCIAL PROJECT CONTRIBUTION VIA SIALC

Project: 'Sistema de Información y Análisis Laboral'

Period covered: January 2015 February 2016

Total budget: \$4.338.000

Start date: 1998

Extension end date: 31st March 2017

Evaluation date:
No evaluation planned

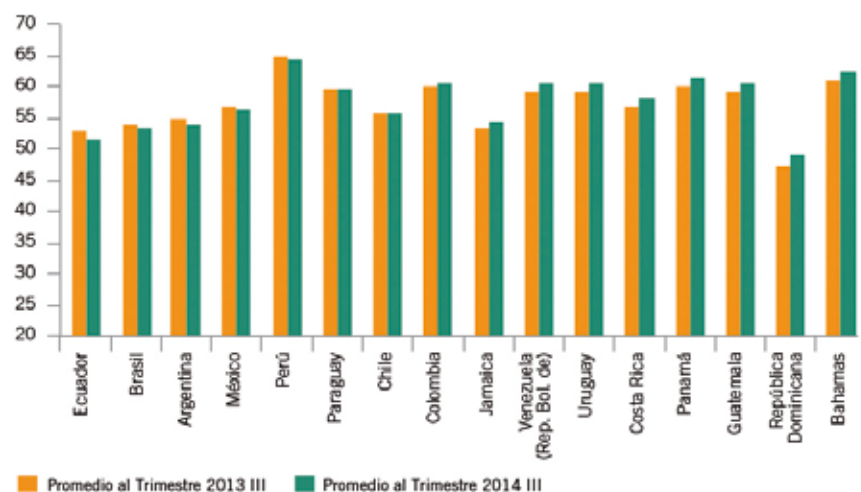
Executed by: Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean

Partner: Government of Panama

Prepared by: Bolivar Pino

Place: Panama, February 2016

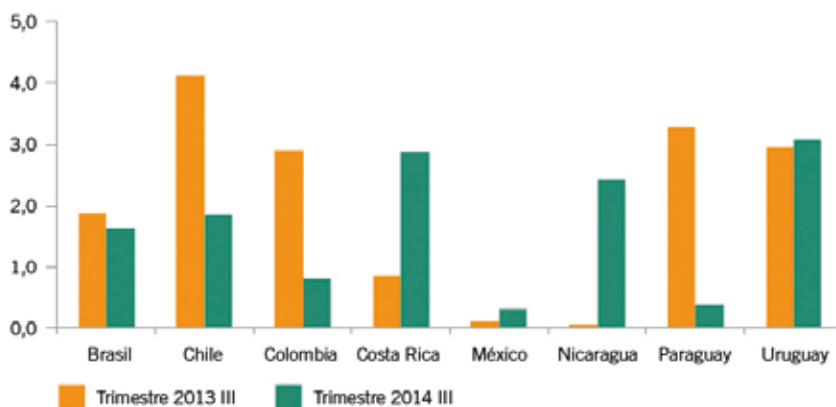
GRÁFICO 10. América Latina y el Caribe (países seleccionados): tasa de ocupación urbana. Enero a septiembre, 2013 y 2014 (porcentajes)



Fuente: OIT sobre la base de información oficial de la encuesta de hogares de los países.

in the region. The understanding of policy efforts must be comprehensive and inclusive because there still remains large gaps among women and young people in terms of decent work. SIALC / ILO / Panama actively promotes South-South cooperation in two complementary ways. First, the institutions are directly assisted by specialists from Latin American countries who have accumulated competences and experiences in the statistical and labour entities of the region. Secondly, it supports the ongoing transfer of experiences the Institutions that are younger and institutionally weaker (I.e. IBGE of Brazil, INEGI of Mexico). In support of the development of surveys in specific countries such as those in Central America, the ILO conducts training courses and seminars and promotes assistance visits to countries with specific require-

GRÁFICO 16. América Latina: variación interanual del salario real medio en el sector formal, 2013 III y 2014 III (porcentajes)



Fuente: OIT sobre la base de información oficial de los países.

ments. For the ILO, the development of labour statistics has a high priority and its strategic value is confirmed in the

ILO Declaration on Social Justice for Equitable Globalization (2008) and the Global Jobs Pact (2009).

World of Work summit - Climate change and the World of Work



H.E. Mr. Juan Carlos Varela Rodriguez, President of the Republic of Panama (left) with Mr. Guy Ryder, ILO Director-General (right), 104th Session of the International Labour Conference. Geneva, 11 June 2015

2015 in Geneva, The President of Panama, Juan Carlos Varela, told the annual conference of the International Labour Organization (ILO) that the key challenge was to ensure that economic growth was accompanied by an improvement of people's living conditions,

together with a move towards a green economy generating significant change in the world of work. Varela addressed the ILO's 104th International Labour Conference in Geneva bringing together more than 4,000 delegates representing governments, employers and workers of the ILO's 185 member States.

AN ARTICULATED ACTION AT THE SUB REGIONAL LEVEL OF THE COUNCIL UNITARY TRADE UNION OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (CSU)

On September 30th 2010 was created, in Panama, the Unitary Trade Union Council of Central America and The Caribbean (CSU) resulting from the merge of the Union Coordinator of Central America and the Caribbean (CSACC) and the Central American Confederation of Workers (CCT). The CSU brings together 30 organizations of Trade unions and represents more than 3 million of workers in the sub region.

The creation of the CSU is a focal example of the processes of union unity that are being developed in the world, resulting in the constitution of entities such as the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and the Trade Union Confederation of Workers of the Americas (CSA). CSU has expressed its total Provision for bipartite and tripartite dialogue at the regional level.

THE COOPERATION OF THE ILO, FROM THE TRADE UNION POINT OF VIEW

The national trade union centers and the CSU consider that the PNTDs, which were tripartite- Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Panama, Nicaragua And Honduras, must be strengthened and more consistent by the signatory countries. In the countries where tripartite agendas have not yet been achieved, dialogue should be encouraged to this end. The national trade union centrals maintain a coordination with the International Office for Workers of the ILO (ACTRAV), to improve their technical management tools, communication, services, tripartite impact, development of proposals and action plans to promote decent work. The ILO has a vital role to play in decent work at the heart of the development agendas of the sub region. However this will require a change in the mentality and attitudes in most countries.

To achieve such a change, the ILO must reinvest in tripartism, to: A) contribute to the reduction of decent work deficits B) promote a climate of respect between social partners, with clear and consensual rules of the game, stimulating the processes of adequate national legislation and practice to international conventions ratified, especially in the case of C.87 and C.98; and (C) actively incorporate tripartism and Work priorities in the UNDAFs, on the basis of Via the PNTD

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