

International
Labour
Organization



United Kingdom ILO Cooperation

As one of the founding member States of the ILO, the United Kingdom (UK) has been a valued partner of the ILO since 1919. The UK has ratified 87 Conventions including the eight fundamental ILO Conventions as well as two Protocols. Apart from its Regular Budget assessed contributions made by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), the government of the UK, through DfID and the FCO, is a major contributor to the ILO development cooperation programme.

THE UK CONTRIBUTION TO ILO PRIORITIES

The UK and the ILO have a common interest in promoting social justice, respecting international labour standards, and reducing extreme poverty. The UK places great emphasis in the areas of job creation, unlocking the potential of girls and women, combating modern slavery, ending child exploitation and child labour – all of which reflect the ILO's core mandate.

The Department for International Development (DfID) works in many countries across Africa, Asia and the Middle East, some of which are fragile or at risk from fragile neighbours. DfID's priority countries for development cooperation are: *Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya,*

Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office works globally through a network of 270 diplomatic posts in 160 countries.

According to data from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the UK's net ODA stood at USD 17.9 billion in 2017 (in current prices) making it the third-largest donor country, after the United States and Germany. The United Kingdom met the UN target of 0.7% of ODA/GNI in 2017 and is committed to keeping this ratio stable.

UK DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

The four strategic objectives of the UK's official development assistance are:

- **Strengthening global peace, security and governance:** invest more to tackle the causes of instability, insecurity and conflict, as well crime and corruption. This is fundamental to poverty reduction overseas, and will also strengthen national security at home.
- **Strengthening resilience and response to crises:** increased support to ongoing crises in Syria and other countries in the Middle East and North Africa region; more science and technology spending on global public health risks such as antimicrobial resistance, and support for efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- **Promoting global prosperity:** promote economic development and prosperity in the developing world. This will contribute to the reduction of poverty and also strengthen UK trade and investment opportunities around the world.
- **Tackling extreme poverty and helping the world's most vulnerable:** will strive to eliminate extreme poverty by 2030, and support the world's poorest people to ensure that every person has access to basic needs, including prioritising the rights of girls and women. This will build security, stability and create opportunities which will benefit everyone.

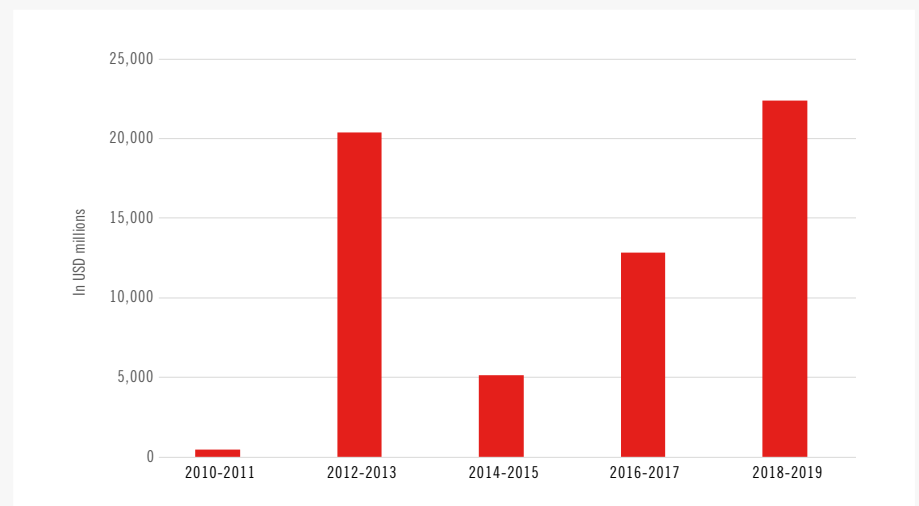


FACTS AND FIGURES ON THE UNITED KINGDOM'S FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The UK funds the ILO through:

- **Assessed contributions:** paid by all ILO member States by virtue of their membership. From 2010 to 2018, the UK contributed over **USD 202 million**.
- **Voluntary contributions:** earmarked funds for priority programmes and projects. From 2010 to 2018, the UK contributed over **USD 61 million**.

