



International Labour Organization (ILO)

Decent Work: Employment, productivity and social protection: interlinkages?

Working Poor at **\$1:25**: 2000 25% developing world pop. Now 15%

At **\$2** 2000 45% now 30% (Total 900,000)

Own account + family = 75% in Africa and South Asia

Raising earnings?

- More hours or more productive use of existing hours or some combination of the two
- Wage workers do not determine either
- Own account do not determine their output prices
- Effort and reward for the poorest are weakly linked
- Aggregate productivity trends since 2000:
South Asia 5 %, Africa 2% East Asia 8%



Underemployment

- Maybe but the working poor are undernourished and prone to illness.
- Underemployment is both a cause and a consequence of poverty.
- Social protection floor = social and economic investment plus solidarity



Structural Transformation

- Improving earning power of poorest and ensuring near poorest move upwards not slip backwards is closely linked to the structural transformation of economies and societies.
- Where are the more productive jobs?
- Since 2000, East Asia's agriculture's share down from 47.7% to 35.4% but industry up by only 4.8% points while services were up by 7.4% points.
- Most other regions have slower decline in agriculture but like East Asia most of the shift going to services.



Policy Portfolio

- Relatively labour intensive infrastructure investment (Greening the economy)
- Micro business support
- Training and education
- Farming advisory services
- Social protection floors (health, child support, old age and disability pensions, and employment guarantee schemes.)
- Employment and labour relations laws



Enabling conditions

- Policy coherence, nationally and internationally
- Participation and voice based on respect for fundamental rights at work especially freedom of association
- Indicative not constraining global framework





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