

Update on the Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA)

May 2022

This note offers a consolidated overview of the most recent information on RBSA from a range of ILO sources. It does not constitute a formal report but is meant to provide RBSA partners with a 'one-stop-shop' for information on their contributions and the results achieved with RBSA support.

► Contents

► Contents	1
► RBSA Webpage	2
► RBSA Factsheet	2
► Development Cooperation Dashboard.....	3
► Programme Implementation Report	3
► RBSA and Evaluation	5
► RBSA Review.....	7
► Annexes	8

Annex 1 – Summary of voluntary contributions including RBSA, in 2020-2021 8

▶ RBSA Webpage

[This](#) is the public site where PARDEV provides regular updates on contributions received. It also links to other relevant reports and information such as on 'Field Visits', notes from specific meetings with RBSA partners or to special reports such as '10 Years of RBSA'.

PARDEV >

- Resource Partners and Funding > [-]
- RBSA**
- Public-private partnerships > [-]
- South-South and triangular cooperation > [-]
- Facts and Figures >
- Publications >
- Partnerships > [-]

Contact us

Partnerships and Field Support >
4 route des Morillons
Geneva 22

ILO home > About the ILO > How the ILO works > Partnering for Development > Partnering for Development > Resource Partners and Funding > **RBSA**

RBSA

Regular Budget Supplementary Account

The ILO's funding base consists of assessed and voluntary contributions. Voluntary contributions include the Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA), which allows development partners to provide un-earmarked core funding to the ILO, increasing the Office's capacity to deliver and achieve results at country level.

The ILO allocates RBSA funds flexibly when and where they are most needed. As a priority, RBSA resources are allocated to ODA-eligible countries, and are aligned with the results-based framework of the ILO.

In 2020-21, nine governments supported the RBSA, contributing **US\$ 34.4 million**.

Core voluntary funding highlights

Fact-sheet
Core Voluntary Funding (RBSA) for ILO development cooperation >

▶ RBSA Factsheet

This is a printed and [on-line](#) factsheet that PARDEV has published at regular intervals.



The Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA) has emerged as a key funding modality through which the ILO and its development partners can advance the Decent Work Agenda and the associated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As the ILO's unearmarked, voluntary core funding modality, RBSA is a critical element of the ILO resource mix.

The flexibility that comes with unearmarked resources allows the Office to respond in areas and countries where opportunities for results emerge and other resources are not readily available.

Contributions to ILO Core voluntary funding (RBSA)¹

FUNDING PARTNER	2016-17	2018-19	2020-21
Belgium	8,155	6,849	6,976
Denmark	2,928	2,840	7,980
France	-	-	588
Germany	2,641	1,721	1,161
Italy	447	455	478
Luxembourg	2,140	2,539	3,035
Netherlands	5,464	5,854	5,862
Norway	3,307	3,615	3,395
Sweden	4,215	3,473	5,032
TOTAL	29,297	27,346	34,407

¹Values as of December 2021 in US\$ thousands.

Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic with the help of RBSA

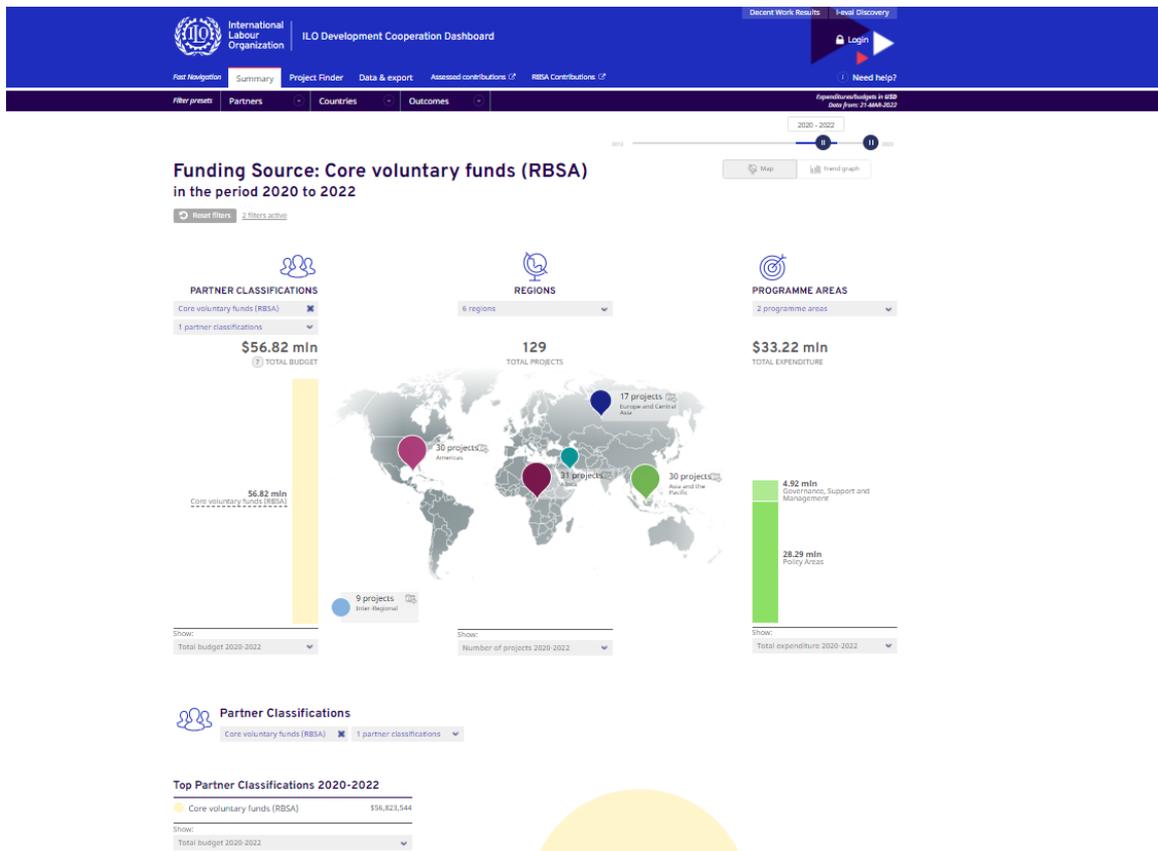
Following the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and as part of ILO-wide efforts to re-purpose existing funding and prioritize COVID-19 response and recovery, ILO made a series of specific RBSA allocations. Examples of work underway include:

