

The third inception report relates to Skilled-Worker Visas for Refugee Talents: An Impact Evaluation. This study will examine the impact of this skilled-worker visa program on the outcomes of refugee workers and their families. The research team will work with Talent Beyond Boundaries, a global non-profit organization and the first organization to focus on refugee labor mobility as a complementary solution to traditional humanitarian resettlement, to develop a robust data collection system to study the dynamic impacts of skilled worker visas for refugees. The collection of qualitative information will also be a key input to understanding the possible bottlenecks in the program's success and the different factors influencing the sustainability and scalability of labor migration interventions for refugees.

The last inception report focuses on "Opportunities across Borders? The impacts of remote work for refugees." This study hypothesizes that the global remote work market is a powerful tool that can be leveraged for receiving countries and refugees alike, but that refugees often lack the necessary behaviors and logistical skills. To test this hypothesis, the team plans to experimentally lift behavioral, informational, and logistical constraints that refugees face when accessing remote work. The experiment will randomly give a subset of participants access to five months of continued mentorship and training on remote work. By cross-randomizing the mentorship and remote work training components, the team will test whether constraints to online work for forced migrants are behavioral or informational and identify evidence on policies that can increase employment opportunities across borders for heavily understudied populations of displaced individuals while measuring outcomes on their mental health, skills, income, and integration.

These studies will build a body of practical knowledge and evidence on the effectiveness and scalability of different solutions to capture the benefits of cross-border labor mobility for all. As of December 2023, the Innovation Challenge on Jobs and Migration has resulted in the development, revision, and approval of inception reports for the four studies. A workshop with selected experts from the World Bank's Migration Community of Practice provided a platform for teams to present their Inception Reports and receive feedback. This was a pivotal step to ensure the quality of the methodological approaches and alignment with the business needs of teams who are identifying knowledge gaps to develop strategies for international labor mobility.





FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

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As of December 2023, the Jobs MDTF has eight donors committed to financing US\$69.1 million. Table 1 provides donor agency names and the status of contributions as of December 2023, including the contributions of the new donor, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (See Annex 7).

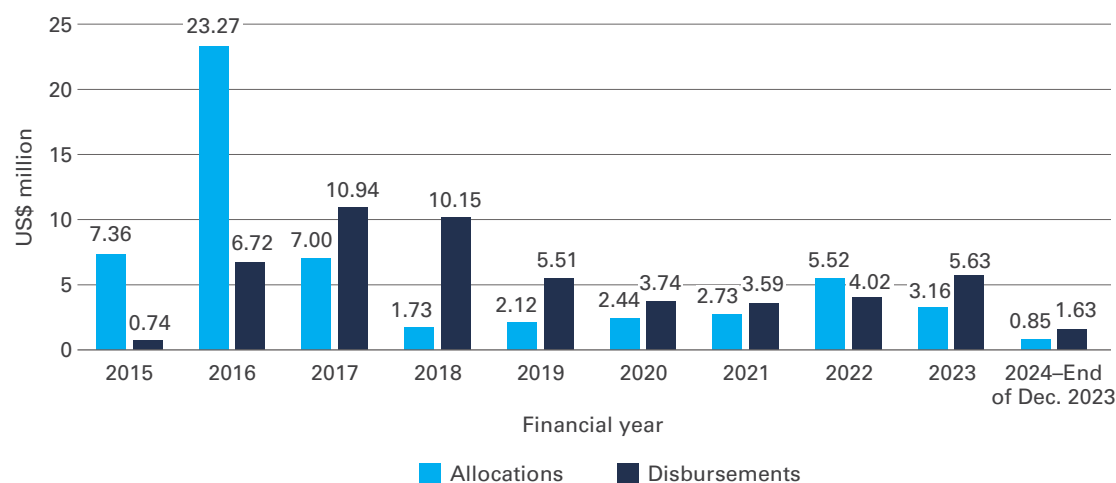
TABLE 1

Status of Contributions as of End of December 2023 (including Successor Fund)

Donor Name	Currency	Amount in Contribution Currency	Amount in US\$	Paid in US\$	Unpaid in US\$
Norway—Ministry of Foreign Affairs	NOK	120,000,000	15,309,737	15,309,737	-
Austrian Development Agency	EUR	1,600,000	1,877,999	1,877,999	-
Austria—Federal Ministry of Finance	EUR	1,900,000	2,164,039	2,164,039	-
DE—Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)	EUR	4,737,000	5,453,837	4,809,497	644,340
United Kingdom—DFID	GBP	14,650,000	20,377,212	20,377,212	-
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	SEK	134,000,000	15,417,175	15,417,175	-
Italy—Ministry of Economy and Finance	EUR	5,000,000	5,596,565	5,596,565	-
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	USD	2,910,323	2,910,323	912,472	1,997,851
Total			69,106,887	66,464,696	2,642,191

FIGURE 1

Allocations and Disbursements by World Bank Financial Year as of December 2023



Note: FY=World Bank Financial Year from July 1–June 30. For e.g., FY 15 refers to the period from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015. Similarly, FY 16 refers to July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016. 2023–End of Dec 2023 in the above chart covers the period from July 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023.

TABLE 2

Allocations and Disbursements by Windows as of December 2023

Windows	Cumulative Allocated	Cumulative Disbursed	Allocated in CY 23*	Disbursed in CY 23*
Original Account				
W1—Data, Diagnostics, and Operations	\$21,036,990	\$21,291,324	–\$60,210	\$1,268,329
W2—Let’s Work	\$12,373,579	\$12,373,579	–\$9,472	\$179,104
W3—Jobs for Youth	\$4,950,712	\$4,950,712	—	—
W4—Jobs in FCV	\$1,693,731	\$1,693,731	—	—
W5—Research on Jobs	\$2,830,511	\$2,830,511	\$210	\$106,050
W6—Program Management and Administration	\$2,036,458	\$2,036,458	—	—
Parallel Account				
W1—Jobs Lending at Scale	\$799,997	\$418,516	\$3	\$288,268
W2—Measurement	\$1,400,000	\$1,126,495	\$450,000	\$626,239
W3—Partnerships and Innovation	\$6,975,854	\$3,631,337	–\$536,206	\$2,369,422