

In session workshop Forum on response measures

(h) Building collective and individual learning towards a transition to a low GHG emitting society

Background for our work on response measures

- Transition will bring major transformations to the world of work
- These transformations bring both challenges and opportunities, but those not necessarily happen at the same time/space/affect-benefit the same people.
- Need (recognized by 1/CP16) to support a Just Transition, (variety of public interventions aimed at accompanying workers and communities in the transition to new jobs or in the transformation of the traditional ones).
- In order to facilitate the transition, the trade union movement has been working on building capacity of workers and trade union organisations.



Activities undertaken to facilitate the transition

- development of policies, investment plans, promoting virtuous employment opportunities (decent and environmentally-friendly) => supporting poverty eradication/employment generation & environmental protection...

ITUC 12 countries study/ ILO 2nd GJ report –sponsored by ITUC

- research initiatives for identifying & anticipating employment challenges as a consequence of emission reduction measures

Run by ITUC affiliates, demand-based

- assessment of skills gaps which could be barriers for workers accessing to new, sustainable employment opportunities

ETUC report – ILO Global Green Skills report



Activities undertaken to facilitate the transition

- Promotion of “green/sustainable workplaces” (transform industrial/service activities from the inside through the participation and involvement of worker organisations)
 - South Africa- Unions + civil society organisations: One million climate Jobs Campaign
 - Uganda: Truck drivers on the Road campaign: energy efficiency, how to manage waste and creation of environment committees
 - ETUC Green Workplaces conference 2012
- Tackling climate drivers (ie. Deforestation) with decent work
 - BWI (sustainable forestry) - Nepal: Fighting climate change, protecting forests and livelihoods in Nepal - CUT-Brazil: campaign for protecting forests & forest communities
 - Promotion and development of dialogue mechanisms around the transition at the national and sectoral level
- Climate change embedded in environmental protection action:
 - Malaysia TUC: Environmental management in hotel facilities.
 - Uruguay PIT-CNT: Organizing waste collectors for green and decent jobs
 - Argentina UOCRA: Training building workers on renewable energy instalation



What can be done internationally (including through the work programme)

Applicable to item h & a, four areas of action on response measures:

Anticipation

Collecting practices and methodologies for assessing employment consequences of response measures

Planning

Identifying public policies that have been designed to counter negative impacts on jobs, or to multiply positive impacts

Assessing financial effort

Assess the kind and amount of investments needed in order to support economic sector transformation, and the potential sources for funding them.

Dialogue mechanisms

collecting good practices for domestic interaction on this issue with relevant stakeholders, including workers' representatives.



What can be done internationally (including through the work programme)

The work programme should also build bridges with other relevant processes.

On employment this will mean reinforcing the link with ILO.

Upcoming discussions (ILC, June 2013) on green jobs and sustainable development an opportunity for identifying roles and responsibilities of governments, employers and trade unions in the transition towards sustainability

The outcome of this discussion should also inform the work programme.



Thank you!
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