# Trade Union Development Cooperation Network

# Asia Pacific Region

# 3rd, 4th and 5th of December

**Bangkok**

**Background**

The Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN) was born in 2008, following the Founding Congress of the ITUC in 2006, which identified development cooperation as one of the organisation's political priorities, with a view to giving new impetus to trade union advocacy and capacity building in this domain.

Based on these objectives, the TUDCN's mission[[1]](#footnote-1) is centred on two interrelated areas:

1) Advocacy[[2]](#footnote-2): supporting trade union voice in policy debates around development at various levels (global, regional and national), placing decent work at the core of all development agendas;

2) Partnerships[[3]](#footnote-3): improving trade union international solidarity, strengthening coordination mechanisms and methodologies used in the context of development cooperation programmes.

The Network is an open and inclusive structure, based on the voluntary commitment of the organisations involved, bringing together various affiliated trade union organisations, solidarity support organisations (SSOs), the **regional organisations of the ITUC**, Global Union Federations (GUFs), the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and the Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC) to the OECD.

Strengthening **regional development networks** is central to the overall TUDCN’s objectives in terms of both advocacy and partnerships. Regional Trade Union Development Cooperation Networks have been set up in Latin America and Africa and the ITUC Regional Organisations are primary promoters in this process, together with the overall global network.

**Objectives of the Meeting**

ITUC-AP is already widely participating and contributing to the TUDCN activities, especially in the field of global advocacy (i.e. EU Policy Forum on Development[[4]](#footnote-4); Global Partnership on Development effectiveness[[5]](#footnote-5); CSOs Partnership on Development Effectiveness[[6]](#footnote-6)). On the other hand, the involvement of national organisations has been variable and it should get more continuous to be really operational.

 Therefore, the objectives of this meeting will be:

1. To consolidate the networking in the Asia Pacific region as a key strength for the achievement of our trade union advocacy objectives around development policies;
2. To share the results achieved so far by the TUDCN, involving the organisations in the Asia Pacific region in the TUDCN work on “advocacy” and “partnerships”;
3. To jointly discuss and delineate future planning for the AP development network in the next couple of years.

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1. <http://www.ituc-csi.org/development-cooperation> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [TUDCN Advocacy Strategy](http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/docx/tudcn_advocacy_strategy_2.docx) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. [Trade Unions Partnerships for development - TUDCN Strategic Planning](http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/docx/planning_tus_partnerships_for_development.docx) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/aidco/index.php/Policy_forum_on_development> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://effectivecooperation.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <http://www.csopartnership.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)