

Programme

Research Conference: Green Jobs for Asia and the Pacific

Hotel Okura, Niigata, Japan
21-23 April 2008

Sunday, 20 April 2008

16:00-18:00 Registration

Monday, 21 April 2008

08:00-09:00 Registration

08:45-09:30 **Opening Session**

Chairperson: Mr Gyorgy Sziraczki, Senior Economist, ILO ROAP

- Mr Hirohiko Izumida, Governor, Niigata Prefecture, Japan
- Mr Akira Shinoda, Mayor, City of Niigata, Japan
- Mr Raymond Torres, Director, ILO ILS
- Mr Olivier Deleuze, Chief, Major Groups and Stakeholders Branch, Division of Regional Cooperation, UNEP
- Mr Kazumi Matsui, Assistant Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan
- Ms Sachiko Yamamoto, Regional Director, ILO ROAP

09:30-10:00 Coffee Break

10:00-12:00 **Overview Session: *Sustainable Development and Green Jobs***

Moderator: Mr Shrashtant Patara, Vice-President, Development Alternatives, India

Overview presentation: Mr Peter Poschen, Senior Specialist, ILO INTEGRATION

The overview session will set the stage for the research conference by providing perspectives on green jobs and sustainable development and the key opportunities and challenges facing the Asia-Pacific Region in this area. It will identify major drivers for green jobs, the role of green jobs in the transformation of economies towards sustainable production and consumption patterns as well as the relationship between green jobs and decent work from the perspective of sustainable development.

Panel presentation:

- Mr Komara Djaja, Secretary to the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs, Indonesia
- Mr Michael Renner, Director, Global Security Project, Worldwatch Institute, Washington D.C.
- Mr John Buchanan, Director, Workplace Research Centre, University of Sydney, Australia
- Ms Sophie Dupressoir, Advisor, Environment, European Trade Union Confederation
- Mr T. Palanivel, Senior Policy Advisor, UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo

Plenary discussion

- 12:00-13:30 Lunch
- 13:30-15:30 **Session I: *Government Policies to Address Environmental Concerns and Promote Green Jobs***
Moderator: Mr Raymond Torres, Director, ILO ILS
Overview presentation: Mr Ronnie Schöb, Professor for International Public Economics , Free University of Berlin
- The session will assess the social impact of different government policies, notably carbon taxes, government financial support and market-based instruments. In particular, it will address the following questions: What are the employment effects of different government policies against climate change? Can certain policies lead to a double dividend? Do these employment effects depend on the level of economic development? More generally, how should development goals be integrated into policy formulation in this area? What are the respective roles of government and banks for funding environment-friendly policies?
- Panel presentation:*
- Mr Youngki Choi, President, Korea Labor Institute
 - Mr N.G. Kularatne, Director, National Institute of Labour Studies, Ministry of Labour Relations and Manpower, Sri Lanka
 - Mr Peter Glynn, Advisor, International Organisation of Employers
 - Mr Duncan Campbell, Director, ILO EMP/STRAT
- Plenary discussion*
- 15:30-16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:00-18:00 **Session II: *Low Carbon Economies and the Labour Market: Renewables and Energy Efficiency***
Moderator: Mr Kenneth Neil Cukier, Japan Business and Finance Correspondent, *The Economist*
Overview presentation: Mr Shrashtant Patara, Vice-President, Development Alternatives, India
- In particular, the session will address the following questions: Low-carbon economies, or more generally economies low in the emission of greenhouse gases, are essential if the world is to avoid dangerous climate change. The IPCC reports call for emissions to peak within the next 10 years and then to be reduced to less than half their levels in 1990. This session will explore the employment potential linked to the rapid development of renewable energy like solar, wind and biomass, as well as of ‘negawatts’ i.e. reductions in energy consumption through improvements in energy efficiency, particularly in buildings and in industry. The session will consider experiences with tapping the major potential for synergies between the goals and investments for emissions reductions, employment generation and development opportunities for hitherto marginalized groups and regions.
- Panel presentation:*
- Mr Taka Hiraishi, Member Board of Directors, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan
 - Mr Dipal C. Barua, Managing Director, Grameen Shakti, Bangladesh
 - Mr Minoru Hoshiya, General Manager, Environment Planning Division, Canon Inc.
 - Mr Ramin Keivani, Oxford Institute for Sustainable Development-International Land Markets (OISD-ILM), Department of Real Estate and Construction, Oxford Brookes University, U.K.
 - Mr Ibrahim Hafeezur Rehman, Director, Action Programmes Division, The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi, India
- Plenary discussion*
- 18:30-20:00 Reception at Hakucho (Swan) Room, 4th Floor, Hotel Okura Niigata

08:30-10:30 **Session III: *Employment in a Circular Economy: Recycling and Waste Management***

Moderator: Mr Taka Hiraishi, Member Board of Directors, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan

Overview presentation: Ms Yingling Liu, China Fellow and China Program Manager, Worldwatch Institute, Washington D.C.

