

Participants

The target group for the Academy embraces the ILO's tripartite constituency, and other stakeholders such as:

1. Managers and policy makers at various levels from various key public institutions including ministries (labour, finance, planning, social affairs...);
2. Managers, researchers, trainers and technical staff from Employers organisations;
3. Managers, researchers, trainers and technical staff from Workers organisations;
4. Managers, researchers, trainers and technical staff from associations of workers in the informal economy as well as small business associations;
5. Staff of the ILO and other international organizations including UN agencies.

Faculty and resources persons

The Academy will be facilitated by ITC-ILO trainers with the assistance of ILO specialists and international experts who bring a vast range of practical experience and in-depth knowledge. The course will also incorporate relevant experiences from other national and international agencies including the UN family.

Modern, interactive adult learning methods will combine training and knowledge-sharing elements. Ample space will be given to participants for sharing their own experiences. The use of tablets as learning tools will enhance the acquisition of knowledge and further exchange among participants during the interactive sessions. Participants will be given access to a Web platform dedicated to the academy, which will contain all course materials, suggested reading and other useful references.

Languages

English with interpretation into French.

How to apply

Interested candidates should complete and submit the online application form available at this link:

- English: <http://intranetp.ilo.org/STF/A909067/en>

- French: <http://intranetp.ilo.org/STF/A909067/fr>

Applicants are kindly asked to attach to their application form, or send by email, a sponsorship letter from their sponsoring institution, indicating how costs for their participation and travel to/from the course venue will be met.

Please note that only applications accompanied by these documents (on line application form and official sponsorship letter) will be taken into consideration.

Online applications should be filled in no later than **3rd October 2016**.

Please note that if a Schengen visa for Italy is needed, the time required is on average at least three weeks.

As an organization dedicated to fundamental human rights and social justice, the ILO is taking a leading role in international efforts to promote and realize gender equality. In line with this ILO focus, women candidates are especially welcome.

Costs of participation

The course is fee-paying. The total participation cost of **Euro 3,575** includes: tuition fees (Euro 2,225) and subsistence costs (Euro 1,350).

For additional information regarding payment, cancellations and refund, and general information about visas please consult:

<http://www.ilo.org/en/training-offer/how-to-apply>

The ITC-ILO disposes of a limited number of fellowships which may cover part of the subsistence and tuition fees. Please note that these fellowships do not include the international travel. If eligible, early candidates will be given priority.



A909067

Academy on formalisation of the informal economy: *Second edition*

14 – 25 November 2016

Turin, Italy

For further information, please contact

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International Labour Organization



International Training Centre

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Academy on formalisation of the informal economy



Background

The “informal economy refers to all economic activities by workers and economic units that are – in law or in practice – not covered or insufficiently covered by formal arrangements”.

Informality poses serious challenges to workers (decent work deficits, poverty and vulnerability), economic units (low productivity and lack of access to finance and markets) and governments (issue of governance and rule of law, limited fiscal space). In view of these challenges, the transition from the informal to the formal economy is increasingly seen as being a necessary step towards realizing decent work, creating an enabling environment for sustainable enterprises and achieving social justice and development.

Country approaches and strategies toward the informal economy are very diverse. Some countries have made formalization a top priority and successfully put in place integrated approaches to act upon the many drivers of informality. Many countries address the issue through more targeted means, focusing on specific sectors or groups or workers or enterprises at a time. In practice, measures applied by countries range from formulating policies for supporting formal employment generation and sustainable enterprises, to the extension of social protection, the improvement of the legal and regulatory environment or formalizations strategies through effective social dialogue platforms.

Recommendation 204 and its follow-up strategy

The debate concerning strategies towards formalization of the informal economy gains new momentum worldwide, in particular after ILO’s constituents adopted, at the International Labour Conference in June 2015, the Recommendation 204 concerning the transition from informal economy to formal economy.

This new instrument constitutes a historic landmark for the world of work as it is the first international standard focusing exclusively on the informal economy in its entirety. It is of significance not only to ILO constituents but also to all those who are concerned with inclusive development, poverty eradication, and reducing inequalities. R204 is an operational tool towards the achievement of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) where formalization is within the key indicators of Goal 8 – to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. The transition to formal economy is also highly relevant for other SDGs, including Goal #1 on poverty eradication, Goal #3 on good health and wellbeing, Goal #5 on gender equality,

Goal #10 on reduced inequalities, and Goal #16 on inclusive societies and effective and accountable institutions.

