



The Netherlands ILO Cooperation



The Netherlands is one of the Founder Member States of the ILO and a generous donor to the ILO's development cooperation programme. The Netherlands has ratified 106 Conventions and one Protocol which include the 8 Fundamental Conventions, 4 Governance Conventions and 94 Technical conventions.

Renewal of commitment to a historic partnership



The Netherlands signed a Partnership Programme with the ILO for 2014-2017. In the framework of the Partnership programme, the Netherlands provides:

- **USD 3.3 million** per year as an un-earmarked contribution that allows the ILO to respond flexibly to the demands of developing countries for ILO assistance.
- **USD 3.3 million** per year to the Better Work Programme, which works to improve working conditions and productivity in the garment sector worldwide.

The Netherlands strongly supports the ILO outside this partnership by providing an average of USD 5 million per year of additional voluntary contribution in the period 2014-2016.

THE NETHERLANDS' DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

The Netherlands' development cooperation policy aims to promote sustainable economic growth in developing countries. The main priority areas covered within development assistance are security and rule of law, water management, food security as well as sexual and reproductive health and rights.

The Netherlands has 3 types of relationship with its partner countries:

- **Aid relationship:** The Netherlands supports countries affected by war, weak governance and political tension to consolidate peace and security and to strengthen the rule of law. Priority countries for aid interventions are **Afghanistan, Burundi, Mali, the Palestinian Territories, Rwanda, South Sudan and Yemen.**
- **Transitional relationship:** The Netherlands helps low- and middle-income countries to reduce poverty, increase their market access, improve their business climate and boost economic growth. Eligible countries for this type of assistance are **Bangladesh, Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique and Uganda.**
- **Trade relationship:** The Netherlands has a trade-related cooperation with **Colombia, South Africa and Viet Nam.**

The Netherlands allocated USD 5.8 billion in official development assistance (ODA) in 2015, which represented 0.76 per cent of gross national income (GNI). The country is the fifth largest donor of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in terms of ODA/GNI ratio and the seventh largest by volume. The Netherlands is one of the six DAC members to have met the UN target of 0.7 per cent.

FACTS AND FIGURES ON THE NETHERLANDS' FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

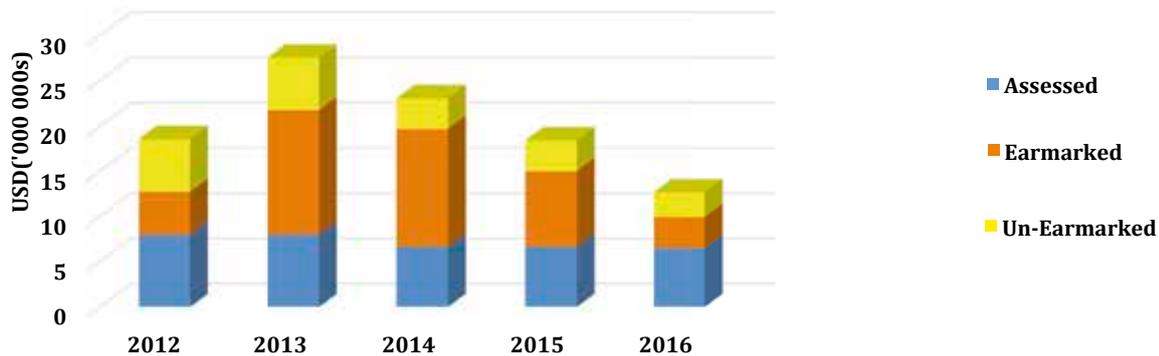
The Netherlands finances the ILO through:

Assessed contributions, which are paid by all ILO Member States by virtue of their membership. Between 2012 and 2016, the Netherlands provided more than **USD 35.7 million**.