- Enhancing the skills of migrant workers in Sri Lanka
- Promoting the resilience of the informal economy in Côte d'Ivoire
- Fighting COVID-19 in the workplace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Strengthening social dialogue in Bolivia and the Occupied Palestinian Territory
- Supporting enterprises, employment and the transition to formality in Armenia

The results obtained from this support will be further detailed in a subsequent edition of this factsheet.

► Development Cooperation Dashboard

[This](#) is the ILO's platform on the project portfolio funded from voluntary contributions. RBSA is a specific source of ILO [funding](#). Summary information on all active RBSA allocations can be found [here](#).



► Programme Implementation Report

The biennial [ILO Programme Implementation 2020-2021](#) report describes the performance of the Organization against the commitments made in the [Programme and Budget for 2020-2021](#), presenting achievements realized with the resources entrusted to the ILO and highlighting areas for further improvement.

The report is only one of the elements of a broader accountability and communication effort, which includes an interactive digital narrative ([InfoStory](#)) and the updated version of the [ILO Decent Work Results Dashboard](#). These platforms provide detailed information by outcome, by region and by country with a range of videos, stories and testimonials that illustrate the impact of the

ILO's work on the lives of people and the realization of the ILO's social justice mandate.

International Labour Organization | **InfoStories** | ILO programme implementation 2020-21

Published in March 2022

ILO programme implementation 2020-21

This report offers detailed information on the impact of ILO work on people's lives and on the realization of the ILO's social justice mandate throughout the 2020-21 biennium, amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Keep scrolling for an overview of the main contents or download the full report.

An ILO-Iaapan project brought access to clean and safe water to communities in the Banasamoro

