



## **MIGRATION AND DECENT WORK: ROLE OF SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY ENTERPRISES AND ORGANISATIONS**

Enterprises Department

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# ► Decent work deficits for labour migrants, refugees and other forcibly displaced persons

## DECENT WORK DEFICITS IN LABOUR MIGRATION



Most of the international migrants are migrant workers (64%)



164 million migrant workers worldwide



The vast majority of migrant workers (67.9 %) are in high-income countries

- ▶ **Labour migration** – the movement of people from one country to another with the purpose of employment.
- ▶ Migrant workers suffer from significant **violations of their human rights**, including fundamental rights at work and other labour rights violations that increase the social and financial costs of labour migration
- ▶ Many migrant workers are found in the **informal economy**, including in domestic work, manufacturing, construction and agriculture

## DECENT WORK CHALLENGE FOR REFUGEES AND OTHER FORCIBLY DISPLACED PERSONS

- ▶ Access to work or livelihoods may be **prohibited or restricted by law** and refugees who do manage to find work do so mostly in the informal economy, with lack of opportunities for decent work and satisfactory conditions of employment and rights protection in the workplace
- ▶ The **precarious situation** of these populations renders them vulnerable to **discriminatory practices** which can lead to exploitation, the denial of fundamental principles and rights at work and situations of forced labour, bonded labour and child labour

70.8 million  
forcibly displaced  
persons worldwide

One third of the global  
refugee population is hosted  
by least developed countries

Less than 3%  
returned to  
country of origin

78% of all refugees have  
been in exile for five  
consecutive years or more

## COVID-19 and its implications

The COVID-19 pandemic represents a **major public health challenge** and is having serious economic and social impacts on origin, transit and destination countries, as well as on **most vulnerable people**, including migrant workers, displaced people, refugees and their families and on businesses and their operations.

▶▶ As the pandemic and the jobs crisis evolve, the need to protect the most vulnerable becomes even more urgent

Guy Ryder, ILO Director-General

*Source: ILO, COVID-19: Protecting migrant workers in the workplace, 2020*

# ► Social and Solidarity Economy and Decent Work

## ► SSEEEOs' RESPONSE: KEY FEATURES

- ▮ Social and solidarity economy organizations are well positioned to become an essential part of the tool kit for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in general and for better localizing the SDGs in particular. Building on their value-driven and **human-centred approaches**, they can help build a new economy strives for social justice and decent work.

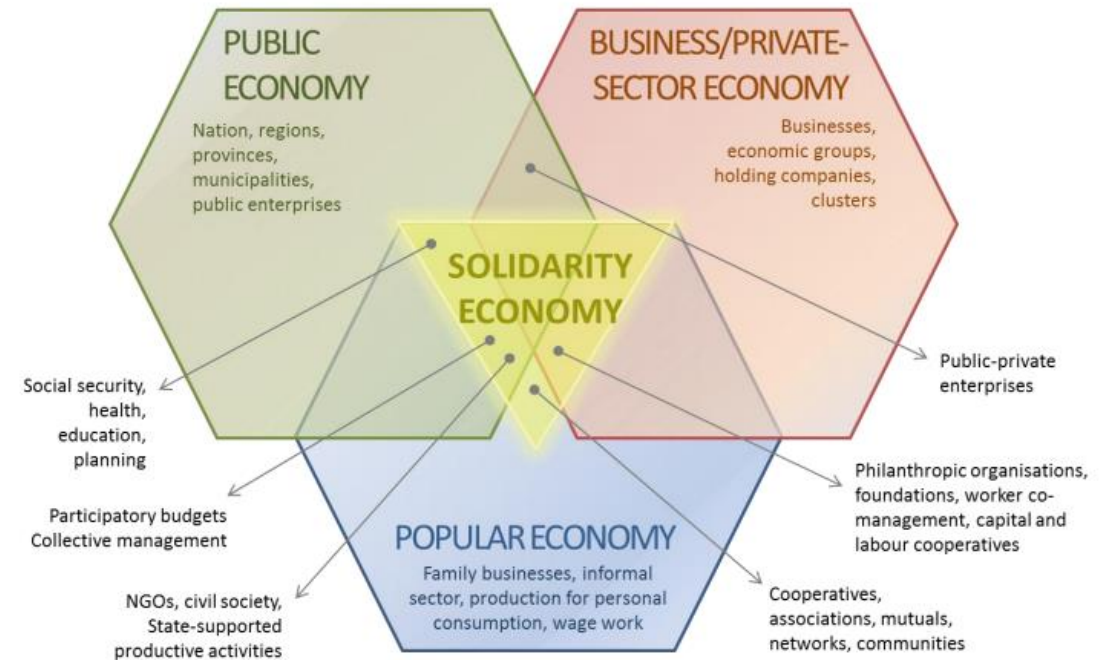
► ILO DG Guy Ryder, 2019



## SSEEOs' RESPONSE: KEY FEATURES

- Enterprises and organizations (cooperatives, mutual benefit societies, associations, foundations and social enterprises) which produce goods, services and knowledge that meet the needs of the community they serve, through the pursuit of specific social and environmental objectives and the fostering of solidarity.

