

SUSTAINABLE JOBS, SECURE INCOMES AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

Governments and international institutions have failed.

The global economy is no more stable than it was seven years ago. The current model of capitalism can never deliver sustainable jobs, secure incomes, and social protection.

There is little political courage to tackle climate change despite the increasing devastation of climate catastrophes and temperature increases of up to 4% by the turn of the century.

Unemployment in the formal sector is intractable at around 200 million, and youth unemployment is depriving the dignity of work to enormous numbers of our young people. With 40% of the world's workers forced into the desperation of the informal sector, the priority is jobs, jobs and jobs – decent work for all.

Inequality is growing in almost all nations, and wages are amongst the lowest on record as a share of wealth. 78% of people say their wages are falling behind the cost of living or are stagnant. (ITUC poll)

Health, public education, transport and public services generally are increasingly denied to those who cannot pay. Tax evasion is rampant.

The UN MDGs have not been met and nations are squabbling about global sustainability goals for post 2015.

Sustainable jobs, secure incomes and social protection are the fundamental base of a just economy.

The ITUC Global Poll shows overwhelming support for a social protection floor.

Over 92% want their government to deliver affordable access to health care, education and childcare. 96% support decent retirement incomes and 88% are in favour of unemployment benefits.

People continue to doubt whether current labour laws provide adequate job security (63%) and fair wages (65%).

FACTS

- Global projected growth is 3.1% and has been downgraded by the IMF six times since 2011.
- Recorded unemployment is around 200 million and youth unemployment is up to 60% in some nations.
- The informal sector of the global economy is 40% and growing.
- More than 50% of workers in the formal sector are in vulnerable or irregular work.
- Market income inequality increased further and more rapidly than ever before. The increase between 2008 and 2010 was as strong as in the twelve years prior to the crisis.
- Between 1990 and 2009, the wage share fell in 26 out of 30 advanced economies, on average by 4.4 percentage points.
- 1.2 billion people live in extreme poverty with less than \$1.25 US per day.
- 75% of people have no adequate social protection.
- Women make up 50% of the population but only 30% of the workforce.
- 168 million child labourers are out of school.
- Climate catastrophes are increasing, and without intervention the world is set for temperature rises of above four degrees.
- One billion people don't have access to adequate drinking water and 2.6 billion lack proper sanitation.
- Mortality rates in some 37 countries have increased over the past three decades.

TARGET ISSUES

Jobs, jobs and jobs

The ITUC has called for one trillion investment into infrastructure, scaling up of apprenticeships and intervention to formalise work in the informal sector.

http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/l20_priority_recommendations_for_the_g20_leaders_meeting.pdf

The ETUC has called for a 'Recovery Plan' for Europe.

<http://www.etuc>

There are millions of jobs in the green economy.

http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/ituc_green_jobs_summary_en_final.pdf

and millions more in the care economy.

Fred van Leeuwen - Education International General Secretary: In total, 6.8 million teachers should be recruited by 2015 in order to provide the right to education to all primary school-age children.

Poverty and inequality

The ITUC and affiliates are targeting a minimum living wage and the social protection floor as a universal basic set of entitlements.



Rosa Pavanelli - PSI General Secretary: “The forces working against ordinary people are ruthless and powerful. They destroy. They care nothing for the public good. They are driven by self-interest and insatiable greed. Women, young people, workers and families are paying the price as unemployment soars and vital public services are slashed.”



Michael Sommer, DGB/ITUC President: "We need the minimum wage. Everyone is saying that now but not everyone means it."

The ILO standing setting discussion on ' formalising the informal sector' in 2014 is a critical piece of justice for these millions of workers.



"We have been organising workers in the informal sector, based on the conviction that we have to be more than just a trade union organisation, we have to be a great social movement of working people." Francisca Jiménez of CASC Dominican Republic. CASC set up the Mutual de Servicios Solidarios – AMUSSOL – to let 7000 informal economy workers – domestic workers, self-employed

bus drivers, handypersons and hairdressers – sign up to the national social security (health) and pension systems.

'UN Post 2015 Sustainability Goals' must include 'full employment' & 'decent work' and the 'social protection floor'.

<http://www.ituc-csi.org/leave-no-one-behind-the-agenda-of>

Public services are a critical component of the 'social protection floor', a basis of dignity for our communities and a huge source of 'decent work'.

<http://www.ituc-csi.org/trade-in-services-agreement-risks>

Speculation and tax evasion are fundamental elements of corruption in the global economy. With 25 trillion dollars of workers capital in the global economy, we want a new investment model. The campaign for a financial transaction tax, the end to tax evasion and the regulatory environment for long-term investment are essential components of a new economic model.

http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/ituc_economicoutlook_final.pdf

Affiliates and GUFs have academic papers and campaign material relating to these areas of economic and social policy: inequality, minimum wages, wages shares, social protection, financial regulation, MDGs, Post 2015 Goals, climate action and more! Please send them in and we will post them at www.ituc.org/Congress.

ACTION POINTS

A sustainable future requires a new economic model based on quality research and analysis. Central to this is our commitment to:

Full employment

- Advocate for national jobs targets.
- Campaign for targeted investment in infrastructure, the green economy, the care economy and quality apprenticeships.

Collective bargaining, minimum wages & social protection floor:

- Organise to fight back against all attacks on collective bargaining including employers, governments, the IMF and other international institutions.
- Global solidarity for unions fighting to defend and extend collective bargaining.
- Support GUF campaigns for global framework agreements.
- Target countries and organise workers for a major push on minimum wage and social protection.
- Target exploitative supply chains.

Climate action

- Mobilise nationally for an ambitious global agreement in 2015.

UN Post 2015 Sustainability Goals

- Ensure all governments support the inclusion of 'full employment & decent work' and the 'social protection floor' in the UN goals.

A new investment model

- Secure investment of workers' capital in the real economy and not in speculation.
- Campaign for rights and environmental standards as pre-requisites for investment of workers' capital and trade agreements.