

International Labour Organization

BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS FOR ALL

2nd Development Partners Meeting Geneva, 25 October 2017

Meeting report

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BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS FOR ALL

SECOND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS MEETING REPORT

Introduction



ore than 80 representatives of governments, the United Nations, academia, the private sector, civil society, employers' and workers' organizations and other development partners gathered in Geneva for the second Development Partners Meeting of the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All. The meeting provided an opportunity to strengthen the Multistakeholder Partnership for the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 1.3 launched by ILO Director-General in July 2017.

The meeting had six main objectives:

- Recall the importance of social protection in changing people's lives and in fostering systemic changes at country level (peace building, building institutions, fight against informality).
- Present recent achievements of the ILO's Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All.
- Showcase results from countries and the support provided by development partners.
- Reinforce and consolidate the orchestrated effort of the development community through the Social Protection Systems and Floors Multi-stakeholder Partnership for SDG 1.3.
- Engage new development partners on specific aspects of the ILO's Flagship Programme: (1) support to countries: (2) thematic areas of work.
- Identify the needs of countries and priorities for additional support from development partners and multi-stakeholder partnership.

This report summarizes the proceedings and outcomes of the meeting. We sincerely hope that it will support and foster the continuing discussions and activities following the meeting.

Partnering for SDG 1.3 - High-level segment

Speakers

Deborah Greenfield Deputy Director-General for Policy, ILO



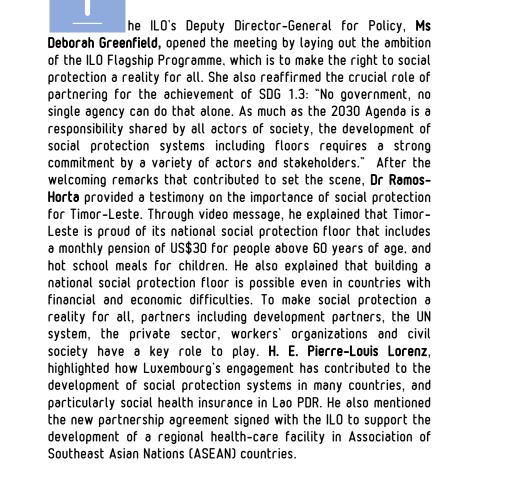
Dr José Ramos-Horta 1996 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Minister of State, Timor-Leste



Video

H.E. Pierre-Louis Lorenz Ambassador, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg







Ms Maria Luisa Silva stressed the importance for UN partners to provide, through Delivery as One, coherent and coordinated support to countries on the road to achieve SDG 1.3: "Delivery as One is the new impetus for collaboration and joint action." The 2030 Development Agenda reaffirms the crucial role of nongovernmental stakeholders for the extension of social protection, including private enterprises. As Mr Bernardo Cruza highlighted: "Supporting social protection makes sense for businesses. It leads to greater productivity and lower absenteeism. It supports cost efficiency, improves the living conditions of workers and drives the transition from informal to formal economy." Trade unions also have a role to play in promoting social protection floors and in defending social security systems. Ms Evelyn Astor explained that "unions are important actors in the design, delivery and monitoring of social protection". Similarly, civil society organizations advocate for social protection including floors and defend the rights of beneficiaries. Mr Bart Verstraeten stressed that "the objective of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors is to ensure that social protection is ranked high in international and national agendas".



