



International
Labour
Organization



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

African Development Bank ILO cooperation

▶ June 2023

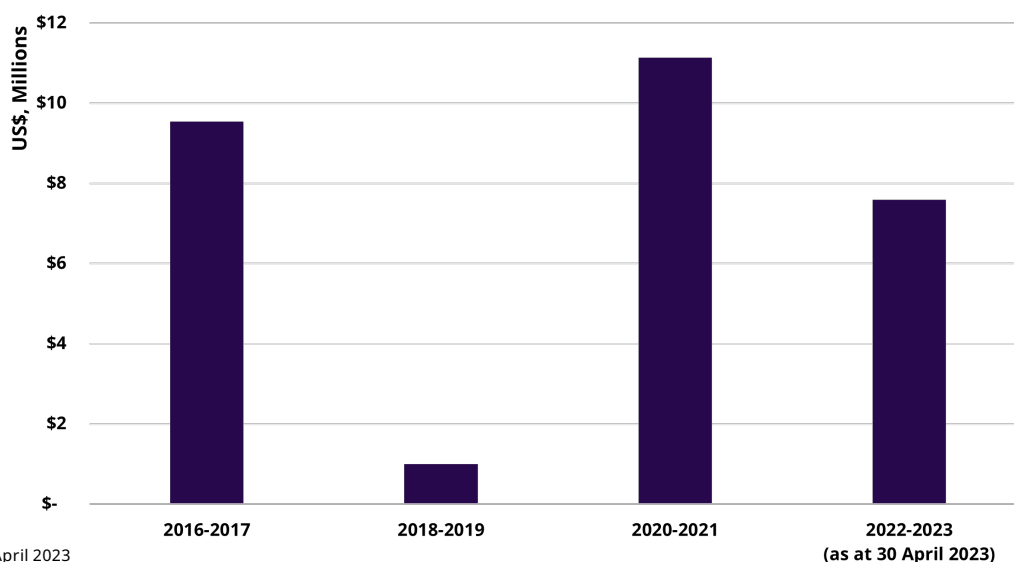
The African Development Bank (AfDB) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) each have their specific missions and mandates, both working together to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all.

▶ The African Development Bank and the ILO

Enhancing cooperation on skills development, creating decent jobs for youth, labour migration and mobility and the future of work in Africa, the AfDB and the ILO continue to join efforts to help African countries harness the continent's demographic dividend. This includes supporting effective skills development and lifelong learning interventions, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and addressing youth unemployment and underemployment. Both institutions promote measures and tools that fully integrate employment creation in national development plans and policies. The AfDB and ILO also support decent work in the rural economy, transforming rural areas into zones of opportunity and sustainable development.

The AfDB and ILO promote skills development and lifelong learning interventions for the future of work as well as smooth green and digital transitions. These systems are based on a strong tripartite governance system, guaranteeing their market relevance. Their efficient delivery mechanisms are also linked to other services and transfers, whenever possible. For instance, in 2022, the AfDB and ILO experts jointly developed a Jobs Marker System – a global innovation in the International Financial Institution space – by adopting a holistic, harmonized, and integrated solution to marking, tracking, and reporting jobs related outcomes. Indeed, the objective of this ambitious joint project is to provide the Bank with institutionalized systems and processes to systematically mainstream jobs and to maximize employment impacts across its investment operations.

The African Development Bank's financial contributions to the ILO



¹ Data as at 30 April 2023

SELECTED ACTIONS FUNDED BY THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

► Zimbabwe: Promoting youth and women empowerment through sustainable development and business



Building on the achievements of the Youth and Women Empowerment Project (YWEP), the ILO is implementing two complementary projects with AfDB funding. the Sustainable Development for Women and Youth (SEDWAY) and Business Growth for Young Entrepreneurs (BG4YE). SEDWAY aims to economically empower youth and women in agricultural and small-scale mining sectors from situations of economic vulnerability. Seeking to harness the potential of youth and women, the project addresses their capacity gaps and promotes the enabling environment needed to stimulate value addition along the target value chains to improve decent

job creation for youth and women. BG4YE is reaching out to additional young and growth-oriented entrepreneurs and their workers to strengthen capacities to pursue profitable economic opportunities in the value chains of the anchor enterprise established under the YWEP and SEDWAY projects and in light manufacturing of goods and agro-processing value addition to create employment opportunities for more young women and men in already established SEDWAY locations.

