



International  
Labour  
Organization



# The ILO in Ethiopia Factsheet

February 2023

## About the ILO

The only tripartite U.N. agency, since 1919 that brings together governments, employers, and workers of 187 member States, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work & advancing social justice for all women and men in the world of work.

The unique tripartite structure of the ILO gives an equal voice to workers, employers and governments to ensure that the views of the social partners are closely reflected in labour standards and in shaping policies and programmes.

## ILO's mission

The International Labor Organization (ILO) is devoted to promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights, pursuing its founding mission that labour peace is essential to prosperity. Today, the ILO helps advance the creation of decent work and the economic and working conditions that give working people and business people a stake in lasting peace, prosperity and progress.

## ILO's Decent Work Agenda

Productive employment and decent work are key elements to achieving a fair global element and poverty reduction. The ILO has developed an agenda for the community of work looking at job creation, rights at work, social protection, and social dialogue, with gender equality as a crosscutting objective.

## Decent work and the Sustainable Development Goals

Promoting jobs and enterprise, guaranteeing rights at work, extending social protection and promoting social dialogue are the four pillars of the ILO Decent Work Agenda. These are crucial to advancing the entire sustainable development agenda.

The importance of decent work in achieving sustainable development is highlighted by Goal 8 which aims to "promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all"

## The ILO in Africa

The first office of the ILO in Africa was established in 1959 in Lagos, Nigeria. In 1965 the ILO was the first UN agency to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Organization for African Unity (OAU), now called the African Union.

The main objectives of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Africa are to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection and strengthen dialogue on work-related issues.

## ILO Country Office -Addis Ababa

ILO Country Office for Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan, and South Sudan, and Special Representative to the AU and the ECA

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## The ILO in Ethiopia

Ethiopia joined the ILO in 1923 and has ratified 23 Conventions including the 8 Fundamental Conventions. Out of the 23 Conventions ratified by Ethiopia, 22 are in force and 1 Convention has been denounced. Decent Work remains a feature of contemporary labour markets in Ethiopia.

## Our Constituents



## Our Funding Sources

- ▶ Multi/Bilateral Donors
- ▶ Private/ Non state actors
- ▶ United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund

## Our Top Outcomes in 2023

**Outcome 1** - Strong tripartite constituents and influential and inclusive social dialogue

**Outcome 7:** Adequate and effective protection at work for all

**Outcome 8:** Comprehensive and sustainable social protection for all

**Outcome 3:** Economic, social and environmental transitions for full, productive and freely chosen employment and decent work for all

**Outcome 4:** Sustainable enterprises as generators of employment and promoters of innovation and decent work

**Outcome 5:** Skills and lifelong learning to facilitate access to and transitions in the labour market

## DWCP Priorities for Ethiopia:

- **DWCP Priority 1:** People
- **DWCP Priority 2:** Prosperity
- **DWCP Priority 3:** Industrial relations, social dialogue and tripartism

## ILO's work in Ethiopia is supported by:



# Summary of Projects Under Implementation

3

## 1. Addressing Drivers and Facilitating Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the Contexts of Disasters and Climate Change in the IGAD Region (MDCC)

Duration: 01 MAR 2021 - 18 May 2023

This is a joint programme which is technically co-led by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and ILO, and in partnership with UNOPS (Platform on Disaster Displacement - PDD) and UNHCR.

The overall objective of this joint programme is to contribute to facilitating pathways for regular migration in the IGAD region and minimizing displacement risk in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters in line with the vision and guiding principles of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).

ILO focus and is providing support to migrants and climate affected communities have enhanced pathways for regular migration and access to protection services, improved access to sustainable livelihood and green job opportunities that prevent climate change induced displacement and forced migration

### Development Partners:

Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF)



## 2. Advancing Decent Work and Inclusive Industrialization (ONEILO, Siraye)

Duration: 21 Dec 2017 - 31 Dec 2024

The overall development objective is to advance decent work and inclusive industrialization in Ethiopia. The intervention is expected to lead to:

1. Improved worker wellbeing in terms of income, safety, equality, rights, voice and representation.
2. Higher industry productivity and competitiveness.
3. Enhanced accountability and transparency in labour administration.

The programme brings together ILO's key technical departments and programmes such as BetterWork, Vision Zero Fund, SCORE, LABADMIN and INWORK to strengthen factory level action, build labour inspectorate capacity, improve working conditions, wage setting mechanism, promote sound industrial relations and, ultimately, provide a blueprint for the rollout of decent work practices not only in the garment and textile but also into other industries.

### Development Partners:

SIDA, ADA, Multi donor Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) & Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), Multi-donor funding to the Vision Zero Fund, Multi-donor support for Better Work, Multi-donor support for Advancing Decent Work and Inclusive Industrialization in Ethiopia



## 3. Better Regional Migration Management (BRMM)

Duration: 15 Sept 2021 - 31 Mar 2025

The project aims at strengthening the capacities of countries in East Africa to govern labour migration by using evidence-based policies, enhancing migrant workers' qualifications and skills, and actively engaging the social partners for improved development outcomes.

The project will cover 3 inter-related pillars of intervention:

1. Established and strengthened foundations for enhanced labour market and migration information systems (LMMIS)
2. Better skills matching, recognition, and development along specific migration corridors
3. Strengthened capacities of the social partners to engage in labour migration policy development and implementation. The imperative to strengthen each of these 3 pillars has been recognized widely by both countries of origin and destination, as well as by employers and workers' organisations, providing a basis for dialogue and action within and across countries.

Development Partner:

United Kingdom - Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office



## 4. FAIRWAY Programme

Duration: 15 Sept 2021 - 31 Mar 2025

The FAIRWAY Program is a four-year inter-regional development cooperation project that aims to improve conditions of labour migration across migration pathways from Africa to Arab States. It intends to better protect all migrant workers in vulnerable situations within the Arab states region, thereby enabling migrant workers to contribute more fully to sustainable development in both countries of origin and destination.

