

Title	Decent Work Indicators for Asia and the Pacific
Author	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
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Brief Introduction	<p>Preface⁴²</p> <p>In his Report to the 87th International Labour Conference, the Director-General established that the primary goal of the ILO was to promote opportunities for people to obtain decent and productive work, in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity. The concept of decent work brings together four goals - including rights at work, employment, social protection and social dialogue - in an integrated manner. Decent work is realized in different ways at the international, regional, national and local levels through improved economic development outcomes, better designed and better targeted labour market and macroeconomic policies, and through improved and well-informed dialogue between workers, employers and governments.⁴²</p> <p>The ability of governments, civil society and researchers to effectively monitor ongoing trends in labour markets and in decent work, to identify key areas of concern and to formulate appropriate policy responses is dependent upon the availability of reliable, timely and relevant labour market information. In addition to this, a thorough understanding of the available data is required, including knowledge of which indicators are most appropriate for particular topics of interest, what the key data limitations are, and how the data can be analysed to reveal ongoing trends.⁴²</p> <p>This Guidebook has been produced in order to facilitate a better understanding among collectors and users of labour market information of a number of key indicators that can be utilized to measure decent work. The Guidebook provides a set of Decent Work Indicators identified by the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific to measure various components of the four strategic objectives of decent work. In this regard, the Guidebook is intended to facilitate improved measurement and analysis of progress towards national, regional and international goals related to decent work. This is of particular relevance given the adoption by countries in the region of an Asian Decent Work Decade from 2006 to 2015.⁴²</p> <p>Mr Peter Wingfield-Digby was the principal author of the Guidebook. Mr Igor Chernyshev and Mr Steven Kapsos served as contributing authors and, together with Ms Sara Elder, as technical editors. Ms Somsward Pankrasin was responsible for editing, layout and overall publishing support. Production was overseen by the Regional Economic and Social Analysis Unit (RESA), headed by Mr Gyorgy Sziraczki.⁴²</p> <p>The initiative to establish regional Decent Work Indicators was spearheaded by an ILO Task Force on Decent Work Indicators for the Asia and the Pacific Region, comprised of experts from the ILO Bureau of Statistics, the Employment Trends Team and the regional and subregional offices of ILO in the Asia and the Pacific region. Mr Bijoy Raychaudhuri developed the initial ‘‘Concepts and Definitions’’ manual for the indicators and together with Mr Kenta Goto, Mr Steven Kapsos, Ms Elizabeth Morris, Ms Sukti Dasgupta and Mr Aurelio Parisotto, oversaw activities to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of Decent Work Indicators in many countries throughout the region.⁴²</p> <p>I believe that this Guidebook will be a useful tool for policy-makers, researchers and ILO tripartite constituents in their efforts to better understand and address key challenges pertaining to the realization of decent work in light of national priorities and circumstances.⁴²</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sachiko Yamamoto Regional Director⁴² Asia and the Pacific Region⁴²</p>