



Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships are available to qualifying candidates.



Applications

The application deadline is subject to availability and varies: 4 weeks before the commencement date of the course, in case the participant needs a Schengen visa. For other participants not requiring Italian entry visa, the deadline for application is one week prior to the scheduled commencement date of the course.

Candidates must submit through the website the following documents:

- on-line application form duly filled in, available at <http://intranetp.itcilo.org/STF/A909143/en> (English version) <http://intranetp.itcilo.org/STF/A909143/fr> (French version)

- letter from the sponsor indicating financial support (or letter from the applicant stating that participation cost is covered by himself/herself), to be uploaded when filling in the on-line application form.

Applications from employers' organizations and workers' organizations will have to be endorsed by the Secretaries of the Employers' Group and of the Workers' Group of the Governing Body of the ILO.

As an Organization dedicated to promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights, the ILO is taking a leading role in international efforts to foster gender equality. In line with this ILO focus, women are particularly encouraged to apply to ITCILO courses.

The ILO Turin Centre's facilities

Located in an attractive park on the banks of the River Po, the Centre's campus provides a congenial environment in which to live and study.

- It contains 21 pavilions with fully equipped modern classrooms, conference halls and meeting rooms fitted out for multilingual simultaneous interpretation, and a computerized documentation centre linked to various data banks.

The campus has 287 study/bedrooms, all with private bathroom, telephone, free access to internet and cable television. It also has:

- a reception desk open 24 hours a day;

- a restaurant, a self-service canteen and a coffee lounge, all catering for international dietary needs;
- a bank;
- a travel agency;
- a laundry service;
- a post office;
- an internet point;
- a recreation room;
- facilities for outdoor and indoor sports;
- medical service.

Social events are regularly held both on and off campus, so that participants from different cultural backgrounds can make the most of a stimulating international environment.

For further information, please contact:

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A909143

Multinational enterprises, development and decent work: the approach of the ILO MNE Declaration

23 – 27 May 2016
Turin, Italy



International Training Centre

www.itcilo.org

Multinational enterprises, development and decent work: the approach of the ILO MNE Declaration



Rationale

Globalization brings substantial benefits, but also poses challenges to achieve improved and fair outcomes for all. On the one hand, globalization has helped a number of countries to benefit from high rates of economic growth and employment creation, to absorb many of the rural poor into the modern urban economy, to advance their developmental goals, and to foster innovation in product development and production processes.

On the other hand, global economic integration has caused many countries and sectors to face major challenges of income inequality, continuing high levels of unemployment and poverty, vulnerability to external shocks, and the growth of both unprotected work and the informal economy, which impact on the employment relationship and the protections it can offer.

Multinational enterprises (MNEs) play a key role in today's globalized economy, both through their investment decisions in host countries and through their purchasing activities within integrated production systems or global supply chains. MNEs have the potential to contribute to the advancement of decent work and achievement of development priorities through their corporate policies and business operations. To accompany this process and the involvement of the different actors, the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (the MNE Declaration¹) provides guidance to enterprises, governments and employers' and workers' organizations on how to maximize the positive contribution of MNEs and larger national enterprises to economic and social development and minimize and resolve possible negative impacts.

The MNE Declaration is the only instrument of its kind, adopted in a tripartite manner and global in its application. It is founded on international labour standards and clarifies the responsibilities of the different parties (multinational enterprises, governments, employers' and workers' organizations). Dialogue between the different actors is at the heart of this tripartite instrument.



Objectives

This course will look at the potential of MNEs and national enterprises to contribute to the respect of labour rights and the achievement of "decent work" for all. It will introduce participants to the guidance set out in the MNE Declaration for enterprises, governments, employers' and workers' organizations. Through case studies, dialogues with MNEs and a company visit, participants will gain a better understanding of the roles

and responsibilities of government and enterprises in realizing workers' rights, fostering job creation and skills development, and supporting development of SMEs through business linkages.

Breakout discussions will provide space for the participants to speak more openly about some of the opportunities and challenges related to foreign direct investment (FDI) and operations of MNEs. This exchange among peers will stimulate strategic thinking on how they – as a government institution or employers' or workers' organization – can engage more effectively with MNEs on national development and decent work priorities and among themselves about the legal and policy environment needed to achieve this. Role plays will be used to introduce participants to ILO instruments that can assist them when engaging in dialogue on and with multinational enterprises on public policy objectives and issues of mutual concern.

