

**Commission for Social Development**  
**45<sup>th</sup> session, 7-16 February, 2007**

**Panel Discussion, Friday, 9 February 10am:**

**Good Practices for promoting employment and decent work for all**

The positive benefits of employment cannot be overstated. Employment creation is the most effective means to reduce poverty. Employment empowers marginalized groups such as women, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities. Employment provides access to important assets such as health care, and improves the well being of children in households where adults are working. Large scale unemployment can lead to social unrest, political disenfranchisement and negatively impacts social integration. Not all employment however is beneficial. Decent work is required to ensure the full benefits are received from employment.

It is increasingly clear that economic growth alone is not enough to improve employment prospects and to promote decent work. The increase in jobless growth and the sometimes adverse impact of globalization on employment creation makes clear the need for specific strategies and policies to create employment and to promote decent work.

This panel will discuss good practices in employment creation, such as concrete labour market policies to create employment and improve well-being and employability, as well as good practices in ensuring decent work. It could explore some of the innovative schemes and good practices for generating employment that are being implemented around the world.

- How have these programmes worked, and what has been their impact in terms of jobs creation?
- Have these initiatives contributed to the promotion of decent work?
- How replicable are these good practices?