UK's voluntary contributions to the ILO development cooperation programme



Improving working conditions in the Bangladesh ready-made garment industry

With funding from the UK, Canada and the Netherlands, the ILO has made a major contribution to improve the working conditions in the ready-made garment industry of Bangladesh. Launched in 2013 in response to the Rana Plaza collapse, ILO has helped enhance workplace safety in the industry that employs some four million workers, the majority of whom are women. Under the programme, 1549 ready-made garment factories were inspected for structural, fire and electrical safety by the National Initiative of Government of Bangladesh supported by the ILO. Those factories posing an immediate danger to life were closed down while others are undergoing remediation work

to fix safety issues identified during the inspection process.

The ILO also supported the reform of the labour inspectorate to help it become a more professional, efficient and accountable regulatory body. A culture of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) was promoted and the programme helped train more than 800,000 workers, 2700 trade union organizers and around 8000 mid-level managers in over 500 factories on OSH. In addition, some 300 survivors of the Rana Plaza disaster have been helped to reintegrate into the workforce through psychosocial counselling and rehabilitation training.

As part of this initiative, Better Work, a collaboration between ILO and the

International Finance Corporation (IFC), is now working with 153 factories, employing some 332,958 workers, to enhance their compliance and competitiveness.

The first phase of the programme ended in June 2017. To continue the efforts to enhance workplace safety in Bangladesh, the second phase of the programme started in July 2017 and will run up to 2023. In the second phase, emphasis will be placed upon completion of factory remediation, improving OSH in policy and practice, strengthening institutional capacity of national regulatory bodies, expanding the work of Better Work and fostering a more gender responsive garment industry.



ILO-DFID Partnership Programme on fair recruitment and decent work for women migrant workers in South Asia and the Middle East - Phase II



For tens of thousands of Nepali women, migration is an important livelihood strategy used to escape poverty. Roja “Rosy” Maya Lama moved to Lebanon in 2003, to find work and a better way of life. She was expecting to find work as a commercial cleaner, however her passport was confiscated and she was forced into domestic work for the duration of her contract.

Since then Rosy has built a network of Nepali migrant domestic workers

in Lebanon and is a committed advocate for migrant workers’ rights. Because of her activism she was arrested in 2016, and deported to Nepal after 55 days of detention.

“They put a mask on my face. They told me I was a liar. That day I received no food, nothing. I was so afraid. I was the only female among thirteen men”.

Through the ILO’s Work in Freedom Programme funded by DfID, Rosy continues to fight for the rights of migrant

domestic workers in Nepal, and works as a resource person in domestic work skills training institutes. Rosy is able to share the skills and knowledge she has acquired with other female migrants who are planning to work as domestic workers in the Middle East. Drawing on her experiences in Lebanon, Rosy is equipped to help the next generation of domestic workers to navigate potential risks and to protect themselves against all forms of exploitation.

The overall objective of the Work in Freedom Programme is to reduce vulnerability to trafficking and forced labour of women and girls across migration pathways leading to domestic work, and garment and textile work. Approximately 300,000 women and girls have benefited from the programme. The second phase of the programme, approved in March 2018, will continue to target South Asian countries of origin (Bangladesh, India and Nepal) and selected destination countries (India, Jordan, Lebanon, as well as two Gulf countries).

TAWDIF - From university to the labour market in Algeria - A Foreign and Commonwealth Office and ILO project

As part of the “TAWDIF” (recruitment in Arabic) project implemented from September 2016 to March 2019, the first job search clubs for young graduates in Algeria were launched at the universities of Tlemcen (East), Bejaia (West) and Biskra (South) in collaboration with the National Employment Agency in Algeria (ANEM). The initiative aims at accelerating the integration into the labour market of young women and men with university degrees, particularly affected by unemployment: 17.6% of them do not have a job, 24% for women graduates.

The Clubs offer intensive 2-week cycles in which groups of 16 young women and men gather to work on their job search, actively contact employers and maximize their chances to obtain an interview. 161 young people took part in the first Club sessions organized between November 2017 and May 2018. More than 60% of them were women. A very encouraging job insertion rate of 38 % was observed following the first sessions due to the activation of contact networks, identification of ‘hidden’ offers and the presence of local employers who came spontane-



ously to the university to observe training sessions. The project aims to set up 6 clubs by the end of March 2019, with the participation of 900 young unemployed, with a target insertion rate of 40% after three months of their participation.