The projects have provided technical training to more than 800 young people at five TVET institutions under the Community Skills Outreach Programme as well as 360 horticulture farmers from the Mutoko district. Additionally, the construction of a Safe Market in collaboration with Masvingo City Council created 21 construction jobs. Working in partnership with the Ministry of Mines and Mining Development, the projects have also supported the development of the Mineral Development Policy, the Minerals Beneficiation and Value Addition Strategy and the Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Strategy.

► Cameroon: Support to youth employability through EIIP and decent job creation for youth

This project supports the employability of young people through the Employment Intensive Investment (EIIP) approach, creating jobs for young people within the framework of the support programme for the transport sector - phase III, which includes the construction of a national road. Launched in November 2022, the project is expected to achieve the following results: (i) 2,500 youths to be trained in the various trades of Public Works, (ii) 20 managers of small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) and 200 members of the Communal Roads committees (CRC) will be trained in the construction and maintenance of rural feeder roads and in the valorisation of the agriculture value chains, (iii) 400 direct and 750 indirect jobs will be created.

The Representative of the Governor launched the project attended by the 17 Councils along the road represented by their Mayors, Council Development Officers, and the Agriculture Extension Workers. The launching seminar was an opportunity to train the key actors about the EIIP approach and the ILO's policy on value chains in agriculture as well as identify the community infrastructure in need of rehabilitation and the regional value chains to promote.

► Equatorial Guinea: Improving workers' employability and job quality in the fisheries sector

The ILO provides technical assistance in improving workers' employability and jobs quality in the fisheries sector as part of the AfDB's Support for the Development of Value Chains in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector (PASPA) project. The ILO implements component two (capacity building of stakeholders in the fisheries and aquaculture sector) by:

- Improving the training offer of training institutions to provide a national skilled workforce likely to attract investment and improve business productivity;
- Enhancing the service offer of key sector ministries and promoting the emergence of an efficient national private sector capable of creating decent and sustainable employment opportunities;
- Supporting the structure of the fishing sector by organizing actors, in particular cooperatives;
- Facilitating the establishment of an integrated mechanism for better production of information on the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

As of May 2023, the project had reached more than 1,000 trainees from diverse sectors in the [Start and Improve Your Own Business \(SIYB\)](#) methodology, including the [Generate Your Business \(GYB\)](#) idea and [Start Your Business \(SYB\)](#) modules. PASPA also mapped the fishery sectors' strengths and weaknesses via a STED study and identified the new skills and jobs needed by the sector. Building on these efforts, the project helped operationalize an integrated information system for collecting, processing, and analysing information on fisheries and aquaculture.

► Supporting youth employment in Africa by strengthening the capacity of AfDB

AfDB and ILO are jointly designing a game changing Jobs Marker System for the AfDB to systematically consider jobs impact in its future investments. Although the Jobs Marker was initially envisioned as an internal tool of the Bank covering its sovereign operations, it has now evolved into a comprehensive Jobs Marker System, to be applied to all its financial instruments (both sovereign and non-sovereign) and has the ambitious goal of introducing systemic changes within the Bank's operations to maximise jobs impact.

A workshop in March 2023, with ILO and AfDB experts, facilitated exchanges on potential design options for the Jobs Marker System, that the ILO and AfDB will finalize together followed by a pilot test in the second half of 2023.

► Sudan: Sustainable community-based safety-net platforms in North Kordofan and White Nile



The Building Capacity for Inclusive Service Delivery (BCISD) project, implemented in cooperation with Sudan's Ministry of Social Development, is funded by the AfDB and is composed of three components, one of which is implemented by the ILO. The ILO is supporting local economies by adapting the Training for Rural Economic Empowerment (TREE) methodology to diversify Sudan's economy and improve employment prospects. This project aims to increase income generation for local vendors and producers, improve supply of in-demand products and services for consumers and increase access to decent work opportunities for the labour force.

