

▶ ILO Recovery Strategies for the SDG Decade of Action

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Introduction

COVID-19 pandemic and the associated economic disruption magnified the challenges with insufficient decent jobs and labour rights, and inequality.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in developing Asia will decrease by 30 to 45% in 2020 (UNCTAD).

- ▶▶ Achieving the SDG goal of “leave no one behind” may be an impossible dream unless the world comes together behind a common course of action.
- ▶▶ it is time to reinvigorate our global commitment to the 2030 Agenda to boost the hopes of the people and to build a resilient society and economy.
- ▶▶ SDG8 as an instrument to respond to the crisis

Policy Framework for COVID-19 and country level implementation

Pillar 1

Stimulating the economy and employment

- ▶ Active fiscal policy
- ▶ Accommodative monetary policy
- ▶ Lending and financial support to specific sectors, including the health sector

Pillar 2

Supporting enterprises, jobs and incomes

- ▶ Extend social protection for all
- ▶ Implement employment retention measures
- ▶ Provide financial/tax and other relief for enterprises

Pillar 3

Protecting workers in the workplace

- ▶ Strengthen OSH measures
- ▶ Adapt work arrangements (e.g. teleworking)
- ▶ Prevent discrimination and exclusion
- ▶ Provide health access for all
- ▶ Expand access to paid leave

Pillar 4

Relying on social dialogue for solutions

- ▶ Strengthen the capacity and resilience of employers' and workers' organizations
- ▶ Strengthen the capacity of governments
- ▶ Strengthen social dialogue, collective bargaining and labour relations institutions and processes

Pillar One on Stimulating the economy and employment

Significant numbers of workers were forced to leave their jobs due to closures, retrenchments, downsizing, or disinvestment.

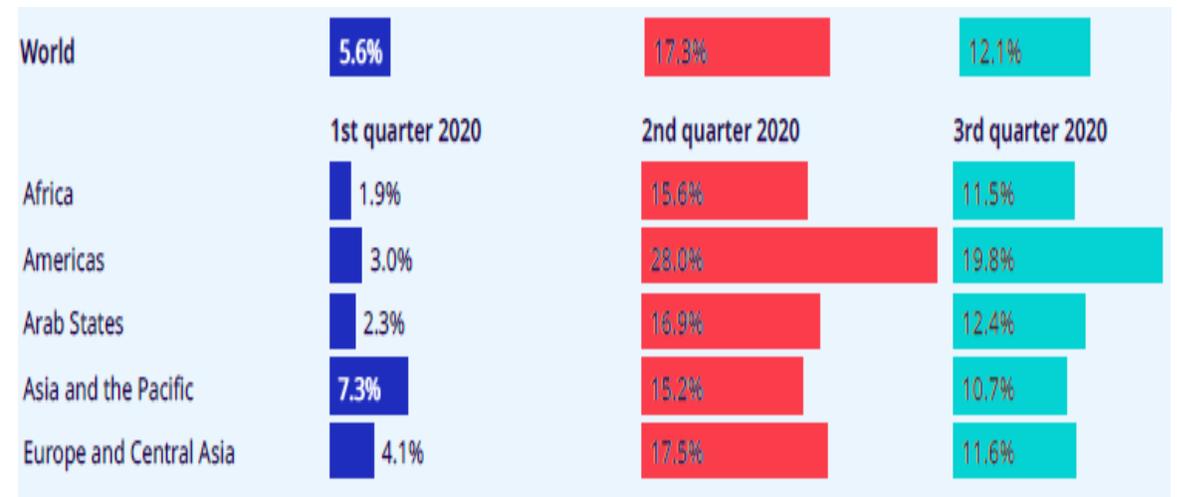
Without pay and jobs, millions of migrant workers have returned to their home countries.

Informal workers with little social protection have been amongst the hardest hit.

According to the ILO estimate, in the Asia-Pacific region,

- the total hours loss in the 2nd quarter were 15.2% lower than that in the fourth quarter of 2019. This is equivalent to a loss of 265 million full-time jobs.
- working hour losses in the 3rd quarter to be 10.7%, equivalent to a loss of 185 million full-time jobs.

