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International
Labour
Organization

Luxembourg ILO Cooperation



THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG
Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

Directorate for Development Cooperation
and Humanitarian Affairs

Luxembourg has been an ILO Member State since 1920 and is a long-standing partner in promoting the Decent Work Agenda. Luxembourg has ratified a number of ILO Conventions, including all eight Fundamental, two Governance and 90 of the 177 Technical Conventions.

Luxembourg's contribution to ILO priorities

Luxembourg is strongly engaged in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, both at the national and global levels. Within this framework, it has shown a strong commitment to the ILO's mandate, providing voluntary contributions to the ILO's development cooperation programme, notably in the fields of social protection, as well as vocational training and youth employment. The ILO cooperates closely

with the Ministry of Labour, Employment and the Social and Solidarity Economy, as well as with the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. In November 2016, Luxembourg signed a new Partnership Agreement with the ILO, according to which it will support development cooperation activities through both un-earmarked contributions as well as programme funding in Luxembourg's partner countries.

LUXEMBOURG'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Luxembourg has an ambitious development cooperation policy, which aims to eradicate poverty and to achieve sustainable socioeconomic development in its partner countries in Africa (**Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Mali, Senegal, and Niger**), Asia (**Lao PDR**) and Latin America (**Nicaragua**).

The main priority areas covered within Luxembourg's development assistance are health care and education, which include social protection, vocational training and professional integration; access to employment with a particular focus on youth employment; agriculture and food security; water and sanitation; economic, financial and industrial development; cultural and scientific cooperation and renewable energy.

In 2015, Luxembourg provided USD 361 million in net official development assistance (ODA), which represented 0.93 per cent of gross national income (GNI). Luxembourg is the 3rd largest donor of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in terms of ODA/GNI ratio and one of the six DAC members to have exceeded the UN target of 0.7 per cent¹.

¹ Source: Development Co-operation Report 2016, OECD.



FACTS AND FIGURES ON LUXEMBOURG'S FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ILO

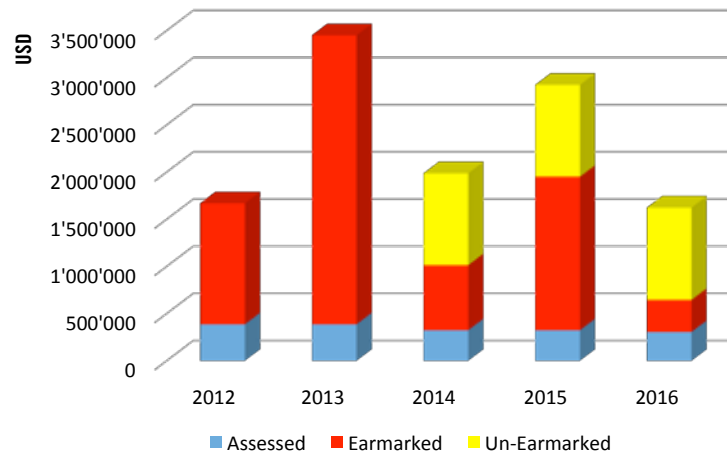
Luxembourg finances the ILO through:

Assessed contributions, which are paid by all ILO Member States by virtue of their membership. Between 2012 and 2016, Luxembourg provided more than USD 1.8 million.

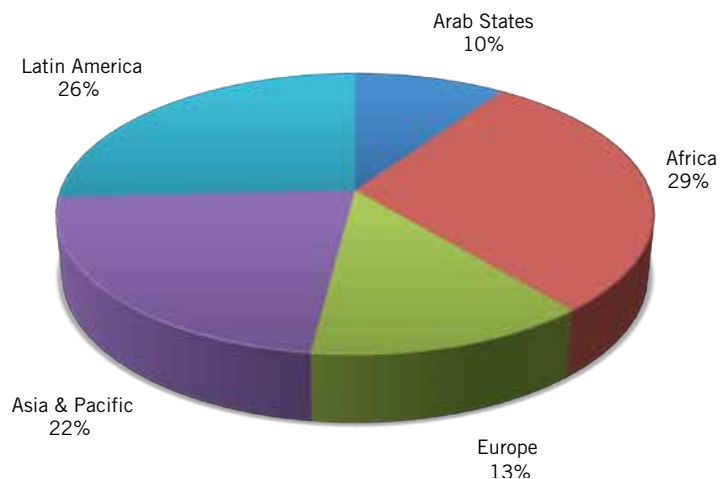
Voluntary contributions which include an un-earmarked contribution to Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA), as well as lightly earmarked project specific funding. Overall voluntary contributions from Luxembourg to the ILO in the period 2012-2016 amounted to 10.4 USD million.



