



International
Labour
Organization



► Italy ILO cooperation

October 2023

Italy is a founding Member State of the ILO, and a long-standing partner in promoting the Decent Work Agenda. It has ratified 114 Conventions, including eight of the ten Fundamental and the four Governance Conventions. Italy holds a permanent seat on the ILO Governing Body as a State of Chief Industrial Importance.

► Italy's contributions to the ILO

Italy and the ILO share a common focus on leaving no one behind by promoting social justice, decent work and sustainable development. Italy's development cooperation with the ILO is strongly focused on entrepreneurship, sustainable enterprises and decent work for all, particularly in the Arab States.

In addition to its partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, the ILO collaborates with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and its Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) on development cooperation.

Established in 1920, the ILO Office in Rome is the representation of the Organization to Italy and

San Marino. Italy hosts the International Training Centre of the ILO in Turin (ITCILO), which was established in 1964 and has since provided training and related services to develop the human resources and capacities of a wide range of actors.

Furthermore, the ILO benefits from the expertise of young Italian professionals thanks to Italy's support to the Junior Professional Officer Programme.

Italy's development cooperation priorities

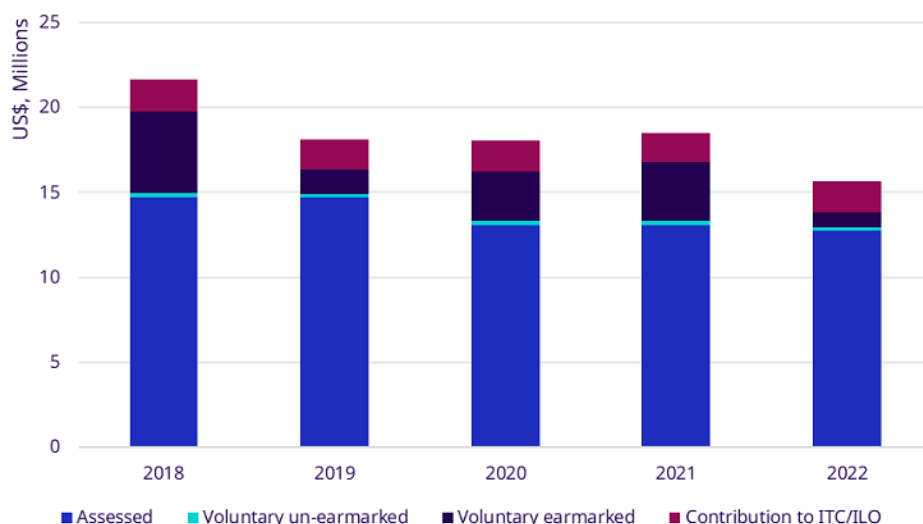
Development cooperation is an integral part of Italy's foreign policy. According to the Programming and Policy Planning for 2021 – 2023, the priority areas for Italian development cooperation are:

- Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all
- Achieve gender equality and empowerment (greater strength, self-esteem and awareness) for women and girls
- Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people

Italy's financial contributions to the ILO

- ▶ **Assessed contributions** to ILO's Regular Budget, paid by all ILO member States by virtue of their membership. From 2018 to 2022, Italy contributed US\$ 68.3 million.
- ▶ **Voluntary un-earmarked 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 2018–2022, Italy contributed US\$ 1.1 million.
- ▶ **Voluntary earmarked funding contributions** provided as earmarked funds for priority programmes and projects in addition to assessed contributions. From 2018–2022 Italy contributed over US\$ 13.5 million.

▶ Italy's Overall Contributions to the ILO, 2018-22



Italy's yearly contributions to the ILO's International Training Centre (ITCILO) in Turin totalled US\$ 10.8 million between 2018 and 2022.

▶ Senegal and Gambia: Project for the promotion of formal and innovative entrepreneurship (PROMEFI)

In both Senegal and Gambia, limited national economic opportunities hinder the generation of decent jobs for young people and the establishment of sustainable businesses. Micro and small enterprises and workers in this sector therefore find themselves in the spiral of the informal economy, which is characterized by poor working conditions, precarious jobs, a lack of social protection, low productivity and low income. AICS is supporting the ILO to promote formal and innovative entrepreneurship among young people in the two countries.

In Senegal, the project promotes formalization measures to national stakeholders and works in the broader Dakar area to help informal agricultural operators and waste pickers to organize themselves, improve their technical skills as well as their access to markets and social protection schemes. For instance, the waste pickers were supported to create a cooperative that now has more than 700 members.

In Gambia, the project enables young entrepreneurs from the Greater Banjul area, the West Coast Region and the North Bank Region to improve their operational practices and better understand protection issues as well as formalization. The project has reinforced

Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) support structures through the ILO's «[Formalising your business-FVE](#)» training. To date more than 50 entrepreneurs have benefited from this training. A strategic partnership has been established to extend the reach of the training to 5,000 entrepreneurs.