Speakers



Maria Luisa Silva Director, UNDP Geneva



Bernardo Cruza Head of CSR in Value Chain, El Corte Inglés



Evelyn Astor Policy Officer, ITUC



Bart Verstraeten Political Secretary, Wereldsolidariteit

Speaker



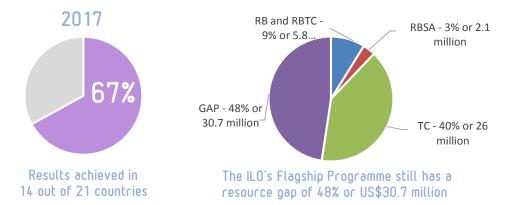
PowerPoint

resentation



ILO Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All

s Valérie Schmitt explained that over the past two years the Programme has achieved results in 14 out of the 21 target countries. This includes the adoption of social protection strategies in five countries, the adoption of social protection laws in line with ILO standards in six countries and the improvement of social protection floor operations in eight countries. For instance, in 2017 Zambia has adopted a new integrated framework for basic social protection programmes that has increased coordination and coherence in the provision of social protection in this country. In another example, Cambodia has launched a new social health insurance scheme that covers nearly one million workers. As evidenced in the case of Cambodia, once such schemes are implemented they have immediate impact on people's lives by freeing them from fear and need. The results and impact measurement tool that will soon be deployed provides evidence on the ILO's contribution to SDG 1.3. It also allows the collection and sharing of knowledge on successes and failures in the development of social protection. Ms Schmitt also shared information on a compendium of practical country cases and good practice guides produced during the course of 2017, and took stock of the 17 new partnerships developed including with the UN system, development partners, the private sector and universities. In particular, the Workers Network for Social Protection Floors had its first meeting on 24 October and will act on two fronts: the promotion of social protection floors and the defence of social security rights. Finally, she concluded her presentation by explaining that the ILO Flagship Programme contributes to creating practical solutions to new challenges such as climate change, providing social protection to migrant workers and forcibly displaced populations, and the future of work.





Countries' achievements in implementing SDG 1.3 (Panel discussion)

Speakers

<u>H.E. Robert Dufter</u> Salama Ambassador, Malawi



Heng Sophannarith Deputy Director, Health Insurance, National Social Security Fund, Cambodia



any countries have made significant efforts to extend social protection systems, including floors, as part of their national development strategies. Measures include increasing the scope of social protection benefits, implementing new social protection schemes and / or extending coverage to previously excluded groups of persons, such as those working in the informal economy.

In **Malawi**, an inclusive national social dialogue has led to the review of the National Social Support Programme. This programme reflects Malawi's social protection floor definition that includes farm subsidies and microfinance to support income security of working-age populations. As stressed by **H. E. Robert Salama**: "By working jointly with the ILO and involving workers and employers' representatives through national dialogue, we will go along the way to establishing social protection floors."

In **Cambodia**, the ILO and other development partners (European Union Social Protection Systems Programme, Agence Française de Développement) have contributed to the development of the social health insurance scheme of the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) by involving relevant government stakeholders (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training) as well as workers and employers' organizations. It is expected that by the end of 2017, 1.1 million NSSF members will be registered in the social health insurance scheme. The support of various stakeholders, including the private sector, is crucial to raising awareness of the new scheme among workers. To this end, Auchan's Foundation "Weave our Future" is collaborating with the ILO and the NSSF to promote national social protection schemes for workers and their families in Cambodia. **Egypt** is currently building a social protection floor as part of the Egyptian social protection strategy. **Mr Bahaa Abdelaziz** highlighted that new schemes are being developed, for instance the Universal Social Health Insurance which will be financed through taxes on tobacco. Others are being improved, for instance the age range of children eligible for child protection is being extended. For working-age groups, two programmes are being designed: the KARAMA programme for persons with disabilities and older persons; and the FORSA livelihood programme that aims at promoting sustainable, decent incomes and jobs for the poor and vulnerable. An innovative financing mechanism is also being developed: it is expected that 15 per cent of savings from energy subsidy reforms will be used for social investments.

The occupied Palestinian territories (**oPt)** and the ILO have been working together since 2013 to develop a social security system for workers. The goal is to reach 100.000 workers and their families in the first phase and to increase to 400.000 workers in the upcoming years. **Mr Widad Osama** explained: "Thanks to these efforts, oPt has developed a system to protect workers. This will promote social justice in oPt." He further explained that through South-South cooperation, oPt social protection practitioners have undertaken study visits in Jordan. This South-South framework is seen as crucial as it facilitates knowledge sharing among countries with similar challenges in their social protection systems.

The Government of **Qatar** is one of the development partners that support the ILO's project in oPt. The representative of Qatar, **Mr Mahmood Al-Siddiqi**, stressed that: "Qatar believes that social protection floors have a central role in achieving the SDGs by 2030, including reducing inequalities, promoting decent living conditions and increasing economic opportunities through social justice."