In spite of efforts to ‘dematerialize’ economic growth and to decouple it from the use of raw materials and natural resources, current economic development is putting severe pressure on resources, reflected in both escalating commodity prices, exhaustion of some natural resources and widespread pollution. Recycling will become an essential part of increasingly closed production and value-added cycles. This activity is already a significant source of employment, but often of low quality jobs rather than of decent work. The session will learn from experiences with advanced recycling schemes and identify opportunities for the creation of more and better jobs in what looks set to be a growth sector.

Panel presentation:

- Mr Amit Kumar Baul, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Bangladesh
- Ms Mary Jane C. Ortega, Former City Mayor, City of San Fernando, La Union, Philippines
- Mr Chamhuri Siwar, Research Fellow, Institute for Environment and Development, University Kebangsaan Malaysia
- Mr Kazuya Suzuki, Team Director, Global Environment Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- Ms Marilyn Head, Senior Policy Analyst, New Zealand Nurses Organisation

Plenary discussion

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-13:00 **Session IV: *Green Jobs in Natural Resource Management and Environmental Protection***

Moderator: Mr Olivier Deleuze, Chief, Major Groups and Stakeholders Branch, Division of Regional Cooperation, UNEP

Overview presentation: Ms Penny Nelson, Science Leader, Sustainability and Society Programme, Landcare Research Institute, New Zealand

Natural resources are essential for the production of food, renewable energy and raw material. They also constitute the support system for human life on earth. The rehabilitation, protection and sustainable management of natural resources will become more critical as populations and per capita economic output continue to rise. This session will consider the potential for employment, income and rural poverty reduction from sustainable agriculture and forestry in the region as well as from restoration works, payments for environmental services and avoided deforestation.

Panel presentation:

- Mr Wong Poh Poh, Associate Professor, National University of Singapore
- Mr Alberto Emilio Yuson, Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Building and Woodworkers’ International, Malaysia
- Mr Aisake Talakuli Semisi Saukawa, Manager and Company Secretary, Vanua Development Corporation Limited, Native Lands Trust Board, Fiji
- Ms Aneta Nikolova, Environmental Affairs Officer, UNESCAP

Plenary discussion

13:00-14:00 Lunch

- 14:00-17:00 ***Parallel Working Groups:***
- Government Policy Options for Green Jobs
Moderator: Mr Raymond Torres, Director, ILO ILS
 - Innovative Approaches to Renewables and Energy Efficiency, Employment in a Circular Economy, and Natural Resource Management at the Sectoral, Local and Enterprise Level
Moderator: Mr Peter Poschen, Senior Specialist, ILO INTEGRATION

Wednesday, 23 April 2008

09:00-10:00 ***Presentations from Parallel Working Groups and Plenary Discussion***

Moderator: Ms Sachiko Yamamoto, Regional Director, ILO ROAP

- Mr Raymond Torres, Director, ILO ILS
- Mr Peter Poschen, Senior Specialist, ILO INTEGRATION

10:00-11:00 ***Roundtable: Environment-friendly Policies and International Competition***

Moderator: Mr Duncan Campbell, Director, ILO EMP/STRAT

To what extent does the implementation of environment-friendly policies increase production costs of existing firms and entail a risk of job loss and outsourcing to countries that do not implement these policies? How should these policies be implemented in a manner which takes into account the needs of developing countries and yet avoids the risk of “unfair” competition? What is the role of international cooperation in this area?

- Mr Komara Djaja, Secretary to the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs, Indonesia
- Mr John Buchanan, Director, Workplace Research Centre, University of Sydney, Australia
- Mr Peter Glynn, Advisor, International Organisation of Employers
- Ms Sophie Dupressoir, Advisor, Environment, European Trade Union Confederation

11:00-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-11:45 ***Roundtable: Environment-friendly Policies and International Competition***

Plenary discussion

11:45-12:30 ***Closing Session***

Summary and key emerging points for the G8

- Mr Peter Poschen, Senior Specialist, ILO INTEGRATION

Next steps: Key research issues and moving the agenda forward

- Mr Raymond Torres, Director, ILO ILS, Mr Shinichi Hasegawa, Director, ILO Tokyo, and Mr Gyorgy Sziraczki, Senior Economist, ILO ROAP