

International
Labour
Organization



Canada ILO Cooperation

Canada joined the ILO in 1919 as one of the founding member States of the Organization ILO. Since then Canada has ratified numerous ILO Conventions, including the eight Fundamental Conventions, three Governance Conventions and 26 Technical Conventions. This partnership has been of key importance in helping to advance the objectives of the Decent Work Agenda.

Canada's contribution to ILO priorities

Canada has proven to be a key partner in the pursuit of decent work for all. It helps to advance ILO objectives through its voluntary contribution to the ILO's development cooperation programme.

These voluntary contributions are mainly channelled through Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) and Global Affairs Canada (GAC).

Through ESDC's international coopera-

tion, Canada addresses the social, and particularly the labour dimensions of international trade and economic integration. This partnership is advancing fundamental labour rights and promoting occupational safety and health.

The ILO partnership with Global Affairs Canada supports key initiatives in to promote youth employment, empower rural women, and maximise the benefits and minimize the risks of labour migration.

CANADA'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

Through its Feminist International Assistance Policy, Canada contributes to global efforts to eradicate poverty by tackling its root cause: inequality. Canada's vision for international assistance is based on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as the most effective approach to building a more peaceful, inclusive and prosperous world.

In this sense, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is at the core of Canada's new policy. Other areas of action include:

- Human dignity
- Growth that works for everyone
- Environment and climate action
- Inclusive governance
- Peace and security

Canada's focus is now on ensuring the greatest positive impact in fragile contexts as well as in the poorest countries while supporting middle-income countries.

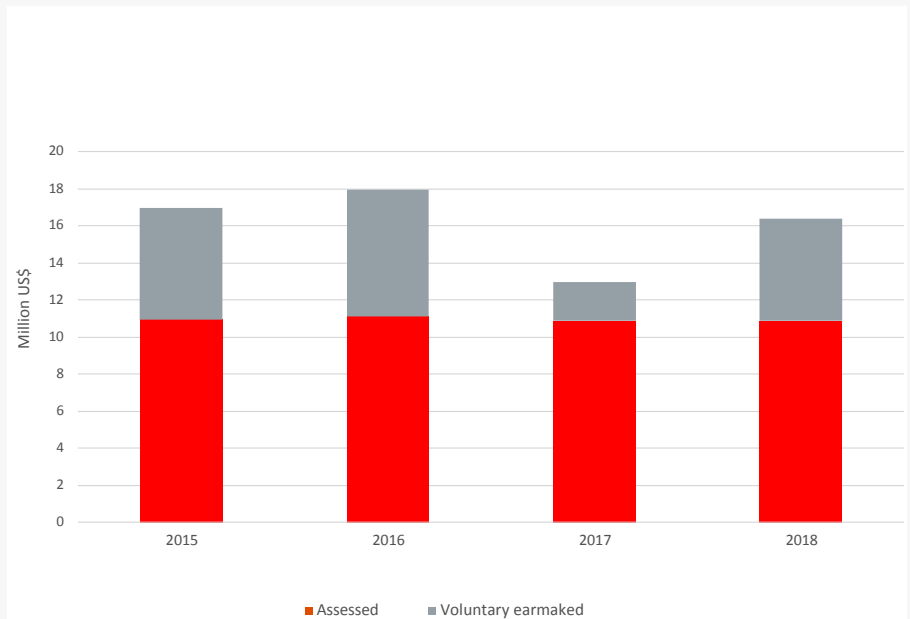


FACTS AND FIGURES ON CANADA'S FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE ILO

The Canadian Government funds the ILO through:

- **Assessed contributions** paid by all ILO member States by virtue of their membership, which constitute the ILO's core funding or regular budget. Between 2015 and 2018, Canada's assessed contribution to the ILO's regular budget exceeded **US\$ 43.8 million**.
- **Voluntary, non-core funding contributions** provided as earmarked funds for priority programmes and projects in addition to assessed contributions. Total voluntary contributions by Canada to the ILO between 2015 and 2018 totaled **US\$ 20.4 million**.

Canada's Contributions to the ILO, 2015-2018



Canada's Support to Better Work

Better Work is a flagship programme of the ILO, jointly managed by the International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group. The programme brings diverse groups together - employers, factory owners, unions, global brands and government - to improve working conditions and enhance business competitiveness in the global garment industry.

Jordan

Better Work Jordan has been working hand-in-hand with partners to improve labour conditions and boost competitiveness in the Jordanian apparel industry by enhancing economic performance at the enterprise level as well as improving compliance with Jordanian Labour Law and International Labour Standards.

Through the "Strengthening the Capacity of the Trade Union in Jordan's Garment Sector" launched in March 2019 with the support of ESDC's Labour Program (Labour-ESDC), [Better Work Jordan](#) will work with the union to strengthen the union's capacity to effectively organize and represent all workers in Jordan's garment sectors, which is marked by its diversity and includes labour migrants from many nationalities. Supporting this objective, Better Work Jordan observed the union's election process at Dulayl Industrial zone, which saw the election of 40 board members, representing five nationalities- Bengali, Sri Lankan, Indian, Pakistani and Nepali. Women accounted for 70 percent of board seats. Moreover, Better Work Jordan is supporting the development and implementation of a gender-responsive Sectoral Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The

30-month project is focused on developing a new long-term gender responsive strategy for the union complemented with a new organisational model and sustainable mechanism to elect leaders.



