

TRAINING ON ASSESSING THE EFFECTS OF TRADE ON EMPLOYMENT: AN INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL ACCOUNTING MATRIX AND MULTIPLIER ANALYSIS

(13-15 FEBRUARY 2011)

The ETE Project in Bangladesh and ITC-ILO jointly organized a tripartite training on 'Assessing and addressing the Effects of Trade on employment: an Introduction to Social Accounting Matrix and Multiplier Analysis'. The training was held from 13-15 February 2011 at BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka. The training aimed at strengthening the participants' skills to empirically analyse the effects of trade on employment using a Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) and multiplier analysis.

Mr Md Ghulam Hussain, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce was present as the Chief Guest in the inaugural ceremony. Others guests include Ms Rozana Wahab, representative, EU Delegation to Bangladesh, Mr Kaihan N Rahman, Member Bangladesh Employers' Federation and Mr Zafrul Hassan, Chairman, National Coordination Committee on Workers Education (NCCWE) were also present. Mr. André Bogui, Director, ILO Country Office, Dhaka delivered the welcome speech whilst Mr David Cheong, Chief Technical Advisor of ETE project made the introductory remarks.

The opening session was followed by a technical presentation on Trade and Labour Market Policies in Bangladesh: sharing perspectives, experiences and way forward. Mr Fakhru Ahsan, Chief, General Economics Division, and Planning Commission made the presentation which was then followed by lively debate and discussions among experts, social partners and policy makers.



Chief Guest Mr Md Ghulam Hussain, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce making remarks at the inaugural ceremony



ILO Country Director, Mr André Bogui delivering the welcome speech at the inaugural ceremony.

A blended approach was adopted for the training which combined individual presentations by experts and a series of hands-on exercises to gradually introduce participants to SAM and Multiplier analysis. The ILO staff (including the ILO-ITC Turin Centre) developed the course modules and facilitated the course with the assistance of the national experts.



Participants during the training session



Mr Fakrul Ahsan, Chief, GED, Planning Commission (left) in a technical session

In order to promote the proficiency of the participants in the use of SAM and Multiplier Analysis and to receive more hands on experience, weekly follow-up training sessions were carried out for the same participants. Participants were divided into groups and conducted simulation exercises under the guidance of Dr Selim Raihan, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, and Dhaka University. Four scenarios of trade agreements: (1) SAFTA (2) BIMSTEC and (3) LDCs duty free access to the developed countries have been chosen by the participants to assess the impact of trade and trade liberalization on employment. The Training was implemented in partnership with SANEM (South Asian Network for Economic Modeling) Secretariat, Dhaka.

A total of 17 representatives from various agencies such as the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce, Economic Relations Division, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Export Promotion Bureau, Bangladesh, National Board of Revenue Employers' Federation as well as Trade Unions participated in the technical training and follow up sessions.