Speakers



Bahaa Adelaziz Ministry of Social Solidarity, Egypt



Widad Osama K.M. Herzallah Director General, Social Security Corporation, Occupied Palestinian Territories (oPt)



<u>Mahmood</u> <u>Al-Siddiqi</u> Permanent Mission, Qatar

New ILO partnerships for SDG 1.3 (Panel discussion)

Speakers

<u>Sarah Hunt</u> Lead Social Protection, Irish Aid



Luisa Guimarães Manager, Social Protection, Governance and Tripartism Programme, ITC-ILO Turin



Toufik Djouma Minister Counsellor, Permanent mission, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria



he Flagship Programme promotes multi-stakeholder engagement in the field of social protection. During the course of 2017, several new partnerships were agreed between the ILO and development partners for the achievement of SDG 1.3.

Ms Sarah Hunt shared **Irish Aid**'s engagement to build national social protection floors in Malawi, Mozambique, Viet Nam and Zambia, as well as to build and share practical tools and methodologies through the TRANSFORM training programme (Leadership and Transformation Curriculum on Building and Managing Social Protection Floors in Africa).

Similarly, **Portugal** focuses on the development of national social protection floors in the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) and Timor-Leste. **Ms Luisa Guimarães** explained that South-South cooperation, as part of the ACTION/Portugal project, is an important tool in building national capacities and promoting the exchange of good practices among CPLP countries.

South-South cooperation is also at the core of the **ILO/Algeria** partnership on social protection. The project aims at assisting Algerian tripartite constituents to consolidate the advances made in social dialogue and social security at the national level, as well as to share their national experience with partner countries in Africa. Among the actions of this project is to position the École Supérieure de la Sécurité Sociale d'Alger, a graduate institute in social security, as a leading training centre for government officials, advocates and social partners in social security and related areas in the African region. As illustrated by **Mr Toufik Djouma**: "The Global Flagship Programme is yet another example of the ILO's objective to promote South-South cooperation."

The efforts and visions of the various constituents and stakeholders that support the ILO's Flagship Programme have different scopes. Some focus on individual countries while others have regional and global reach. This is the case of the **ILO/Japan** Multi-bilateral Programme, which has a regional view and aims at increasing social protection coverage in ASEAN. As explained by **Mr Sho Sudo**: "This ILO/Japan partnership is a concrete example of multi-stakeholder partnership in the context of a regional integration project aiming at achieving growth with equity."

For the first time, in 2017 private sector companies engaged for the extension of social protection including floors at the national and global levels.

At the national level, **Weave our Future** (Auchan Foundation) collaborates with the ILO and the National Social Security Fund of Cambodia to raise awareness of workers and employers on their rights and obligations regarding social protection. The initiative will also contribute to the development of a culture of social protection in Cambodia. **Mr Alain Reners** explained: "The objective is that more and more people have access to social protection."

At the global level, the ILO and the **King Baudouin Foundation** are establishing an innovative awareness and a fundraising instrument that will allow the global efforts of individuals and corporations to be channelled in support of the extension of social protection floors. As **Mr Ludwig Forrest** stated: "This is a big responsibility as there is the need for more and better philanthropy."



Speakers



<u>Sho Sudo</u> Chief Technical Advisor, ILO/Japan Multi-bilateral Programme



Alain Reners Délégué Général, Weave our future / Auchan



Ludwig Forrest Philanthropy Advisor, King Baudouin Foundation

Building a multi-stakeholders partnership for SDG 1.3 (Interactive session)

Speakers

Jennifer Topping Director, Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office



