



International  
Labour  
Organization

STUDIES ON  
GROWTH WITH EQUITY



# ASSESSMENT OF LABOUR PROVISIONS IN TRADE AND INVESTMENT ARRANGEMENTS

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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

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## FOREWORD

This publication is funded by the Canadian and Swiss Governments, and is part of a larger ILO Research Department project that assesses the impact of labour provisions based on field research, interviews and regional seminars with social partners. It builds on previous research on the effectiveness of labour provisions, entitled *Social dimensions of free trade agreements* (ILO, 2013), which developed a typology of labour provisions and provided an exhaustive mapping of their design.

The methodology used to assess outcomes is based on macro-analysis of 260 trade agreements reported to the WTO (including 71 with labour provisions between 102 economies), and case study analysis of Bangladesh, Cambodia, Central America, Dominican Republic and Republic of Korea with respect to an institutional analysis of national laws and labour institutions. The analysis is supported by interviews with over 50 stakeholders in more than ten countries, including regional seminars held in Toronto, Washington, DC, Lima and New Delhi.

The report has been prepared by Jonas Aissi, Marva Corley-Coulibaly, Elizabeth Echeverria Manrique, Marialaura Fino, Laetitia Fourcade, Takaaki Kizu, Rafael Peels, Daniel Samaan, Pelin Sekerler Richiardi and Christian Viegelahn with research assistance from Jens Schlechter and Carla Chapman. Background research has been provided by Natalia Alshakhanbeh, Elizabeth Boomer, Tequila J. Brooks, Desirée LeClercq, Woori Lee, Carolina Lennon, Elva Lopez Mourelo, Kimberly Nolan Garcia, Elizabeth O'Connor, Myriam Oehri, Sara Rellstab, Daniel Sexton, and Lore Van den Putte. The report has been coordinated by Marva Corley-Coulibaly, under the supervision of Raymond Torres, the Director of the Research Department, and Moazam Mahmood, the a.i. Director of the Research Department.

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