SDG 8: Promote sustained, **inclusive** and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and **decent work** for all

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Inclusive Growth & Decent Work → A Powerful & Transformative Combination

- Jobless growth is not sustainable & no sustainable job creation can occur without economic growth
- Development happen through jobs
- Strong linkages & spill over effects on other goals, such as Poverty, Education, Health, Food Security, Environment, Inequality, Industrialization, Governance
- Decent jobs are a universal issue with differentiated needs
- Decent jobs at the core of people’s concerns

What should we do to support Member States in the implementation?

- 8 fundamental issues
1. Full & Productive Employment & Decent Work for All

- Set explicit full employment target as key benchmark for macroeconomic policies – decent employment at the heart of the economic policies
- Forge social dialogue, bringing together government (economic and labour), business, workers – for “the real economy jobs pact”
- Align wages & productivity – collective bargaining as an instrument
- Address gender gap on wages (30%) & participation rates (25%)
- Empower people with disabilities
2. Youth Unemployment

- Global issue / different regional realities
  - Europe: ¼ of young people are not in education, employment, or training (NEET)
  - Arab region: skills mismatch
  - Developing countries: low quality of jobs

- ILO Call for Action on Youth Employment
  - Education, training and skills, & the school-to-work transition
  - Active labour market polices
  - Youth entrepreneurship and self-employment
  - Rights for young people

- UN System wide initiative on Decent Work for Youth
3. Protecting Labour Rights, OSH & Migrant Workers

- ILO fundamental rights and standards – child and forced labour, discrimination, freedom of association and collective bargaining
- Migrant workers: fair migration, equal treatment, skills & social security portability, recruitment costs & exploitation
- Occupational Safety Health: nearly 2.2 million deaths every year – need for a sectorial & value chain approach
4. Child Labour & Forced Labour

- Immediate action/special attention to the worst forms of child labour
  - Forced labour, prostitution, pornography, illicit activities, drugs & child soldiers
- ILO Conventions on child labour & forced labour as the basis for action
  - International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)
  - South-South & Triangular Cooperation
- Data and statistics: ILO/SIMPOC surveys
5. Small & Micro-Enterprises, Formalization & Productivity

- SMEs major job creation engine
- Certain condition & new tools are needed to ensure:
  - Access to finance & entrepreneurship training
  - Enabling environment – infrastructure (energy, connectivity)
  - Policies for formalization (accessing labour rights, strengthening resource mobilization)
  - Improvement of working conditions and productivity
  - Development of the value chain
6. Transition to a Greener Economy

- Low-carbon economy
  - very employment-intensive
  - net positive effects provided that adequate skills development, labour market & social protection policies are in place.

- Link to youth employment and to environmental SDGs & targets

- Need for a sectorial approach, identify winners & losers and design policies to facilitate the transition

- PAGE – Partnership for the Green Economy (facilitated by ILO, UNIDO, UNDP, UNEP and UNITAR)
7. Social Protection Floors for All

- About 75% of the population is not covered by adequate social security
- In LDCs of Sub-Saharan Africa & South Asia coverage is less than 10%

- Policy package: ILO Recommendation 202
  - blue print on how to implement social protection floors
- Social Protection Floor Initiative
  - Joint UN SPF Task Teams on the country level
    - Organize joint activities, assessments of SP/F, national dialogue, coordinated delivery
    - Work with government to integrate SP/F into UNDAFs
    - Conduct SP/F national trainings for UNCTs
8. Implementation, Social Dialogue & Accountability

Means of *IMPLEMENTATION*

- Global Jobs Pact
  - Concrete set of policy tools & options
- Decent Work toolkit
- Social dialogue & partnerships
- Strengthened statistics capacity

**Most fundamental issue**

Translating the normative mandate (guiding conventions & principles) into operational tools & policy practice
Investing in SDG 8 means investing in a number of SDGs

- Poverty reduction (SDG1)
- Education (SDG4)
- Health (SDG3)
- Industrialization (SDG9)
- Equality (SDG5&10)
- Sustainable Consumption & Production (SDG12)

SDG 8 will create new & cross-cutting demands: need to enhance collaborative capacity & overcome silos

Normative should guide the operational; already existing tools, mechanisms and platforms can be adapted

A successful implementation of the overall Post-2015 Development Agenda depends on successful outcomes of SDG 8!