Françoise Millecam Deputy Head of Unit, EC DEVCO



Nikos Nikolidakis Programme Component Manager, GIZ



Duan Dongwen Labour Counsellor, Permanent Mission, People's Republic of China





DG 1.3 on building social protection systems, including floors, is an ambitious target that can be achieved with strong commitment from a variety of actors and stakeholders. The collaboration of governments, workers' and employers' organizations, civil society, academia, United Nations agencies and other development partners allows common positions on social protection to be created, and joint programming for the achievement of SDG 1.3 to be enhanced. It also promotes the role of social protection in tackling today's global challenges, and fosters the importance of accountability and representation in the operations of social protection systems and floors. The ILO has led the development of a Social Protection Floors Window under the UN joint policy fund. The Window was approved on 31 October 2017. As Ms Jennifer Topping explained, the Window will support UN joint programming and Delivery as One on social protection. It will support the development of social protection systems and floors in countries and ensure that cash-based interventions in contexts of crisis can progressively be transformed into national social protection schemes.

Similarly, **Ms Françoise Millecam** highlighted the importance of coherent approaches for the extension of social protection in the cooperation strategies of **European Union** countries. The new European consensus development strategy emphasizes the role of social protection in reducing inequalities.

Germany (BMZ and GIZ), represented by **Mr Nikos Nokolidakis**, contributes to increasing policy coherence in social protection through its participation in global multi-stakeholders partnerships, more specifically the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board and the Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection.

Mr Duan Dongwen explained that the **People's Republic of China** contributes to building sustainable social protection in Asia through South-South cooperation: in 2016, with ILO support, the People's Republic of China organized a high-level South-South event to share experience on the extension of social protection floors to all; a report. *Social security coverage extension in the BRICS*, was published in collaboration with the International Social Security Association (ISSA) and BRICS countries.

Social protection plays a role in tackling today's global challenges. In times of crisis and in contexts of forced displacement, building social protection systems and floors contributes to reducing vulnerabilities of refugee populations, host communities and returnees by improving access to basic services, to national social insurance and to the labour market. For this reason, and as explained by **Ms Helene Atrafi** from the **UNHCR**, a common reflection on the humanitarian / development nexus is needed: "The sooner we work together, the better it is." She mentioned the ILO/UNHCR partnership that includes a strong component on social protection. The ILO's Flagship Programme allows for the private sector to be involved in building a business case for social protection.

Ms Zoe Che highlighted that, together with the ILO, **Sanya University (Geely Group)** is currently conducting research to analyse the impact of social protection on the performance of private sector enterprises. Social protection contributes to poverty reduction and inclusive growth.

For this reason, the **African Development Bank (AfDB)** expressed its commitment to mainstreaming social protection as part of its strategy which includes regional integration, improving quality of life, industrializing Africa, feeding Africa, lighting up and powering Africa. **Ms Maimouna Diop Ly** also laid out other possible areas of collaboration on social protection between the ILO and AfDB: building capacities of AfDB staff on social protection; analysing existing social protection systems and programmes using the assessment-based national dialogue methodology; and including social protection in annual dialogues organized by AfDB with Ministers of Finance.

Social protection also contributes to mitigating the effects of climate change. The ILO and the **Agence Française de Développement (AFD)** work together to find new ways to protect people from adverse environmental effects, while protecting the environment from the increasing pressures of human activities. **Mr Thibault van Langenhove** explained that the partnership with the ILO enhances the "just" transition towards greener economies and societies.

Speakers



Helene Atrafi Policy Officer, Programmes Support and Management Division, UNHCR



Zoe Che Vice-President, Sanya University (Geely Group)



Maïmouna Diop Ly Chief Health and Social Protection Officer, African Development Bank



Thibault Van Langenhove Responsable équipe Projet, Division santé et protection sociale, Agence Française de Développement

Speakers

Evelyn Astor Policy Officer, ITUC



Thierry Dedieu Conseiller aux Affaires Sociales, Mission Permanente, France



Charles Knox Social Protection Policy Advisor, HelpAge



Building a multi-stakeholder partnership for SDG 1.3 allows the importance of accountability and representation in the operations of social protection systems and floors to be fostered.

Partnering with trade unions ensures that workers' social protection rights are fought for. **Ms Evelyn Astor** explained that the ILO and **ITUC** are collaborating in developing and launching the Social Protection Freedom and Justice for Workers Network, which mobilizes workers' organizations to promote and defend workers' rights to social protection.