Source: ILO, Africa Regional Conference on 'The Social Economy: Africa's response to the Global Crisis', 2009



Source: Coraggio, *The components of the Social and Solidarity Economy*, 2015

## ▶ SSEOs' RESPONSE: KEY FEATURES

SSEOs globally are among the diverse range of enterprises and organization structures effectively responding to multi-layer problems situations.

SSE as one key actor in shaping solutions in complex/crisis situations by:

- ▶ promoting the access to basic rights, in particular for the most vulnerable people;
- ▶ generating innovative solutions at the local level; supporting a just transition;
- ▶ acting as an anticyclical “antidote”.

*“(...) it is necessary to address the root causes of exclusionary and unsustainable development, in order to shape a different future. Rethinking the way we do business will be crucial in order to ensure a ‘people-centred and planet-sensitive’ recovery.”*

Source: UNTFSSSE, What role for the social and solidarity economy in the post Covid-19 crisis recovery?, 2020

# ► ILO's approach to labour migration and refugee situations and response through SSEEOs

## THE ILO APPROACH - ILS

- ▶ While International Labour Standards apply to all those who work regardless of their legal status in a country, a number of normative instruments are particularly relevant to labour migrants. Selected normative instruments and international guidance:

- The Migration for Employment (Revised), 1949 (No. 97) and the Migration for Employment Recommendation (Revised), 1949 (No. 86)
- The Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No.143) and the Migrant Workers Recommendation, 1975 (No. 151)
- Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181)



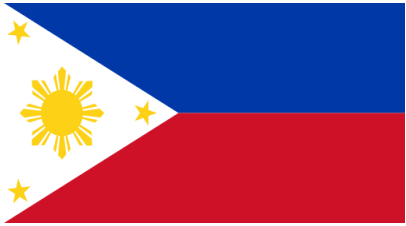
## THE ILO APPROACH ON MIGRATION

- ▶ Key elements in addressing the drivers of growing migration, both regular and irregular, require:
  - Investment in **creating more productive, sustainable and better jobs** in the countries of origin;
  - Action on the establishment of regular migration channels that meet real labour market needs and facilitate family reunion
  - Improved **oversight of the recruitment of migrants** to prevent human trafficking and migrant smuggling; and
  - Shared commitment to meet humanitarian assistance to those in need and distress.



## ▶ ILO RESPONSE – MIGRANT WORKERS

Pilot activities on cooperatives and wider SSE in different countries



- ▶ The ILO is testing an innovative model of fair recruitment in the Philippines. The main objective of this pilot initiative is to improve recruitment of migrant workers to key destination countries in Asia and the Middle East through the development of workers' cooperatives providing labour intermediation services. This initiative is part of the global project contributing to the promotion of fair recruitment practices globally and across specific migration corridors in North Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.



- ▶ As part of the same project, in India the ILO is carrying out participatory research to gather and analyse information on the role of cooperatives in fair recruitment of migrant workers in general and women workers in particular. The main objective of this initiative is to document the scope of cooperative practices for improved recruitment practices of migrant workers.



- ▶ “Dignità in campo» project aims to prevent new forms of labour exploitation in the agricultural sector and to promote new practices in social economy through pilot actions in two territories in Italy. The main actions in progress are:
  - ▶ AWARENESS CAMPAIGN: to raise awareness of the value of respect for fundamental labour rights in agriculture.
  - ▶ INTERVENTION DESIGN: to prevent labour exploitation and to develop good social economy practices.
  - ▶ CAPACITY BUILDING: to strengthen the skills of local actors in the field of prevention and social economy.



- ▶ In Ethiopia the ILO is planning to support the development and strengthening of cooperative enterprises among return migrants from the Gulf States and other Middle Eastern countries as part of a larger project initiative for return migrant economic reintegration. Among the methods under consideration is the use of an orientation package on cooperatives that has most recently been pilot tested in Cambodia.

## THE ILO APPROACH ON FORCE DISPLACEMENT

- ▶ Key elements in addressing growing levels of displacement not only in scale but also in complexity. While forcibly displaced persons face specific vulnerabilities, host communities also struggle to pursue their own development efforts.



ILO's holistic, gender-responsive and integrated programmes are designed to **strengthen labour markets, business development** and **social protection** as well as **policy and legislative environments**. Interventions are rooted in international labour standards with a **strong normative agenda** and **tripartite approach** founded on social dialogue between governments and workers and employers organisations.