Luxembourg's overall contributions to the ILO



RBSA allocations in 2016

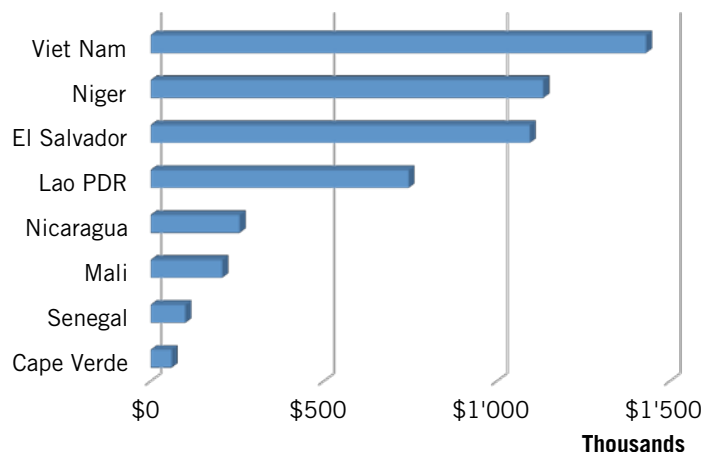


Total allocations across all donors: USD 23.9 million
Donors: Luxembourg, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden.

RBSA CONTRIBUTIONS

In recent years, Luxembourg has been an important contributor to the ILO's Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA), which has emerged as a key funding modality in advancing the Decent Work Agenda in countries eligible for Official Development Assistance (ODA). RBSA enables the ILO to allocate funds within its strategic framework when and where they are most needed, in an independent and flexible manner, strategically complementing other ILO resources.

RBSA allocations to Luxembourg's priority countries



Support to Social Protection Floors

The Luxembourg-funded project “Supporting the Establishment of the National Health Insurance Scheme and the Extension of Coverage in Lao PDR (2012-2016)” is an example of how the partnership with the ILO contributed to the development of universal health coverage in Lao PDR. Jointly implemented by ILO and WHO, this project’s success

was determined by a mix of policy advice and technical pilots that tested approaches. During the project a number of concrete tools were developed, such as a web-based membership database and a Management Information System that are now used to extend coverage to other districts in Lao PDR. In order to ensure that the institutional changes

generated by the project will provide sustainable and far-reaching spill-overs, the project has supported the establishment of a solidarity fund, which subsidizes the social contributions of people working in the informal economy, offering them concrete incentives to join the social health insurance scheme.

Support to Youth Employment in Senegal

Luxembourg has been a strong contributor to the ILO’s activities on employment creation and sustainable socio-economic development in Senegal. Through this project, young people were given the opportunity to acquire entrepreneurial skills and to strengthen their managerial capacity to start up income generating enterprises. Over the last two years, more than 5,000 young people have benefited from trainings on micro and small enter-

prise development, self-employment and business ideas generating techniques. In addition, the ILO supported the Ministry of Vocational Training, Learning and Crafts to put in place a formal apprenticeship system, allowing young people to gain practical professional experience in handicraft manufacturing units. Thanks to the favourable business environment generated by the project, 108 enterprises were established, by generating 230 jobs

in the Matam, Saint Louis, Louga, and Thiès regions. Finally, this project has provided more than 100 young entrepreneurs with the possibility of obtaining an officially recognized certificate, validating the experience acquired. The project was implemented in close collaboration with the public authorities and local professional organizations, as well as with the support of UNIDO and UNDP.





SPOTLIGHT ON RURAL EMPLOYMENT IN MALI

The Government of Luxembourg partnered with the ILO to combat rural unemployment in Mali by supporting a project aimed at strengthening the economic resilience of people in Ségou and Sikasso regions. This project focuses on poverty reduction by providing access to employment opportunities and livelihood to rural youth and women in the agriculture sector. The project includes three components: providing vocational training centres with adequate entrepreneurial and decent work-based tools and methodology, introducing basic vocational and capacity building guidance for business start-ups, and promoting sustainable rural enterprise development in the agricultural sector (particularly, in the cultivation of rice, sesame and fonio).

A selection of RBSA-funded interventions

RBSA funds allow the ILO to allocate resources to support the following projects in Luxembourg's priority countries:

- Strengthening the Institutional Framework of Social Protection and Social Security Governance in Cape Verde - which enabled ILO's tripartite constituents to strengthen the national social security system, in order to guarantee universal access to adequate benefits, and thus

reduce the vulnerability of workers throughout their working lives. A significant result was the reinforcement of the National Centre for Social Pensions (CNPS) through the update of guidance documents, communication instruments (website) and trainings.

- Increasing Opportunities for Decent Livelihood and Employment in Rural Economy in Lao PDR- which focused

on job creation through the provision of training on farming and non-farming skills to 500 people. The activities conducted include knowledge sharing and practical skill development in various sectors ranging from fishery, poultry farming, and mushroom cultivation to motorcycle and electrical repair and road maintenance. A further 720 people were reached by village leaders who were trained in gender equality and empowerment strategies.

Decent work in the 2030 Development Agenda

The 2030 Agenda places decent work and social justice at the heart of policies for sustainable and inclusive development. Its implementation is therefore an integral part of the ILO's work, built on multi-stakeholder collaboration with the UN, and the development partners. Thematic partnerships and alliances have emerged in this context such as Alliance 8.7 on child and forced labour, or the Global Initiative on Decent Work for Youth.

As examples, the ILO conducted a global SDGs course for workers' organizations and is rolling out a support package for mainstreaming decent work into sustainable development at the country level and specific capacity-building measures on SDG target indicators.



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