

ONLINE

FRAGILE STATES

THE GLOBAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION FORUM

LIVELIHOODS, EMPLOYMENT AND INCLUSION FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS (NEW)

28 JUNE – 2 JULY 2021 (*) 1 WEEK

Information Note



International Labour Organization





Recent decades have demonstrated the power of South-South cooperation to advance sustainable development and decent work. Driven by a spirit of solidarity, respect for national sovereignty and equal partnership, South-South cooperation has offered concrete solutions to shared challenges, with many countries becoming sources of support and inspiration for innovative development approaches.

South-South cooperation offers a promising pathway to accelerate progress that leaves no one behind and now more than ever such pathway is needed. The pandemic has devastated the world of work, causing massive human suffering and laying bare the extreme vulnerability of many millions of workers and enterprises. In medical terms, the virus does not discriminate. But in the world of work it has impacted more the disadvantaged and vulnerable, exposing the devastating consequences of inequalities.

South-South co-operation can be an effective instrument for tackling structural and intersectional inequalities that contribute to excluding people. However, to leverage that potential, we must share knowledge and coordinate efforts for scaling up impact.

In this context, the Global South-South Cooperation Forum organized in collaboration with Development and Investment Branch (DEVINVEST) and South-South and Triangular cooperation (PARDEV) is a platform for dialogue to exchange good practices, experiences, tools and methodologies applied in the Global South to improve the livelihoods and create employment opportunities for vulnerable and marginalized populations with a special focus on innovative and digital solutions.

WHAT

WHAT TOPICS DOES THIS FORUM COVER?

During the Forum, following the strategy of South-South collaboration and cooperation, participants will be able to share, get inspired and learn more about concrete experiences for the promotion of decent employment for vulnerable groups. The Forum will include three different 'tracks', running in parallel, on the following topics:

1. Track 1: Promoting employment and inclusion of vulnerable groups through sustainable infrastructure investments

Public infrastructure investments, when carefully designed and implemented, can be an effective policy tool to address key employment challenges, especially in conflict, disaster and emergency situations. More specifically, this track will focus on:

a) Resilient and climate proofing infrastructure: participants will learn more on how to develop infrastructures that are more capable of withstanding natural disasters and, at the same time, improve livelihood and income security for the most vulnerable

- b) Infrastructure developed through a local resource-based approach: through peer learning, participants will learn more on how to develop infrastructures that optimize the use of local resources, including local labour, as well as locally available materials and suppliers.
- 2. Track 2: Promoting employment and inclusion of vulnerable groups through formalization and peer learning

It is estimated that the informal sector in a typical developing country employs 75 per cent of the workforce. The situation is aggravated in fragile situations where there is often no other alternative to working in the informal economy. More specifically, this track will focus on the following topics:

- a) **E-formalization:** participants will mutually learn by exchanging experiences on how technology can be used to facilitate the transition to the formal economy.
- b) **Formalization through public procurement:** participants will mutually learn by exchanging experiences on how public procurement can be used as an incentive for informal enterprises to formalize.
- 3. Track 3: Promoting employment and inclusion of vulnerable groups by strengthening their resilience

By 2030, up to two-thirds of the world's extreme poor will live in countries characterized by fragility, conflict and natural disasters, highlighting the importance of strengthening resilience of vulnerable populations, including migrants and refugees. This track will include the following topics:

- a) Fostering labour market integration and inclusion of migrants and refugees: through collaboration between peers, participants will learn good practices of economic integration of refugees and migrants.
- b) Sustainable response to natural disasters and South-South Cooperation: participants will learn from experiences of countries prone to frequent natural disasters on how to prepare and recover from natural hazards.

The Forum will also include a day on **disruptive technologies** that could provide solutions to digital inclusion issues. Participants will be able to interact with different service providers to explore tools and technologies that could solve the identified challenges.

WHY SHOULD I ATTEND THE FORUM?

At the end of the Forum, participants will be able to:

- Know more about the theoretical framework that promotes South-South collaboration as an instrument for tackling inequalities and exclusion.
- Get exposed to innovative south-south collaborative initiatives to promote decent work and livelihoods in the context of COVID-19
- Share their own South-South cooperation initiatives focusing on the inclusion of vulnerable and marginalized populations
- Build a stronger network of practitioners working in the field of South-South cooperation

WHO?

WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS FORUM?

This Forum is addressed to all of those supporting or interested in supporting South-South cooperation initiatives, including ILO constituents, representatives of UN and not-for-profit organizations, development practitioners, national and local governments' officials and consultants.

FORMAT AND METHODOLOGY

The Forum will be held online from 28 June to 2 July. Each day participants will have access to two live online sessions of 90 minutes each. The Forum will include plenary sessions as well as elective courses that participants will be able to select based on their specific interests. The Forum will be conducted using a highly participative methodology, through a combination of pre-identified SSTC good practices followed by group discussions where participants will be asked to share solutions and experiences that are already in place. Participants will have access to the ITCILO eCampus where they will be able interact with other participants, access the recordings of the Forum and access an online library with several background documents and reference materials.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are kindly asked to send us:

- 4. A completed online registration form: <u>https://oarf2.itcilo.org/MIF/A9713872/en</u>
- If you are financed by your organization (or a donor) an official sponsorship letter is required to finalize your registration. The letter can be uploaded to the application form or sent by email to <u>itcilo_gssforum@itcilo.org</u>
- If you pay directly the course fees, please note that the payment is due before enrolment in the course. More details about payment methods can be found <u>here</u>.

Application deadline: 22 June 2021

PRICE

Tuition: €900

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Language: The course will be held in English.

Diploma: An ITCILO Certificate will be awarded at the completion of the course.

Contact: itcilo_gssforum@itcilo.org

WITHDRAWAL, CANCELLATION POLICY, AND REFUNDS FOR OPEN COURSES

If an enrolled participant wishes or must withdraw from a course, they may choose to apply to a different course or be substituted by another candidate. The participant must notify the Centre, in writing, of their decision at least 14 days prior to the start date of the course. Cancellation of participation in regular courses will result in the following penalties:

- 14 days or more prior to the start date of the course: No penalty, 100% refund of amount paid less applicable bank charges
- 8 to 13 days prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 50% of course price, refund of residual amount paid (if any) less applicable bank charges
- 7 days or less prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 100% of course price.

INFO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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