

ILO Office for Pacific Island Countries

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International Labour Organization

Newsletter May / June 2013

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Message *from the director*

Dear friends,

This is the second edition of our newsletter for 2013. These newsletters provide you with information about the on-going work that we are supporting across the Pacific Island Countries. In this edition, we are also focussing International Labour Conference, which is held in Geneva, Switzerland every June.

The agenda for this year's Conference is particularly relevant to the Pacific as it includes a major agenda on "Sustainable Development, Decent Work and Green Jobs". This agenda item will give special attention to two of the defining challenges of the twenty-first century; namely achieving environmental sustainability and turning the vision of decent work for all into a reality. Nowhere in the world, is this challenge more acute than for those of us living in the Pacific Islands Countries.

In recent years, there has been an increasing number of Pacific Island Countries attending the Conference, and this year there will be delegations from Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Tuvalu. We wish them all safe and productive travels and we will keep you all informed of the outcomes of the Conference.

Kind regards,

Commonwealth Youth Award for Excellence in Development Work 2013

Youth workers are encouraged to nominate young people, who are driving innovative projects in any number of areas, including agriculture, small enterprise, skills training, climate change/environment protection, sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction. Nominations close on the 30 June 2013.



Online Application Link:
www.yourcommonwealth.org/cya2013

Highlight *www.ilo.org*



75 million young people around the world are currently searching for work.

ilo.org/infographics

Impact of Youth Employment Crisis Could Be Felt For Decades

Long-Term Impact of Youth Employment Crisis Could Be Felt For Decades, Warns ILO Report

Unprecedented levels of unemployment and under-employment of young people, along with the stress associated with joblessness, is creating a "scarring" effect on an entire generation. This is a worrisome finding of the new flagship report on youth employment from the International Labour Organization (ILO). The new study titled "Global Employment Trends for youth 2013: A generation at risk" examines the continuing job crisis affecting young people in many parts of the world. It provides updated statistics on global and regional youth unemployment rates and presents ILO policy recommendations to curb the current trends. [read more..](#)

DECENT WORK

A better world starts here.

Achievements & Events *on the ground*

Kiribati Chamber of Commerce & Industry launch Business Survey Report

The Kiribati Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) launched the Kiribati Business Survey Report in Nadi, Fiji this month. Launching the survey, the President of the KCCI, Tekeewa Tarati said this was a first survey of its kind in Kiribati, which will provide evidenced based information to assist the KCCI to advocate for its members to ensure that a sustained and conducive business environment is created in Kiribati. [read more..](#)

The ILO's entrepreneurship education programme Know About Business (KAB) helps strengthen formal education and training interventions in Fiji

In May 2013, the author of KAB, Professor Robert Nelson facilitated the first KAB training of trainers in Fiji, through the ILO's Tackling Child Labour through Education (TACKLE) project.

The two weeks training targeted 35 participants who are vocational school teachers in Fiji and NGO representatives working in communities. The objective of the training was to introduce KAB in TVET schools in Fiji with the aim to create an enterprise culture in Fiji that promotes awareness among young people of the opportunities and challenges of entrepreneurship and self-employment, and of their role in shaping their future. [read more..](#)

Gaining self-employment in Kiribati

With limited waged employment in Kiribati, the ILO in collaboration with the AUSAID Funded TVET Sector Strengthening Project will introduce the ILO's Know About Business KAB at the Kiribati Institute of Technology (KIT) with the objective to ensure that its graduates are able to gain self-employment. Three participants from Kiribati who attended the two week KAB training of trainers in Fiji in May 2013, have been carefully identified to assist in the development, testing and main streaming of KAB in the Institutes' curriculum.

The KAB training will be offered in parallel to the technical courses at the Kiribati Institute of Technology (KIT) which is now recognised under the Australian Qualifications Training Framework. The internationally recognised KAB training will add value to the recognised technical courses at the KIT and contribute to realising the Kiribati policy of migrating with dignity. [read more..](#)

Draft Employment Relations Bill debated in Tonga

Tonga's Ministry of Commerce, Tourism and Labour is consulting widely on a draft Employment Relations Bill to progressively implement the International Labour Organisation's eight fundamental Conventions. Earlier this month the Ministry convened a workshop bringing together a range of stakeholders from unions, businesses, churches and other agencies to discuss the draft Bill. The consultation workshop was opened by the Hon. Dr. Viliami Latu, Minister for Commerce, Tourism and Labour who said expressed the concern about a prolonged absence of labour legislation. In addition to this work, the Government is also actively considering joining the ILO. [read more..](#)

