

LABOR FORUM

The Role of the Labor Sector in Promoting U.S. Foreign Assistance Goals:

Introduction of Full Suite of Labor Sector Technical Tools

and Bangladesh Labor Sector Assessment

Monday, June 29, 2009

1 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, Hemisphere Suite B
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004

The objective of the forum is to present the suite of labor sector technical products and the Bangladesh labor assessment, in order to discuss findings and gather feedback. Participants' comments and suggested revisions will inform the finalization of all technical tools and country assessments.

AGENDA

1:00 – 1:15 Welcoming remarks

Dorothy Douglas Taft, Director, Office of Democracy and Governance, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, USAID

Mark A Mittelhauser, Acting Director, Office of International Labor Affairs and Corporate Social Responsibility, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, US Department of State

Kimberly Ludwig, Senior Civil Society and Labor Advisor, Office of Democracy and Governance

1:15 – 1:45 Presentation of the Technical Paper

Technical Paper: A revised analytical work on the role of the labor sector in achieving foreign assistance goals, the draft Technical Paper presents a new conceptual framework for the understanding and analysis of key issues in the labor sector which intersect with U.S. diplomacy and development goals.

Rhys Payne, Senior Technical Advisor, ARD Inc.

Discussants:

Theodore H. Moran, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University
Lance Compa, School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University

1:45 – 2:00 Discussion

- 2:00 – 2:30 Presentation of the Strategic Assessment Guide
Strategic Assessment Guide: This draft manual details how to approach the organization and implementation of country labor sector assessments. The manual includes a checklist of information to be collected and questions to be addressed, and explanation of the methodologies used to connect analysis of the labor sector to strategic consideration of country-specific foreign assistance goals.
- Lynn Salinger, Nathan Associates Inc.
Kevin Kolben, Rutgers Business School
Chantal Thomas, Cornell Law School
Barbara J. Fick, University of Notre Dame Law School
- 2:30 – 2:45 Discussion
- 2:45 – 3:05 Presentation of Program Handbook
Program Handbook: Developed for use by USG technical advisors and officials in the field, this draft guidebook offers illustrative programmatic options for achieving the strategic goals identified by a country labor sector assessment, along with a section on developing appropriate monitoring and evaluation systems, including results frameworks and indicators. An appendix presenting an initial inventory of illustrative labor sector programs serves to illustrate the guidance.
- Lynn Salinger, Nathan Associates Inc.
Jeff Saussier, ARD Inc.
- 3:05 – 3:30 Discussion
- 3:30 – 4:00 Break
- 4:00 – 5:00 Presentation and discussion of Bangladesh Labor Sector Assessment Report
- Kevin Kolben, Labor Lawyer and Professor, Rutgers Business School
Borany Penh, Sr. Political Economist, U.S. Agency for International Development
- 5:00 – 5:30 Synthesis and Next Steps

Organized by ARD, Inc. on behalf of

*The Office of Democracy and Governance, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development
The Office of Labor and Corporate Social Responsibility, Bureau of Democracy, Labor, and Human Rights, U.S. State Department*