



ONLINE

FRAGILE STATES

CREATING JOBS THROUGH INCLUSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

9 MAY – 10 JUNE 2022

🕒 5 WEEKS

Information Note



International
Labour
Organization



International Training Centre

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

The COVID-19 pandemic has rapidly evolved from a worldwide health emergency to the biggest global crisis since the Second World War, bringing large parts of the world economy to a standstill. In 2020, 8.8 per cent of global working hours were lost relative to the fourth quarter of 2019, equivalent to 255 million full-time jobs. Certain groups are disproportionately affected, including workers in the informal economy, women, youth, people with disability, migrants, and displaced persons. In the short to medium term, markets and businesses are unable to create sufficient employment to make up for the losses in jobs and income. Therefore, more and more countries are adopting stimulus packages that include public investments, typically in infrastructure development.

History shows that public works have often been used as a response to crises or to economic shocks. Different approaches have been adopted over time, but the principle has remained the same: creating jobs through public investments, particularly in the construction sector for infrastructure development.

Around the world, billions of people lack infrastructure to access basic goods and services. Such infrastructure assets include both “grey (engineered)” infrastructure such as roads, buildings, dams, and water facilities that provide livelihood opportunities, and “green and blue” infrastructure such as forests, irrigation canals, soil and water resources including watershed structures that mitigate and/or facilitate the adaptation to climate change and other environmental challenges.

In most of such public investment programmes and projects, employment remains one of the subsidiary objectives of infrastructure development. However, the employment-intensive approach to infrastructure investments provides resilient infrastructure, improves people’s quality of life, and simultaneously generates much needed employment opportunities.

Infrastructure investments, when carefully designed and implemented, can be an effective policy tool to address key employment challenges. For instance, in conflict and disaster situations, short-term emergency infrastructure work may be designed as part of recovery actions, providing entry points for longer-term development work. In other cases, when an economy faces structural challenges with limited labour market opportunities for formal work, long-term public employment programmes can be designed as a counter-cyclical policy tool. In both cases, infrastructure investments, throughout their lifecycle, have a significant potential to address key bottlenecks that hinder development, including rural and urban poverty and people’s vulnerability. Such infrastructure investments contribute ultimately to a range of other longer-term development agendas such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including local economic development, inclusive societies, and environmental rehabilitation.

This introductory course is an interactive e-learning opportunity to explore how to create more and better jobs through sustainable and inclusive infrastructure investments. By undertaking a review of different approaches and best practices, participants will learn more on how to design, implement and monitor infrastructure investments that boost job creation, at the same time addressing economic, social and environmental challenges. The course will have a specific focus on the development of local infrastructure using a local resource-based approach, i.e. combining the use of local participation in planning with the use of locally available skills, technology, and materials.

WHO?

The course is for participants who want to learn more about how to create decent jobs through sustainable and inclusive infrastructures. The course specifically targets:

- Government officials operating at the local, provincial and national level in charge of creating decent jobs, maintaining and developing infrastructure (construction, rehabilitation, maintenance), planning national investments and development frameworks;
- ILO, UN staff and development practitioners assisting local, provincial and national governments developing public infrastructure investments, as well as evaluating their long-term impacts;
- Donor organizations who are working or would like to work on public investment programmes and projects;
- Public investment and employment policy advisors;
- Research and education institutions, including technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutes.

WHAT ?

The course covers the following six topics:

1. LEARNING BLOCK 1: LOCAL RESOURCE-BASED (LRB) APPROACHES AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Learning Block 1 provides a general overview of ILO's Employment-Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP) and then starts to dig into LBR approaches and community infrastructure. More specifically, it covers the following topics:

- Overview of the ILO's EIIP approach and strategy;
- The infrastructure-employment nexus
- The rationale for local resource-based approaches
- How to plan and implement community infrastructure works
- How to encourage participation of vulnerable groups

2. LEARNING BLOCK 2: PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES

The second module introduces participants to Public Employment Programmes (PEPs), illustrating how these can improve labour and income prospects of key segments of society, particularly the poor underemployed and informal and rural workers. Specific topics include:

- Rationale behind promoting PEPs
- What are public employment programmes?
- ILO's EIP approach to PEPs
- PEPs as a complement to social protection
- How to design and implement PEPs successfully?