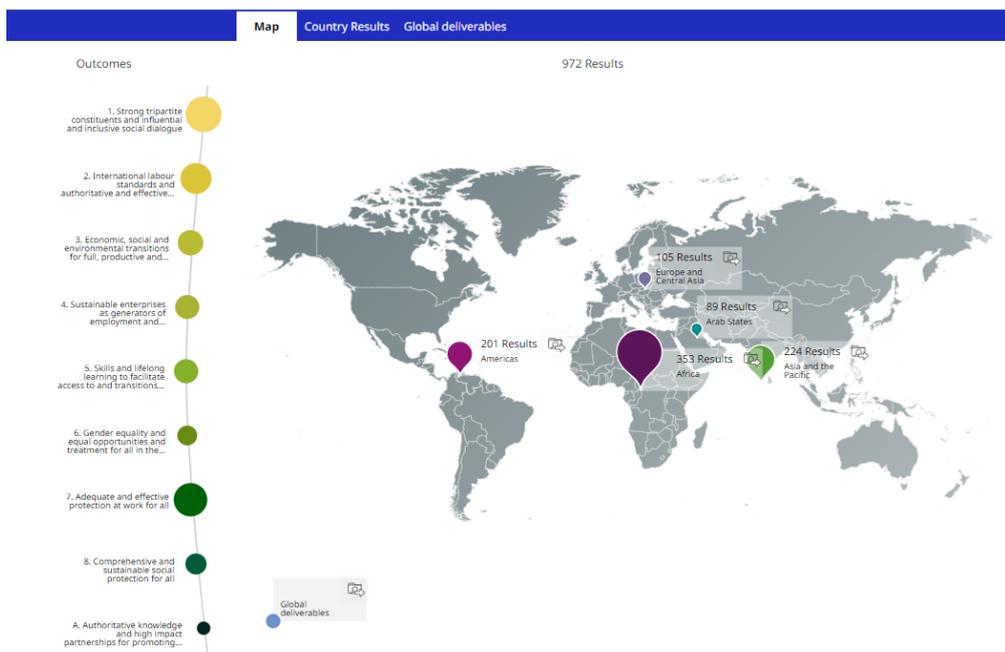


The report and its accompanying platforms include detailed information on RBSA and on the results achieved with its contribution. Annex 1 provides a summary overview of voluntary contributions to the ILO and expenditure by source of funding, including RBSA, in 2020-2021.

From the ILO Decent Work Results Dashboard, it is possible to identify the results that have been achieved with the RBSA contribution by using 'RBSA' under the Search function. When reviewing this information, it is also possible to access information on the specific RBSA allocation, through a direct link to the ILO Development Cooperation Dashboard.

Decent Work Results - International Labour Organization - 2020-2021

Print (PDF)



► RBSA and Evaluation

RBSA-funded activities are subject to the standard evaluation policies and guidelines of the ILO which follow the United Nations Norms and Standards for Evaluation and the OECD-DAC evaluation guidelines.

The ILO Evaluation Office (EVAL), directly or through its evaluation network, undertakes dedicated evaluations of activities or Country Programme Outcomes (CPOs) funded fully or partially through RBSA resources. It also systematically includes RBSA funded activities in its Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) and policy outcome evaluations, meta-studies and synthesis reviews as appropriate. The ILO [i-eval Discovery](#) database provides open access to all evaluation reports, along with recommendations and management responses. Evaluation reports of activities with a substantial RBSA budget can be consulted in the database by using the RBSA checkbox under the filter heading “evaluation types”.

EVAL has been reviewing the overall performance effectiveness of RBSA funded activities since 2010 as part of its [Annual Evaluation Reports](#). The latest exercise (2018) reviewed the effectiveness of RBSA-supported interventions, using EVAL's existing development effectiveness measurement tool. Overall findings noted that RBSA funded activities were very relevant and effective in promoting ILO's core mandate, capacity building initiatives, and knowledge creation. The highest levels of effectiveness in achieving Decent Work Results were obtained through the combination of RBSA and other voluntary contributions, with the RBSA funding allowing the ILO to adapt to the local context and quickly respond to constituent needs. Key shortcomings included delayed approvals leading to time inefficiencies, weak design, and weak monitoring and reporting systems. Recommendations included a stronger focus on results at design stage and a more structured framework for monitoring and reporting for assessing the contribution of RBSA to relevant CPOs.

A [Think Piece](#) provides more details on recommendations that are geared towards further enhancing the effectiveness of RBSA-funded interventions. It also highlights areas for further study for a more effective use of the RBSA funding modality.

RBSA Review

In late 2019, the ILO commissioned to an independent consultant a review of the RBSA funding modality, covering the period from 2015 to 2019. The purpose of this review was to:

- i. Examine the effectiveness, efficiency, implementation management and relevance of RBSA un-earmarked contributions as a funding modality.
- ii. Provide recommendations for Senior Management's and RBSA donors' consideration.

The report is available at this [link](#). Its findings and recommendations were the subject of discussions during a meeting organized with RBSA donors on 26 March 2020.

On April 20th the Office launched a new round of RBSA allocations for 2020-21. Immediate and long-term responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the world of work were a key feature of the allocation priorities. Taking into account the recommendations of the RBSA Review, some key improvements include: (i) an improved design process; (ii) a revised mechanism to quality assure proposals during design ahead of their submission for funding; (iii) a thoroughly redesigned appraisal process; and (iv) a system to take stock of key results achieved and lessons learned at the end of each RBSA-funded intervention.

