



# Denmark ILO Cooperation

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK  
**DANIDA** | INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



Ministry of Employment

Denmark has been an ILO Member State since its creation in 1919 and is a key partner of the ILO in promoting the Decent Work Agenda. Denmark has ratified a considerable number of ILO Conventions, including the eight fundamental Conventions, the four priority Conventions, as well as 60 of the 177 technical Conventions. In 2011 Denmark ratified the Maritime Labour Convention (2006), which entered into force in August 2013.

## Denmark's contribution to the ILO priorities



The Denmark-ILO Partnership Programme focuses on social dialogue and tripartism, gender equality and international labour standards, with a rights-based approach to development as a cross-cutting theme.

Denmark was one of the first donors to develop a partnership framework with the ILO. Through regular policy consultations, Denmark and the ILO seek broader synergies and identify common priorities for development cooperation.

### DENMARK'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

The cornerstone of Danish development policy is the "**Right to a Better Life**" framework – a rights-based approach, which promotes **economic growth that should be green** and **include social progress** in order for it to contribute to **improving the lives of poor people** and their ability to create a better life for themselves.

The framework makes explicit references to **decent work, ILO core labour conventions and social dialogue**. It identifies four strategic priority areas: 1) Human rights and democracy 2) Green growth 3) Social progress 4) Stability and protection.

Danida is the term used for Denmark's development cooperation, which is an area of activity under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Denmark focuses on development assistance in the following **22 priority countries**: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Myanmar, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe.

Denmark allocated 0.85% of its gross national income to official development assistance (ODA) in 2013, which amounted to US\$ 2.9 billion. Multilateral ODA accounted for 27% of Danish ODA\*.

\* Source: OECD, Development Co-operation Report 2014

## FACTS AND FIGURES ON DENMARK'S FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE ILO

The Government of Denmark finances the ILO through the Regular Budget (RB), the Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA) and Extra-Budgetary Technical Cooperation (XBTC).

**Regular Budget (RB)** contributions are payable by all ILO Member States by virtue of their membership. Countries' contributions are based on the United Nations allocations assessment. In the biennium 2014-15 Denmark provided **US\$ 5.4 million**.

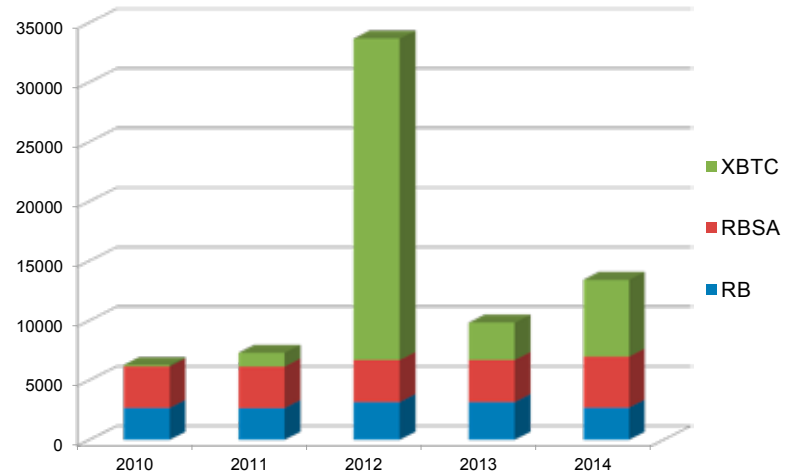
The **Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA)** is an un-earmarked voluntary fund, which provides a pool of flexible resources allocated by the ILO to strategic areas and emerging priorities. Between 2010 and 2014 Danish contributions to the RBSA amounted to **US\$ 22.5 million**.

**Extra-Budgetary Technical Cooperation (XBTC)** voluntary contributions support specific global and national projects and programmes with a clear timeline and pre-defined geographic and thematic focus. Overall funding by Denmark to ILO XBTC between 2010 and 2014 amounted to **US\$ 37.7 million**.

Overall voluntary contributions by Denmark to the ILO between 2010 and 2014 amounted to **US\$ 60.2 million**, making Denmark the **5th largest governmental donor**.

