



Cluster evaluation of eight RBSA-funded interventions with ILS focus in the Asia and Pacific Region –  
Clustered evaluation – Final, internal

## QUICK FACTS

**Countries:** Afghanistan, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam

**Evaluation date:** May 2022 – February 2023

**Evaluation type:** Clustered

**Evaluation timing:** Final

**Administrative Office:** ROAP

**Technical Office:** NORMES

**Evaluation manager:** Maria BORSOS

**Evaluation consultant(s):** David TAJGMAN

**DC Symbol:** AFG/18/01/RBS, FJI/20/01/RBS, LAO/20/01/RBS, MMR/20/01/RBS, PHL/20/02/RBS,  
VNM/20/01/RBS, IDN/20/01/RBS, TLS/20/02/RBS

**Donor(s) & budget:**

*Key Words:* international labour standards, FOA, decent work, agenda, RBSA, [Use themes as provided in i-eval Discovery](#)

## BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

<b>Summary of the project purpose, logic and structure</b>	(This should cover the objectives, brief outline of intervention logic, strategy and main means of action; geographic coverage and management structure of project.)
<b>Present situation of the project</b>	(Key information for the reader about the current state of implementation of the project and the project context)
<b>Purpose, scope and clients of the evaluation</b>	<p>The main purposes of the cluster evaluation serves organizational learning. The review also serves to provide accountability to the donors and ILO constituents. The evaluation findings and insights will serve organisational learning purposes e.g. to develop cross-learning , including success stories to innovate and feed into regional learning on ILS interventions and strategies and facilitate further reflection on what needs to be done to promote ILS more effectively through DC. The inclusion of the case study on Afghanistan with in-depth analysis and relevant recommendations ensures an optimal contribution to accountability as well as ongoing improvement and organizational learning.</p> <p>Primary user of the evaluation findings is ILO constituents, RBSA funding partners, ILO Country Offices, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), ILO DWTs and HQ (technical departments, Evaluation Office, PARDEV and PROGRAM). Secondary user of the evaluation findings are other interest partners, academic, other ILO units and regions, and public</p>
<b>Methodology of evaluation</b>	The evaluation applied mixed methods approach to addressing the criteria and questions that might include: document analysis, interviews, direct observation and surveys—or some combination thereof.

## MAIN FINDINGS & CONCLUSIONS

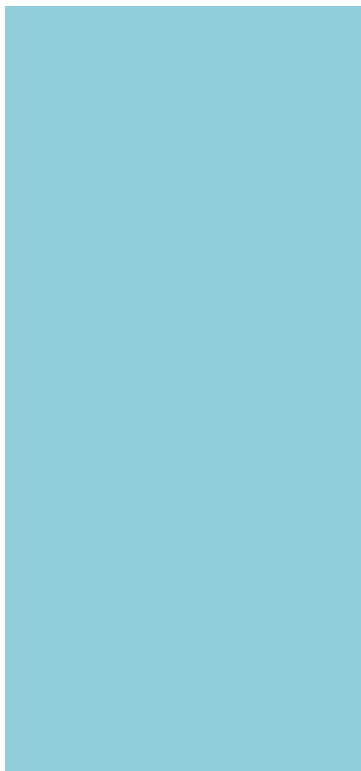
**The projects were found to be highly relevant.** Country Offices tend to know what their constituents want. In some cases, the interventions were initiated on the basis of constituents’ requests. A dichotomy was observed between what is relevant and what stakeholders feel is needed. Taking some action to help implement ILS is certainly relevant, provided it has been well formulated and targeted. But in some cases, although project interventions were relevant, stakeholders’



needs as to the normative work were perhaps not so well perceived. As a result, what was delivered may not have been what stakeholders thought was needed. Or what was thought to be needed was not delivered.

**There was significant evidence of coherence**, particularly for the RBSA interventions that aimed at promoting ratification. Constituents agreed that it was valid for the ILO to nudge them on the possibility to ratify despite evidence of resistance to ratification. Upon considering the cases where RBSA interventions were aimed at helping implement ratified Conventions, the evaluator found that coherence should be presumed. This is despite the fact the national law and/or policy or practice was contrary to a ratified Convention. The fact of ratification should be held to demonstrate national policy coherent with the international standard, and thus for evaluation purposes that interventions supporting implementation of the Convention should be seen as coherent with that implied national policy.

**In terms of effectiveness**, the ILO's implementation report offers a measure of the effectiveness of RBSA DC supports by reporting on the achievement of results in terms of the P&B. Outcome 2 results were registered for Fiji, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, and Viet Nam. Of these, RBSA funds were implicated in results for Fiji. In terms of results other than those for under Outcome 2, social dialogue results were registered for Indonesia and Timor-Leste, both with RBSA-funded project contributions; and an employment policy result was registered for Viet Nam, with ILO contribution coming from the RBSA-funded project. As seen in the individual project stories, most of the projects achieved most of their intended immediate outputs. The project in Myanmar successfully retooled its outputs. The Taliban take-over in Afghanistan was the reason given for so much of the planned outputs of the RBSA project in the country falling away. The COVID-19 crisis impacted on basic delivery of projects' activities. In some ways this impact was baked into project proposals, as they were prepared well into the pandemic. Nevertheless, the impact of Zoom fatigue and delays arising from lock-downs were perceived. Details are provided in the



report of effectiveness in respect of the promotion of ratification and the support for implementation of ratified Conventions.

**In terms of efficiency**, it was found that periodic monitoring of the projects aided in evaluation. Most projects engaged project management staff, and they called on specialist support as needed. The RBSA projects attracted and complemented other resources. Project interventions and related resource allocations were generally well suited to their purposes and theory of change. There were examples of synergistic work with other projects and UNCT agencies.

**Clear impacts could be observed from the eight projects.**

They made a difference. Two unintended consequences were reported, one dealing with Office support for reporting on ratified Conventions and the other on the use of implementation agreements.

**In respect of sustainability**, a few examples of change that was likely to be sustained were identified. The most sustainable change is that brought in by making a ratification. Unfortunately this could not be observed. Ratifications are likely to come from RBSA project work, but this is impossible to know for sure.

## RECOMMENDATIONS, LESSONS LEARNED AND GOOD PRACTICES

Main findings & Conclusions

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<b>Main lessons learned and good practices</b>	<b><u>Error! Reference source not found.</u>: Error! Reference source not found.</b> <b><u>Error! Reference source not found.</u>: Error! Reference source not found.</b> <b><u>Error! Reference source not found.</u>: Error! Reference source not found.</b> <b><u>Error! Reference source not found.</u>: Error! Reference source not found.</b> <b>Error! Reference source not found.: Error! Reference source not found.</b> <b><u>Error! Reference source not found.</u>: Error! Reference source not found.</b> <b><u>Error! Reference source not found.</u>: Error! Reference source not found.</b>