Focusing primarily on key sectors in which migrant workers in vulnerable situations are engaged (including the domestic work and construction sectors) the project seeks to address the interlinked structural, behavioral and practical barriers to improve labour migration outcomes through four objectives:

1. Private sector, employers' and workers' organizations engaged for decent work for migrant workers;
2. Gender-responsive policy frameworks are developed or strengthened for fair recruitment and decent work and regulatory compliance;
3. Discriminatory attitudes towards women and men migrant workers are diminished; and
4. Migrant workers have improved access to information and support services throughout the migration cycle.

Development Partner:

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperationudget





## 5. Global Programme on Skills and Lifelong Learning

### Ethiopia Component

Duration: 01 Jan 2023 - 31 Dec 2024

The objectives of the project is to enhance the capacity of constituents to anticipate skills needs and to develop and implement inclusive skills policies and programmes improving employability of youth, vulnerable groups, and forcibly displaced people in Ethiopia.

The program targets constituents and stakeholders with training and capacity development in skills need anticipation and matching and sustainable investment; use of LMI platform for skills needs analysis and matching; skills demand for the green transition; running a sector skills council; core work skills to deliver pre-employment core skills and work readiness training and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) training.

#### Development Partner:

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation



## 6. Improving Synergies between Social Protection and Public Finance Management (ILO component)

Duration: 01 Oct 2019 - 31 May 2023

“Improving synergies between Social Protection and Public Finance Management in Ethiopia” is jointly implemented by ILO and UNICEF. With a country-specific objective of improving the social protection system in Ethiopia through enhanced sustainable financing, this project aims to achieve this goal through three focus areas:

1. Producing a financing strategy for social protection with short-term and medium-term options;
2. Extending social security to informal economy workers and supporting wage legislation related to social protection; and
3. Building the capacity of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) to effectively monitor the social protection system.

#### Development Partner:

The EU, European Union



## 7. ProAgro – Promotion of Decent Work in Agribusiness

Duration: 15 May 2020 - 14 June 2024

ProAgro Ethiopia is an ILO project that puts forth an integrated strategy, combining policy support, skills development, value chain development and entrepreneurship training in the agribusiness sector to create jobs and training places in Africa to improve local working conditions and promote sustainable economic growth. It will be implemented in Ethiopia, for over a period of four years in two selected regions namely Amhara and Sidama.

The projects aim to support the Government of Ethiopia by contributing to the creation of more and better jobs in the agribusiness sector. Its approach is based on two principles: it will both “push” people into the labour market, by providing them with the skills needed to access employment or start their business, and “pull” them, by supporting enterprise and value chain development so that the private sector can grow and provide more and better jobs.

The project is based on two interrelated and mutually reinforcing pillars:

1. Foster a conducive environment for decent job creation and sustainable investment
2. Value chain and enterprise development

### Development Partner:

Germany, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs



Federal Ministry  
for Labour and Social Affairs

## 8. PROSPECTS - Inclusive jobs and education for refugees

Duration: 28 Oct 2019 - 30 June 2023

The project objective is to strengthen decent work in Ethiopia in order to mitigate stress factors and support inclusive socio-economic enablers for access to labour markets and empowerment of forcibly displaced persons and host communities.

PROSPECT is a four-year innovative inter-agency partnership between the Government of Netherlands, the World Bank, IFC, ILO, UNHCR and UNICEF. The goal of the partnership is to strengthen the socio-economic enabling environments of communities that host different forcibly displaced populations (IDPs and refugees) to ensure sustainable decent work, training and education opportunities, as the policy, legislative and regulatory frameworks facilitate this integration process. The programme aims to accelerate efforts to find sustainable solutions for countries confronted with large influxes of refugees. It also aim to develop and implement evidence-based solutions, tailored to each context – as well as to test, and learn from, innovative operational solutions, including improving the availability, collection and use of data and evidence.

### Development Partner:

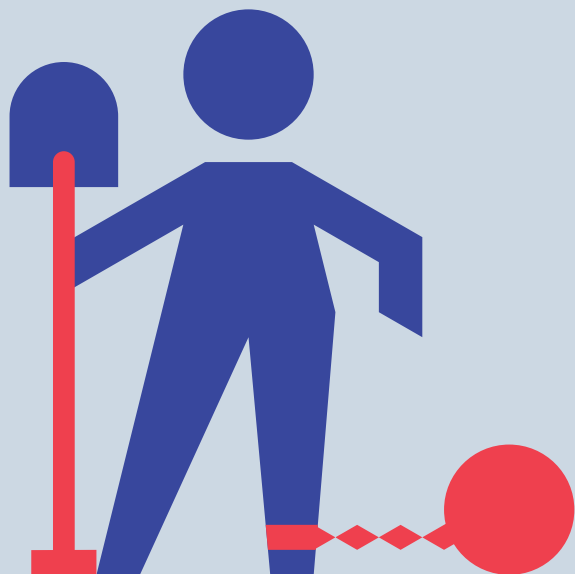
Netherlands, Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the  
Netherlands

## 9. Strengthening Ethiopia's capability to address forced labour and human trafficking

Duration: 30 November 2021 - 31 March 2023



The project will provide technical support to national and regional stakeholders to mainstream internationally aligned forced labour and human trafficking indicators in national data collection instruments and to strengthen a whole-of-society to the problem of human trafficking and forced labour in Ethiopia. internationally aligned forced labour and human trafficking indicators in national data collection instruments and to strengthen a whole-of-society to the problem of human trafficking and forced labour in Ethiopia.

### Development Partners:

Germany, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs



Federal Ministry  
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