Green Job Asia Project

Summary of Employers Organizations’ activities

This note summarises the various activities under the Green Jobs in Asia project that supports and builds the capacity of employers’ organizations to strengthen their role in advocacy and policy and to provide effective services towards members.

Bangladesh

Capacity Building

The Tripartite Foundation Training on Green Jobs was delivered in Dhaka in April 2012 over the course of two days for representatives from the Bangladesh Employers’ Federation (BEF) as well as government officials and trade unions to equip participants with a basic knowledge about green jobs and the relationship between labour and environmental policies. The BEF in partnership with the ILO also developed a capacity building program for representatives from the private sector to build the capacity of employers to promote green jobs in the industrial sector in Bangladesh. The objectives of the programme were to promote; understanding on green jobs, environmentally friendly production and green products; the impacts of climate change at the enterprise level and on policy decisions; relevant regulations and direct effects on business decision making. The workshop in Dhaka was delivered on 3 May 2012 and attended by 33 participants of managerial and supervisory rank while the workshop in Chittagong was delivered on 24 May 2012 for 64 participants. Also developed were two case studies on experiences of green jobs in established enterprises in Bangladesh, the results and advocacy materials on green jobs were presented at the workshops. The BEF also provided views and analysis from the employer’s perspective for validation of the GHK green job mapping study entitled ‘estimating green jobs in Bangladesh’.

The Tripartite Green Jobs National Conference was convened in September 2011 in Dhaka for 130 participants including representatives from the private sector in Bangladesh as well as representatives from government (Labour, Environment and other relevant ministries), trade unions, NGOs, academia, and development partners. At the conference, the tripartite constituents expressed support for the establishment of a Task Force on green jobs and requested more support for awareness raising, research and data collection and policy guidance on green jobs.

Demonstration Project

The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) comprised of BEF representatives along with trade union and Government representatives provided overall guidance and review of activities. At the first PAC meeting the green job project work plan was discussed and it was agreed to work on solar home systems as a
demonstration project in the renewable energy sector. BEF extended their support throughout for the implementation of the demonstration project and also recognised that solar and the renewable energy sector as a potential growth sector for green businesses. This was reflected in their work by selecting renewable energy as one of the examples (case studies) for the capacity building workshops and awareness raising activities held for BEF members.

**Indonesia**

*Capacity Building*

The Indonesian Employers’ Organization (APINDO) participated in the *Tripartite Foundation Training on Green Jobs* held in Jakarta in August 2011 that was attended by 5 participants from each ILO constituent institution. A capacity building programme designed specifically for members of APINDO and other representatives from the business sector was also delivered in Bogor from 5-6 July 2012. The workshop entitled *Introduction to Green Jobs for Employer’s Organizations* was attended by 30 participants (40% women) over two days. The objective of the training was to strengthen understanding on: key concepts of climate change and environmental issues; linkages to employment and the world of work; core notions of green jobs and a just transition; national policy framework for climate change; links to employment and skills; potential roles and contributions of the employer’s organization in the promotion of green jobs and green industry development to support a green economy.

In December 2010, members of APINDO attended the First *Green Jobs National Conference* in Jakarta as a first introduction to the issues and policies related to the development of green jobs in Indonesia along with 150 other representatives from government, trade unions, academia, civil society and the media. APINDO participated in a green jobs seminar which was jointly organized at the initiative of the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration in April 2012. During this seminar, the private sector was invited to present various green initiatives at the sectoral and plant level. APINDO was also consulted in the process of developing the green jobs mapping study as well as the strategic plan on sustainable tourism and green jobs for Indonesia.

*Demonstration Project*

APINDO assisted the ILO to provide training on association building under the demonstration project. The beneficiaries were members of the local community in Bromo particularly the homestay owners. The training provided knowledge about the role of an association and the advantages of becoming a member (e.g. Green Homestay Association).
Nepal

Capacity Building

The Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) attended the tripartite First National Conference on Green Jobs convened in Kathmandu in April 2011 to discuss policies and concepts related to green jobs. The conference was attended by over 70 participants from government agencies, employers and workers’ organizations, NGOs, academia, private sector and development partners. The conference raised a very high interest amongst participants, including from employers and enterprises operating already in the green business sector.

