



**Sustainable development goals:
trade union policies and
national/regional action plans
for Africa**

Africa Trade Union Development Network and Union Solidarity Action on SDGs

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African Trade Union Development Network planning meeting: African Trade Unions as Active Actors in Development

Réunion du Réseau Syndical Africain pour le Développement : *Les Syndicats Africains comme acteurs actifs de Développement*



ATUDN membership

- ITUC-Africa affiliates active in development;
- Countries Significant in economic terms for the region
- Solidarity Support Organisations (SSOs)
- Trade union labour research institutions
- Global Union Federations (to be considered)



Objective

- **To ensure input of trade union views in the development-related policy debates** and especially concerning the inclusion of the decent work agenda and democratic ownership in development as key issues for sustainable development strategies.
- Represent the vision and values of trade union organizations on development, and are designed to serve as a common reference for development cooperation initiatives, strengthening ownership and working methodologies among trade union partners



TUDCN features

- The network membership should be understood as **voluntary, inclusive of all African regions** and based on the interest and commitment of the ITUC-Africa affiliates
- The network has multiple lines of accountability (reporting to the ITUC Africa GS on the one hand and by others to their own respective constituencies).
- The network shall work by consensus.

pillars



**Research &
Policy analysis
Capacity
development**

**Advocacy
Partnerships**



ATUDN advocacy goals

- Elaborate trade unions' policy positions
- Bring them towards development policy decision-making bodies: AU, UN, EU, UNECA, Regional Economic bodies etc.
- That trade unions continue being recognised as actors of development cooperation in their own right
- CSOs platforms



TUDCN partnerships

Principles

Trade Union Principles on Development Effectiveness

- Democratic ownership
- Autonomy
- Partnership
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Coherence
- Inclusiveness and equality
- Sustainability (democratic, political, organisational, financial, environmental)



ATUDN partnerships

Trade Union Organisational Capacity

- ATUDN is helping to develop joint criteria for capacity building/organising strategies in the trade union movement
- Organising and capacity development for sustainability
- Strengthening organisations – capacity development
- We have been doing capacity development for a long time but are we succeeding in developing our capacities?
- Need to assess capacity development



Regional development networks

- Advocacy on development policies at regional level
- Coordination with the members on development



GENERAL MEETING

OPEN COORDINATION MEETINGS

STEERING COMMITTEE

WORKING
GROUPS

SEMINARS

TUDCN SECRETARIAT



Governance

General meetings (Annual)

- Bring together all the members of the network and are aimed at setting the overall agenda for the work of the network, take the necessary decisions in terms of organising the work and the implementation of the work plan.
- Composition: All active members of the network- including **regional organisations** and their national affiliates (max 5)



governance

Open Coordination Meeting (annual, in between GMs)

- Ensures coordination of the network in between the annual General Meeting
- Composition: **3 representatives per region**



governance

Steering Committee

- Prepare network meetings, oversees the work of the secretariat, ensures monitoring and evaluation of the work and assesses regularly the financial and administrative situation of the network
- Composition: **5 representatives from the sub-regions**



working modalities

working groups (WG)

- Discussion and implementation of priorities
- Online work and consultation, and offline meetings
- Open membership, mailing list managed by TUDCN Secretariat

WG on AU development policies
WG on Global policies
WG on Trade Union Partnerships and development work
WG on South-South and Triangular Cooperation
WG Communication and Outreach



working modalities

- Thematic or training seminars are organised in order to enlarge the level playing field within the trade union organisations, create capacity or study and exchange on trade union development cooperation related issues and support on-line work streams
- Composition: All TUDCN members interested in participating
- Periodicity: when necessary



working modalities

Secretariat

- Organises working groups, network meetings, and seminars
- Ensures the communication, information and visibility instruments of the Network
- Assists with the outreach work to the members, affiliates, NGO platforms and other partners of the network

ITUC- Priorities

- Human and Trade Union Rights
- Peace and Security
- Strengthening trade union internal democracy and promoting trade union unity
- Organizing – women, youth, informal workers and migrant workers
- Social Protection
- Climate Change and Environment
- Africa's Structural Transformation

ATUDN: Trade Union SDGs Engagement Strategy

- **Mobilisation and engagement:** *Familiarise trade unions with agenda 2030.*
- **Advocacy and implementation:** *Trade unions influence planning and implementation of agenda 2030 through social dialogue.*
- **Monitoring and reporting:** *Trade union report on SDGs implementation.*

1 NO POVERTY



Protecting people's rights can ensure they are sustainably lifted out of poverty. Having a job is no guarantee of a dignified livelihood. Social protection and social protection floors, must be put in place to ensure that people, including the 'working poor' do not fall into poverty. Addressing the informal economy can help lift huge numbers of people out of poverty.

5 GENDER EQUALITY



Imbalanced labour access and conditions are a major component of gender inequality. Addressing this requires policies and laws to protect both formal and informal economy workers, to ensure compliance with anti-discrimination, minimum wage legislation and core labour standards, and to secure effective and universal access to social protection.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Trade unions play a fundamental role in ensuring that the benefits of economic growth are shared fairly among those that create it. Employment creation, workers' rights, social dialogue and social protection are the pillars of the Decent Work Agenda and ensure that "no one is left behind". SDG8 is the hub for trade union action on SDGs.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



High and rising inequality among and within countries has a major social and economic cost. The SDGs recognise that the current rise in inequality is at odds with sustainable development. Strengthening the voice of working people is a proven way of curbing this trend. Trade unions promote the adoption of fiscal, wage and social protection policies that reduce inequalities.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Climate change and the need to shift to low carbon societies require a massive transformation in how economies and industries work. To avoid hiding the social costs of this transformation, change must start on the work floor: national Just Transition plans are needed to appropriately reorient workers in high-emission industries and provided appropriate adaptation measures to workers impacted by climate change.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Social dialogue contributes to institutional stability by promoting consensus among social partners on socio-economic policies. Trade unions promote freedom of association and collective bargaining, contributing to the rule of law and democracy. Only democratic societies and institutions can create an enabling environment for decent work to flourish.

RAISE AWARENESS

- Identify your priority areas for action
- Start awareness raising in Parliament and the media
- Start a public awareness campaign about the Agenda and how it will help achieve decent work agenda

PARTNERSHIPS- WORK WITH OTHERS

- Identify allies at a national level who can support you in your advocacy
- Collaboration and partnerships – academia, researchers / research institutes, international human rights institutions, like-minded CSOs

MAKE A PLAN AND IMPLEMENT

- Engage the government on where it is with the implementation process
- Participate in any reference groups or oversight mechanisms
- Identify which Ministry is responsible for SGDs implementation and if it links to an existing mechanism or commitment
- Develop a TU plan to promote and monitor the implementation of the Agenda especially Goal 8

REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- Advocate for the government to report on progress made in a timely and transparent manner
- Conduct Trade union research at sectoral, national and community level
- **Draft shadow reports on progress and track budgets**
- Support the establishment of and take part in accountability mechanisms at national, regional and global levels

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE

- **PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**
- **TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN DECENT WORK COUNTRY PROGRAMME(DWCP) PROCESSES**
- **DEMAND TRADE UNION SEAT AND PARTICIPATION IN UN PROCESSES**

COMMUNICATE

- **DEVELOP MATERIALS**
- **USE SOCIAL MEDIA**

BUILD CAPACITY

- **TRAIN TRADE UNION CADRES**
- **EDUCATE AND RAISE AWARENESS OF MEMBERS**
- **Conduct Trade union research at sectoral, national and community level**
- **FORM A NETWORK OF UNIONS ON DEVELOPMENT/SDGs**