Workshop Summary Report

Workshop on Green Jobs for Workers

Background:
The General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (GEFONT) with support from ILO organized two green jobs workshops in Kathmandu on 11-12 June and in Birtamode on 17-18 August 2012. The workshops were part of the ILO’s Green Jobs in Asia Project capacity building intervention for workers. Participants included representatives from GEFONT leadership, zone committee leaders and other JTUCC members. Altogether 67 participants (20% women) from various trade unions attended the workshops.

Objectives of workshop/activities
The main purposes of the workshops were to enhance awareness and capacity of workers towards promoting social dialogue on climate change and to facilitate discussions on linkages between the environment, workplace conditions and labour standards. The workshops focused on how trade unions, their affiliates and partners can engage in social dialogue for practical action within the workplace and take a more proactive advocacy role in advancing green jobs efforts. The primary focus of the workshops was on examples of best practices, a study conducted by GEFONT in green sectors covering agriculture, infrastructure and medicinal and aromatic plant processing.

Brief description of activities/presentations
The first day of the workshop started with a brief overview of the green jobs concept and the ILO’s green jobs agenda. This was followed by the Nepalese green jobs experience. The rest of the day focused on discussions about green jobs best practices. The second day began with a recap and summary of Day One, and a presentation on findings of best practices. The workshops also validated the findings of the green jobs best practices report covering organic farming, tea estate, infrastructure, medicinal and aromatic plants processing. The workshops were concluded with closing remarks from district and JTUCC members.
**Key outcomes and outputs:**

There was general consensus that two awareness raising workshops on green jobs was not sufficient. Stakeholder and community level consultations, for which communication materials would be needed, are required to explain the green jobs concepts at various levels. It was felt that there is a need to share outputs and outcomes of the workshops amongst various levels of government, employers and workers.

The workshop provided participants with an overview of the ILO Green Jobs concept and Decent Work, linking climate change and the world of work, and a better understanding of the approaches being adopted to minimize the negative socio-economic effects to addressing climate change in line with ILO Decent Work Agenda.