Wake up call for the Pacific's Maritime industry

Many seafarers, because of the nature of their work and time away from home, find themselves at increased risk of exposure to Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STIs) and HIV. A Joint SPC and ILO Project – *Pacific Island Workplaces Combating HIV/AIDS* has been assisting ILO Pacific Island Member States to develop effective HIV and AIDS workplace policies at the national, sector-specific and enterprise levels, with a specific focus on the maritime industry. [read more..](#)

Six provinces in PNG received training on child labour

A nation-wide road show was organized to help educate people on child labour issues in Papua New Guinea. The ILO national coordinator Richard Samuel said that the aim was to generate interest and create awareness on the impact of child labour. He said "The department of labour conducted a major event that concerns all aspects of child labour." Samuel said law enforcement agencies, non-government organisations, schools and industries all took part in the road-show. "After gauging people's views, there will be a national child labour forum where representatives from each region will present their reports," he said. [read more..](#)



Participants at the Know About Business (KAB) Training of Trainers in Suva, Fiji.



From left: Mr Tamaroa Teeta (Kiribati Business Trainer), H.E Mr Andrew Jacobs, Head of Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific, Mr David Collins (Kiribati Chamber of Commerce & Industry), Ms Bairega Tiia (Kiribati Institute of Technology), Mr Satoshi Sasaki (Decent Work, Specialist, ILO)



Child labour road-show participants in Mt. Hagen, Papua New Guinea.

Pacific Islanders *and the World of Work*

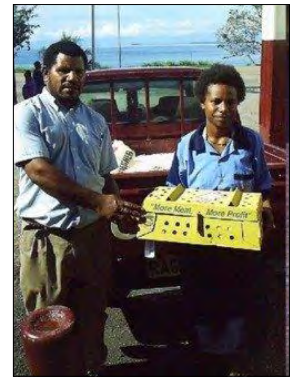
Making entrepreneurship a real option for young people in the Pacific

Approximately 29,000 students in Papua New Guinea have received Know About Business (KAB) training in the last four years, of which, many students have successfully managed micro and school enterprises. These were some findings from a ILO commissioned review report on the pilot KAB PNG Project 2008-2012.

A high school student from East New Britain says "The business projects we were running helped us a lot, we would see and relate to what we were taught in class. It taught us how important it is to keep records of all the business transactions. For a business to be profitable it needs your time and effort."

Anecdotal evidence documented in the review report identified that many students do better in their academic subjects because of the sense of achievement and enjoyment they get from the KAB activities. In some cases where KAB had to be taught on the weekends, there was also strong parental support for the young people putting in this extra time. In one of the East New Britain school projects, students gained sufficient income from their micro enterprises to pay their own school fees.

Since 2008, a total of 67 secondary schools in Papua New Guinea have been involved in the KAB pilot project. A total of 321 teachers have been trained to date. In 2012 across the whole project 8,731 secondary school students were trained and 61 TVET students were trained and certified. A total of 20,060 KAB training modules have been printed and distributed.



A young KAB student in East New Britain wins a prize for best (poultry) business in her school.

Look *ahead*

May 2013, Nadi, Fiji

Fiji Commerce & Employers' Federation Industrial Relations Project - Publication Launch

The launch of the Fiji Employers Guide to Collective Bargaining and the Employers Guide on Gender Equality.

29-31 May 2013, Siem Reap, Cambodia

Technical workshop on integrating social policies and the delivery of social protection floors

The workshop will focus on improving coordination among policies and schemes at the cross ministerial, national and regional levels. The ILO has organized fellowships for a participant to attend from the Solomon Islands Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs and one from the Vanuatu National Provident Fund.

27 May - 4 June, 2013, ITC Turin and Geneva

International labour standards training

The course aims to strengthen national capacity to understand and implement international labour standards, including the discharge of reporting obligations under the ILO Constitution. Ministry of Labour officials from Kiribati and Samoa are attending the training.

17 - 21 June 2013, Funafuti, Tuvalu

Training on Financial Management for Small and Medium Enterprises in Funafuti and also on enterprise develop for aspiring entrepreneurs in Tuvalu.

