BLENDED **LEARNING INNOVATION**

TECHNOLOGY FOR SOCIAL IMPACT IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

AN EXECUTIVE TRAINING PROGRAMME DELIVERED JOINTLY BY THE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE OF THE ILO AND THE TURIN SCHOOL OF DEVELOPMENT

1 APRIL – 16 MAY 2025
ONLINE LEARNING: 1 APRIL – 11 APRIL 2025
FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING IN TURIN: 14 – 17 APRIL 2025
FOLLOW-UP ONLINE COACHING: 28 APRIL – 16 MAY 2025

BACKGROUND

As the 2023 implementation progress review of the 2030 United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Strategy Framework has shown, decisive action is needed if the Sustainable Development Goals are still to be achieved. To **accelerate positive change in the social dimension of sustainable development**, the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITCILO) and the Turin School of Development (TSD) have joined forces to provide a safe space for experimentation with **innovative capacity development solutions that harness technology for social impact**. As part of this collaboration, ITCILO and TSD offer this executive certificate training course on the nexus between technology and social justice, taking a human-centred approach to **harness emerging technologies for social impact in development cooperation projects**. As the ongoing debate on the impact of Artificial Intelligence shows, decision-makers in development cooperation projects are often unprepared to act fast when technological breakthroughs occur. This executive training course is meant to address this blind spot, providing a dialogue forum for international development cooperation practitioners to 'think slow' about emerging technologies today and act fast when a tipping point is reached.

Emerging technology refers to innovative technologies that are in the early stages of development or adoption and have the potential to create significant changes in industries, economies, or societies. These technologies are often experimental, rapidly evolving, and not yet widely implemented or standardized.

Characteristics of emerging technologies are:
1. **Novelty:** Represent new or significantly improved methods, systems, or applications
2. **Rapid Growth:** Show accelerating development and interest from researchers, investors, and industries
3. **Uncertainty:** Outcomes, applications, and impacts are often unpredictable
4. **Disruptive Potential:** Can challenge existing systems, industries, or norms
5. **Interdisciplinary Impact:** Often influence multiple sectors or fields simultaneously.

The following emerging technologies will be analysed regards their learning innovation potential:

- Neurotechnology

- Quantum technology

- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

- Extended Reality technology

These emerging technologies have been prioritized based on their potential **severity of impact on the future of learning**, in both positive and negative ways. For example, neurotechnology has been prioritized as it could boost cognitive performance and facilitate the inclusion of learners with disabilities but likewise deepen existing digital divide and throw up question on privacy rights.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the executive training course is to contribute towards accelerated positive change in social dimensions of sustainable development. The immediate objective is to strengthen the capacity of professionals tasked with the design and delivery of development cooperation projects to harness emerging technology for the purposes of social impact.

METHODOLOGY AND FORMAT

The training course has three stages:

1. A two-week (part-time) online learning stage in early April 2025 during which participants will be inducted to taxonomies of emerging technology frameworks, and strategies for leveraging technology for social impact in the context of multi-bilateral development cooperation projects. Participants will also jointly revisit the external forces reshaping the global development cooperation industry to determine how best to leverage emerging technologies for better scale and impact of their activities in an increasingly resource-scarce environment.

2. A four-day face-to-face training course in mid-April 2025 in Turin for a deep dive into selected emerging technologies; the training sessions are co-facilitated by international capacity development experts from ITCILO, and other UN agencies. Participants will experiment with selected technologies and have opportunity to visit technology companies in the wider Turin innovation eco-system.

3. Follow-up online coaching support to co-create a development cooperation project proposal that harnesses emerging technology for social impact.

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE XR SESSION

During the sessions on extended reality technology, participants will have extensive exposure in the ITCILO innovation lab to augemented and virtual reality collaboration and applications including holographic projections.

For example, VR meeting solution enable users to save costs, redude the ecological impact of interaction, mitigate the health risks posed by large-scale events involving physical contact, effortlessly link participants across the globe, and take full advantage of full immersion technology to facilitate powerful multi-media supported sessions.

LEARNING OUTCOME

The overall outcome of the training course is a deeper understanding of the wider ramifications of rapid technological change for the design and delivery of multi-bilateral development cooperation projects with a strong focus on functional and technical skills transfer. The immediate outcome is strengthened capacity of development cooperation practitioners to harness digital technology in the service of scaling outreach and impact of interventions at the project level. The tangible takeaway of the activity is a proposal for a draft development cooperation project that harnesses emerging technologies for social impact.

Upon completion of their project outline, participants will receive an executive certificate of achievement jointly issued by ITCILO and TSD.

LANGUAGE

The learning activity will be offered in English.

PRICE

The tuition fee is Euro 2,520. The fee includes:
Tuition €1,915
Subsistence at the UN Turin Campus €605

PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

A limited number of partial scholarships is available, on a competitive basis, for students from developing countries. Participants, who wish to apply for a partial scholarship, are required to specify it on the application form.

The selection criteria for the award of partial scholarships will include academic and professional qualifications, organization, country of origin and gender balance.

HOW TO APPLY

The deadline for submission of applications is Monday **17 March 2025**.
Interested candidates should register online through this link:
https://oarf2.itcilo.org/STN/A9718395/en

CAMPUS LIFE

A THRIVING UNITED NATIONS CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY OF PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD

- **Three organizations** from the United Nations system on campus
- **More than 300 training courses** and activities in a stimulating international environment
- **Thousands of participants** from all over the world

ENVIRONMENT AND SURROUNDINGS

Grab a campus bicycle and explore the Turin Centre. Located in a leafy park on the banks of the Po River, it's a great place for study and collaboration. Experience innovative learning and training methods in modern classrooms equipped with simultaneous translation services.

HOUSING, DINING, AND MORE

Comprising more than 280 private dormitories, the **Turin Campus provides a broad range of services for course participants and partners** including a free-flow restaurant, travel agency, laundromat, post office, gym, medical services and a reception desk open 24/7.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND DIVERSITY

Participants can enjoy social events organized by the Turin Centre as well as by their course facilitators. Whether on or off campus, people from different cultural backgrounds have the opportunity to listen to live music together, cook and share traditional foods, or team up to play games and network.

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

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