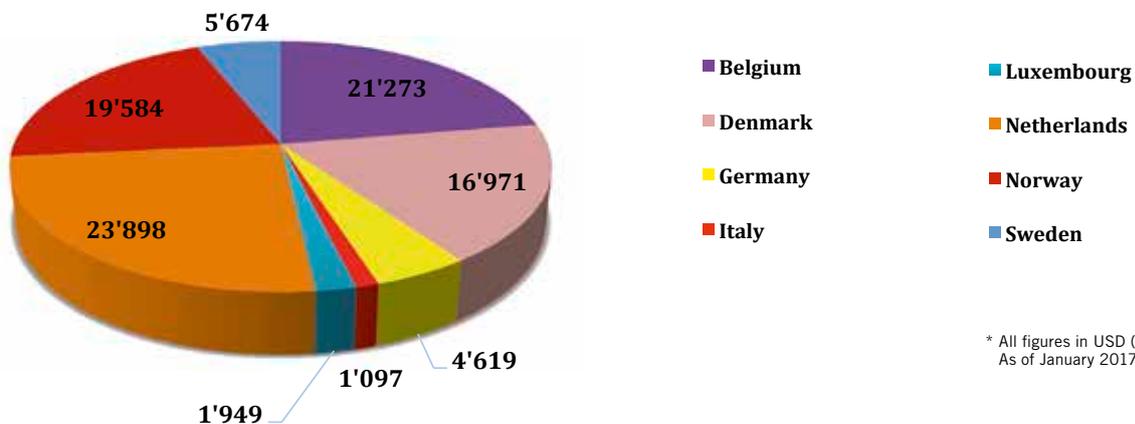
Voluntary contributions, which include an un-earmarked contribution to Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA), as well as lightly earmarked project specific funding. Overall voluntary contributions from Netherlands to the ILO in the period 2012-2016 amounted to **USD 65.7 million**.



The Netherlands' overall contributions to the ILO



RBSA contribution 2012-2017*



* All figures in USD ('000s)
As of January 2017

Better Work Programme

Better Work-a collaboration between the ILO and the International Finance Corporation (IFC)-is a comprehensive programme bringing together all levels of the garment industry to improve working conditions and respect of labour rights, as well as to boost the productivity and competitiveness of apparel businesses. Currently, the programme is active in 1300 facto-

ries employing more than 1.6 million workers in seven countries. As a result of donor support to the Better Work programme, factories have steadily improved compliance with the ILO core labour standards and national legislation, covering compensation, contracts, occupational safety and health and working time. This has significantly improved working conditions

and enhanced factories' productivity and profitability. The Government of the Netherlands has contributed to Better Work an amount of **USD 13 million** over the last four years.



Strengthening workplace safety and labour rights in Bangladesh

The ILO Programme on Improving Working Conditions in the Ready-Made Garment Sector has been developed to support the Government of Bangladesh and constituents to improve RMG factory building safety, worker rights and working conditions, in direct response to the Rana Plaza tragedy in 2013.

In the first phase of this programme, four key components have been addressed:

- Assessments of over 3,600 export-oriented RMG factories for structural, fire and electrical safety have been concluded. As a result, 39 factories have been closed for posing an immediate danger to workers. Several

hundreds of others voluntarily closed, repaired or relocated, potentially saving the lives of many thousands of workers.

- Structural reforms of the Department of Inspections for Factories and Establishments have been conducted, resulting in the recruitment of 284 new labour inspectors. In addition, 160 existing staff was trained to improve skills needed to boost working conditions and worker safety.
- A considerable effort has been made to build a culture of Occupational Safety and Health in the workplaces. For example, Fire Service staff has been trained on how to effectively inspect

factories, develop emergency action plans and carry out evacuation drills.

- The ILO/IFC Better Work Bangladesh initiative was launched and now works with more than 100 factories employing over 190,000 workers to help these enterprises be more compliant with the ILO core labour standards, while boosting working conditions and productivity.

The programme is jointly funded by the Netherlands, Canada, and the United Kingdom, with the Netherlands contributing more than USD 11 million. The programme is expected to continue in the coming years with further support from these 3 core donors.