A Tripartite Foundation Training on Green Jobs was delivered in September 2011 and included 42 participants from Government (Labour and Environment Ministries), trade unions and employers’ representatives. The training aimed to strengthen tripartite constituents’ knowledge of the links between climate change, environment and employment issues. The training sessions were designed to engage ILO partners in dialogue about climate change and the broader environmental challenges, focusing on how to adapt and optimize the opportunities arising from them. FNCCI also conducted a study on green jobs to identify best practices in Nepal and produced three video documentaries on the green job case studies to educate employers about how to make businesses and jobs more environmentally sustainable. The video focused on how employers, their affiliates and partners can engage in social dialogue for practical action within the workplace and take a more proactive advocacy role to promote green jobs. It highlighted where adopting environmentally sound practices and technologies can result in cost-savings, productivity gains, improved working conditions and green jobs. The best practices study covered manufacturing, non-timber forest products, medicinal plants, paper products and food industry and was put on a CD and used to educate employers across the country on the need for green jobs. Two workshops on green jobs were also organised on 14 and 15 August 2012 in Kathmandu and Bhaktapur to promote decent work and environmentally sustainable employment in targeted sectors such as agriculture, tourism, manufacturing, transport, renewable energy, construction and natural resources. A total 45 participants (30% women) were provided with an overview of the ILO concepts of green jobs and Decent Work, to facilitate a better understanding of the approach being adopted within the Nepalese context to minimize the negative socio-economic effects of addressing climate change in line with the ILO Decent Work Agenda. The results of the best practices were also presented during the workshop.

Philippines

Capacity Building

The Tripartite Foundation Training on Green Jobs was delivered in Manila in July 2011 to 45 participants, including representatives from the Employers’ Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP) as well as government (Labour and Environment ministries), and trade union representatives. ECOP
developed a Regional Green Jobs Orientation Program to raise awareness on green jobs and to increase understanding about the need for green jobs in the Philippines. Four regional orientation seminars on green jobs and consultation workshops were organised for 45 representatives of ECOP (15 members from 3 regions). Employers’ representatives from manufacturing, construction, agriculture/fisheries/forestry, transportation, tourism, solid waste management, renewable energy, and services sectors also participated in the characterization of green jobs in their own respective sectors/subsectors.

The First Philippine Green Jobs Conference was held from 15-16 August 2011 to discuss concepts and policies related to green jobs. The two-day conference which was attended by 300 participants resulted in a Green Call to Action that was signed by 12 high-level representatives from government, employers’ and workers’ groups, affirming their commitment to promote green jobs in the Philippines. Between February and April 2012, ECOP conducted a perception survey on green jobs based on consultations with its members. ECOP successfully completed a green job road mapping exercise for the next 3 years and a position paper on green jobs and has published them in their Annual Assembly publication. ECOP was also active in the Technical Working Group of the National Tripartite Advisory Council during the two consultations with the technical expert group and sectoral consultations on the preliminary activities of the green jobs mapping study. ECOP acted as facilitator and rapporteur for the construction sector during the sectoral consultation on 27 July 2012.

Demonstration Project
ECOP was a Co-Chair of the Project Advisory Committee and was continuously active during the research processes for the scoping study and feasibility study as well as the drafting of the implementation plan of the socialized housing project. ECOP representatives also participated during the focus group discussions on the green building guide for socialized housing in December 2011. Further, ECOP members participated in the one day (December 2011) and five days training on occupational safety and health (OSH) training for construction (February 2011) in preparation for various socialized housing projects in the country.

Sri Lanka
Capacity Building
In June 2011 and on its own initiative, the Employers’ Federation of Ceylon (EFC) conducted a capacity building seminar for 60 of its members based on an expression of interest and has formed a ‘Green Team’ at the EFC headquarters to scale up and sustain interventions made under the Green Jobs in Asia project for its 600 strong employer membership.
The EFC in collaboration with the University of Moratuwa conducted a green jobs mapping study to map the prevalence of green jobs related practices across their membership using a sample of 50 employers. The results fed into the development of a position paper on green jobs. A preliminary summary of findings was also presented to the tripartite constituents during a best practices validation seminar held on 7 June 2012. The ILO’s multi-dimensional green jobs concept was highlighted during the event and generated a high level of national publicity. The survey report will be published by EFC at the end of the project as part of an extended knowledge sharing initiative for EFC members and beyond. The EFC, apart from being a member of the Project Advisory Committee, has also been part of the Research Advisory Group that guided the national estimation of green jobs.

Demonstration Project
The EFC served on the Steering Committee for Value Chain Development in the Solid Waste sector, under the demonstration pilot project. In addition, 15 master trainers from the Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) Association of Sri Lanka have been certified as instructors for the ILO’s Start and Improve Your Waste Recycling Business training course. The training manual was adapted for Sri Lanka and translated into Sinhala by the SIYB Association of Sri Lanka. Master trainers have also reached out to 40 existing and 40 potential plastic recycling entrepreneurs involved in both the formal and informal economy to help them improve the sustainability of their business practices.