



International
Labour
Office
Geneva

Assessing green jobs potential in developing countries

A PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE

Andrew Jarvis
Adarsh Varma
Justin Ram

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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE • GENEVA

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Foreword

The model of growth and development pursued in the last decades has not delivered the inclusive growth and sustainable development aspired to by people around the world. The recent global economic and financial crisis has thrown into stark relief the inadequate capacity to create sufficient numbers of decent and productive jobs. At the same time, the unsustainably high environmental cost of a business-as-usual model and the threat of climate change reversing the progress made on poverty reduction are becoming ever clearer and more urgent. Sustainable development which not only balances but builds on the synergies between economic growth, social inclusion and preservation of the environment is not only possible; it is becoming an imperative. The Global Jobs Pact adopted by the representatives of government and of the employers' and workers' organizations of over 180 member States at the International Labour Conference in 2009 therefore calls for a transition to a sustainable, low-carbon economy.

This transition will have profound effects on modes of production and consumption, on enterprises and workers, on employment and incomes. It offers many opportunities for the creation of green and decent jobs and for inclusive, low-carbon growth. Managing the transition successfully and seizing the opportunities for job creation and social development will require coherent policies based on a good understanding of the interrelationships between environmental factors and policies on the one hand and labour markets on the other.

The design of integrated and coherent policies and programmes is a challenge in all countries. In the developing world, the challenge is even greater because relevant information is scarce and the tools for analysing the linkages are often inadequate. The present guide aims to help fill this gap. It has been developed

Foreword

with GHK Consulting as part of the global Green Jobs Programme of the ILO on the basis of a pilot study in Bangladesh in 2010. That study is published separately and is due to be updated regularly as countries employ it for their own green jobs initiatives.

The methodology presented in this manual is tailored to the particular needs of developing nations worldwide. The guide is user-friendly and practical and will serve analysis and planning in the growing number of countries interested in green jobs. It will also be a key ingredient for capacity building to enable ILO constituents to actively engage in related policy development.

This product is one of the deliverables under the Green Jobs Initiative and regional outcomes and as such is an illustration of exemplary collaboration between several ILO departments and field offices in support of the pooling of technical and financial resources in order to provide a first-class service to our constituents.

JOSE MANUEL SALAZAR

*Executive Director
Employment Sector
ILO, Geneva*

SACHIO YAMAMOTO

*Regional Director
ILO Regional Office for
Asia and the Pacific
Bangkok*

STEPHEN PURSEY

*Director
Policy Integration
Department
Senior Adviser to
the Director-General
ILO, Geneva*

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