17-21 June 2013, Funafuti, Tuvalu

Capacity Building Workshop of the Tuvalu Private Sector Organization

3-5 July 2013, Geneva, Switzerland

Ms. Anne Boyd will participate at the 3rd Conference on Regulating for Decent Work: Regulating for Equitable and Job-Rich Growth (RDW)

The 2013 RDW Conference will centre on the role of labour market regulation when job creation is the paramount objective. The conference thematic focus will be on the following areas; comparing and evaluating labour regulation systems; regulating informal work; industrial and employment relations for inclusive growth, new patterns of segmentation and new challenges for promoting inclusive labour markets.

26 July 2013, Apia, Samoa

Sub-regional workshop: Building Equal Opportunities and Decent Work for Women

Strengthening gender equality with a specific focus on regional and national priorities.

[Read more on our upcoming events and meeting web page](#)

To read more about these news items please refer to our website: www.ilo.org/suva

Welcome to the new

Decent Work specialist

A note of **introduction** from Mr. Satoshi Sasaki

Greetings from Suva.

One month has passed quickly since I arrived in Suva in April. I am gradually settling down in this lovely country, thanks to my office colleagues for their support and many ordinary Fijians who impressed me very much with their friendliness and generosity. This is my second assignment in the Pacific region after Solomon Islands in 1985-87. The fascinating nature and culture of the country reminded me of my young days. But improved communication tools like high-speed internet and plenty of stuff in modern supermarkets indicate clearly that the Pacific Island Countries are involved in a globalizing economy. Also, I start realizing the vast variety of work related problems specific to these countries. Wherever people live and work, ILO has work to do together with the constituents.

I am assigned to the ILO Suva Office as Specialist on Decent Work Strategy – a very generic title. I will closely work with programming staff to facilitate the implementation of Country Programmes in nine ILO member state in the region. In addition, I will be involved in some technical areas, including employment related activities in Fiji, Samoa and Papua New Guinea and also management tasks as required by the office director. Given that our member countries are scattered over the Pacific Ocean, it is not possible to meet the constituents as we like. But I do hope I will have face-to-face meetings with the partners and people in workplaces on the issues of our common concern.

My warm regards to old and new friends.

Satoshi Sasaki



Mr.Satoshi Sasaki

Key resources

available through our library service

The library of the ILO Office for Pacific Island Countries provides a broad range of information about the ILO and the world of work. The library's collections include books, periodicals, reports, legislation and statistics covering labour relations, employment, child labour, social security, vocational training, women workers, working conditions, occupational safety and health, and all labour related aspects of economics, social development and technological change in countries around the world. The library provides an enquiry and reference service, loan service and database search facilities. ILO publications can be ordered from ILO Geneva through our office.

If you are looking for reports, studies, or training materials or resources, please contact:

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New resources:

Perspectives on Labour Economics for Development

Perspectives on Labour Economics for Development seeks to provide a comprehensive, but non-technical, coverage of labour market issues in a developing country context to help policy-makers and other readers improve their capacity to understand these topics and develop appropriate and effective policy responses. This book is an invaluable reference for policy-makers in middle- and low-income countries as well as an ideal handbook for teachers and students of economics and development.

Download link: http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/ilo-bookstore/order-online/books/WCMS_190112/lang--en/index.htm

Resilience in a downturn: The power of financial cooperatives

This new report addresses the historical, statistical, conceptual, and policy aspects of financial cooperatives, focusing in particular on how cooperatives fare in times of crisis. Importantly, it underscores that cooperatives' success during the global financial crisis can provide a credible alternative to the investment-owned banking system.

Download link: http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/ilo-bookstore/order-online/books/WCMS_210391/lang--en/index.htm

102nd Session of the International Labour Conference, 5 - 20 June 2013

About the ILC

What is the International Labour Conference?

The member States of the ILO meet at the International Labour Conference, held every year in Geneva, Switzerland, in the month of June.

Each member State is represented by a delegation consisting of two government delegates, an employer delegate, a worker delegate, and their respective advisers. (Employer and Worker delegates are nominated in agreement with the most representative national organizations of employers and workers.)

Every delegate has the same rights, and all can express themselves freely and vote as they wish. So it happens that worker and employer delegates sometimes vote against their government's representatives or against each other. This diversity of viewpoints, however, does not prevent decisions being adopted by very large majorities or in some cases even unanimously.

