



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Local Development Scholarships Awarded

ARLINGTON, Va. — Twenty representatives of IAF grantee organizations were selected in March to take the International Labor Organization's (ILO) online local development course. Created by the ILO's International Training Centre's Delnet program, the course aims to teach local practitioners, including representatives from local governments, nongovernmental institutions and businesses, an integrated economic development approach to improve the quality of life of inhabitants in a given territorial space. The topics include mobilizing local resources to create jobs, increase human and social capital and promote consensus building.

The IAF and Delnet staff reviewed more than 250 possible candidates and selected 20 representatives from IAF grantee organizations and 50 from other institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean—ten more than originally planned.

**“We are excited to have so many people interested in local development,” said IAF president David Valenzuela, “and we believe the Delnet program is a useful tool to teach important local development concepts.”**

**In September, the IAF signed an agreement with Delnet to provide partial scholarships for online local development courses specializing in management or gender. Representatives from the IAF and Delnet will select candidates for the one-year class twice a year.**

**Delnet is a program of the International Training Centre of the ILO, a specialized agency of the United Nations System. Delnet supports local development and decentralization processes in various parts of the world by promoting local capacity building through training, information, technical advice and networking.**

**For the list of candidates and details on applying, log onto <[www.itcilo.it/delnet](http://www.itcilo.it/delnet)>.**

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**Congress created the IAF in 1969 as an alternative to traditional government-to-government assistance. It provides assistance directly to poor people in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is the only U.S. Government foreign assistance agency financing self-help projects designed by local community organizations. Since 1971, the IAF has funded more than 4,300 such projects in 32 countries. Its mandate includes sharing lessons learned from its vast experience.**

**Para clarificación en español o más detalles, llame al 703-306-4301.  
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