3. LEARNING BLOCK 3: GREEN WORKS

The third module introduces participants to green works and explore how they contribute to environmental rehabilitation and improvement, nature conservation and adaptation to climate change. It covers the following topics:

- ILO's green objectives
- The rationale for supporting green works
- Infrastructure investments and climate change
- EIP's approach to environmental restoration and conservation, climate change adaptation, climate proofing infrastructure, and building back better by restoring and protecting the productive capacity of ecosystems.
- Examples of local resource-based climate resilient infrastructures

4. LEARNING BLOCK 4: SMALL-SCALE CONTRACTORS DEVELOPMENT

The fourth module focuses on the development of public entities and private sector stakeholders (particularly small- and medium-sized enterprises, SMEs) in the construction sector, recognizing their increasingly central role in the completion of sustainable and inclusive infrastructure works through local resource-based approaches. Specifically, the module covers:

- Rationale behind ILO support of small-scale contractors in labour-based works;
- Overview of the four pillars of the ILO's approach to developing SMEs for the national construction industry: (i) Enabling environment and policy, (ii) Administrative procedures and contractual management, (iii) Capacity building for labour-based methods of work, and (iv) Labour policy and practices.

5. LEARNING BLOCK 5: EMPLOYMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENTS (EMPIAS)

The fifth module introduces participants to key concepts for the assessment of the employment potential of sectoral policies and investments, with a particular focus on infrastructure investments and policies. The EmplA helps policy makers and development partners understand how many and how decent jobs are created

along the construction value chain, which supports the development of long-term employment and investment policies appropriate to the contexts of local or national economies. These employment creation impacts can be categorized into direct, indirect, and induced (multiplier) effects of infrastructure investments. Since the use of the EmplA tools requires a substantial amount of expertise, this module will cover the basic concept and what the tool can offer. Specific topics include:

- What are EmplAs?
- ILO's EIIP approach to EmplAs
- What kind of jobs are created along the construction value chain?
- How to use the EmplAs to formulate employment/investment policies?

6. LEARNING BLOCK 6: EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT

The EIIP often operates in fragile contexts in the midst or aftermath of humanitarian crises such as conflicts and natural disasters. Guided by the ILO's Recommendation 205 on Jobs for Peace and Resilience, the EIIP approach can be leveraged to achieve the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, linking the humanitarian/immediate needs to longer-term developmental objectives. This final module introduces the EIIP's emergency response schemes, which distance itself from "cash for work" due to their particular focus on decent work principles. Specific topics include:

- R205 on Jobs for Peace and Resilience
- Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus
- Short-term emergency employment
- Sustainability of emergency employment

The course also covers the following cross-cutting issues which are integrated in all six modules:

1. Gender equality
2. Reaching vulnerable groups
3. Working conditions
4. Environmental considerations
5. Social dialogue

HOW?

The course consists of five online Learning Blocks offered through the ITC-ILO eCampus online platform to be completed over a period of five weeks. At the beginning of each week, participant will have access to a new Learning Block that combines asynchronous and synchronous learning elements.

Each Learning Block will be composed of:

1. A flexible (asynchronous) self-guided online module on eCampus
2. A live webinar that will include sessions with experts and collaborative group exercise
3. A quiz or an assignment to test participants' knowledge
4. A library with additional readings

WHY?

At the end of the course, participants will:

- Be able to integrate employment dimensions in public investments
- Know how to create more and better jobs through sustainable and inclusive infrastructure investments
- Learn how to design, implement and monitor infrastructure investments that boost job creation using a local resource-based approach, at the same time addressing economic, social and environmental challenges
- Know different examples and best practices applied to create jobs through inclusive infrastructure investments
- Build a network of practitioners interested in creating jobs through inclusive infrastructure investments

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are kindly asked to send us the completed registration form: <https://oarf2.itcilo.org/MIF/A9714827/en>

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Language: The course will be held in English and French

Application deadline: 8 May 2022

Price: Tuition € 1,190 Euros; Total € 1,190 Euros

Contact: fragilestates@itcilo.org

Code: A9714827

WITHDRAWAL, CANCELLATION POLICY, AND REFUNDS FOR OPEN COURSES

If an enrolled participant wishes or must withdraw from a course, they may choose to apply to a different course or be substituted by another candidate. The participant must notify the Centre, in writing, of their decision at least 14 days prior to the start date of the course. Cancellation of participation in regular courses will result in the following penalties:

- 14 days or more prior to the start date of the course: No penalty, 100% refund of amount paid less applicable bank charges
- 8 to 13 days prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 50% of course price, refund of residual amount paid (if any) less applicable bank charges
- 7 days or less prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 100% of course price.

INFO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

International Training Centre of the ILO
Development Investment Programme
Viale Maestri del Lavoro, 10
10127 Turin – Italy

fragilestates@itcilo.org
www.itcilo.org

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