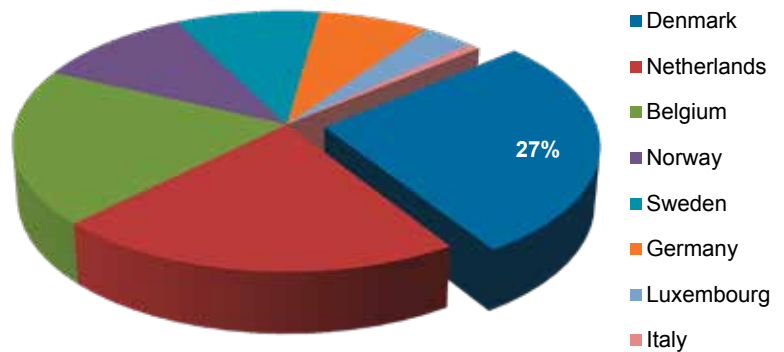
## Denmark's overall contributions to the ILO, 2010-14 (US\$ '000)\*

Regular Budget (RB), Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA), and Extra-Budgetary Technical Cooperation (XBTC)



\* ILO Programme and Budget runs on a biennial basis, with the current biennium covering 2014-15

## RBSA contributions in 2014



## Better Work

Better Work is a partnership between the ILO and the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC) that improves the lives of workers and their families by driving sector-wide, sustainable improvements in adherence to core ILO labour standards and national labour law, and promoting business competitiveness in major garment producing industries.

Approximately 1,000 garment factories are engaged, employing over 1,000,000 workers in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Haiti, Indonesia, Jordan, Lesotho, Nicaragua and Viet Nam. Denmark is a major contributor to Better Work Global programme, including initiation of its programme in Bangladesh, as well as to the development of the Programme's environmental agenda.



## Realizing the potential of Africa's youth

The remarkable success of the Youth Entrepreneurship Facility has been confirmed by partners, beneficiaries and by the Danida-led review of the project. With the support of the Danish-funded programme, the Governments of Tanzania and Uganda have been able to develop their own youth empowerment frameworks. The results were highlighted during the visit to Tanzania by ILO Director-General Guy Ryder in December 2013.

The project has supported the integration of entrepreneurship education in the curriculum of the education system in Uganda and Tanzania, where more than 25,000 and 27,000 students respectively have been receiving the revised entrepreneurship curricula every year since 2013. In addition, over 47,000 young people have received business development support. Recent studies estimate that more than 55,000

new jobs for young people will be created and that at least 30,000 youth-based micro and small enterprises will be started at the end of the programme. The success has attracted new development partners such as the European Commission, which will extend activities in Uganda until the end of 2016.

The second initiative focuses on Zimbabwe and is based on identified economic opportunities in the rural and urban areas whereby it develops capacities of young women and men through employable skills and the provision of other support services, such as business management training and access to finance, to enable them benefit from those opportunities. The programme has so far trained more than 10,000 vulnerable young women and men in rural and urban areas in 32 districts with an employability rate of more than 80%. It has also developed the capacity



*The Danish Minister for Trade and Development Cooperation, Mr. Mogens Jensen, visiting beneficiaries at a project site in Harare on November 2014*

of more than 800 national stakeholders, including officials of the government, employers and workers organizations, to enable them implement the programme locally. The high level attendance and fruitful contribution of national stakeholders at national and local level shows that the programme is relevant and its implementation mechanism is working well in Zimbabwe.

### RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS IN MYANMAR

The Danish-funded Support Programme for Responsible Business in Myanmar (US\$ 1.8 million) builds on the reform agenda of the Myanmar Government and Denmark's commitment to good governance, democracy and human rights.

The ILO works together with the International Commission of Jurists and the Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business, focusing on responsible investment. The ILO is undertaking a value chain assessment and industry profiling for job creation and entrepreneurship in the garment and fisheries sectors. This programme contributes to the economic development of the country by creating new jobs and skills for its large young population.

## Cooperating to promote and protect indigenous people's rights: Delivering As One

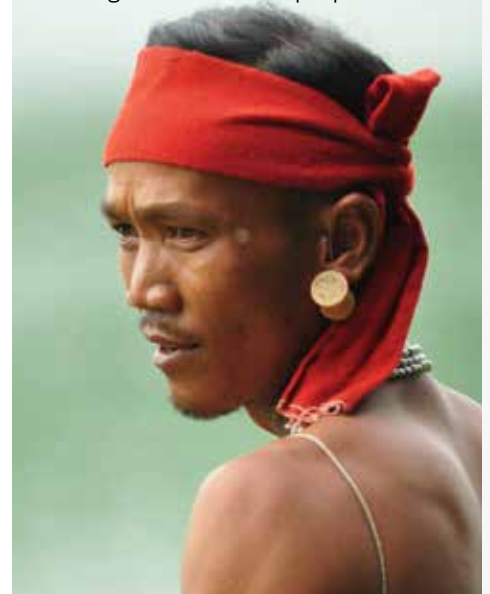
The United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership (UNIPP) is a joint initiative by the ILO, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). Launched in May 2011, UNIPP combines the individual expertise and networks of five UN agencies and aims to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples, taking as a cornerstone their right to participate in decision-making, the State's duty to consult, and the principle of free, prior and informed consent in accordance with the ILO's Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).