The course is aimed primarily at strengthening the capacity of ILO constituents. It is also open to managers of large enterprises, in particular those currently in charge of or interested in working more closely with government and social partners on socio-economic issues and in assessing their company's social footprint in countries of operations and sourcing. Corporate participants will gain insights through discussions and small group exercises in how to closer align their company's social policies with principles of international labour standards as well as national and local development priorities and to engage in public-private dialogue and action to tackle issues of mutual concern. Corporate participants will be better equipped to look at the impact of companies operations on workers' rights and to engage with government on labour and development issues.

General objective

The course aims to strengthen the capacity of government institutions, employers' and workers' organizations and enterprises to apply the principles of the MNE Declaration and closer align private actions with public policy objectives, including in light of the Sustainable Development Goals and the broader Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Specific objectives

At the end of the course, participants will:

- be knowledgeable of the provisions of the MNE Declaration;
- be able to assess the impact of business operations on workers' rights;
- understand the different roles of governments, the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations in maximizing the economic and social development impacts of MNEs;
- gain insights into how to foster a public-private

collaborative approach on issues of mutual concern;

- be able to better serve their institutions, organizations or enterprise in the area of social policy.



Participants' profile

The course is designed for representatives of governments, employers' organizations and workers' organizations responsible for policies related to socio-economic development, FDI and operations of MNEs. It also targets managers in enterprises responsible for social policy and interested in developing more collaborative approaches to address their labour-related human rights impacts as well as socio-economic development issues in their operations.



Structure and content

The course will consist of three modules:

Module I. MNEs, ILO instruments and other inter-governmental instruments and frameworks

- The role of MNEs in economic and social development
- Introduction to the ILO MNE Declaration
- Other international instruments and frameworks: UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, UN Global Compact, OECD MNE Guidelines
- Roles and challenges of enterprises, governments, employers' and workers' organizations in promoting responsible, sustainable, and inclusive business practices

Module II. Workers' rights and MNE impacts

- Overview of rights set out in the MNE Declaration
- Respecting workers' rights: Company approaches and challenges
- Government role: rule of law and law enforcement
- Role of ILO constituents

Module III. MNE contribution to sustainable development

- Approach set out in the MNE Declaration
- Investment promotion
- Infrastructure development
- Skills development, local hiring and training
- Business linkages with local SMEs
- Aligning government and company policies for sustainable development
- Sectoral approaches
- Tripartite consultations on policy discussion related to socio-economic development, FDI and operations of MNEs



Preparatory work

In preparation for the course, participants will be asked to go through an online self-guided module providing a brief introduction to the MNE Declaration. The module includes real cases of how the MNE Declaration can be used to address a range of labour and employment issues in different contexts. Approximately 40 minutes are needed to complete the module.



Languages

The course will be conducted in English and French. Hence a good knowledge of one of these working languages is required.



Methodology and resource persons

The course will take a highly participatory approach, which requires full involvement by all participants and ensures exchange of information and experiences.

Training methods will include: introduction of concepts with illustrative examples followed by plenary discussions, interviews with companies (face-to-face and/or by videoconference), role plays, group work, and breakout sessions.

Resource persons will include: specialists from ILO and trainers from ITCILO.



Cost of participation

The total cost of participation is 2,750 Euros. This includes tuition fees (2,150 Euros) and subsistence costs (600 Euros).

- The tuition fees cover: course preparation, implementation and evaluation; training materials and books; the use of training facilities and support services; emergency medical insurance.
- Subsistence costs cover: full board and lodging on the Centre's Campus and some recreational activities in Turin.

The figures quoted do not include the cost of travel between the participant's home country and the course venue.

Participants must ensure that they have a valid passport and appropriate visa for Italy, and for any country in which a transit or stopover to or from the course venue is required.

1. ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, adopted in 1977 and most recently revised in 2006: www.ilo.org/mnedeclaration

2. Each working language, however, will be confirmed when a minimum number of participants is reached.