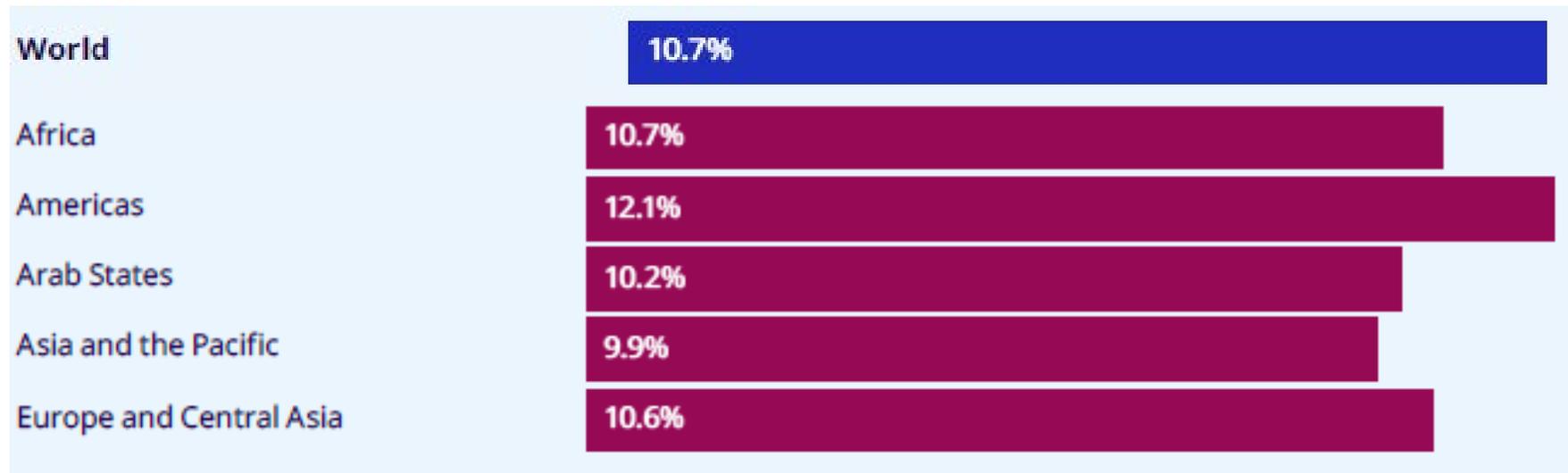
Working hour losses by region, the first three quarters of 2020



- Created new poor by 5 million from 33 million in 2019 to 38 million in 2020 in Asia-Pacific (a poverty line of \$5.50/day (2011 PPP)).
- Governments' rescue packages needed for enterprises' sustainability and workers' livelihoods
- ILO Rec. No.205 on Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience (2017) as a normative strategy against the crisis

Pillar Two on Supporting enterprises, jobs, and incomes

Share of labour income lost due to working hours during the first three quarters of 2020, by ILO



- ▶ In the Asia-Pacific region, an average of 7% of GDP expenditure for social protection, in comparison of the global average of 11% of the GDP.
- ▶ Social protection must be seen as an investment and not just an additional cost.

Pillar Three on Protecting workers in the workplace

Occupational safety and health measures is crucial to protect workers in workplaces.

Labour law reforms in several countries in our region.

- ▶▶ Increase in violence and harassment in workplaces and homes.
 - Teleworking causes a significant increase of violence and harassment for workers
 - 1 in 3 women across the world experienced physical or sexual violence mostly by an intimate partner (Unwomen).
 - ILO Convention No.190 concerning Violence and Harassment in the World of Work

- ▶▶ International labour standards as a foundation for policy responses to facilitate a fast economic recovery.

Pillar 4 on Relying on social dialogue for solutions

The tripartism and social dialogue as a cornerstone to rebuild a resilient system in the post-COVID recovery.

The ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work (2019)

- **Emphasis on social dialogue to reshape a better future**



ILO flagship report in 2021

- **This will give social partners insight on how social dialogue has functioned as a driver for coping the pandemic crisis and constructing resilient economy and society.**

DWCP and UNSDCF

DWCPs in 21 countries in the region and several countries in pipeline.

DWCPs in our region coherent with UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

Stronger partnerships between ILO and other UN agencies to accelerate SDG implementation.

An overview of DWCP and UNSDCF

Subregion/Country	Current	UNDAF/ UNSDCF
Afghanistan	2018–22	One UN for Afghanistan, 2018–21
Bangladesh	2017–21	UNDAF, 2017–20
Cambodia	2019–23	UNDAF, 2019–23
China	2016–20	UNDAF, 2016–20; UNSDCF(2021-2025)
India	2018–22	UN SD Framework, 2018–22
Indonesia	2018-2022	UN Partnership for Development Framework, 2016–20
Lao People’s Democratic Republic	2017–21	UN Partnership Framework, 2017–21
Malaysia	2019–2020 / 2021–2025	UN SD Framework, 2018–20; UNSDCF (2021-2025)- document still to be finalized
Maldives	Formulation in progress*)	UNDAF, 2016–20
Mongolia	Formulation in progress (2017-2021)	UNDAF, 2017–21
Myanmar	2018–21	UNDAF, 2018–22
Nepal	2018–22	UNDAF, 2018–22
Pakistan	2016–20	One Programme III, 2018–22
Philippines	2020-2024	UN Partnership Framework for SD, 2019–23
Singapore	Biennial Partnership Agreement	
Sri Lanka	2018–22	UN SD Framework, 2018–22
Thailand	2019–21	UN Partnership Framework, 2017–21
Timor-Leste	2016–20	UNDAF, 2015–19; UNSDCF (2021-2025)
Viet Nam	2017–21	One Strategic Plan, 2017–21
Cook Islands	2019–22	UN Pacific Strategy 2018–22 ***)

Concluding

The post-COVID recovery requires huge global financing and investments to develop environmental ecosystems, sustainable economy and resilient society for a better future.

- To ensure decent work, public services, social protection, equality and climate justice.

- ▶▶ At the national level, social dialogue to cope with challenges and build resilient economy.
- ▶▶ At the global level, international solidarity to accelerate SDG implementation.
- ▶▶ ILO will continue to support the constituents to engage in dialogue with UNRCs at country level.

Thank You