



International Geneva

Directory of Geneva Global Health Actors

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION | ILO

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

Founded in 1919, the International Labour Organization (ILO) became the first specialised agency of the United Nations in 1946. ILO's main aims are to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection and strengthen dialogue in handling work-related issues. ILO is responsible for drawing up and overseeing international labour standards, and works in conjunction with governments, employers and workers. It has 187 member states.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- maintenance of international labour standards
- promoting the health and well-being of workers
- protecting workers in hazardous conditions
- expanding worker protection
- economic and labour market analysis
- job creation and employment policy

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Nearly half of ILO instruments deal directly or indirectly with occupational health and safety issues. More specifically, ILO has projects and focus areas on health and safety at work, maternity and work, disability and work, HIV/AIDS and work, and social protection of workers which includes health coverage. By issuing labour standards ILO aims to minimize the people falling ill, getting injured or disabled or dying due to their work and occupation. It also aims to ensure that in the case of illness, injury or disability workers are adequately covered by social insurance, preventing them from falling into poverty. ILO also pays particular attention to discrimination at work and issues standards, regulations and recommendations to combat discrimination against pregnant women and individuals with HIV/AIDS.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

ILO is governed by the International Labour Conference. The Secretariat is headed by the ILO Director General Guy Ryder. The organisation employs over 2,700 staff members from over 150 countries at its Geneva headquarters and in 40 field offices around the world.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

The ILO is funded through contributions by member states, based on the scale of assessments of the United Nations, as well as key resource partners. Additionally, specific projects are funded through contributions by public and private organisations, IFIs and UN entities for specific projects. ILO's regular budget for 2018-2019 is USD 784 million (financed through contributions by member states).

PUBLICATIONS

See: <http://www.ilo.org/global/publications>

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