Relevance of the 2030 Agenda (SDGs) for Workers & Involvement of ILO/ACTRAV

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What is important for workers & their organizations in AP?

Need for Improvements on –

- Freedom of Association, Right to Organize & Collective Bargaining
- Sharing in gains of growth – ‘living wages’
- Compliance with labour laws, dispute resolution mechanisms & labour law reforms
- Violence and harassment against Trade Union leaders
- OSH, Social Protection/Social Security coverage for All
- Just Transition
- Tripartite consultative mechanisms – representation of and social dialogue with unions
- Housing, drinking water, Health, other public services?
- And???

- Main challenge: ensuring inclusive growth & shared prosperity for all
**SDGs Agenda relevant for workers**

- 2030 SDG Agenda proposes a new (?) framework for:
  - National development policy
  - Multilateral cooperation, Bilateral donor cooperation

- SDG Agenda covers Trade Union Agenda [Ex. Labour rights, Inequality, Decent Work, Wages, Social Protection, OSH, Climate Change, Migration, Clean Drinking water, etc.] - it offers immense opportunities for TU engagement and advocacy

- Framing of national SDG agenda and national reviews have to be inclusive & participatory and support the reporting by all relevant stakeholders (TUs are stakeholders)

- TU’s should ensure, along with other stakeholders, that implementation by countries is not selective (leave no SDGs Target behind and *leaving no one behind*).
Commitment to International Law & Human Rights

• When adopting the 2030 Agenda on 25th Sept 2015, the world’s leaders reaffirmed their commitment to international law and emphasized that –

the Agenda is to be implemented in a manner that is consistent with the rights and obligations of states under international law.

• Reaffirmed also responsibilities of the States – to respect, protect & promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind!

• Should imply correspondingly → the central role of international labour standards in realization of many SDGs, and in particular those targets related to the Decent Work Agenda in SDGs;
Centrality of Decent Work in SDGs

- Over 30 indicators related to decent work agenda spread over 10 Goals; Example:

- Goal 8 (growth, employment & decent work):
  - Target 8.5 aims at full & productive employment and decent work for all, including equal pay for work of equal value
  - Target 8.8 aims at protecting labour rights, safe & secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants & those in precarious employment

- Under Goal 1 (Poverty): Target 1.3 requires expanding Social Protection;

- Goal 10 (Inequality): Target 10.4 seeks to promote fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality (Increase labour share of GDP);

- Goal 16 (inclusive, just & accountable institutions): Indicator 16.10.1 requires collecting data also on violence against trade unionists/detention/killings
• 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development aims to ‘end poverty in all its forms everywhere, promote decent work for all and ensure that ‘no one is left behind’.

• But discussions on Future of Work and on going developmental process seems to be marginalizing jobs, many people, many countries!

...the means by which the economy produces goods can change but the future of work will be decided not only by technology but also by public policy choices societies/ governments make?

If SDG 2030 goals have to be achieved, policies and rules have to change – and major area there is: ‘Reward Work, Not Wealth’

And here lies the role for trade unions.
Challenges & Risks

• 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has the potential to be truly transformative of people’s lives – if implemented in its spirit, our world will be a better place. **BUT problem is -** existing trade, investment, industrial and labour policies are not oriented towards addressing SDG Agenda.

• Secondly SDGs vision & plan of action is largely country driven process and it has no built-in enforcement mechanism; What's more – there are risks of selectivity and national adaptation? With 17 Goals & 169 Targets – which ones get the primacy at country level? Resources?

• Nationalising the indicator framework (needs also mapping of available data)

• Financing for sustainable development? Largely nationally driven process but capacities of the Governments, especially developing countries, to finance?

• Monitoring and accountability infrastructure in place at the national, regional and global levels?

• To unleash the potential of the SDGs, Trade Unions & other civil society groups need to be active champions and be involved.
Role of ILO

- ILO is custodian agency for 14 indicators (3 jointly with other UN Organizations) under SDGs 1, 5, 8, 10, 14; plus it is Involved agency for 4 other indicators under SDGs 1, 4 & 16;

- ILO supports national implementation of the 2030 Agenda - through
  - Strengthening constituents’ capacity to engage in national action plans
  - Strengthening advocacy, communication and information-sharing
  - Policy advice on decent work for sustainable development
  - Integrating decent work into the indicators framework
  - Support to SDG monitoring (including through strengthening national data systems to collect relevant statistical data to monitor progress in regard to these 14 indicators);
What is ACTRAV doing

• Capacity building of Workers Organizations to strengthen the knowledge base and involvement of TUs at national level in SDGs processes and implementation;

• In regard to workers organizations, the ILO Programme and Budget proposals for 2018-19 envisages strengthening capacity of workers’ organizations towards four (4) SDG targets (8.5, 8.8, 16.7 and 16.10);

• Some initiatives taken so far include: Trade Union Reference Manual on the 2030 Agenda, launched a training package on SDGS in 2016 (the Global Workers’ Academy where 35 participants from different regions participated), Regional training programmes (in 2017), national workshop in Indonesia (to be followed up in 2018-19), working with other parts of ILO to develop methodology for SDG Indicator 16.10.1 to enable reporting and/or monitoring, development of SDG Note and Fact Sheet for Workers Organizations; ACTRAV Global Symposium and Regional dialogue on Future of Work included TU discussions on SDGs:

• Cooperation with the ITUC TUDCN – in 2018-19, it would be desirable to collaborate to prepare for 2019 National Reviews – especially in regard to Goal 8 reports;

• In Indonesia, aim is to promote ‘Trade Union Platform on SDGs for joint policy, agenda and actions aimed at advocacy, awareness raising, building partnerships and workers social dialogue with the government for implementation, monitoring and reporting on the progress on decent work components of the SDG national agenda;
Preparing for 2019 National Reviews

2019 goals under review

- Quality Education
- Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Reduced Inequalities
- Climate Action
- Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

What do Workers Organizations Need to Do?
Follow up Plan of Trade Unions

• Identify priority areas for action: Issues, what needs to change and what needs to be done (Information/documentation/research/Reports/Advocacy/submission to Government/social dialogue/monitoring & reporting progress)

• How to implement this? (Joint Platform of Trade Unions at national level? Can this be formed?)

• What joint activities can be done (research/advocacy/engagement with Government/ILO/Workers/Others?)

• Build partnerships with others for implementing this work plan – who?

• Resources: Human, Technical, Financial – How to manage this?

• Identify priority areas of capacity building for workers organizations

• Develop Advocacy Plan for the workers’ SDG agenda

• Need for JUST TRANSITION