



International
Labour
Organization

► Sweden ILO Cooperation

September 2023

Sweden is one of the founding member States of the ILO, and is a key partner in promoting the Decent Work Agenda. Sweden has ratified four Protocols and 94 Conventions, which include the ten Fundamental Conventions, the four prioritized Governance Conventions and 80 Technical Conventions.

► The Sida – ILO Partnership Programme

Sweden has reconfirmed its strong commitment to decent work and social justice in 2022 by renewing the longstanding partnership between the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) and the ILO, covering 2022 to 2025. Under the four-year agreement, Sweden will provide a total of SEK 200 million (US\$ 21.4 million) to support the ILO's work. Sweden commits SEK 70 million (US\$ 7.5 million) of fully flexible resources to the [Regular Budget Supplementary Account \(RBSA\)](#) and SEK 130 million (US\$ 13.9 million) of lightly-earmarked support to the new Sida-ILO Global Programme.

The Sida-ILO Global Programme focuses on four strategic, cross-cutting areas of the ILO's work: 1) gender equality and non-discrimination; 2) just transition and environmental sustainability; 3) conflict perspective and humanitarian, peace and development nexus (HPD); and 4) the Systems Change Initiative (SCI) for productive employment. All four areas of are designed to serve workers and enterprises in the informal economy – particularly women, youth, migrant workers, refugees and internally displaced people.

Relying on country-level applications in Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligible countries, the Global Programme focuses on addressing poverty, conflict and/or crises and disasters across the African, Asia-Pacific and Latin American regions, with a particular focus on assessments and policy support.

Sweden's development cooperation priorities

The objective of Sweden's international development assistance is to create conditions to improve the lives of people living in poverty and oppression. Development cooperation is based on the principles of aid and development effectiveness, the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

Sweden's support to the ILO at global level is covered by Sweden's strategy on sustainable economic development 2022 – 2026. Activities under this strategy contribute to the following objectives:

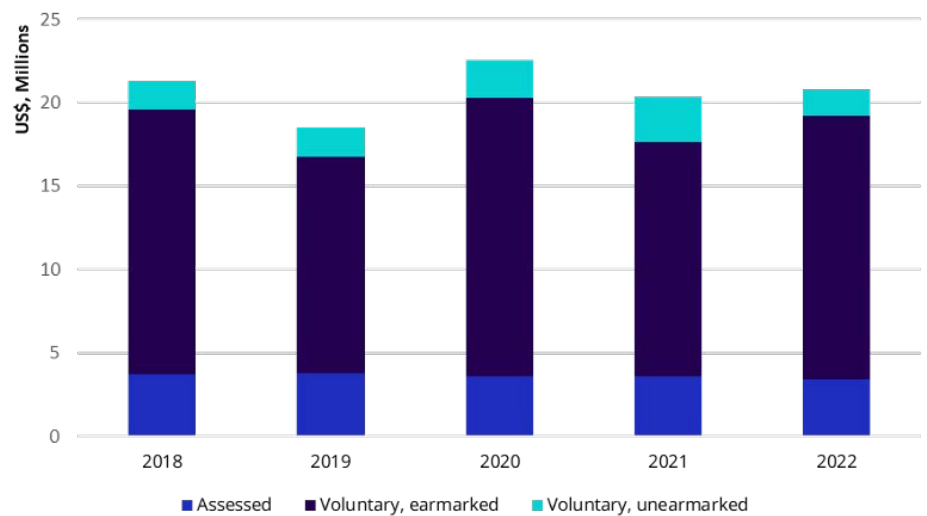
- Employment, market development and trade;
- Food security, sustainable agriculture, forestry and fishing, and social protection; and
- Domestic resource mobilisation, financial stability and digital transformation.



SWEDEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ILO

► Sweden's Overall Contributions to the ILO, 2018–22

- **Assessed contributions to the ILO's Regular Budget**, paid by all ILO Member States by virtue of their membership. From 2018 to 2022, Sweden contributed US\$ 18.1 million.
- **Voluntary unearmarked funding contributions** provided by eight ILO donors as a pool of un-earmarked, flexible resources allocated by the ILO to strategic areas and emerging priorities. From 2018 to 2022, Sweden contributed US\$ 10.1 million.
- **Voluntary earmarked funding contributions for specific themes or projects.** From 2018 to 2022, Sweden contributed US\$ 75.3 million.



SELECTED PROGRAMMES SUPPORTED BY SWEDEN

► “Jobs for All” in Bosnia and Herzegovina – a collaboration between the ILO, the European Commission and Sweden in support of employment of young women and the hard-to-employ

Sweden, the European Commission and the ILO have teamed up in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) through the new 3-year project “EU4EMPLOYMENT” which started in early 2023. The project has a total budget of EUR 5 million, of which EUR 1 million is from Sweden and EUR 4 million is from the European Commission.

