While livelihood improvement and associated economic revitalization are considered relevant to peacebuilding in conflict-affected states, more evidence-based research on the impact of employment programmes on peacebuilding is needed to improve performance. The International Labour Organization (ILO), the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank (WB) have teamed up for an extensive joint research on the impact of employment programmes on peacebuilding, funded by the UN-WB Fragility and Conflict Partnership Trust Fund. The research team, led by Professor Tilman Brück, will present existing evidence on the peacebuilding impact of labour-based programmes, targeted vocational training programmes, and programmes focused on the development of small and micro enterprises. The research includes a literature review, country-case studies in Lebanon, Liberia and Timor-Leste, and an overall assessment of all employment programmes designed and implemented by the four entities since 2005 in conflict-affected countries, with a more in-depth assessment of a subset of these programmes. The overall objectives of this research are to improve the impact of employment programmes on peacebuilding and strengthen the collaboration among the four entities in the design and implementation of such programmes.

A Round Table will take place in Nairobi at the offices of the World Bank on 15 June 2016 from 09:30-13:30. During the Round Table the research team will seek feedback on the initial findings of the draft report from a wide range of stakeholders, including programme officers, government officials, NGOs, academics and development partners. Case studies from the research will be presented and a panel consisting of different stakeholders will discuss the applicability of the research to their work.

As you are a key stakeholder, the joint research would benefit greatly from your participation at the Round Table. The event will also be an opportunity for practitioners to share experiences, lessons learned and good practices from the field, and comment on the theories of change identified by the joint research. Your feedback will help to improve the final outputs of this research to be disseminated in September 2016 during the opening of the General Assembly in New York.

A detailed agenda will be circulated beforehand.