



MALI TRADE UNION TAKE ON SDG IMPLEMENTATION

#HLPF2018



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ARE TRADE UNIONS AT THE TABLE?

The Malian government has committed to implementing all the SDGs. It aims to do so through four key tools: a strategic framework for economic renewal and sustainable development (CREDD) and its 2016-18 implementation plan that has been used in the programming of the national budget; the National Action Plan for 2015-18; the Social Urgency Plan; and the plan of action of the Agency for the Environment and Sustainable Development.

The Economy and Finance Ministry is the main actor in charge of implementing the SDGs by translating the CREDD into budgetary commitments at the sectoral level. It is also in charge of redistributing the development aid and budget support provided by international partners across the budget according to national and local priorities. The Ministry of the Environment, Sanitation and Sustainable Development, through its Agency for the Environment and Sustainable Development (AEDD), is tasked with implementing commitments on

climate change. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation leads the dialogue on the SDGs with international partners.

Trade unions have not benefitted from regular and transparent access to information on SDG implementation as no regular reporting process has been set up. They have, together with other civil society representatives, been involved in ad hoc consultations on subjects directly or indirectly linked to the fulfilment of the SDGs, such as budgetary allocations. However, none of these have been framed as discussions on this topic and there is no formal structure for dialogue on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Trade union partners believe that this is to do with the lack of a clear lead on SDG implementation and the dispersal of responsibilities between three ministries.

TRANSPARENCY



Irregular access to limited information

CONSULTATION



Informal or ad hoc consultation

SOCIAL DIALOGUE



There are individual contributions from social partners to the national government



IS THE (DECENT) WORK GETTING DONE?

Numerous challenges to achieving the SDGs are yet to be tackled in Mali.

Of the Malian population, 47.2% was living below the international poverty line in 2015, indicating that **target 1.1 (eradicate extreme poverty for all people)** was far from being reached. In addition, the percentage of people living in poverty (below \$3.2 per day) stood at 35.9% in 2009. While both indicators are diminishing, the rate of improvement has decreased in recent years due to a rise in unemployment and the high cost of healthcare, in the absence of welfare systems. Promisingly however, indicators on **target 1.3 (implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures)** show that 28.8% of the 2016 national budget was earmarked for the provision of basic social services, a 10.6% increase on 2015.

There is a need for improvement on **target 5.4 (recognise and value unpaid care and domestic work)**, for which 2008 data shows that on average, women engaged in around five hours of unpaid work per day, as compared to around half an hour per day for men. In addition, men engaged in around six hours of remunerated work per day, compared to around four hours for women, suggesting a considerable imbalance in earned income. Regarding **target 5.5 (ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life)**, a parity law from 2015 setting a threshold of at least 30% of female candidates to be included in any electoral list is set to improve the representation of women in political and public life. However, serious challenges remain regarding education, with only 7.3% of Malian women and girls having received some form of secondary education prior to 2015.

There are serious concerns about Mali meeting the targets set by **SDG 8 (promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all)**. Target 8.3 (**support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalisation and growth of MSMEs**) is particularly worrying, with 96.6% of jobs occurring within the informal economy. With 9.7% unemployment and an overall rate of 10.2% of underemployment, which hits urban dwelling women particularly hard (53.2% of them are underemployed), achieving **target 8.5 (full and productive employment and decent work for all)** is still far off. NEET indicators for **target 8.6 (reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training)** stood at 65% of youth (15-24) in 2014. Furthermore, indicators for **target 8.7 (eradicate the worst forms of child labour)** show that 56% of children have been engaged in child labour in 2015. Worryingly, there has been a regression with regards to meeting **target 8.8 (protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers)** as trade union membership has dropped from 21% in 1999 to 16.7% in 2014.

Progress remains to be made for Mali to reach **target 10.4 (adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality)**, as in 2009, the share of the top 10% of income earners accounted for 25.7% of overall GDP, while the bottom 20% of income earners account for 8% of GDP. However, these disparities have been decreasing.

Mali is committed to meeting **target 13.2 (integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning)** and has, in consultation with trade unions, put aside green funds for its implementation. It is a signatory of the Paris Climate Agreement and leads the Africa Group for Renewable Energy within the African Union.

WHERE TO NEXT? TRADE UNION RECIPE TO LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

The UNTM calls on the Malian government to:

- Establish a clear lead on the implementation of the SDGs among the government departments;
- Mainstream its strategic framework for economic renewal and sustainable development (CREDD) throughout all government policies, especially at local and regional levels;
- Ensure the greater involvement of civil society, including trade unions, in the direct implementation of the SDGs;
- Allocate adequate resources to the implementation of the SDGs.



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