



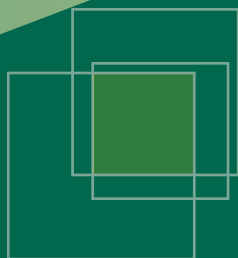
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TOWARDS A GREENER ECONOMY: THE SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION
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FOREWORD

Economic growth has entailed a deterioration in global climate conditions which now threatens to undermine prosperity. However, as countries grapple with persistent unemployment, rising fiscal deficits and uncertainties in the global economic outlook, a window of opportunity has opened up to reshape the patterns of growth. In particular, policy-makers have realized that promoting a transition towards a green economy can not only help to address climate change but, if the right policies are put in place, can also pave the way to a more inclusive and sustainable global economy.

This report is the result of a cooperation project between the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs, and Inclusion of the European Commission and the International Institute for Labour Studies of the ILO. Its purpose is to better understand the nature of the green economy and the implications for labour markets. It shows that a double dividend – encompassing greater decent work opportunities and a greener economy – is possible, provided that adequate complementarities between environmental, economic and social policies are created. The report draws upon a series of background discussion papers also produced as part of the cooperation project.

The report has been prepared by Daniel Samaan (International Institute for Labour Studies) with contributions from Matthieu Charpe, Ekkehard Ernst, Byung-jin Ha and Steven Tobin (International Institute for Labour Studies) as well as Unurjargal Nyambuu and Stephen Stolte (external collaborators). The

formatting and layout of the publication has been prepared by Thuy Nguyen Couture (International Institute for Labour Studies). The report has been prepared under the supervision of the Director of the Institute, Raymond Torres. The authors would like to thank Peter Poschen, Director of the Jobs Creation and Enterprise Development for his valuable comments. A preliminary draft of the findings was presented at a seminar organized in cooperation with the European Commission on 31 March 2011 in Brussels. The final report takes into consideration many of the comments received from experts, the social partners and other stakeholders during and following the seminar.

The project benefited from the support of Rudi Delarue and Audrey Le Guével (ILO Office for the European Union and the Benelux countries) and Anne-Laure Henry-Gréard (Partnerships and Development Cooperation Department at the ILO). The authors would like to thank in particular, Michael Morass and Agata Woźniak of the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs, and Inclusion of the European Commission for their comments, guidance and support during the joint cooperation project.

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