

Capacity Building in Promoting Social Inclusion for Migrant Workers and Their Families

The Challenge

China now counts between 130 and 150 million domestic migrant workers resulting from rapid economic growth and the development of urban labour market over the past two decades. China's migrant labour force is young, 60% are 30 years of age or less. And female migrants represent almost a half of all migrant workers. However, the policies and systems presiding over the management of migrants have not been well adjusted accordingly. The restrictive administrative divide between "rural" and "urban" populations is still prevailing. While the migrant workers contribute significantly to the overall development of the country, their employment, working and living conditions remain markedly inferior to those achieved by the "resident population" in receiving cities. The rights and needs of migrant workers and their families are often not well reflected in social security and access to public social services, they are particularly vulnerable. This affects the urbanization and industrialization and the construction of a Xiaokang and harmonious society in China.

The Response

The project will work towards helping the Government at different levels of responsibility (national and sub-national) in enhancing or building up their capacity to achieve a better social inclusion for migrant workers and their families using their situation in the labour market as departing and target point – i.e. their capability to access stable, qualified, fairly remunerated employment under decent working conditions, and the modalities and conditions through which such employment would attract accessibility to the associated components of social inclusion, that is, basic public services and protection against critical social risks. Under this primary focus, the project will support policy studies and advocate policy dialogue amongst key stakeholders to promote pro-poor macro policies concerning internal migrants.



The project will also focus on employment promotion for migrant workers through skill training and employment service initiatives, and improving access to social security, especially the most severe social risks (work injury) and other public services such as education and health care; increasing migrants' awareness of their rights and needs. The project will put great emphasis on managerial and service delivery capacity building for receiving cities in providing public services and enhancing social inclusion for migrant workers.

At A Glance

Start Date: Nov. 2007

End Date: Dec. 2010

Implementing partner(s): China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges

Project ID: 00056779

UNDAF: Social and economic policies are developed and improved to be more scientifically based and human centered for sustainable and equitable growth

MDG: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

UNDP: US\$ 1,725,000

Government: US\$ 2,506,410

Total Budget Target: US\$ 4,231,410

To contribute to this initiative, or to find out more about the programme, please visit our website or contact Ms.Zhou Meixiang, Programme Manager at (86-10) 8532 0754 or meixiang.zhou@undp.org