

Labor Standards and Development Institutions

***A Contribution from the
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)***

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Profile of FES

- ⇒ non-profit private educational foundation
- ⇒ established in 1925
- ⇒ in the legacy of Friedrich Ebert,
 - > the first democratically elected president of Germany
 - > a prominent leader of the Social Democratic Party
- ⇒ oldest of the six “political foundations” in Germany
- ⇒ committed to the basic values of social democracy and the German labor movement



Main Tasks

- ⇒ Political education for democracy
- ⇒ Policy and historical research
- ⇒ Scholarships
- ⇒ International cooperation & dialogue

Main Themes

- ⇒ Democracy
- ⇒ Social justice
- ⇒ Peace and international co-operation
- ⇒ Development
- ⇒ Human rights and fundamental freedoms

- ⇒ Programs in more than 100 countries
- ⇒ With 75 representative country offices worldwide
- ⇒ With 16 country and program offices around Asia

Partners

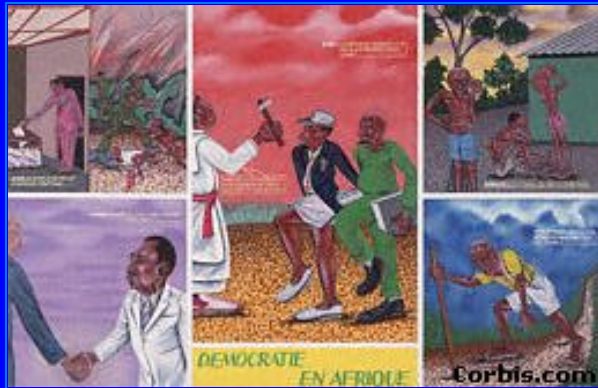


- ⇒ International Confederation of Trade Unions
- ⇒ Global Union Federations, TUAC
- ⇒ National trade union centers, labor NGOs
- ⇒ Academic and policy/research institutions
- ⇒ Women organizations
- ⇒ ILO (ACTRAV)
- ⇒ Government agencies

“Globalizing Social Justice”



Trade Union Level



Multilateral Level



Company Level



National Level

**Support to campaign on Trade
& Labour Standards of ICFTU
and GUFs/ITS**

**Support to TU to adapt
their structures and
culture to face global
challenges**

**Support to the
ICFTU
“Millennium Review”**

Trade Union Level

**Strengthening
the voice
of the global South**

**Social Dimension
of Regional Integration**

**Integration of trade unions
in Fair Trade initiatives**

**International Framework
Agreements
(GUFs–Multinationals)**

**Codes of Conduct
For Multinationals**



Company Level

**Global TU Networks
On Company Level**

**Tripartism and
Social Dialogue on
Labor Standards**

**Roundtable on
Codes of Conduct
(Germany)**



National Level

**Generation, Justification
and Articulation Proposals
for Labor Law Reform**

**Integration of CLS
in German Development
Policy**

**Partnership with ILO
(ACTRAV)**

Multilateral Level

**Integration of CLS
in World Bank Policy**

**Creation of a
Social Pillar in ASEM**

Labor Standards Everywhere!

- ☺ **Multilateral Initiatives** (*UN Global Compact, OECD Guidelines*)
- ☺ **Unilateral Corporate Code of Conduct** (*Caterpillar, Sara Lee*)
- ☺ **Socially-Responsible Investments** (*CALPERS, SRI Forum*)
- ☺ **Partnership Codes of Conduct** (*Associations, Multi-Stakeholders, International Frameworks Agreement*)
- ☺ **Social Labeling Programs** (*Clean Clothes, Flower Label*)
- ☺ **Trade Related Instruments** (*NAFTA, EU and GSP*).
- ☺ **Policies of IFIs** (*ADB and World Bank*)

Some Points of Reflection and Debate

↔ Question of universality

↔ Question of interpretation

↔ Question of economics

↔ Question of "apply some, ignore some" practice

↔ Question of regulation

↔ Question of the State as a violator

↕ Are we losing (*or winning*) the "race to the bottom"?

Some Frameworks of Action

- ↻ **Continue the promotion and social dialogue**
 - > **broaden the partnership and commitment**
- ↻ **Assist the State**
 - > **cooperation in monitoring, inspection and enforcement capability**
- ↻ **Assist the other stakeholders**
 - > **specially the trade unions and the employers group**
- ↻ **Contextualize labor standards in economic reform programs**
 - > **constructive engagement in development cooperation and a self-examination of projects vis-à-vis labor standards**

Thank you!
Maraming Salamat!!