MASTER IN SOCIAL INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1 NOVEMBER 2024 – 31 OCTOBER 2025
TURIN, ITALY
MASTER IN SOCIAL INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SUPPORTING A SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION FOR SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES

OVERVIEW
SNAPSHOT OF THE MASTER

With a global faculty and participants, the master will challenge your current beliefs and notions of social innovation with a view to developing a new understanding of its principles and tools. Global development trends show that Covid 19 crisis, social exclusion, youth unemployment, migration, climate change, ageing society are escalating. By recognizing how social innovation goes beyond technology and current beliefs, you will explore the implication of different models.

The Master duration is 1 year with only 9 weeks of face-to-face learning activities taking place in Turin, Italy. This makes the programme accessible and affordable for working practitioners and students coming from outside of Italy.

CONTENTS AND OBJECTIVES

WHAT TOPICS DOES THIS MASTER COVER?
The Master prepares students to become leaders in sustainable social innovation endeavors.
• Innovation for sustainable development
• Leadership, collective intelligence, and creativity
• Social business, finance, and impact evaluation.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?
Participants will acquire tools and techniques to anticipate change and respond to complex situations in their respective relevant fields.
• A crucial role for social innovators and entrepreneurs in the implementation of the 2030 SDGs is expected in the medium term.
• Government agencies are encouraged to seek out “the best social innovations” in their programmes.
• Entrepreneurs of tomorrow are requested to use their new models to achieve results and scale their services, including public-private partnerships.

WHAT WILL I BE ABLE TO DO?
Students learn how to design the social development policies and principles of the future.
• Design responsive solutions that fit the 2030 Agenda framework
• Foster collaborative networks and spark public action
• Analyze the impact of social innovation projects.
PARTICIPANTS’ PROFILE

WHO ATTENDS THIS MASTER?
The Master is intended for:

• Officials and/or professionals working in the public and private sectors, UN Agencies, foundations and NGOs;
• Recent university graduates from developing and developed countries;
• People working or interested in social innovation and social entrepreneurship and related research;
• Members of cooperatives.
• The essential requirements for admission are a university degree (minimum three years) and fluency in English.

METHODOLOGY

The Master merges theoretical and practical learning methodologies that are designed to engage and motivate students. This Master draws from the ITCILO’s training portfolio, the ILO’s research, and the academic expertise of the Università di Torino.

Students interact with their environment through a hands-on learning approach, which includes case studies, workshops, and group exercises. Each student develops a unique final project.

FACULTY

In line with the training approach of the Turin School of Development, during the Master course, participants will have the opportunity to interact with and learn from an international faculty. Resource persons are selected based on their professional experience and subject matter expertise. They consist of:

• Experts from the ILO and the ITCILO;
• Officials from the UN system and other international organizations;
• Practitioners of the subject matter;
• Academia and leading researchers from international universities..

DEGREE

The Master is delivered as a First level Master’s Degree by the University of Turin (60 ECTS) according to the Italian Qualifications Framework. The Master’s degree will be awarded to the participants who fulfill the following conditions:

• Administrative requirements and documents requested by the University of Turin;
• Successful passing of all exams demonstrating the level of competence required;
• Submissions of the final project within the set deadline and quality requirements.
STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

This one-year Master’s programme is intensive by design. It combines two distance learning modules with a face-to-face component.

1 November 2024 to 17 January 2025:

DISTANCE LEARNING SUPPORTED BY A TUTORING SERVICE

Students learn and practice on their own time using an online platform. This preparatory phase introduces students to the basic concepts of social innovation and sustainable development.

Topics covered include:

- MODULE 1: What is Social Innovation, its perspective and the relevance of social economy
- MODULE 2: Sustainable Development and the Agenda 2030
- MODULE 3: Social Transformation and Societal Challenges: the ILO Future of Work
- MODULE 4: How Social Innovation affects Sustainable Development
- MODULE 5: Introduction to Project Design

20 January to 6 June 2025 (at the ITCILO campus in Turin from 7 April to 6 June 2025):

FACE-TO-FACE PHASE (BLENDED)

MODULE 1: Social Innovation policies and tools & the contribution to the SDGs.

At the end of the Module, students will be able:

- to better analyse the key drivers of change and social transformations in their respective community context.
- to apply in depth knowledge on key objectives of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
- to identify and implement social innovation actions in the relevant fields
- to manage social innovation collaborative processes
- to single out successful social innovation mechanisms and transfer them into different contexts

MODULE 2: Innovation lab – from ideas to social business. The social business model

At the end of the Module, students will be able:

- to better analyse the key dimensions of social business and their differences with ordinary business
- to apply social business models to the achievement of SDGs in different contexts and scales.
- to identify and implement social business actions in the relevant fields
- to identify unconventional management models to social innovation and collaborative processes
- to single out organizational hybrids and applying them to manage social innovation actions

MODULE 3: The importance of measuring impact results

At the end of the module, students will be able:

- to define the more appropriate indicators for measuring the social impact of their social business idea.
- to develop a coherent strategy for ensuring adequate scaling up of their social business project and engaging the most relevant stakeholders (PPP).
- to present the draft social business project which will be completed during the third phase at distance.

MODULE 4: Social Impact finance - the social business sustainability

At the end of the module, students will be able:

- to better describe the key aspects of the social impact finance
to better understand the key elements for accessing to social impact finance for development and growth.
• to select different fields of application of the Social Impact finance
• to apply social impact finance models to the achievement of SDGs in different contexts and scales.
• to single out the most apt social impact finance tool to manage social innovation actions

9 June 2025 to 31 October 2025:

HOME-BASED RESEARCH FOR THESIS/PROJECT WORK

Students complete an original project work related to a specific social challenge. The project should be testable at the country or community level. Tutors and professors will provide guidance.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications should be made through the following link: https://oarf2.itcilo.org/MSTF/A9717065/en.

Deadline for the first round of applications: 29 March 2024.
Deadline for the second round of applications 24 June 2024.
Deadline for the third round of applications 20 September 2024.

TUITION FEES

The tuition fee is Euro 9,400. The fee includes:
• Programme development and management;
• teaching equipment, training materials and documentation; and
• use of training facilities and support services.

Board, lodging, travel expenses, transports and personal expenses for the period in Turin are not included in the cost of participation.

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.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

• A Bachelor’s degree of minimum three years’ duration;
• Good working knowledge of spoken and written English;
• Good internet connection.

The validity of non-Italian degrees must be recognized under Italian law and regulations.

More information available at the link: https://www.itcilo.org/turin-school-of-development/admission (refer to “Recognition of foreign degrees”)

PAYMENT, CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

The ITCILO’s payment, cancellation and refund policy can be consulted on the following website:
www.itcilo.org/turin-school-of-development/admission
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, bank, 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.