The programme will specifically address the structural labour market challenges in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which have particularly affected women, youth and vulnerable individuals, such as long-term unemployed persons, persons with disabilities, Roma people, and beneficiaries of social assistance. The project will provide grant schemes and high-quality technical assistance to relevant labour market institutions.

Project beneficiaries will receive training/retraining with the support of companies, educational institutions, NGOs and other relevant organizations.

The project will work on innovative activation services in cooperation with centres for social protection and other partners. Finally, it will also prepare a roadmap for the implementation and monitoring of the reinforced Youth Guarantee.

► Addressing the underlying reasons of decent work deficits – the MSD approach and systems change

A systemic approach to decent work and labour rights in Southern Africa's construction sector: Building a pathway to improved working conditions for youth and the working poor: In 2022, Sida and the ILO signed a US\$ 5.1 million sub-regional project that aims to improve decent working conditions and labour rights in Southern Africa's construction sector. The project has operations in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique – and will be implemented using a systems approach over a period of three-and-a-half years.

Through its project interventions, the ILO works with national governments, private sector actors (including small and medium enterprises, and social partners), as well as with the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

Lessons learnt and knowledge generated through field activities in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique will be used to help other SADC member states adopt policy and regulatory changes, that can ultimately drive more sustainable and systemic changes improving labour rights and working conditions in the region.



Promoting decent jobs for Lebanese host communities and Syrian refugees: The project will enhance the agriculture sector to improve vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian population groups, with a particular focus on women. It adopts a Climate-Smart Agriculture approach, respectful of decent work conditions, and addressing interlinked challenges of food security, climate change and sustainable development. Ways to increase on-farm productivity as a long-term solution to safeguarding jobs and livelihoods of farmers, and their mostly Syrian women workers and prevent further job losses, will be central to this project.

Additionally, the project will identify and develop specific agricultural and agri-food value chains based on concrete market opportunities opened through the crisis, either in local markets through import-substitution or in international markets. ILO will leverage its tools and approaches on Value Chain Development for Decent Work, and those that have been tested in forced displacement contexts.

► The Lazos Project



The Lazos Project, providing migrants and refugees from Venezuela access to decent work in Latin American and Caribbean countries, started in January 2022. The project aims to strengthen the capacities of public institutions, employers and workers' organizations to promote effective socioeconomic integration of Venezuelan migrants and refugees with their host communities in Argentina, Colombia, Peru and the Dominican Republic.

Interventions include institutional policy analyses and technical assistance for strategies to improve migrant population inclusion. Lazos is developing a South-South Cooperation Program with the participation of seven countries, mapping good institutional practices focused on promoting the socioeconomic integration process for Venezuela's migrants and refugees.

► Public Private Development Partnership (PPDP)

Sida uses the [Public Private Development Partnership \(PPDP\)](#) modality to mobilise the private sector, in Sweden and elsewhere, to proactively engage in and contribute to the sustainable development of low-income countries. The ILO is already implementing multiple projects thanks to this innovative approach, including in the [Great Rift Valley](#), Kenya and in Zambia.

Skills for energy in Southern Africa: Sida and ILO signed an agreement in support of Kafue Gorge Regional Centre (KGRTC) to enhance its capacity as a regional Centre of Excellence for skills training in Renewable Energy (RE), Energy Efficiency (EE) and Regional Energy Integration (REI) in Southern Africa.

It is expected that this intervention will significantly contribute to increasing the number of power technicians, engineers and managers in the SADC region.

Through a market study and assessment of the skills supply and demand in the region in RE, EE and REI, the project has supported KGRTC with the development of meaningful partnerships with public and private sector stakeholders. This has resulted in at least two interventions in Malawi and Zimbabwe where course participants are managing a solar power plant independently and providing training in solar energy to over 70 participants.

Inclusive growth through decent work in the Great Rift Valley: This project is implemented in Kenya's Narok and Nakuru county governments, and aims at empowering vulnerable communities, particularly youth and women, to fully participate in the mainstream economy and societal engagement. The project is being implemented through a PPDP approach which aims to proactively promote joint investment. The project aims at providing the relevant skills that are demanded by employers through capacity development of Vocational Training Centres. Until end-2022, the PPDP project has achieved the following milestones:

- 1,980 business have been started and improved
- 2,877 jobs have been created
- 38 community action plans by the communities have been successfully implemented.



► Advancing the Decent Work Agenda in North Africa (ADWA)



The [ADWA](#) project aims to promote job-rich growth, as well as to promote International Labour Standards (ILS) and ensure their application at the enterprise-level in three target countries: Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. In the context of the ADWA project's work on adoption of economic policies and reforms focussing on job-rich growth at the sub-regional and country level, for instance: In Morocco, the project supported the Ministry of Economic Inclusion, Small Business, Employment and Skills (MIEPEEC) by digitizing over 70 processes and procedures with a view to improving overall management capacities.

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