

COVID-19 and the world of work: Towards a human-centred recovery

The 7th Conference of the Regulating for Decent Work Network
6-9 July 2021
Conference Agenda

Tuesday, July 6: Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the world of work in 2020-21

- 14h – 14h30 CET Opening ceremony, with ILO Deputy Director-General for Policy Martha Newton
Introductory remarks by RDW Organizing Committee Members
Jill Rubery, University of Manchester
Deirdre McCann, Durham Law School
Praveen Jha, Jawaharlal Nehru University
Chair: Richard Samans
- 14h30 -15h30 CET **Opening Plenary Session:** How can we “build back better”? In search of new ideas, policies and politics
Keynote Speaker: Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, University of Oxford
Chair: Martha Newton, ILO Deputy Director-General for Policy

15h30 – 15h45: 15 minutes break

15h45 – 17h00 CET **Session 1:** Gender, Youth and Inequalities
Chair: Sangheon Lee

The consequences of the implemented COVID-19 measures on gender-specific labour market inequalities: A global perspective
Stephanie Steinmetz, Kea Tijdens, Pablo de Pedraza and Janna Besamusca

Fighting to stay alive: Domestic workers resisting the COVID-19 crisis
Louisa Acciari

On the nature of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on youth labour markets: A cross-country analysis
Niall O’Higgins and Sher Verick

COVID-19 in the US: Poverty and wage inequality effects by race, gender and education
Borja Gambau, Juan César Palomino, Juan Gabriel Rodríguez and Raquel Sebastian

17h – 17h15: 15 minutes break

17h15 – 18h30 CET **Session 2:** Divided world: Global supply chains, informality and telework

Chair: Aguinaldo Maciente

The unequal impacts of COVID-19 in the global garment supply chain: Evidence from India, Honduras, Ethiopia and Myanmar

Genevieve LeBaron, Penelope Kyritsis and Perla Polanco Leal

COVID-19 and informal work: Distinct pathways of impact and recovery in 11 cities around the world

Martha Chen, Erofilis Grapsa, Ghida Ismail and Marcela Valdivia

COVID-19, informality and employability

Juan Chacaltana, Julio Perez and Sergio Quispe

Working from home and the explosion of enduring divides: Income, employment and safety risks

Armanda Cetrulo, Dario Guarascio and Maria Enrica Virgillito

18h30 - 19h: 30 minutes break

19h – 20h15 CET

Session will be in Spanish, with English translation

Latin America Session: Protection or precariatization of workers in Latin America during COVID-19 pandemic

Chair: Roxana Maurizio

Precarisation or Protection? The impact of digital platform labour for domestic workers in Argentina in times of pandemic

Francisca Pereyra, Loerna Poblete, Cecilia Poggi and Ania Tizziani

Professional qualification and low-skilled youth: Analysis of policies in MERCOSUR Member-States in the COVID-19 pandemic

Maria Fonseca, Olivia Pasqualetto and Catharina Scodro

The (di)protection of employment during the COVID-19 pandemic in Brazil

Valéria Mariscal, Fernanda Almeida, Isabela Barros

Reconocer el trabajo de cuidado en Colombia: Una Deuda histórica con las mujeres

Yaneth Vargas

20h15 – 20h30: 15 minutes break

20h30 – 21h30 CET

Latin America Panel Discussion: COVID-19 pandemic and Informality

Panellists:

- **Laura Ripani**, Chief, Labor Markets and Social Security Division at the Inter-American Development Bank.
- **Andrea Repetto**, Senior Fellow, Adolfo Ibáñez University, Chile
- **Luis Beccaria**, Professor, Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento, Argentina.

Moderator: Fabio Bertranou

Wednesday, July 7: Labour and social protection policies in the crisis response

9h30 – 10h45 CET **Asia Session:** Innovative responses in Asia as a response to crisis
Chair: Jeong-Hee Lee

Unfair dismissal and Coronavirus pandemic: Adaptations and creative responses from Australia's Fair Work Commission

Gabrielle Elisabeth Golding

Job seekers' learning attitudes in the face of digital disruptions and the COVID-19 pandemic: Investigating an upskilling programme in Singapore

Peng Ho Oh, Brigid Trenerry, Sreeja Nair, et al

Unemployment insurance and the future of social protection program for workers in Indonesia

Nabiyla Risfa Izzati

10h45 – 11h: 15 minutes break

11h – 12h CET **Asia Panel Discussion:** How has COVID-19 pandemic changed the conversation in regulating for decent work in the Asia and the Pacific?