Viet Nam

Focused on the promotion of international labour standards, the Government of Canada has been supporting Better Work activities in Viet Nam since 2013. On the ground since 2009 with a current reach of more than 560 active factories with 789,600 workers, Better Work is creating lasting change through factory assessments, training and advisory services as well as by sharing its experience to change policies and business practices. Independent researchers from Tufts University studied the impact of [Better Work Vietnam](#) and found that:

- Workers experience greater contract stability as well as increased pay as a result of the programme.
- Better working conditions and participation in Better Work are linked to higher profitability: factories with better working conditions are up to 8% more profitable than their counterparts, and the average firm enrolled in Better Work Vietnam increased its profitability by 25% after four years of participation.
- The improved quality of jobs in the garment sector influences the educational opportunities of workers' children.



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Prevention and Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Colombia

With support from the Canadian government, the ILO provided technical assistance to Colombian tripartite constituents (government, workers' and employers' organizations) to develop the Public Policy on Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour and the Protection of Adolescent workers 2017-2027, in alignment with SDG target 8.7 on eradicating forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and the worst forms of child labour. The policy was approved by an Inter-institutional Committee lead by Ministry of Labour and the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare after consultations with constituents, representatives of child labourers and parents in vulnerable conditions as well as academia, civil society

and other relevant actors. The process included updating tools to be used by local governments to implement the policy, such as a new hazardous work list, coordination guidelines for local committees involving key stakeholders, and a revised methodology for taking a participative approach when working with children. The project also documented good practices in both urban and rural areas that could serve as a reference for action at the local level. Additionally, the project provided technical support to the Government of Colombia for the implementation of "The Child Labour Risk Identification Model", developed by the [Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour](#). This included working with the

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), which identified the municipalities where children were more at risk and preventive efforts should be prioritized.



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Decent Jobs for Egypt's Young People

Promoting more and better jobs for young people is a key objective of the ILO worldwide and in Egypt. Global Affairs Canada supports the "[Decent Jobs for Egypt's Young People](#)" project, which has successfully tested, institutionalized and scaled-up innovative ILO youth employment programmes between 2011 and 2019. Implementing activities in four governorates (Minia, Port Said, Red Sea and Luxor), the project adapted ILO models for young job-seekers, young women entrepreneurs and apprentices. The project has forged key partnerships with ministries, international organizations, community services organizations and the private sector to increase capacities and improve youth employment policies and programming. These partnerships succeeded because the project's tailored support to the diverse needs of national partners, including implementing pilots, capacity development and advocacy activities as well as the progressive hand-over of ownership, institutionalizing and up-scaling. As a direct impact, the project team reached over 100,000 youth, leading to over 6,000 employment opportunities

for young people using a multi-pronged approach that works on the demand, supply and matching processes for youth employment in the industrial, tourism and agricultural sectors.



Winners of Nawah Social Entrepreneurship Competition 2018 ©ILO

Enforcement and Protection of Workers' Rights in Costa Rica

Within the framework of Costa Rica's Labour Process Reform (RPL) approved in 2016, the ILO and the Government of Canada are strengthening the capacities of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security (MTSS) to ensure that workers have access to justice and can exercise their rights, in particular those related to non-discrimination, as well as using innovative tools to promote compliance in Costa Rica's rural sectors.

Manuals, guides and technical instruments have been developed to help identify and address discrimination in the workplace. The project has also trained inspectors, professionals and legal advisors on the national and international instruments available to protect workers' rights. The project is also ensuring that stakeholders understand and are able to enforce legislation as outlined in the RPL. This is done through awareness campaigns

as well as trainings for unions, employers and officials of the MTSS on the RPL rights. These trainings also equip stakeholders with the knowledge and tools to effectively collect evidence of discriminatory behaviours, enforce the provisions of the RPL and ensure that labour rights are upheld.



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Improving Mine Safety in Ukraine

With funding from ESDC, the ILO is implementing [a project to improve occupational safety and health \(OSH\) in mines](#), which remain one of the most hazardous workplaces in Ukraine and globally.

Launched in 2017, the project supported the adoption of national strategies on coal industry reform and OSH system reform. These changes aim to transform and modernise the existing labour protection system into a risk management based OSH system. With a view to Ukraine's further ratification of key ILO Conventions related to OSH, the project is also facilitating the development of national OSH legislation.

Thirty-eight individuals were equipped with the knowledge and tools to become national trainers. Gradually, they will be providing safety training for all state coal mines, which employs more than 30,000 people. These activities were complemented by a training for mine safety inspectors.

The project currently provides continuous direct support to two pilot mining enterprises employing 3,000 people. A seminar for top managers at state coal mining enterprises was organized to raise awareness about employers' responsibility for OSH and highlight the positive payoffs of investing in it.



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Women's Economic Empowerment in Rural Areas in Tunisia

Canada has partnered with the ILO to advance rural economic development and the creation of decent employment in rural areas of two Tunisian governorates (Sfax and Nabeul) through the promotion of women's entrepreneurship.

Launched in December 2018, the project is empowering rural women to successfully start, sustain and grow businesses by creating direct job opportunities, supporting them to identify more sustainable income-generating opportunities and providing training and post-training programmes, including coaching, to facilitate access to markets. The project will also engage financial institutions to deliver more appropriate services for rural women entrepreneurs and work to increase awareness about the added value of rural women's financial inclusion and the importance of developing innovative channels for resource distribution.

The project also supports the enabling environment needed to facilitate women's entrepreneurship development in rural

areas by working with key stakeholders to identify and act upon constraints for women. The approach includes the promotion of coordination mechanisms to facilitate knowledge sharing, advocacy and action on policy issues related to women's entrepreneurship development in rural areas.



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