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# **Employment Support for the Eradication of Poverty and Empowerment of Children and Youths (Global Trends and ILO's Initiatives)**

The 16<sup>th</sup> ASEAN and Japan

High Level Officials Meeting for Caring Societies



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# **Outline of Today's Presentation**

- 1. The International Labour Organisation**
- 2. ILO Activities for the Eradication of Poverty**
- 3. ILO Activities for Empowerment of Children and Youth**
- 4. Recommendation**



# 1. International Labour Organisation (ILO)

- Created in 1919, as part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I.
- Universal and lasting peace can be established only if it is based upon **social justice**
- **Unique tripartite structure**
- Adoption and Implementation of International Labour Standards



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- **Specialized agency of United Nations after the World War II**
- **Current Member States: 187**
- **Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1969**
- **Technical Cooperation /Partnership**
- **ILO Seven Centenary Initiatives**



## **2. ILO Activities for the Eradication of Poverty**

**Decent Work, the key to poverty reduction**

**Four strategic objectives of the Decent Work Agenda**

- **employment creation,**
  - **social protection,**
  - **rights at work,**
  - **social dialogue**
- + gender equality** as a crosscutting objective.



Breaking the cycle of poverty involves full employment and decent work

- **The 2030 Agenda** was adopted at a United Nations special summit in September 2015 in New York.
- **Decent Work Agenda** became integral elements of the 2030 Agenda for **SDGs** Goal 8.
- **Social protection floors** are mentioned under Goal 1.
- DW is a key to sustainable development.





- By 2030 **over 600 million new jobs** need to be created: **Conditions for about 780 million** need to be improved who are working but not earning enough to lift themselves and their families out of USD 2 a-day poverty;
- Economic growth is an essential but not sufficient condition for poverty reduction. Poverty reduction involves **growth with a substantial reorientation in favour of the poor**
- It includes changes in institutions, laws, regulations and practices that are part of the process that creates and perpetuates poverty



# 3. ILO activities for Empowerment of Children and Youth

## Youth Employment - Trend

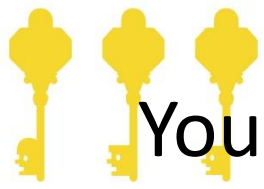
- Young people account for **almost half** the Asia-Pacific's jobless
- Youth unemployment rates have risen faster than the adult rates and the most in South-Eastern Asia and the Pacific (Figure1)
- **Lack of decent jobs**: Although about 300 million young people have jobs, the quality of employment is insufficient (poor pay, poor conditions and poor prospects)
- **Informal and/or vulnerable employment** that dominates young people's labour market experiences: Asia and the Pacific (AP)  
90.5 %





# Youth Employment-Policy

- Improving the **quality of education and vocational training**
- **Matching** of labour supply and demand
- **Targeting** various groups
- Providing **young girls** free non-formal education
- Employment creation through **entrepreneurship**
- Improving working conditions
- Improving employment levels, access to employment opportunities and strengthen human capital
- Making **social benefits** for employment rather than unemployment



# Youth Employment - Projects

| Year      | Country   | Project   |
|-----------|---|---|
| 2017-2019 | Cambodia<br>the Lao People's<br>Democratic Republic | Cooperatives to Strengthen Youth Empowerment and Employment Readiness among Vulnerable, Marginalised and At-Risk Groups |
| 2014-2018 | Philippines   | Building a Generation of Safe and Healthy Workers   |
| 2014-2019 | Myanmar   | Shan State: Peace, reconciliation and development through community empowerment   |
| 2011-2019 | Asia and the Pacific                                | ILO/Japan Fund for Building Social Safety Nets in Asia and the Pacific (SSN Fund)                                       |
| 2017      | Cambodia  | ILO and Cambodia join forces to promote youth entrepreneurship  |





# Child labour-trends

- Asia and Pacific region is no longer hosting the largest population of children in child labour
- Child labour in the region declined by one-fifth from what was estimated for 2012 (Economic growth in the Southeast Asian countries, which fed job creation, and improved social protection for the populations at large)
- The majority of child labour is to be found in **agriculture**



## Child Labour - Policy priorities

- Expanding access to **free, quality public education**
- Extending **social protection systems**, including floor
- Ensuring fair and effective **migration governance**
- Protecting vulnerable populations in situations of **conflict and disaster**
- Addressing **debt bondage**
- Strengthening legislation and enforcement
- Building the evidence base



# Child Labour - Projects

| Year      | Country  | Project   |
|-----------|--|---|
| 2015-2019 | Philippines  | Convening Stakeholders to Develop and Implement Strategies to Reduce Child Labor and Improve Working Conditions in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (COSTREC-ASGM) Project |
| 2014-2019 | Viet Nam   | Prevent and reduce child labour in Viet Nam   |
| 2013-2017 | Myanmar  | Myanmar Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (My-PEC) Project   |
| 2011-2017 | Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam etc | Global Action Programme (GAP) on Child Labour Issues Project  |
| 2014      | Cambodia   | Expanding the evidence base and reinforcing policy research for scaling-up and accelerating action against child labour Project   |

# **4. Recommendation**

- **One UN Policy**
- **Strengthening Partnership**
- **Sharing good practices**



# **Thank you for your attention!**