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Brazil is a founding member State of the International Labour Organization (ILO). Brazil has ratified 98 ILO Conventions and it is a leading country in South-South and triangular cooperation.

Brazil's contribution to the ILO

Brazil's many successes in a range of public policy areas, such as combating child labour and forced labour, have received growing attention from the international community. This has led other developing countries to explore cooperation with Brazil as a development partner.

In [1987](#), the ILO and Brazil signed an agreement "for technical cooperation with countries in Latin America and Africa". In [2009](#), the ILO and Brazil signed a Complementary Agreement that created the ILO-Brazil South-South Cooperation. Since 2005, Brazil has contributed more than **US\$ 27 million** to the ILO for projects through South-South Cooperation (2005-2023), in about 40 developing countries, with the aim of pursuing the ILO's four strategic objectives: rights at work, employment, social protection, and social dialogue. The Brazilian government also provided over **US\$ 17 million** in direct trust funds for Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, including engagement with LGBTIQ+ and Afro-Brazilian marginalized populations and indigenous people. This is done through an innovative mechanism regarding compensations for labour violations. In 2023, the X Annual SSTC review was re-instated after a seven-year pause, with a focus on showing "Brazil is back" in the international scene.



Brazil's G20 Presidency



"Building a Just World and a Sustainable Planet" is the theme of the agenda proposed by Brazil for its **G20 Presidency**, which began on December 1, 2023. The agenda focuses on the following three overarching goals: (1) social inclusion and the fight against hunger and poverty; (2) energy transitions and the promotion of sustainable development in its economic, social, and environmental dimensions; and (3) reform of global governance institutions. **A strong focus on triangular and trilateral cooperation is also reaffirmed.** These three goals guide specific priorities for each of the different workstreams. The ILO is cooperating under the following task forces: establishment of a global alliance against hunger and poverty; global mobilization against climate change; and the following working groups: employment, development, empowerment of women, trade and investment, energy transitions; environment and climate sustainability; framework; sustainable finance, environment. Trilateral Cooperation is also a priority area under the Development Working Group and the ILO is a key player in the G20 side event in Salvador that is discussing more inclusive development cooperation.

► ILO-Brazil South-South Cooperation Programme – Social Justice for the Global South

The Trilateral South-South Cooperation initiative between Brazil and the ILO began following an [Agreement from 1987](#) that included cooperation between Brazil, Latin America, and Africa. It is also part of the framework of the overall United Nations South-South Cooperation impetus (Nairobi, 2009) and the ILO's Strategy (2012) for the promotion of SSTC. Initial consultations and activities with the Brazilian Cooperation Agency of the Ministry of Foreign Relations (ABC) took place in 2005, during the South-South cooperation programme's inception phase. In 2005, initial activities took place, with the Complementary Agreement finalized in 2009.

► 10th Annual SSTC Review ILO Brazil - Social Justice for the Global South



In [2023](#), the new Programme Document 2023-2027 "Social Justice for the Global South", was signed. [Click here to access the video](#) of the signature ceremony of the new programme during the X Annual SSTC Review Brazil.

The new Programme Document focuses on four axes of action considered priorities for the Brazilian Government and the ILO: the Eradication of Child and Forced Labour, Occupational Safety and Health and Labour Inspection, Gender, Race, and Generational Equity and Promotion of Equality in the World of Work, and Employment and Social Protection.

► Regional Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour (2014 - ongoing)



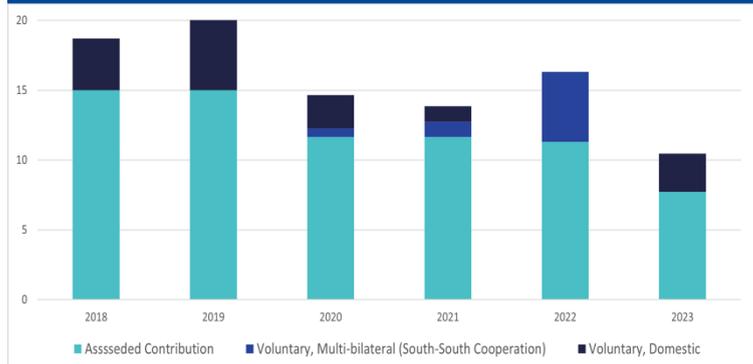
Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour

The Initiative is an intergovernmental and tripartite platform for action in which governments, workers' organizations, and employers' organizations work actively to advance together towards the achievement of a Latin America and the Caribbean free of child labour.

Brazil had a leadership role in establishing the Initiative in 2014 as an intergovernmental cooperation instrument that builds on more than 20 years on the prevention and eradication of child labour. Its objective is to foster innovative strategies against child labour and contribute to achieving Target 8.7 of the 2030 Agenda.

Furthermore, the initiative's role in information and knowledge generation and in facilitating targeted exchanges and collaboration between governments, workers, the private sector, and civil society actors has been a catalyst for South-South cooperation becoming a primary modality for development cooperation among regional stakeholders. The celebration of the 10th anniversary of the initiative will be held in October 2024.

► Brazil's total contributions to the ILO 2018-2023



► Consolidating the progress of the Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour, especially in the Caribbean region (2021-2024)

With the objective of contributing to the consolidation of the Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Free from Child Labour, the project aims for Brazil to contribute once again to tangible progress around child labour in the countries of Latin America, especially the Caribbean, sharing its experience in labour inspection, data generation and local articulation policy for national efforts to combat child labour. To this end, the two events at the Fifth Global Conference on Combating Child Labour and Forced Labour were organized within the framework of this project. In addition, in June 2022, the South-South Cooperation webinar series took place with the aim of deepening discussions on this topic and recording Brazilian experiences of interest to each of the participating countries.