Panellists:

- Ravi Srivastava, Director, Centre for Employment Studies, Institute for Human Development, New Delhi
- Pun Ngai, Chair Professor, Lingnan University, Hongkong
- Paul Vandenberg, Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank, Manila

Moderator: Praveen Jha

12h – 13h: Lunch break

13h – 14h15 CET **Young Scholars Session 1:** COVID-19 impacts on vulnerable workers
Chair: Sarosh Kuruvilla

The pandemic and migration crisis in India: Stories from the hinterland
Pankaj Kumar Naik and Sonal Ann D'souza

Silent recession in the informal sector: COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on employees of the informal sector

Pius Angioha, Abayomi Akintola and Rose Agba

The perceptions and experiences of informal workers towards social protection: The case of the informal sector in the Western Cape Province, South Africa

Shaka Bob

14h15 – 14h30: 15 minutes break

14h30 – 16h00 CET **Session 3:** Labour and social protection policies for certain groups of workers

Chair: Jill Rubery

The Nordic COVID-19 relief packages for freelancers and start-up companies: When inclusive measures fragments

Trine Pernille Larsen and Anna Ilsøe

The reaction of entertainment workers to the COVID-19: A cooperative case study

Francesca Martinelli

Social protection amongst informal workers in Kenya and Tanzania: The role of informal worker associations during the COVID-19 pandemic

Nina Torm and Lone Riisgaard

Are short-time work schemes protecting temporary workers? A dual labour market amid COVID-19 pandemic

Miguel Ángel Malo

16h – 16h15: 15 minutes break

16h15 – 17h45 CET **Session 4:** Policies to protect workers during the pandemic

Chair: Janine Berg

Giving aid to those most in need: Improving Brazil's emergency COVID-19 benefit

Ana Virginia Moreira Gomes, Eduardo Rocha Dias and Anil Verma

COVID-19 from Crisis to Response: Empirical evidence from readymade garment manufacturing sector in Bangladesh

Md Zohurul Islam, Md Mustafa Saroar and Md Mizanur Rahman

Employers' use of Furlough and Job retention support in the UK during the COVID-19 pandemic

Mark Stuart, David Spencer, Christopher Forde and Christopher J Mclachlan

Work from home practices in the era of COVID-19 pandemic in Malaysia: A way forward?

Dzurizah Ibrahim, Kamsiah Mabaloh and Nur Ain Alifuddin

Thursday, July 8: Governance, regulation and collective bargaining

10h – 12h CET **Europe Session:** Addressing wages and working conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic

Chair: Maurizio Bussi

Wage inequality and poverty effects of lockdown and social distancing in Europe

Juan César Palomino, Juan Gabriel Rodríguez, Raquel Sebastian

Keeping wage low: In France, no real labour shortage but rationing of seasonal workers and occupational travellers during COVID

Arnaud Le Marchand

Workers' protection in COVID at the employer's expense: Russian experience

Elena Sychenko

Organising an industrial action ballot to protect jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic: The case of a UK University and the University and Colleges Union

James Richards, Vaughan Ellis

Discussants:

- Christian Lyhne Ibsen, University of Copenhagen
 - Óscar Molina, Institute for Labour Studies, Barcelona
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12h – 13h: Lunch break

13h – 14h15 CET **Young Scholars Session 2:** Regulatory Institutions: Are there lessons from the pandemic?

