



▶ Brazil

ILO Cooperation

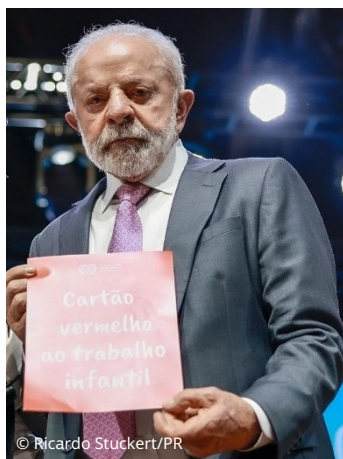
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Brazil is a founding member State of the International Labour Organization (ILO). Brazil has ratified 98 ILO Conventions and it is a leading country in South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC).

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\$ 32 million** to the projects ILO for through South-South Cooperation (2005-2023), countries, ILO's four in with about the strategic aim 40 developing of pursuing the 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.

II National Labour Conference: Advancing Social Dialogue in Brazil

Fourteen years after its first edition, the II National Labour Conference revived Brazil's large-scale tripartite social dialogue, reaffirming it as a pillar for democracy and decent work.

Coordinated by the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MTE), with technical support from the ILO and cooperation from the Brazilian Cooperation Agency from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the process mobilized approximately 4,500 participants across all 26 states and the Federal District.

The Conference brought together representatives of government, employers and workers to debate the future of work, decent work policies, social protection, labour relations, skills development and just transition strategies. The process resulted in the adoption of 386 proposals during the state and district conferences, including 69 proposals adopted by tripartite consensus. At the national level, delegates adopted 10 additional proposals, as well as a final tripartite declaration on the future of work, employment and social justice. The Conference also became an important platform for the exchange of experiences on social dialogue and participatory governance, bringing together international observers from Angola, Cabo Verde, Germany, Paraguay, Peru, Spain and Uruguay.



► Brazil-ILO South-South cooperation to advance social justice in 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.

The 2009 launch of the Brazil-ILO Partnership Programme on Social Justice for the Global South created a platform to advance Sustainable Development Goal 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth through knowledge sharing, technical assistance, and policy innovation.

The ILO and Brazil reaffirmed their long-standing alliance during the 12th Annual South-South Review Meeting in 2025 in Geneva. During the meeting, convening Brazil's tripartite representatives, Minister of Labour Luiz Marinho highlighted Brazil's commitment to tackling inequality through SSTC. Vowing to deepen their partnership, the ILO and Brazil outlined future priorities for decent work and social justice.

► South-South cooperation on the care economy (2026-27)

Under the Brazil-ILO South-South Cooperation Programme "Social Justice for the Global South", Brazil and the ILO have launched a new initiative titled "Care Policies in Latin America: South-South Cooperation".

This project connects Brazil with partner countries across Latin America and the Caribbean to address shared structural challenges, including aging populations, high labor informality, and the unequal distribution of unpaid care work. Built upon Brazil's recent institutional milestones—such as its National Care Policy—the initiative focuses on four key pillars: identifying interested partner nations, executing country-level projects, hosting regional meetings, and systematizing experiences.

Ultimately, the partnership aims to expand the right to care, strengthen legal and financing frameworks for care systems, and generate practical policy tools that can be adapted across the Global South to promote gender equality and decent work.



► Promoting decent work and social justice (2024-29)

Part of the broader Brazil-ILO Partnership Programme, this trilateral South-South cooperation initiative is implemented by the ILO, Brazil's MTE, and the Brazilian Cooperation Agency to advance decent work and social justice across the Global South.

Targeting three developing nations in Africa and Latin America, the project adapts and shares successful Brazilian public policies through joint monitoring and execution missions. Strategically, it expands past results and supports Brazil's leadership in global platforms like the Global Coalition for Social Justice, Alliance 8.7, the Equal Pay International Coalition, and the Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour.

To meet milestones like SDG Target 8.7, the initiative promotes proactive, strategic labor inspections while prioritizing child labor eradication, youth employment, social protection, just transitions, gender and racial equality, and Occupational Safety and Health as a fundamental right at work.



► Brazil and the Global Coalition for Social Justice

Brazil co-chaired the Global Coalition for Social Justice, marking an important step in the country's commitment to advancing social justice at both national and international levels. During the closing session of the Coalition's Inaugural Forum, held at the 112th International Labour Conference in Geneva on 13 June 2024, the Brazilian Government highlighted the interconnection between social well-being and environmental sustainability, while advocating for a balanced relationship between capital and labour as a pathway to reducing inequalities.