► Strengthening strategies to prevent and eradicate child labour, forced labour and trafficking of persons (2022-25) in Latin America and the Caribbean

The project promotes the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work in Latin American and the Caribbean, in close collaboration with Ministry of Social Development of Brazil. Through a pilot test being carried out in Brazil, the country's knowledge of child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking will be expanded to enhance the responsiveness of social assistance policies, considering the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This knowledge will be disseminated through the Latin American and Caribbean Free of Child Labour Regional Initiative by sharing best practices and successful case studies. It also intends to form a South-South child protection network focused on borders.

► Brazil-Lebanon Study (2023-2024) & Brazil-Pakistan Study

The report on the South-South Cooperation between Brazil and Lebanon focuses on promoting equitable work opportunities and growth. Therefore, it suggests establishing medium- and long-term cooperation after the post-crisis in Lebanon, strengthening domestic institutions, and paving the way for sustainable development. It recommends priority sectors for agri-food, tourism, and infrastructure, as well as cooperation in financial, banking, technology, renewable energy, and urban development.

In relation to Brazil-Pakistan South-South Cooperation, both countries can benefit from collaboration in sustainable enterprises, green jobs, climate action, skills development for informal and socially migrant workers, rural economy empowerment for vulnerable groups, digitalization of social protection schemes, formalization of the informal economy, and Inclusive Labour laws.

► Promoting decent work in cotton producing countries in Africa and Latin America (2014-2024)

South-South cooperation for the promotion of decent work in five cotton-producing countries in Africa and Latin America is an umbrella project which aims to promote decent work through the systematization, sharing and adaptation of Brazilian experiences. To this effect, the Government of Brazil and the ILO have organized prospecting missions, executing, and monitoring South-South Trilateral technical cooperation activities, which are being implemented as defined in country projects, formulated in partnership with the cooperating countries. The main results of the project include: i) massive campaigns to end child labour in Paraguay, focusing on agriculture, and in Peru, on occupational health and safety; ii) the creation of a Mobile Group to Combat Child Labour in Mali; (iii) a new statute and strategy for the National Forum of Cotton Producers (FONPA) in Mozambique; and (iv) a new national project related to

cotton production under development in Tanzania. These actions are aligned with country development strategies and integrated with South-South cooperation initiatives between the Brazilian Government and other nations. This is one of the largest South-South Cooperation projects, with a budget of US\$ 8.0 million.



► Promote Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work through South-South Cooperation (2023-26)

The project "Consolidation of the Brazil-ILO South-South Cooperation Program for the Promotion of Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work" aims to expand, consolidate the results, and diversify the actors of the Brazil-ILO Trilateral South-South Cooperation Program in three developing countries in Africa and Latin America. To achieve target 8.7, it is paramount that Labour Inspections evolve, acting in a planned and participative strategic manner, with a proactive approach and the definition of priorities, according to the diagnosis of the causes of non-compliance. Through the systematization of Brazilian experiences, their exchange, and adaptation in the countries involved, the Brazilian government and the ILO will establish missions of prospecting, execution, and monitoring of the development of trilateral South-South cooperation activities to be implemented.

The project will also promote Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) as a new fundamental principle and right at work, while stimulating peer learning in the Americas and Africa, and it has a total budget of US\$4 million for a 48-month implementation period.



► Partnership with the Labour Prosecution Service (MPT)



The MPT is a specialized branch of the Brazilian legal system focused on safeguarding labour rights and promoting fair labour practices. One of its mechanisms of action includes the adjustment of conduct agreements with companies where law violations are identified. In these cases, the MPT can, among other actions, require them to provide compensation or restitution to affected groups. Another prerogative is to initiate a Public Civil Action, and in case of conviction, the judge can impose

fines to restore the injured property. In both scenarios, the MPT can recommend the institution that will receive the contribution to implement actions in the field. In 2023, the Labour Prosecutor Service and the ILO renewed their partnership (initiated in 2017) through a new Cooperation Agreement with the ILO Country Office for Brazil. According to the agreement, the MPT can allocate resources to the ILO to support projects aimed at promoting decent work and social justice in Brazil. The ILO has several projects in different areas in partnership with the MPT, such as eradicating child labour, forced labour, and trafficking in persons, promoting social justice for vulnerable groups (such as immigrants, LGBTQIA+ individuals, people with disabilities, women, individuals in prison, indigenous and traditional groups, among others), and projects to improve the productivity of small and medium-sized companies. The Agreement has expanded the impact of the ILO's mandate in the field and has already facilitated the sharing of good practices with other countries.

► Working on the Promotion of Decent Work and Social Justice in Portuguese Speaking Countries in Africa (2022-2024) through South-South Cooperation



In March 2021, the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) joined Alliance 8.7 for the eradication of forced labour, ending modern slavery and human trafficking, and the elimination of child labour. In November 2023, a study tour of labour statistical offices of Portuguese Speaking countries in Africa (PALOP) was implemented at IBGE Rio de Janeiro, with concrete results for the Brazilian cooperation in the statistics field. In March 2024, a seminar united the Superior Labour Court (TST), labour judges, labour attorney generals' office, ILO partners, the Brazilian Agency for Cooperation and Portuguese Speaking Countries in Africa. Last biennium, ILO and ITCILO worked with CPLP labour inspectorates on training programmes funded by the regular budget.



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