Chair: Deirdre McCann

Occupation safety and health and workplace health promotion: An essential area for a recovery from COVID-19 based on decent work

Silvia Fernández Martínez

Workers' organisations responses to crisis: Examining the case of domestic workers during the COVID-19 pandemic in Mexico

Fernanda Teixeira

COVID-19 and the work of trade unions: New challenges, adaptation and renewal

Tom Hunt

Digital platforms and the world of work: Towards a fairer redistribution of risks

Despoina Georgiou

14h15 – 14h30: 15 minutes break

14h30 – 16h00 CET **Session 5:** The continuing evolution of labour governance in global supply chains

Chair: Arianna Rossi

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on garment workers and three labour governance mechanisms for addressing decent work deficits

Mark Anner

"Re-sellers" as intermediaries implementing social standards in public procurement: Reconceptualising public governance in the electronics industry global production network

Helena Graef and Gale Raj-Reichert

How the past of outsourcing and offshoring is the future of post-pandemic employment relations: Bargaining power, work restructuring, and the new equilibrium

16h – 16h15: 15 minutes break

16h15 – 17h45 CET **Session 6:** Organising for improving labour regulation
Chair: Susan Hayter

The impact of COVID-19 on private regulation: The case of the living wage

Edmund Heery, Deborah Hann and David Nash

Nurses and Unionisation: What lessons can we draw from the COVID-19 pandemic?

Susana Barria, Ipsha Chaand, Indira Chakravarthy, Richa Chintan, et al

The civil society mechanisms under the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement: Effective tools for pro-labour reform?

Kristoffer Marslev and Cornelia Staritz

Friday, July 9: The post COVID-19 world of work: In search of a human-centred recovery

10h15 – 11h15 CET **Africa Session:** Impact of COVID-19 on workers in Africa
Chair: Aminata Maiga

COVID-19's impact on the labour markets in middle-income countries: The case of South Africa

Sher Verick

Hope or despair? The resilience and efficacy of Botswana's dispute resolution system in times of crisis, with reference to COVID-19 emergency regulations

Edward Aden Tswaipe

COVID-19 pandemic, a war to win: Assessing its impact on the domestic work sector in Nigeria

Abigail Osiki, Taiwo Hassan, Prisca Osiki, Vincent Oniga

11h15 – 11h30: 15 minutes break

11h30 – 13h CET **Session will be in French and English, with translations**
Africa Panel Discussion: Informality and social protection in Africa
Panellists:

- Hania Sholkamy, The American University in Cairo
- Gbakou Monnet Benoît Patrick, Université Felix Houphouet Boigny, Abidjan
- Simon Barussaud, PESEA, Burkina Faso-Côte d'Ivoire
- Godfrey Kanyeze, Labour and Economic Development Research Institute of Zimbabwe

Moderator: Ken Shawa

13h – 14h: Lunch break

14h – 15h15 CET **Session 7:** Governance mechanisms to address world of work struggles during COVID-19 pandemic

Chair: Kea Tijdens

Recognizing the imperative need to step up integration efforts of occupational health and safety provisions in trade and investment agreements

Ivan Williams Jimenez

Why conflict between economic development and rights governance is inevitable

Desiree LeClercq

Sliding scales of health and harm: Lessons from PPE procurement in a crisis

Olga Martin-Ortega, Martina Trusgnach and Cindy Berman

From San José to Geneva: How the Inter-American System of Human Rights can inform the inclusion of safe and healthy working conditions within the ILO's Fundamental Rights Framework

Mauro Pucheta and Renan Kalil

15h15 – 15h30: 15 minutes break

15h30 – 16h45 CET **Session 8:** Policies for a post COVID-19 world of work

Chair: Gerhard Bosch

Back to the future: Towards a fairer recovery with taking responsibility

Aelim Yun

Corona pandemic and the world of work: Employment crisis and need of visible government hands

Farida Jalal

The European Employment Strategy at 2021: Performance, perspectives and prospects post-COVID

Mark Smith and Paola Villa

The road less travelled? Three different scenarios for the Decent Work Agenda after COVID-19

Mathew Johnson and Damian Grimshaw

16h45 – 17h: 15 minutes break

17h – 18h15 CET **Closing Plenary Session:** Role of the State in a post COVID-19 world of work

Panellists:

- Carlos Lopes, Professor, Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance, University of Cape Town
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- Jayati Ghosh, Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
 - Juliet Schor, Professor of Sociology, Boston College
 - Closing remarks by Guy Ryder (Director General, ILO)

Moderator: Richard Samans

18h15 – 18h45 CET **Closing ceremony, with Guy Ryder (Director-General, ILO)**