► Cooperative Support Programme for the Occupied Palestinian Territory (CSP-OPT)

AICS and the ILO collaborated on a three-year program entitled The Cooperative Support Programme (CSP) to support the development and sustainability of cooperatives as well as social and solidarity economy enterprises in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT). The project aims to create an enabling environment for autonomous and economically self-reliant cooperatives, thereby enhancing employment and livelihood opportunities for Palestinian women and men.

Palestinian cooperatives face multiple challenges and an unfavourable institutional, legal and administrative operational environment. CSP aims to identify these challenges and contribute to the promotion of a conducive ecosystem to foster cooperative growth. Additionally, the project seeks to promote member participation in the governance of cooperatives and ensure their active engagement in decision-making processes.

Through the programme, the Palestinian Cooperative Work Agency (CWA) will receive support to fulfil both regulatory and promotional functions. The project aims to establish an enabling environment for the emergence and growth of cooperatives while preserving their independence and autonomy.

The CSP project works to enhance the participation of women in cooperatives, including in the care service provision sector. Efforts are being made to empower women through women-led cooperatives and to create an inclusive and gender-responsive cooperative environment.

Additionally, the project aims to strengthen the role of the General Cooperative Union (GCU), and its six sectorial unions in areas of planning, governance and effective leadership, enabling

these secondary and tertiary bodies to provide improved services to primary cooperatives. The project also emphasizes knowledge exchange and collaboration with regional and international partners within the cooperative movement.

CSP provides ongoing support for legal and policy reforms in the cooperative sector, strengthening the governance and service provision of the CWA and its subsidiary bodies and enhances the institutional capacities of the GCU and its sectorial unions. The ILO has provided technical support through a variety of capacity building initiatives on key principles of cooperatives. In addition, the ILO conducted a Training of Trainers (TOTs) on the ILO tools Think.COOP and Start.COOP. Additionally, the ILO provided audit training including theoretical and practical training on the financial and administrative management of cooperatives. These efforts aim to improve the quality of services provided to cooperative members and promote sustainable cooperative development in the OPT.



► Lebanon: Improved access to employment opportunities from skills training

The project 'Improved Access to Employment Opportunities for Lebanese and Refugee Graduates from Skills Training' addressed critical issues regarding livelihoods for vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian refugees. It aimed to strengthen the employability of job seekers based on market needs and provide post-training support to graduates in order to improve their chances of acquiring jobs. By focusing on improving institutional capacities for the design of market-based skills training and provision of post-training services for Lebanese and refugee graduates from accelerated skills training, the project helped update labour market information on occupations and skills in demand

in various industrial sectors. It also supported tracer studies to assess the effectiveness of training programmes and therefore strengthen the quality and market relevance of skills development initiatives.

Through extensive and comprehensive capacity building training to public and private TVET providers, both formal and non-formal, on key areas of market-based and competency-based training including career guidance, the project improved the capacities of 174 officers to design market-based skills training that responds to identified labour market needs.

► Integrated Programme on Fair Recruitment (FAIR)

The third phase of the Integrated Programme on Fair Recruitment (FAIR) was launched in August 2022 by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung. In its final phase, FAIR builds on and consolidates past results, by replicating or scaling up promising



practices to implement, monitor and regulate the recruitment of migrant workers, in both countries of origin and destination.

The programme disseminates evidence-based policy advice and capacity building through trainings and practical guidance for trade unions, employers and public and private recruitment services. FAIR III notably supported the consolidation of a cross-border agreement between two unions UGTT (in Tunisia) and UGTCI (Côte d'Ivoire). The programme also engages with youth across the country through a collaboration with the Foundation Didier Drogba, which sensitises young women and men about the risks of ill-prepared migration. FAIR III is examining migrant workers' access to financial services and supporting their social and economic inclusion, including upon return to their countries of origin. In its third phase, the programme continues to work with the media. In 2022, it organized the eighth edition of the ILO Global Media Competition on Labour Migration gathered over 300 entries.

► Promotion of Decent Work in Pakistan and for Pakistani diaspora in Italy 2019–23

Thanks to the financial contribution of Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the ILO is promoting decent work opportunities in Pakistan. The project is built on three pillars: (1) addressing child and forced labour in Pakistan, with a focus on the brick kiln industry, including business development; (2) promoting social protection; and (3) engaging the Pakistani diaspora in Italy to foster a business-to-business environment (skills/capacity transfer) and explore the benefits of return migration.

Conducting Rights Education for workers, the project also linked workers with the National Database and eventually social security as well as an integrated Monitoring and Information System (MIS) for coordinated and comprehensive social protection and policy development. By facilitating networking between institutions in Pakistan and the Pakistani diaspora in Italy, the project also promoted investment

in decent work opportunities in Pakistan. In addition, the project helped stakeholders reach a consensus on developing a pilot model for Rethinking Brick Kiln Communities, which envisions an integrated approach for greening the brick making industry, improving productivity and protecting workers Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.



Contact details

International Labour Organization
Route des Morillons 4
CH-1211 Geneva 22 Switzerland

T: +41 22 799 7370
E: partnerships@ilo.org
ilo.org/partnerships