



Secretaria de Estado da  
Formação Profissional e Emprego  
(SEFOPE)



## Fact Sheet

# Decent Work Country Programme

### ILO: What do we do? International Labour Organization



**W**ork is a way out of poverty. Work is central to people's well-being. In addition to providing income, work can pave the way for broader social and economic advancement, strengthening individuals, their families and communities. Such progress, however, hinges on work that is decent. Decent work sums up the aspirations of people in their working lives.

The goal of the ILO in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is to promote opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work under conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity.

182 Member States, including Timor-Leste, of the ILO endorsed the ILO Declaration on Social Justice and Fair Globalization at the International Labour Conference in July 2008. The Declaration stresses an approach to social and economic development that integrates the Decent Work Agenda comprising of strategic objectives concerning employment, social protection, social dialogue and rights at work in a holistic manner. The ILO is called upon to assist its Members in the implementation of such an approach according to national needs and circumstances.

### Decent Work Country Programme

The Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) has been established as the main vehicle for delivery of ILO support to countries and contribution to UN country programme. DWCPs have two basic objectives. They promote decent work as a key component of national development strategies. At the same time they organize ILO knowledge, instruments, advocacy and cooperation at the service of tripartite constituents in a results-based framework to advance the Decent Work Agenda within the fields of comparative advantage of the Organization.

### Timor-Leste DWCP: Priorities and Outcomes

Together with Governments, Trade Unions and Employer's Organizations, the ILO offers support to develop the Timor-Leste Decent Work Country Programme (2008-2013) and its implementation. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, the Government of Timor-Leste, through the Secretariat of State for Vocational Training and Employment (SEFOPE) approved its own DWCP looking forward to promote the concept and create better conditions for the Labour Market in Timor-Leste.

Timor-Leste DWCP: Priorities and Outcomes:

#### A. Enhancing Youth Employment

- Youth-focused socio-economic development policies and programmes formulated and implemented
- Key labour market information system supporting social and economic development policy and programme process
- Improved quality and relevancy of skills training courses provided by public and private training institutions

#### B. Integrating Employment into Rural Economic Development

- More employment generated by rural infrastructure investment programmes
- More and better services to improve micro and small enterprises in rural areas

#### C. Creating Labour Market Governance

- Right-based national labour legislative system
- Increased institutional capacity of employers' and workers' organizations to participate effectively in social and labour policy process

**Promotion of gender equality and tripartism, and institutional capacity building are cross-cutting themes in the above programme priorities and outcomes.**

ILO's technical assistance to Timor-Leste in pursuit of achieving these outcomes is made through important partnerships with the Timorese Government, International Agencies and Governments. Specific programmes of action have been elaborated and executed with support from bilateral donors and the UN. On-going programmes are:

- Youth Employment Programme (YEP), 2008-2012 a comprehensive programme to enhance youth employment and employability executed by the ILO and financed by the Timorese Government and the AusAID;
- Investment Budget Execution Support for Rural Infrastructure Development and Employment Generation (TIM Works), 2008-2010 - a rural employment creation through road rehabilitation and maintenance programme currently funded by the Timorese Government, European Commission, Norway, and Ireland.
- Skills Training for Gainful Employment Programme (STAGE), 2004-2009 an institutional capacity building programme focusing on vocational training and employment, financed by the European Commission and the UNDP.
- Labour Market Information Programme (LMI), 2007-2009 - financed by the Irish Aid.

The implementation of the Timor-Leste DWCP creates partnerships between the Timorese Government, the ILO and other International Agencies and Government. A good progress has been made with regard to realizing national capacity to manage **Enhancing Youth Employment and Integrating Employment in Rural Economic Development**.

The ILO and the Secretariat of State for Vocational Training and Employment are seeking donor support for programmes related to **Creating Labour Market Governance**, aiming at improving the Timor-Leste employment and labour legislation system to meet the challenge of employment practices. Through the years the ILO has supported the Government on reviewing national laws and providing knowledge and training on International Labour Standards. Through such support Timor-Leste has acceded to the Ratification of 4 ILO Conventions: C. 87 Freedom of Association, C. 98 Right to Collective Bargaining, C. 29 Force Labour and C. 182 Worst Forms of Child Labour. The Government has also established a plan to ratify a further 10 ILO Conventions within the next 5 years.

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