## ILO RESPONSE - REFUGEES

### PROSPECTS PARTNERSHIP

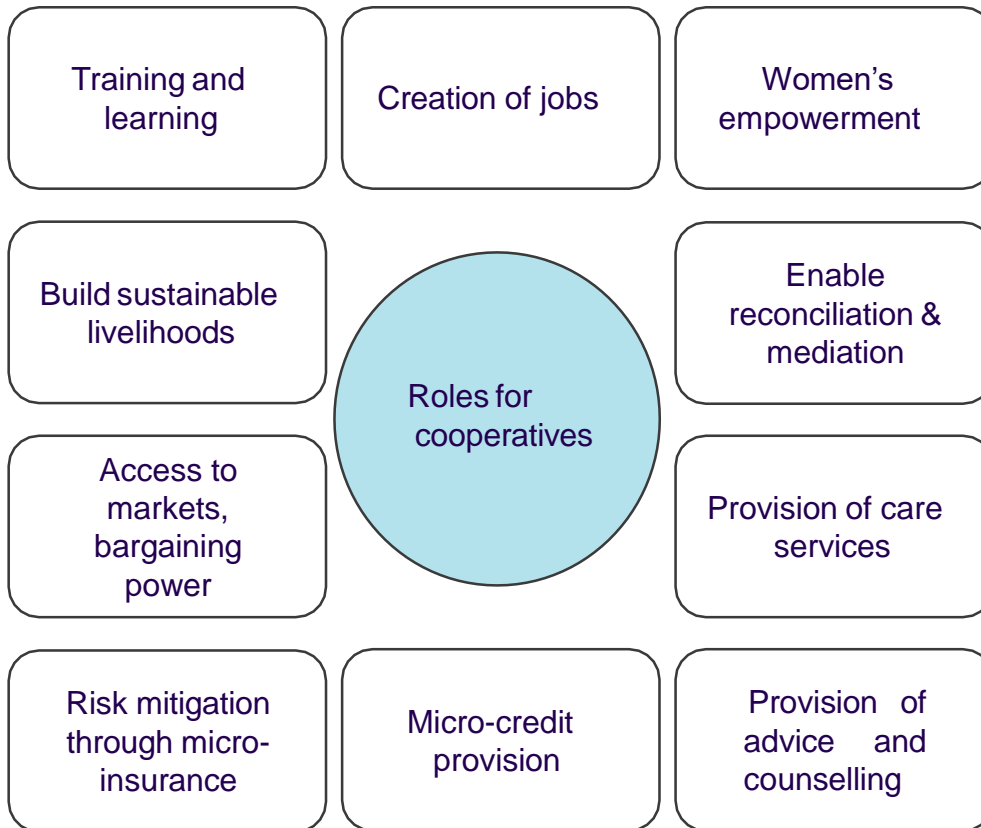


- Involved partners: International Finance Corporation, ILO, UNHCR, UNICEF, World Bank  
Budget: 94 USD million
- Timeframe: 1 July 2019 - 30 June 2023
- Objectives: Foster an enabling environment for socio-economic inclusion; improve access to education and protection for vulnerable children on the move; strengthen the resilience of host communities
- Countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Egypt and Uganda in Africa and Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq in the Arab region

Under the **PROSPECTS partnership program**, ILO approach on SSE and creation of decent work for refugees is:

- ▶ Conduct a **need assessment** of cooperatives and other forms of self-help organizations in the selected value chains with decent job potential for refugees and host communities. Assessing the **legal implications** of cooperatives and other forms of self-help organizations for refugees will be part of the need assessment;
- ▶ Promote **policy dialogue mechanisms** between local government, representatives of cooperative and other forms of self-help organizations and refugees' representatives/ local NGOs working with them in prioritizing findings and recommendations from the assessments;
- ▶ **Adapt relevant ILO tools** on cooperative and other forms of self-help organizations development in close collaboration with local cooperative and SME support organizations;
- ▶ **Strengthen the capacity** of local cooperative and SME BDS providers through **Trainings of Trainers** using the adapted tools;
- ▶ **Assist refugees and host community members** in establishing or/and **strengthening cooperative and other forms of self-help organizations** with local cooperative and other SME BDS providers (in the absence of cooperative support organizations) and through a challenge fund, which include both technical and financial support.

## SSEOS' RESPONSE: FOCUS ON COOPERATIVES AND REFUGEES IN DESTINATION COUNTRIES



Cooperatives work *for* refugees, *with* refugees, and can be established *by* refugees, through a variety of contributions and types of interventions:

- (i) Refugees joining as members existing cooperatives established by host community members;
- (ii) Refugees-only cooperatives formed in relevant value chain sectors with potential for decent job creation;
- (iii) Refugees-host community mix cooperatives formed in relevant value chain sectors with potential for decent job creation;
- (iv) Existing cooperatives in host communities recruiting refugees as employees.
- (v) Returning refugees rebuilding their communities through cooperatives

# Thank you!



▶ #ILOCOOP100

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