BCISD has an integrated strategy for the promotion of entrepreneurship and income generation, vocational training, and apprenticeship initiatives, through a coordinated, synergetic, and complimentary approach. For instance, this has included supporting the TVET sector and stakeholders through a market assessment and profiling surveys in the targeted communities, introducing and implementing better conditions for apprenticeship and supporting the development of tailor-made vocational training courses. As a result, 3,000 rural community women and men were trained in vocational and technical training, apprenticeship, since the beginning of the project.

Thanks to its integrated approach, BCISD has also promoted jobs through enterprise creation and development as well as association building of potential small and microentrepreneurs, reaching 3,615 people in 2022-2023. These efforts have also included building the capacity of local service providers and a network of local trainers on enterprise development tools created as well as of the Ministry of Social Development to use the TREE methodology. Over 2009 beneficiaries from 48 rural communities were also sensitized on gender, apprenticeships, environment, small enterprises, social insurance, and the rural economy.

► Democratic Republic of the Congo: Supporting youth entrepreneurship in agriculture and agribusiness (PEJAB)

In 2022-2023, PEJAB undertook a gender audit with the Check-FE methodology on eight of the project's incubators and beneficiaries of ILO technical assistance. This self-evaluation assesses an enterprise's development support services for gender-sensitivity. The project also provided 16 SIYB trainers from its incubators with coaching and 14 were certified. During the coaching, 175 of the agripreneurs participating in PEJAB were trained in the SYB module of the SIYB methodology, while 20 technical experts were trained in using the ILO's [ThinkCoop](#), [StartCoop](#) and [MyCoop](#) tools and an additional 18 technical experts trained on the

[Training for Rural Economic Empowerment \(TREE\)](#) methodology.

Incubation activities were started for the first cohort of 560 youth agripreneurs in seven incubators receiving technical assistance. As of May 2023, these youth agripreneurs have finished their technical and managerial training and are finalizing their business plans before submitting them to the Bank (a PEJAB partner) to secure financing for their enterprises. In the meantime, the second cohort of 560 additional youth agripreneurs is participating in these incubators.

► Gabon: Supporting the improvement of vocational training in agriculture and rural entrepreneurship

In 2022-2023, the project applied the [Skills for Trade and Economic Diversification \(STED\)](#) methodology in the agriculture sector and completed a STED study to identify the skills needed in the agriculture sector; organized a technical workshop on STED; conceptualized, discussed and validated the national strategy on professional training in agriculture; and developed the capacity of 30 tripartite constituents on the STED methodology.

In addition, the project provided technical assistance and capacity building to the National School for Rural Development (ENDR), including developing a new curriculum and establishing the school's strategic development plan. This support also included setting

up a network of SIYB practitioners in Gabon (the first one in Central Africa); training 16 teachers on the ILO's [Continuing Legal Education \(CLE\)](#) methodology; training and coaching 16 teachers on the SIYB methodology; as well as coaching 48 youth on the development of business plans.

The project also reinforced the capacities of 21 agricultural advisors, providing training on the ILO's entrepreneurship tools of SIYB and its tools for cooperatives development. Building on the above results, the project is applying the TREE methodology in six provinces, as well as developing entrepreneurial skills of 500 youth in preparing business plans.



► International Training Centre of the ILO – African Development Bank cooperation

The International Training Centre (ITC) of the ILO is collaborating with the AfDB to provide in-house, tailor-made development and training programmes for AfDB staff in specific areas of expertise.

The Jobs for Youth capacity-building programme combined face-to-face and distance learning approaches and carried out a series of targeted training courses aimed at promoting youth employment policy development; and measuring and assessing results on jobs for youth in the AfDB's programmes and projects. More than 200 officers, task managers and country economists attended the programme, completed in 2019. A procurement training programme for AfDB staff was also delivered in a blended modality with distance-learning modules and face-to-face events (in English and French), which saw the participation of 82 participants achieving participation certificates.

In 2019 -2021, more than 20 AfDB officers enrolled in ITC's open courses to pursue individual learning paths in areas such as monitoring and evaluation, project design and sustainable procurement. Other training areas selected included Impact Insurance; Applied Labour Economics for Development (Masters Programme); Policies and practices for enterprise formalisation and SME's productivity.

In 2022, ITCILO will deliver a tailor-made, distance-learning course on 'Private sector engagement for livelihoods and employment opportunities of vulnerable groups in fragile, conflict affected and emergency situations' for participants nominated by the AfDB.

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