



The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

Agenda for Annual Meeting, 9-10 July 2014

6 July 2014

Geneva, Switzerland

Hosts: ILO, UNCTAD, ITC. Co-sponsor: SECO

Thematic Day Thursday 10th July: Private Sector Development and Job Creation

- Tuesday 8 July** (various rooms in ITC, 54 Rue de Montbrillant, Geneva)
- 10:00 – 17:00 **Working Group Meetings:** Business Environment Reform (11am), Green Growth (10am), Results Measurement (in afternoon only)
- 19:00 *Social event in Geneva (self-paying); venue: La Cave Valaisanne, [bd Georges-Favon 23](#)*
- Wednesday 9 July: DCED Affairs**, open to staff of members and potential members (ITC Library)
- 08:30 - 09:00 *Coffee and Registration*
- 09:00 – 10:30 **Welcome by Arancha González, Executive Director, ITC**
Opening remarks by UNCTAD
Market-place: working groups present and discuss their achievements and plans
- 10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break and deadline for nominations for Co-Chair and ExCo*
- 11:00 – 12:30 **DCED operations, achievements and plans:** Introduction, overview of 2013-14 Progress Report, Financial Statement, overview of 2014-15 Work Plan and Budget
- 12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch*
- 13:30 – 15:00 **Annual Meeting business.** Formal, structured decision-making session, with one active participant per member agency (others are invited to observe, or to take a Tour of the Palais des Nations).
- Presentations by candidates for Co-chair and ExCo
 - Voting on candidates for Co-chair and ExCo (if required)
 - Review of 2013-14 Progress Report and Financial Statement
 - Voting to approve 2014-15 Work Plan and Budget
 - Any other business (membership, working group formation etc.)
- 15:00 – 15:30 *Coffee*
- 15:30 *Announcement of election results for Co-chair and ExCo*
- 15:30 – 17:30 **Agency updates: Strategic changes in each agency** (Market-place)
- 19:00 *Social event (beside Lake Léman): UN Beach Club, [Rue de Lausanne 214](#) (shortly after WTO and opposite the Botanical Garden)*

Thursday 10 July: Exploration of the Theme: Private Sector Development and Job Creation

Members, invited guests (Room XI, ILO, 4 route des Morillons, Geneva, with parallel sessions in Room VII)
For a summary of the latest publications, evidence and analysis, visit the [DCED web page on Employment](#)

08:00 *Registration and Coffee*

08:30 - 09:00 **Welcome by Sandra Polaski, Deputy Director General, Policy, ILO**
Opening remarks by Liliana de Sá Kirchknopf, Head of Division Private Sector Development, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) Switzerland

09:00-10:30 **Framing the Day: Sources of Employment Growth**

The World Bank's 2013 World Development Report estimates that 200 million people are unemployed globally, and that 600 million jobs must be created by 2020 to cater for the rising number of young people entering the workforce. Job creation (especially in the private sector) is therefore of high importance to partner governments. *Each input will be followed by a short discussion.*

- **The big picture:** Justin Yifu Lin presents data indicating that the [golden age of industrialization in the developing world](#) may have just begun. Countries that are upgrading their industries can invest in light manufacturing in lower-income countries, with the potential to create both jobs and skills.
- **Intervention level evidence:** Michael Grimm has recently published a [systematic review](#) of what is known about the efficacy of interventions aimed at enhancing employment in MSMEs. He presents his findings, including several factors and design features that appear to increase the success of such interventions.

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:00 – 12:30 **Two parallel sessions focused on the latest findings and experiences in employment growth at the macro level.**

Constraints and solutions

Fresh perspectives on constraints and possible solutions to achieving employment growth are constantly emerging. This session will showcase some recent research and provocative thinking.

- **[Africa has got work to do](#):** Louise Fox, UC Berkeley, studied employment for the IMF across 28 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. She argues that, even if the growth and structural transformation which Africa is currently undergoing continues at an optimistic rate, the share of the labour force employment in private firms will not expand substantially in the next decade. She suggests policies to encourage additional employment opportunities.
- Dirk Willem te Velde, Overseas Development Institute, gives an overview of the debates around the potential of [innovation to produce productivity change](#) in low-income countries, with positive implications for employment opportunities.
- Namita Datta, IFC Let's Work, discusses the findings in relation to those of the [IFC jobs study](#).
- Contributions from participants

Manufacturing and employment

The transition from traditional agriculture to a modern economy has often begun with an increased focus on manufacturing, and The Economist has recently highlighted a quiet boom in manufacturing in Africa. However a similar path of rapid catch-up may be less feasible now as, for instance, manufacturing is becoming increasingly capital- and skill-intensive. This session will explore the latest evidence on the role of the

manufacturing sector in sustaining employment growth and economic transformation, and discuss whether Africa is set to become the manufacturing floor for the world.

- Helen Hai, Vice Chair of China Chamber in Ethiopia, relocated the Huajian Shoe factory from China to Ethiopia, generating substantial employment in the process
- Esther Germans, ILO, presents evidence on the [quality of employment in the manufacturing sector](#) of the developing world
- Contributions from participants

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

14:00 – 15:30 **Two parallel sessions focused on particular concerns in implementing job creation policies**

Achieving results in job creation

Job creation is a challenging theme, not least as it is so broad. The Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) is adopting Productive Employment as a major theme for its work, including a focus on delivering and measuring results. This session will outline progress achieved so far, and future plans; it will also include a summary of the measurement challenges and opportunities in using the employment indicator proposed in the DCED Standard for results measurement, looking at challenges such as what to measure, definitions of employment, and use of theories of change.

- Ben Fowler, MarketShare: Opportunities and Challenges in [Measuring Job Creation](#)
- Sara Spånt, Sida: Productive Employment as an agency focus
- Stuart Tibbs, DFID, discusses Sida's focus in relation to DFID's work on the theme
- Contributions from participants

Promoting youth employment

The ILO's Global Employment Trends for Youth 2013 report finds that the global youth unemployment rate, estimated at 13% in 2013, is close to its crisis peak. There are, however, promising directions in programmes approaches to tackling youth unemployment, both by helping young people to find waged employment and supporting youth entrepreneurship.

- Steve Cumming, the Mastercard Foundation, presents strategies and initial lessons learned from the [Economic Opportunities for Youth Programme](#)
- Susana Puerto, ILO, presents the findings of recent youth employment evaluations
- Contributions from participants

15:30 - 16:15

Break

16:15 - 17:30

Panel discussion focusing on structural transformation, productivity and jobs

Some argue that the jobs agenda is essentially a competitiveness agenda – but that there are no simple policy lessons because of the potential trade-offs between productivity and employment growth. This panel discussion will look at ways in which productivity growth might best be combined with job creation. The panel discussion will be framed by Tilman Altenburg of DIE, based on a consideration of cases where [industrial policy](#) has succeeded or failed. Other panelists will include:

- Justin Yifu Lin, China Center for Economic Research
- José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, International Labour Organisation
- Contributions from participants

Concluding thoughts, look ahead