Denmark has been the first and most generous donor to UNIPP (US\$ 1.5 million), for which the ILO currently serves as Co-Chair and runs the Technical Secretariat.

Overall UNIPP initiated 110 projects and activities with over 100 partners in 6 countries and regional work in South-East Asia. Altogether these areas are home to a large number of indigenous peoples, with a population of 100 million (30% of the world's indigenous population). UNIPP delivered capacity-building training to over 5,500 key actors, worked to harmonize state law with customary indigenous law in Nicaragua, facilitated countrywide consultation workshops on free, prior and informed consent in Bolivia, enabled indigenous inputs to a new forestry law in Cameroon, helped draft pieces of enabling legislation in Congo, and organized the first ever UN-led conference on indigenous issues and extractive industries in South-East Asia.

In addition, in Bangladesh the ILO implemented a project funded by the Danish Embassy in Dhaka to promote the rights of indigenous people through ca-

capacity building and advocacy initiatives based on the principles of ILO Conventions, in particular the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), and other instruments relevant to indigenous and tribal peoples.



## Towards addressing the worst forms of child labour in Nepal

The Child Labour Report 2010 estimated that of the 1.6 million children in Nepal, over 600,000 are in hazardous work. 60 per cent of those are girls. As compared to data for 1998–2008, child labour in Nepal is declining at an average of 100,000 working children annually.

In line with its commitment to end the worst forms of child labour by 2016, the Government has recently ratified two ILO Core Conventions and is working to set the three new directives on the

rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of child labourers in Nepal.

Continuing their assistance to Nepal, the ILO and the Danish Government launched a second phase of the Child Labour Elimination Project (2013-2016) prioritizing the worst forms of child labour. The project supports the relevant government bodies and social partners, including non-governmental organizations, to help them create integrated area-based models for child labour-free communities and zones.

Currently the activities focus on mainstreaming child labour issues in the institutional structure and planning processes of the local government. Two of the projects supporting municipalities in the Kavre district have established child labour elimination desks within their institutional structures and allocated an annual budget towards child labour elimination work. The adjoining districts are working towards adopting a similar mainstreaming model to address child labour issues.

## Decent jobs for Egypt's young people

Egypt's 'youth bulge' has become a major predicament rather than a unique opportunity for development. In addition, the jobs that are being created are poor in quality, and mainly concentrated in Egypt's informal economy, which fails to provide decent work conditions. This lack of decent work is preventing the next generation of Egyptians from gaining skills, experience and income necessary for furthering the economic, social and political development of their country.

Since 2012, Denmark is supporting a multi-year ILO programme in the Egyptian Governorates of Qalyoubia and Menoufia, which aims at stimulating youth employment by addressing

both the supply and demand side in the labour market and improving the interface between the two. The focus of the on-going interventions is on strengthening the knowledge base and capacities of regional and local institutions to design, implement, and build partnerships around youth employment programmes. This work will culminate in the adoption of a Sectoral Jobs Pact for Youth in the agriculture and food processing sectors, as well as a Regional Employment Plan in each Governorate. The second phase will be centred on the direct implementation of pilot interventions and transfer of knowledge for replication and scaling-up in the future.

### TOWARDS INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN NEPAL

DANIDA and ILO completed the development of a new strategic partnership project in Nepal to promote improved advocacy for responsible business, including rights and good corporate governance. The four-year \$3.2 million project is expected to be launched in March 2015, to help empower the current formal as well as informal private sector representatives and local bodies to make their voice heard as stakeholders at national level through inclusive and effective dialogue, contributing to stronger policy coherence between national and district interests.

### REGULAR BUDGET SUPPLEMENTARY ACCOUNT (RBSA): LIVELIHOODS SUPPORT TO SYRIAN REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITIES

As part of the wider United Nations response to the Syrian Refugee Crisis, the ILO initiated work in both Lebanon and Jordan to support enhanced access to employment opportunities and livelihoods in host communities, supported through USD 2 million of voluntary core resources of the ILO (RBSA), including from Denmark.

The influx of large numbers of refugees affects the resilience of host communities and generates a need for increased income generating opportunities. The ILO has worked with local communities to upgrade value chains, for instance for the tomato and olive growing sectors. ILO has further trained Jordanian women on how to start up a business through its Get-Ahead programme.

The ILO, in collaboration with UNWOMEN, also conducted a basic business-training programme tailored for Syrian women in Zaatari refugee camp, focusing on ways to start and manage income-generating activities. Employment and career guidance services have targeted young people. Special attention is given to strengthening the capacity of local labour inspectorates to detect and address cases of child labour and to examine ways to extend referral processes to working Syrian children.



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