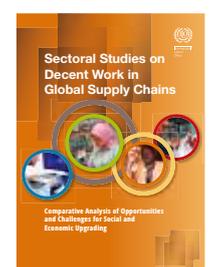
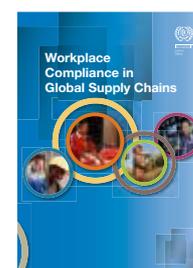


Sectoral Studies on Decent Work in Global Supply Chains

At the global level, the Dutch Government has actively supported the preparations and follow-up to the 2016 International Labour Conference (ILC) general discussion on Decent Work in Global Supply Chains. A series of consultation workshops to promote a common understanding of key challenges were organized for government officials from various regions. With the aim to generate knowledge and identify potential areas of future work, two sets of sectoral studies have been published alongside a paper on workplace compliance in global supply chains. The knowledge

generated through the sectoral studies has been disseminated through a webinar. Following the adoption of a set of action-oriented ILC Conclusions and an ILO Programme of Action on Decent Work in Global Supply Chains in 2016, a new project on cross-border social dialogue is underway. The project will include an analysis of International Framework Agreements and other relevant processes and social dialogue mechanisms. Building on the knowledge that was expanded in the run-up to the ILC, the project will inform the ILO's strategy on promoting cross-border social dialogue in

global supply chains. The Netherlands has supported the work with a total contribution of over **USD 361,000**.



Strengthening Labour Inspection System in Pakistan

Thanks to the Dutch contribution of **USD 1.2 million**, the ILO is supporting the Government of Pakistan in developing measures to revitalize the country's labour inspection mechanisms. This project aims at strengthening the regulatory framework for effective labour inspection, enhancing human resource capacities to enforce the laws on labour inspection and partnering with the private sector to promote international labour standards. During the first year

of the project, the ILO:

- supported the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development to develop the National Action Plan on Labour Inspection;
- assisted the Ministry to prepare the report on occupational security and health legal framework and statistical trend analysis;
- helped the Provincial Departments of Labour to advance their legislative

reforms, resulting in adaption of the Industrial Relations Act 1934;

- trained at least 70 per cent of labour inspectorates and labour court officials;
- contributed to recruitment of 50 new labour inspectors;
- supported to the development of computerized labour inspection system;
- launched private sector initiative for the outreach of labour inspection.

Promotion of Social and Solidarity Economy (PROMESS) in Tunisia

The PROMESS is a new initiative of the Dutch Government and the ILO in supporting youth employment in Tunisia. The main objective is to generate better employment opportunities for young women and men through the promotion of organizations and mechanisms of the social and solidarity economy. Within this project, the ILO assists the Tunisian Government, social partners and civil society in establishing a conducive legal and institutional environment for social and solidarity economy.

This project will scale up the successful rural youth employment

initiatives implemented under the DEPART project from 2013 to 2015 in the governorates of Gafsa, Ariana and the Kef. The DEPART, another Dutch-funded project, contributed to developing of 11 local agricultural and service projects, generating more than 100 direct jobs. The ILO provided more than 3000 days of technical and entrepreneurial trainings to young people to stimulate self-employment initiative in agriculture sector such as dairy farming, beekeeping, quail and rabbit breeding. The project succeeded in conducting a tripartite national dialogue on the social and solidarity

economy and included this sector as a priority in the economic and social development plan of Tunisia for the forthcoming 5 years.



Combatting Child Labour in Hazelnut Agriculture in Turkey

With the Dutch contribution of **USD 567,000**, the ILO is working on elimination of child labour in seasonal agri-



culture in Turkey. The overall objective is to withdraw and prevent children from working in seasonal hazelnut agriculture, through capacity building of public institutions, promotion of corporate social responsibility and public-private partnerships as well as awareness-raising campaign towards all actors of the harvesting process.

Within the initial phase, the project has developed an education-based intervention model which resulted in the removal of 560 children from the worst forms of child labour and

the prevention of at-risk children from entering such work. Following the successful completion of its first phase in the Ordu region, the project is being scaled up to other provinces of the Black Sea region, namely Sakarya, Düzce and Şanlıurfa. To date, more than 2300 children were withdrawn and prevented from working during the harvesting seasons of 2015 and 2016, and 1740 of them benefited from education services in the referred project sites.

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