



*This series of Research Group Fact sheets shows ongoing research projects related to INCLUDE, the Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development Policies*

## Creating effective support structures for trade unions and informal sector workers associations to advance effective decent work policies

More than 75 per cent of sub Saharan Africa's workforce works in the informal economy. The needs and conditions of informal workers are, therefore, important determinants of the inclusiveness of growth and employment. The International Labour Organization's Decent Work criteria relating to health and safety, job security, social protection and social dialogue often do not apply to informal jobs. The INCLUDE research project 'Increasing Political Leverage for Informal and Formal Workers' Organizations for Inclusive Development' is studying the role and impact of trade unions and informal workers' organisations in Ghana and Benin when they act as strategic actors for inclusive development, in particular by studying their political leverage over decent work for informal workers.

<b>Main question</b>	How to improve political leverage over decent work issues for informal workers by informal workers' organizations and trade unions in Ghana and Benin?
<b>Consortium led by</b>	Dr Mayke Kaag, African Studies Centre (ASC), the Netherlands
<b>Consortium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Institute for the Advanced Study of Cultures, Institutions and Economic Enterprise (IIAS), Ghana</li> <li>• Institute for Work and Society (HIVA), Belgium</li> <li>• Faculty of Economics Sciences and Management at University of Abomey Calavi (FASEG-UAC), Benin</li> <li>• Confederation des Organisations Syndicales Independantes (COSI), Benin</li> <li>• Ghana Federation of Labour (GFL), Ghana</li> <li>• Trades Union Congress Ghana (TUC-G), Ghana</li> <li>• CNV International, the Netherlands</li> <li>• FNV Mondiaal, the Netherlands</li> <li>• StreetNet International, South Africa</li> </ul>
<b>Country focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ghana</li> <li>• Benin</li> </ul>
<b>Planned activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping types of collective action of TUs and IWOs in Ghana and Benin and how this is influenced by the institutional and legal contexts , including the international donor context</li> <li>• Four sector case studies on the agendas, strategies and (collective) actions of TUs and IWO concerning informal workers, including their intended and unintended effects</li> <li>• Building academic expertise by the inclusion of two junior researchers and collaboration between senior researchers, with a strong input of practitioners</li> <li>• Strengthening the capacity of organized labour in Ghana and Benin by reinforcing and linking TU labour desks in Ghana and Benin</li> <li>• Outreach and knowledge sharing beyond the consortium by a dedicated website, national and international workshops and written output tailored to various types of stakeholders.</li> </ul>