R204 advocates for a practical approach to achieving full transition to formal economy and decent work and puts an emphasis on integrated strategies in order to facilitate the transition to formal economy, create new formal jobs and prevent further informalization. This requires interaction between policies and sound institutional coordination for effective policy implementation

Implementation of Recommendation 204 requires, as stated in the ILO Plan of Action adopted in November 2015 by the ILO Governing Body, an integrated strategy articulated around four interrelated components, namely: (1) a promotional awareness-raising and advocacy campaign; (2) capacity building of tripartite constituents; (3) knowledge development and dissemination; and (4) international cooperation and partnerships. The follow-up strategy includes continued evaluation and impact studies on what can be done at regional, country, and local level.

This second edition of the Academy on the formalization of informal economy, takes place in a context where ILO’s members states require capacity building and technical assistance in order to implement effective policies on the transition to formal economy, following the guidance for action that R204 offers. The academy will last 2 weeks, will be interregional (different languages and regions) and represent an opportunity for technical knowledge acquisition on “**How to**” (through the technical elective sessions on various formalization policies), while offering a platform for exchange on good and bad practices to adopt or adapt, among countries.



Objectives:

LEARN, SHARE AND ADAPT

The academy offers an opportunity to LEARN about the most advanced thinking around concepts and methodologies for measuring and informality, to SHARE information on good and bad practices, and to ADAPT lessons learnt to specific country contexts.

At the end of the two week academy, participants will:

1. Increase their diagnostic capacity on the informal economy, the concepts, its measurement approaches, its drivers and impacts on the world of work.
2. Increase their technical knowledge about either how to formulate, implement and or evaluate formalization policies – integrated or targeted.

3. Share experiences, good practices and lessons learned on the design, implementation and evaluation of transitioning policies and strategies in various contexts.

Participants will be exposed to on-going country case studies that have proven successful in curbing informality, and improving the working conditions of millions of workers and economic units in the informal economy. Such practices range from data collection, and analysis of informality, to integrated policy frameworks for promoting transitioning to formality, sectorial policies addressing one target group where informality is most salient, and to implementing a regulatory framework to extend protection and voice to workers and enterprises in the informal economy.

Social partners will enhance their capacity to advocate for effective transition policies and strategies that will assist workers and economic units out of informality.



Structure and Contents:

The structure of the Academy combines interactive plenary sessions with personalized learning path.

Plenary sessions

Plenary sessions target all participants and will run each morning. The subjects to be discussed would turn around R204, its follow up strategy as well as its link to SDGs, while offering platform for debate critical questions on the transition to formality.

Diagnostic approaches to informal economy: what is informality, how to measure it and identify main drivers ?

Debate on Costs-benefits analysis of formalisation

Integrated strategy and institutional framework for transitions to formality

Transition to formal economy: an assessment of legal frameworks that extend coverage and protection to informal workers and enterprises

A gender sensitive analysis of transition to formalization policies

Awareness-Raising and Advocacy Campaign on the transition to formal economy

Social dialogue as an effective tool for promoting transition to formal economy

SDGs and the transition to formal economy

Elective sessions: focus on *How to*

The Academy offers a modular approach to individual learning needs through elective sessions. Each participant can choose the learning path that is the most relevant to his/her expectations and professional background through elective sessions among which:

Diagnostic of informality: methodologies to assess the drivers and profile of informality at national level

Setting priorities and indicators for action : formalisation

Local strategies for formalization of employment and enterprises;

Providing gender responsive services and measures to promote formalisation of employment for women

Transition to formal economy within identified economic sectors (construction, tourism?)

Formalizing employment in the domestic sector

Assessing the enabling environment for sustainable enterprise and promotion of formalisation of the informal sector

How to extend social protection to informal workers and enterprises:

Skills Development in the Informal Economy: Apprenticeships, Training and Skills Recognition

Freedom of Association, Collective Bargaining, and Organizing Workers in the Informal Economy

Guidelines for employers : how to promote formalization strategies

Enforcement and compliance strategies: innovative strategies for labour inspection

Social and solidarity economy and the transition to formal economy: focus on cooperatives model

Addressing informal employment in particular context: undeclared work, non-standard forms of employment relationships

Participants can select two electives in the morning and two in the afternoon.