



INNOVATION

# THE PIONEERS FORUM

REIMAGINING THE FUTURE OF LEARNING AND  
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

15 – 16 APRIL 2025

TURIN, ITALY (UN CAMPUS AND OTHER LOCATIONS)



International  
Labour  
Organization

ITC



International Training Centre



## BACKGROUND

The International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITCILO) has been at the forefront of investing in human capabilities and institutional capacities since its inception in October 1964 and start of its activities in 1965. Throughout its six decades of activities as the capacity development arm of the ILO, the Centre has been pioneering learning, training and capacity development services for the changing world of work, providing state-of-the-art services for ILO tripartite constituents as well as other stakeholders and partners, and advancing capacity development as a core function of the United Nations Development System.

To celebrate its **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization** (ITCILO), is convening the **Pioneers Forum**. The Pioneers Forum will bring together ILO partners and constituents, UN agencies, development partners, academia, distinguished ITCILO alumni, learners and stakeholders. It will serve as a multistakeholder platform to review how advances in the field of learning, training and capacity development can be leveraged to scale progress on sustainable development. It will further highlight the need for **redoubling investments at in human and institutional capabilities** as a core priority for advancing decent work and human-centred approaches to social development at the global, national and local levels.

## OBJECTIVES

In the context of the UN common approach to Capacity Development, the Pioneers Forum has the following objectives:

- To provide an inclusive platform to showcase the role of learning and capacity development as central strategies to advance social justice through decent work.
- To review advances in the field of learning and training and discuss how these can be leveraged for catalytic impact at individual, institutional and system levels.
- To raise awareness on the contribution of capacity development services in advancing social development as part of the preparation of the Second UN World Summit for Social Development.

# FORMAT

The Pioneers Forum will consist of the following segments:

## High-level event (Day 1)

The High-level segment will take place on Day 1 and will be held at the UN Turin Campus. It will be delivered in hybrid format and consist of the following sessions:

- A **high-level dialogue** on the role of learning and capacity development in the context of UN Pact for the Future and the UN 2.0 Quintet of Change.
- The **Pioneers Award Ceremony** celebrating ITCILO alumni who have made significant contributions to social justice.
- Two interactive panel sessions on (i) the **nexus between foundational technologies, learning and sustainable development**, and on (ii) tripartite approaches on the role of learning in connecting **values and leadership to advance human-centred system change**.

| Agenda Day 1  |   |
|---------------|---|
| 09:00 – 10:30 | <b>Welcome remarks</b><br><b>Session 1: Critical skills for turbocharging the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda:</b> Innovation, digital transformation, data analytics, Foresight and Behavioural Science<br>Keynote address by the Executive Office of the UN Secretary General<br>High-level panel discussion on strategies for leveraging technology for the purposes of life-long learning |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Coffee break  |
| 11:00 – 12:30 | <b>Session 2: Digitalization and Social Justice</b><br>Keynote address by the Office of the ILO Deputy Director General on the occasion of the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology<br>High-level panel discussion on the potential <b>impact of quantum technologies on the future of learning and capacity development</b>  |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | ITCILO Pioneers Award Ceremony  |
| 13:30 – 14:30 | Lunch   |
| 14:30 – 17:00 | <b>Session 3: Making just digital transitions a reality</b><br>An innovation laboratory where tripartite constituents will challenge ITCILO to frame visionary capacity development solutions that promote social justice through decent work in decades to come  |

## Torino Learning City for Social Justice (Day 2)

The Torino Learning City for Social Justice segment will harness the rich history of the city in the world of work and in the field of learning, featuring a series of events throughout the city. The events will be co-convened with the City and Regional governments together with tripartite constituents and other key partners and stakeholders, in the spirit of the Global Coalition on Social Justice.

On **16 April 2025**, the forum expands beyond the UN Campus into **key venues across Turin**, engaging a diverse group of stakeholders in immersive discussions and hands-on activities:

| Agenda Day 2  |   |
|---------------|---|
| 09:30 – 12:30 | <p><b>Event 1: Inclusive Prosperity – The New Social Economy</b><br/>(Evento 1: Prosperità inclusiva – La nuova economia sociale)</p> <p>This event aims to explore the evolving landscape of social and non-profit economies, with a focus on urban spaces, accessibility, and social impact.</p> <p>Co-organizing partners: Comune di Torino – Ass. Politiche Educative e Giovanili; Università di Torino; Torino Social Impact; SERMIG – Arsenale della Pace</p> <p>Venue: Sermig Arsenale della Pace, P.za Borgo Dora, 61</p>   |
| 12:45 – 14:15 | <p><b>Event 2: How do we achieve social and labour inclusion in Piedmont?</b><br/>(Evento 2: Come realizziamo inclusione sociale e lavorativa in Piemonte?)</p> <p>The workshop “Come realizziamo inclusione sociale e lavorativa nel Piemonte?” aims to create a space of discussion to address the challenges that demographic and industrial transformation in the region pose to vulnerable groups at risk of exclusion and possible ways forward.</p> <p>Co-organizing partners: CGIL - Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro; CISL - Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Lavoratori; UIL – Unione Italiana del Lavoro</p> <p>Venue: Polo del '900, Piazzetta Franco Antonicelli</p>   |
| 14:30 – 16:30 | <p><b>Event 3: Another AI – Skills for an Attractive and Inclusive territory</b><br/>(Evento 3: Un'altra AI – Competenze per un territorio Attrattivo ed Inclusivo)</p> <p>The event “Another AI – Skills for an Attractive and Inclusive territory” brings together key regional actors to reflect on future challenges and opportunities for Torino as a Skills City.</p> <p>Co-organizing partners: Regione Piemonte; Comune di Torino; Unione Industriali; Compagnia di San Paolo; Ufficio Scolastico Regionale per il Piemonte; Fondazione per la Scuola; CTE Next; FORMA Piemonte; European Training Foundation</p> <p>Venue: Opera Salesiana di Valdocco, Via Maria Ausiliatrice, 32</p> |
| 17:00 – 18:00 | <p><b>Event 4: Town Hall</b></p> <p>The final session will bring together the ITCILO, local partners, and key stakeholders to share the main outcomes of the Pioneers Forum and reignite the discussion on the future of learning and capacity development. The session will also feature a summary of key insights from the two-day event and the presentation of a key message from Torino Learning City for Social Justice.</p> <p>Co-organizing partners: City of Turin; Piedmont Region; University of Turin; Polytechnic University of Turin; Global Coalition for Social Justice.</p> <p>Venue: Palazzo Civico - Sala Colonne, Piazza Palazzo di Città 1</p>                             |

# INFO

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT**

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