

DECENT WORK

A better world starts here.



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Creating Green Jobs in the E-waste Management Sector

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11 July 2012, Hanoi, Vietnam



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Outline



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- A few words about the ILO
- ILO's Green Jobs Programme
- Jobs and health in e-waste management
- Informality
- Q&A



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International Labour Organization



International
Labour
Organization

- UN specialized agency founded in 1919 responsible for drawing up and overseeing international labour standards.
- ‘Tripartite’ UN agency that brings together representatives of governments, employers and workers to jointly shape policies and programmes promoting decent work for all.
- Organizational motivation: humanitarian and social (working conditions and rights); political (social unrest/revolution); economic (social protection floor balancing between improvement on working conditions and competitiveness); now **environmental**.



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A green and *just* transition

Context

- * Half of the global workforce lives on <\$2 a day;
- * One-third is either unemployed or under-employed (working hard without earning sufficient incomes);
- * Half of the world's population doesn't have any social security; gender inequality.

Challenge

- * How to make the economic development and environmental improvement work for people?
- * How to accomplish the changes necessary in the basic economic activities – jobs and workplace to achieve efficiency, sustainability, and prosperity?
- * How to expand the social-intake of the transition to a greener economy?

Demand

- * The transition to a resource efficient and sustainable economy can create and actually need large number of green jobs across economic sectors.
- * The creation of *GREEN JOBS*

Social dimension

Responses

- Job *creation* (renewables) ↑
- Job *substitution* (re-employment within and across sectors) →
- Job *elimination* (no direct replacement) ↓
- Transformation and redefinition* of existing jobs ☑





ILO's Green Jobs

Solution: an integrated approach to sustainable development through a just transition and a coherent policy framework that addresses social progress, environmental protection, and economic needs.

'Green jobs': *Jobs are green when they help reduce negative environmental impact ultimately leading to environmentally, economically and socially sustainable enterprises and economies (ILO/UNEP et al, 2008).*

- Reduce consumption of energy and raw materials
- Limit greenhouse gas emissions
- Minimize waste and pollution
- Protect and restore ecosystems



Green and *decent work*

Decent work deficits:

- unemployment and under-employment;
- poor-quality and unproductive jobs;
- unsafe work and insecure income;
- rights that are denied and gender inequality.

Decent work:

- Opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income (employment opportunities);
- Security in the workplace and social protection for workers and their families (social protection);
- Better prospects for personal development and social integration (social dialogue);
- Freedom to express concerns, organize and participate in decision makings (rights at work)

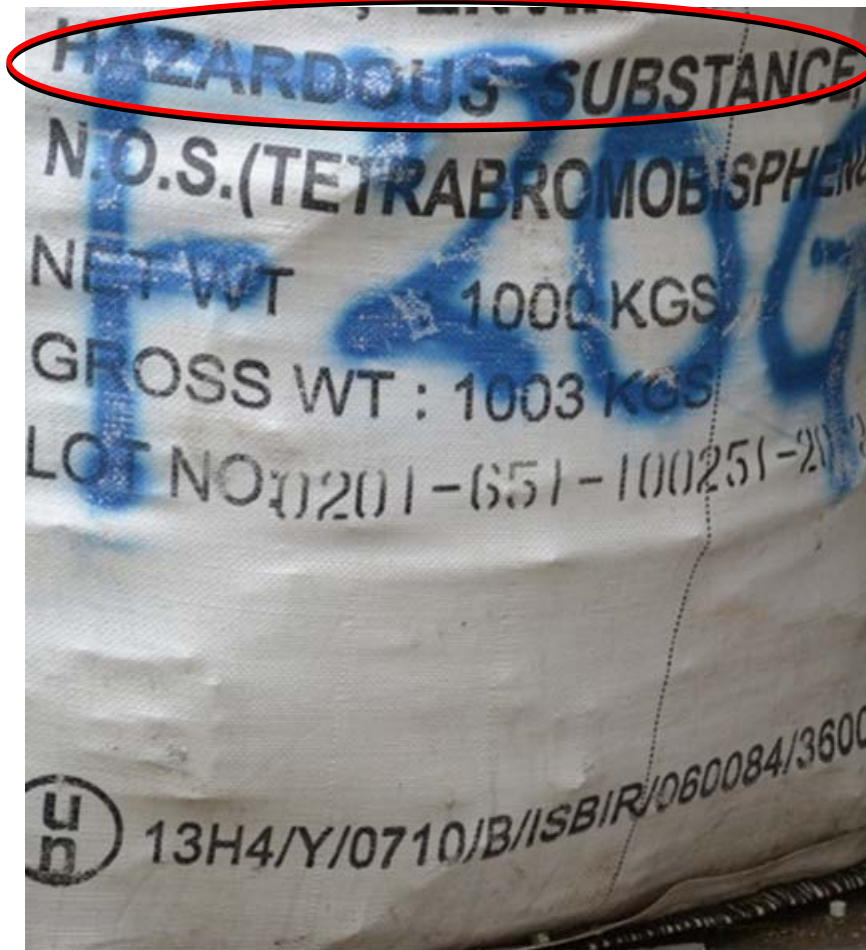
Benefits:

- Promote the integration of the three pillars of sustainable development;
- Means for achieving equitable, inclusive development and core strategy to achieve sustainable socio-economic progress;
- Promote enterprise development aligning enterprise growth with productive employment.



E-waste management

- Resource rich & high risk
- Millions of jobs
- Local income
- Compliance challenge (mal-/ non-compliance of labour & environmental regulations)
- Formalization



Human health impact

Risks

6 groups of a large amount of harmful substances: lead, cadmium (Cd), mercury, hexavalent chromium (Cr), PVC plastic and BFR.

Toxins contained in the products and released from the waste treatment.

Human health (e.g. CBs)

Lead: chronic toxicity (nervous system, blood system, kidneys, endocrine system, pregnancy: fetal/ mental development, deformity of child) (**acid bathing**)

Cr: allergy, DNA damage; absorbed through cell membrane and accumulative effect (**acid bathing**).

Dioxins/ furans: immune deficiency, nervous system, reduced lung function, carcinogenic effects. (**heating CB**)

Labour protection

- Specified guidelines and regulation (standards);
- Inspection
- OSH management system

- Technological
- Operational
- Managerial
- Reskilling and re-employment



Informality



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Characters

- Easy of entry;
- Reliance on indigenous resources;
- Family ownership of enterprises;
- Small scale of operation;
- Labour-intensive and adapted technology;
- Skilled acquired outside the formal school system; and
- Unregulated and competitive markets

Formalization

- Economic dynamics
- Employment opportunities
- Enterprise creation
- Effective application of standards
- Inclusive social protection
- Social dialogue
- Extended facilitative activities
- Access to information and basic economic, social and legal resources (access to market).

Integrated local development

- Linkage between macroeconomic policies and micro-level interventions
- Inclusion and representation of informal workers and entrepreneurs
- Minimum package of standards
- Linkages between economic, environmental and social policies to address the root causes
- OSH training and practical strategies for workplace improvement.



Thank you.

For more information, please see:

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