The job search clubs have been appreciated by the participants. One of them mentioned that “by following the advice received during the Job Search Club sessions, I managed to get a job in a company in a start-up phase. I was

able to take up the challenge, perfect my skills in all areas, technical, commercial and administrative, and have a first professional experience.” Another said that “this training gives the necessary tools to face the reality of the field and find a job. All my friends and myself found it instructive, beneficial and very rewarding, and we encourage all new graduates seeking employment to participate and even those employed need this kind of training.”

Supporting the London Syria Conference 2016

As a direct follow up to the Supporting Syria and the Region conference (4 February 2016), the UK is supporting ILO efforts to address the impact of the Syria refugee crisis through investment in job opportunities for Syrian refugees and host communities. This project supports the implementation of commitments in the Jordan Compact, which include increased access to the labour market and the provision of social protection and legal services for both Syrian refugees and host communities.

To date, 103,000 Syrian refugees have obtained work permits in several sectors, including the agriculture and construction sectors. More than 1000 Syrians and Jordanians have received new job opportunities, including 950 who have benefited from job matching services and 102 Syrian refugees and Jordanians benefited from technical and financial support to establish 51 joint business ventures. 4034 Syrian refugees have benefited from the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) intervention.

Of them, 4000 have completed one-month trainings and passed a Skills Test. Occupational Licenses have also been awarded to 4000 beneficiaries certifying the recognition of their skills. 1550 Syrian refugees and Jordanians have benefited from one year work injuries insurance coverage. 31 Syrians benefited from TOT in construction and 52 Jordanians and Syrians benefited from occupational and safety and health training to become OSH supervisors in their companies.

Improved labour migration governance in Ethiopia

The UK funded ILO project 'Improved labour migration governance to protect migrant workers and combat irregular migration in Ethiopia' supports the government of Ethiopia in strengthening labour migration governance through capacity building and improved coordination between Ethiopia and destination countries for the protection of migrant workers. It also works towards better protection of migrant workers by improving labour migration governance frameworks and

providing access to support services that empower them to make informed decisions and claim their rights. Since its launch in 2017, the project is enhancing the capacity of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to effectively decentralize the overseas employment structure and services to four regions and Addis Ababa City Administration.

Labour migration experts from all levels of government structure as well as key migration actors have been equipped

with advanced knowledge to better understand labour migration challenges and opportunities in a changing political, economic and social context. Moreover, eight Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutes have been capacitated to

provide practical and friendly learning environment to potential migrants. The institutes can now provide adequate skills training including practical sessions on using modern home appliances. The project further strengthened the national migrant data management system by decentralizing the Ethiopian Migrants Database System (EMDMS), which records the end-to-end migration process of all Ethiopian migrants, into four regions and Addis Ababa City Administrations. The database helps to track the status of each migrant worker from recruitment up to return.

The project is following up and supporting execution of bilateral agreement between Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Union (CETU) and its Lebanese counterpart FENASOL for the protection of migrant workers.



Supporting the creation of more and better jobs for Nepali Workers

The Skills for Employment Project (SEP) is a joint ILO and DFID Programme that aims to address policy barriers to effective labour market and labour migration governance in Nepal to support the creation of more and better jobs for Nepali workers.

In its first year, key achievements for the Programme include the drafting of regulations for the recently enacted

Labour Act and Social Security Act, which are expected to improve industrial relations, support job growth and ensure social security coverage for all workers. A series of analytical pieces have been released including a political economy analysis on job creation and a study of the impact of federalization on migrant services. Thirty youth leaders have been trained across three districts of Nepal and are delivering ad-

vocacy campaigns for youth employment at the Local, Provincial and Federal levels of Government.

The Programme is providing support to its tripartite partners to identify opportunities arising from Nepal's federalisation to improve services for migrant workers at the Provincial level, and to strengthen Nepal's positioning in regional and global migration mechanisms.

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