► Annexes

Annex 1 - Summary of voluntary contributions including RBSA, in 2020-2021

Figure 1: Top 20 contributors to extra-budgetary funding in 2020-2021 (US\$ million)

► Figure 5. Top 20 contributors to extrabudgetary funding in 2020-21

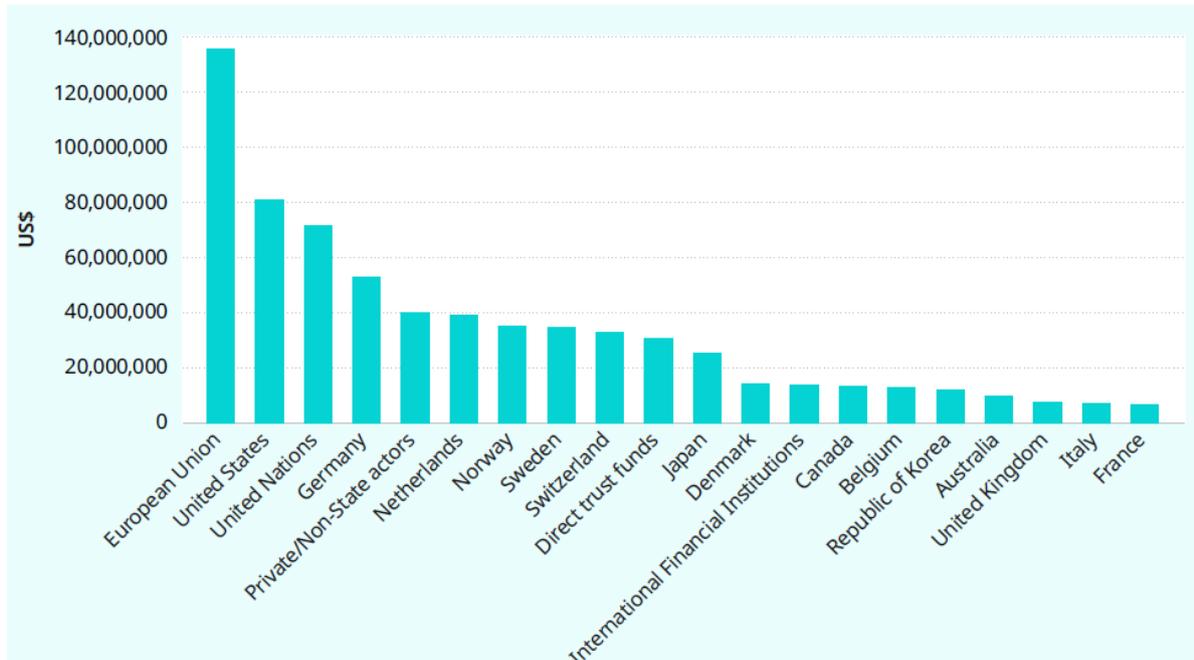


Figure 2. Donors to the RBSA in 2020-2021 (US\$ million)

► Figure 6. Donors to the RBSA in 2020-21

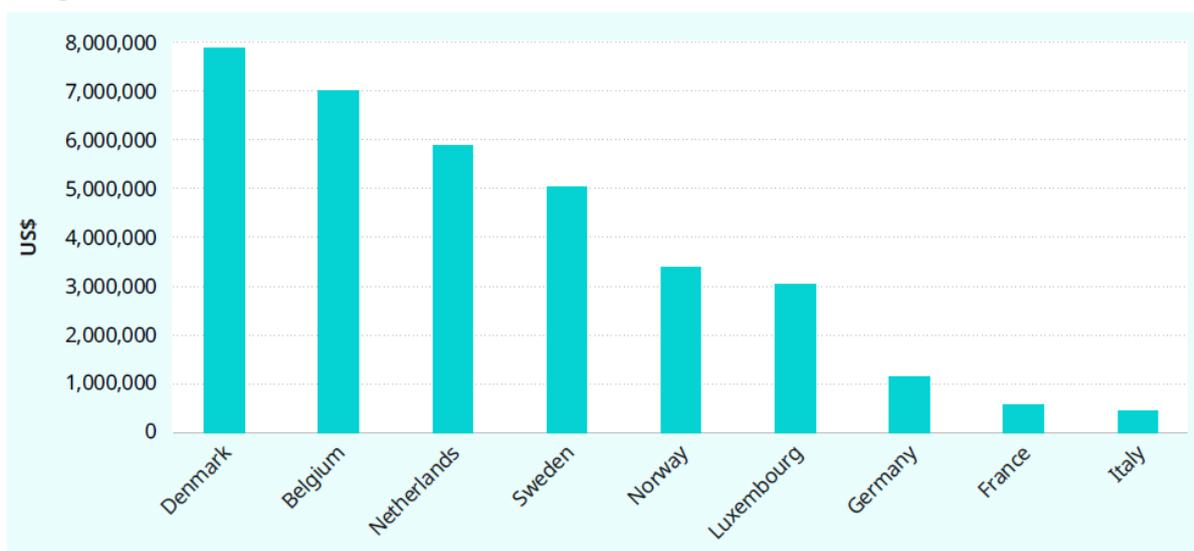


Figure 3. Total expenditure by policy outcome and by source of funding (US\$ million)

► **Figure 7. Total expenditure by policy outcome (in US\$ million)**