Many of the government representatives are cabinet ministers responsible for labour affairs in their own countries. Heads of State and prime ministers also take the floor at the Conference. International organizations, both governmental and others, attend as observers.

The Conference, which is often called an international parliament of labour, has several main tasks.

- First, there is the crafting and adoption of international labour standards in the form of Conventions and Recommendations.
- The Conference also supervises the application of Conventions and Recommendations at the national level.
- Since the adoption of the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998), another important function of the Conference is to examine the Global Report prepared by the Office under the follow-up procedure required by the Declaration.
- The Conference is also a forum where social and labour questions of importance to the entire world are discussed freely - sometimes passionately. Delegates explore the course of social progress in the world, but the central theme is the report presented each year by the ILO's Director-General.

Building a future with decent work

Around 5000 delegates representing government's, employers' and workers' from the ILO's 185 Member States are to discuss issues including social protection in an ageing world, sustainable development and social dialogue.



- The Conference also passes resolutions that provide guidelines for the ILO's general policy and future activities.
- Every two years the Conference adopts the ILO's biennial work programme and budget, which is financed by member States.

On the Agenda of the 102nd Session of the International Labour Conference, 5 - 20 June 2013

Standing Items

- I. Reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and of the Director-General
- II. Programme and Budget proposals for 2014–15 and other questions
- III. Information and reports on the application of Conventions and Recommendations

Items placed on the Agenda by the Conference or the Governing Body

- IV. Employment and social protection in the new demographic context – General discussion
- V. Sustainable development, decent work and green jobs – General discussion
- VI. A recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of social dialogue under the follow-up to the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization
- VII. Further review of remaining measures previously adopted by the Conference under article 33 of the ILO Constitution to secure compliance by Myanmar with the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry on forced labour

Pacific Island Countries participation in the International Labour Conference



Mr. Lionel Kaluat, Commissioner of Labour, Vanuatu Department of Labour addresses the conference in 2011. Geneva, Switzerland.

Prior to participating in the Conference the ILO Office covering all the Pacific Island Countries, offers tripartite delegations briefings on the administrative matters concerning how the Conference is run and on the technical items on the agenda.

In recent years, there has been an increasing number of Pacific Island Countries attending the Conference, and this year there will be delegations from Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Tuvalu. Actively participating in the Conference ensures that the specific situation and perspectives of Pacific Island Countries is taken into account.

The agenda for this year's Conference is particularly relevant to the Pacific as it includes a major agenda on "Sustainable Development, Decent Work and Green Jobs". This agenda item will give special attention to two of the defining challenges of the twenty-first century; namely achieving environmental sustainability and turning the vision of decent work for all into a reality. Nowhere in the world, is this challenge more acute than for those of us living in the Pacific Islands Countries.

The report prepared for this purpose, analyses current environmental and social challenges affecting the world of work. It identifies major opportunities to advance decent work in a greener economy, explores challenges linked to a transition to a greener economy from a labour and social perspective, and outlines policy options and implications for the agendas of ILO constituents and the Office.

Online Resources

About the ILC

<http://www.ilo.org/ilc/AbouttheILC/lang--en/index.htm>

Conference Guide to the 102nd Session of the International Labour Conference

http://www.ilo.org/ilc/ILCSessions/102/WCMS_204345/lang--en/index.htm

Reports submitted to the 102nd Session of the International Labour Conference

<http://www.ilo.org/ilc/ILCSessions/102/reports/reports-submitted/lang--en/index.htm>

Rules for the Conference

<http://www.ilo.org/ilc/Rulesfortheconference/lang--en/index.htm>

ILC: Practical information

http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/info/meetings/ilc_info.htm

Handbook for delegates

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ilc/handbook-for-delegates/en/index.html#/handbook-for-delegates>

An introduction to the work of standard setting committees

http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ilc/presentations/2011_ILC_SSC_EN/index.html#/ilc-presentation

An introduction to the work of general discussion committees

http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ilc/presentations/2011_ILC_GDC_EN/index.html#/ilc-presentation

Working with Amendments in Conference committees

http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ilc/presentations/2011_ILC_AMENDS_EN/index.html#/ilc-presentation

Manual for drafting ILO instruments

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/leg/manual.htm>

For further information on the ILC please contact:

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