“Strengthening the effectiveness of international assistance and cooperation in combating poverty”

The role of the ILO’s technical cooperation

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ODA will be tight for achieving MDG's

- The effect of the global economic crisis on ODA has not yet been fully felt
- All-time high level of 119.8 billion in 2008, a 10.2% increase
- Nonetheless...
  - ODA remains short of the estimate of $150 billion deemed necessary to attain the MDG's
  - ODA/GNI ratio has declined since 2005

(Source: United Nations, Review of trends and perspectives in funding for development cooperation, p.5)

Focus on effectiveness:

Important commitments

- Call to maintain or increase ODA. More so in a time of financial and economic crisis
- Reaffirmed the principles in Paris Declaration (2005):
  - country ownership,
  - alignment of aid with national priorities
  - harmonized donor actions
  - results-based management
  - mutual accountability
  - South – South cooperation
- UN reform

ILO's Technical cooperation response

- Developing Decent Work Country Programmes (DWCP's) - nationally owned
- Integrating DWCP in national planning cycles and UNDAF's , PRSP's, etc... to enhance system-wide coherence
- Adapt our technical cooperation and resource mobilization strategies:
  - Results-based approach
  - Focus on quality
  - Development of partnerships, less earmarking funds, harmonizing cycles, new PPP
  - Un " delivery as one" funds
  - Reducing administrative and procedural burden
  - South-South cooperation
- Capitalizing from our tripartite constituents
- Emphasises capacity building

Decent Work as a development strategy

- Employment - primary means of reducing poverty
- A rights-based development strategy
  - Promote and realise standards and fundamental principles and rights at work
  - Create opportunities to secure employment and income
  - Enhance the coverage of social protection
  - Strengthen social dialogue and tripartism
- Global political support to employment and DW as centre of development
- Reaffirms its value in times of crisis

Recovering from the Crisis: A Global Jobs Pact

A framework of practical policies

- accelerating employment creation, jobs recovery and sustaining enterprises,
- building social protection systems and protecting people,
- strengthening respect for international labour standards,
- social dialogue: bargaining collectively, identifying priorities, stimulating action.
- shaping a fair and sustainable globalization through increased policy **coherence**
  - Collaborating with UN and others, responding positively to G20 invitation to assess actions taken on employment and social protection and continue active role in the UN CEB
  - ODA resources for countercyclical action

Active labour market policies include:

- Helping jobseekers by improving public employment services, investing in workers' skills development, in particular for vulnerable groups;
- limiting job losses by supporting enterprises in retaining their workforce;
- promoting job creation by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and micro-enterprises, including coops;
- investing in public employment guarantee schemes and other job creating public works programmes;
- implementing a supportive regulatory environment conducive to job creation through sustainable enterprise creation and development; and
- increasing investment in infrastructure and "green" jobs.

Building Social Protection

- Basic social protection floor: access to health care, income security for elderly and disabled, child benefits and income security combined with public employment guarantee schemes for unemployed and working poor;
- Extending the duration and coverage of unemployment benefits;
- Providing minimum benefit guarantees where pension or health funds may no longer be adequately funded ;
- Providing adequate coverage for temporary and non-regular workers;
- Avoiding wage deflation, through social dialogue, collective bargaining and/or statutory or negotiated minimum wages.
- Narrowing the gender pay gap must be an integrated part of these efforts.

Concrete examples

- The ILO has diverted some of the resources at the country level to deal with the immediate consequences of the economic crisis
  - Rapid assessments to analyse the impact of the crisis and support dialogue on recovery policies. (Asia)
  - Assessing and disseminating good practices on respond to the crisis (Americas: ILO-ECLA)
  - Monitoring and analysis of the situation with migrant workers and remittances (Europe)
  - Strengthening the social protection system to support workers in the informal economy, the unemployed and vulnerable groups. (Syria)

The ILO

- The only tripartite organization in the UN system
- Founded in 1919 with the league of nations from the Treaty of Versailles

“ Whereas universal and lasting peace can be established only if it is based upon social justice”

“ Labour is not a commodity”

“ Poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere “

- Received the Nobel Peace Price in 1969
- Received over US$ 300 million in extra budgetary contributions in 2008
- Delivers technical assistance in around 140 countries