The Brazilian membership within the Coalition spans a diverse range of institutional constituencies. Representing the government is the MTE, while the workers' constituency features engagement from the Associação Nacional dos Magistrados da Justiça do Trabalho (Anamatra), the Central dos Sindicatos Brasileiros (CSB), and the Central Única dos Trabalhadores (CUT Brasil). The employers' sector is represented by the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI). Finally, contributing research and expertise from academia are the Brazilian Academy of Labour Law, the Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Unicamp), the Universidade de Fortaleza (Unifor), and the Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (Ipea).

By joining the Coalition, Brazil reaffirmed its commitment to promoting fundamental principles and rights at work, expanding access to decent work, and strengthening social protection, in line with the principles and values of the ILO and the United Nations. Brazil's participation also reinforces tripartite social dialogue among governments, employers and workers, strengthening collective efforts towards inclusive growth and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

► Decent Work and productivity in the BRICS: the case of Brazil (2025)

The study shows economic efficiency and social justice are mutually reinforcing. Integrated into the New Industry Brazil policy, the "Productivity Ecosystems for Decent Work" approach demonstrates that prioritizing formal employment and fair wages stimulates innovation and worker engagement, driving inclusive growth.

This model operates across three levels: aligning industrial strategies and public credit at the macro level, strengthening sector skills and social dialogue at the meso level, and helping MSMEs adopt new technologies to transition to formal, productive work at the micro level.

Amidst digital and green transitions, this ecosystem positions Brazil as a policy innovation leader. As a contribution to the BRICS Productivity Knowledge Platform, the study provides a compelling blueprint for the Global South, proving that structural competitiveness requires a foundation of social justice.

► 2026: Brazil, Peru and the ILO: South-South cooperation in the Amazon

In 2026, Brazil, Peru and the ILO signed a new trilateral South-South cooperation initiative aimed at preventing and eradicating child labour and forced labour in the Peruvian Amazon region of Ucayali. Implemented in partnership with the Brazilian Cooperation Agency, the MTE, the Government of Peru, the ILO and UNDP, the initiative promotes sustainable development through the exchange of public policies, technical expertise and institutional capacity-building.

The project focuses on strengthening labour inspection and institutional capacities, promoting the prevention of child labour and forced labour in supply chains, and encouraging the engagement of employers and other stakeholders in the region.

The initiative reflects the shared commitment of Global South countries to advancing decent work, social justice and sustainable development through solidarity, mutual learning and international cooperation.



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► 12th Annual SSTC Review ILO Brazil 2025

Held alongside the 2025 International Labour Conference in Geneva, the 12th Annual South-South Review Meeting convened Brazil's tripartite representatives. Minister of Labour Luiz Marinho highlighted Brazil's commitment to tackling inequality through South-South and triangular cooperation. Vowing to deepen their partnership, the ILO and Brazil outlined future priorities for decent work and social justice. The meeting also underscored Brazil's expanding global leadership, building on its 2024 G20 Presidency and its 2025 BRICS Presidency. In an evolving global landscape, the Brazil-ILO partnership remains a compelling blueprint for sustainable development rooted in mutual respect.

► South-South cooperation on decent work in the coffee supply chain (2025)

Between 2 and 7 November 2025, Brazil hosted a South-South cooperation workshop on fundamental principles and rights at work in the coffee supply chain, with a focus on occupational safety and health (OSH). Held in Belo Horizonte and Três Pontas, the activity brought together tripartite delegations from Brazil, Colombia, Ethiopia, Peru, Tanzania and Uganda.

Organized jointly under different ILO-supported projects, including the Cotton with Decent Work Project (GLO/14/45/BRA) the workshop combined technical discussions, collaborative exercises and field visits to coffee farms and processing facilities. Participants exchanged experiences on addressing informality, unsafe working conditions, child labour, forced labour and other decent work challenges in coffee supply chains, while strengthening cooperation between Latin American and African partner countries.



► A growing multilateral engagement: From G20 to BRICS and COP presidencies 2024-2025

Brazil's leadership across the G20 Presidency in 2024, the BRICS Presidency and COP30 Presidency in 2025 reflects a renewed commitment to multilateralism rooted in social justice, labour rights, gender equality, social dialogue, and South-South cooperation. Under President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, Brazil has placed the fight against inequality, poverty and hunger at the centre of the global agenda, emphasizing the need for a just transition that creates decent work opportunities and strengthens social protection systems, particularly for women and people in vulnerable situations in the Global South.

During its G20 Presidency, Brazil launched the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty in 2024, reinforcing international solidarity and coordinated action to eradicate extreme poverty and food insecurity. The ILO has joined the Alliance. This initiative coincided with President Lula's participation as Co-Chair of the Coalition at the International Labour Conference in 2024, highlighting the central role of social dialogue, workers' rights and inclusive development in advancing fair and sustainable globalization and South-South exchange.

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