In France, the law on "duty of vigilance", and its possible applications boost compliance and extend social protection coverage. **Mr Thierry Dedieu** explained that under this new law, companies have to establish mechanisms to prevent human rights and environmental violations: "Social protection is at the heart of this new law."

HelpAge is developing mechanisms to increase accountability in social protection. **Mr Charles Knox** explained that one of them is a mechanism to involve citizens and collect their feedback. This goes hand in hand with building citizens' knowledge on their rights and increasing their participation in policy processes.

















Outcomes and next steps

wo new agreements were signed: one with the **Grand Duchy of Luxembourg** on the establishment of a regional healthcare facility in ASEAN: the other with **King Baudouin Foundation** on the establishment of a fund that will allow contributions to be collected from the private sector and philanthropists as well as from the general public.

Five members of the **Global Business Network for SPFs** (Auchan, El Corté Inglés, L'Oréal, Geely and ENI) have reaffirmed their commitment to make social protection a reality for their employees and the workers of their supply chains, notably in Bangladesh and Cambodia, and possibly in other countries. Concrete partnerships (PPPs) have already been signed with Auchan (project in Cambodia) and l'Oréal (research project), and are currently being finalized with Geely (in China).

The workers' organizations seem determined to launch the **Social Protection, Freedom and Justice For Workers Network** in pursuit of two objectives: to support the extension of social protection and to defend workers' rights in countries where existing schemes are threatened by austerity measures.

A Social Protection Floor Window under the UN joint policy fund, developed under the ILO's leadership, was approved on 31 October in New York by the executive board of the fund. Efforts to mobilize resources will be made in collaboration with UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF and the UN MPTF Office in New York. The fund will support the development of "One UN projects" on social protection floors.

The African Development Bank (AfDB) announced a number of concrete areas of collaboration on social protection, including mainstreaming social protection as part of AfDB's infrastructure development and value chain programmes; building capacities of AfDB staff on social protection; analysing existing SP systems and programmes using the ILO's assessment-based national dialogue methodology; and including social protection in the annual dialogues organized by AfDB with the Ministers of Finance of African countries.

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The European Commission mentioned the possibility of increasing its collaboration with the ILO on social protection and its linkages with a number of areas of focus such as migrants, refugees, women's empowerment and involvement of the private sector in SDG 1.3.

The People's Republic of China reiterated its commitment to the development of social protection through various initiatives (South-South and One Belt One Road) and a newly established China-UN Peace and Development Fund that already has a US\$200 million allocation.

A new opportunity that needs to be further explored is to approach the **Green Climate Fund** to promote the role of social protection in just transition, by mainstreaming social protection in all future project submissions.

During this event, existing partnerships were consolidated with Algeria, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Portugal and Qatar, as well as with UNHCR, UNDP, and NGOs that are part of the Global Coalition for social protection floors. Discussions were engaged with Italy and Switzerland for the first time.

The meeting also gave meaning to the multi-stakeholder partnership for SDG 1.3 that has been progressively built over the past few years (with governments, UN, SPIAC-B, the private sector, workers, NGO coalition and universities).





"We must continue to work towards social protection"

Speakers





n his concluding remarks, **Mr Christophe Perrin** took stock of the discussion on the multi-stakeholder approach to support the ILO Flagship Programme and the progressive achievement of the SDGs on social protection. He explained : "Each partner, each actor has their own reasons to commit their own strategies into this area. But what is important is that the combinations of these efforts show that we can work together on reaching SDG 1.3." He finished his allocution by stressing that "social protection is more important than ever before, it is certainly indispensable, and we must continue to work towards its expansion".













he morning sessions were facilitated by:



Deborah Greenfield Deputy Director-General for Policy, ILO



Valérie Schmitt Deputy Director, Social Protection Department ILO

The afternoon sessions were moderated by:



<u>Rie Vejs-Kjeldgaard</u> Director, Partnerships and Field Support Department ILO



<u>Juan Hunt Ortiz</u> Deputy Director, Partnerships and Field Support Department ILO

Mapping priorities



n between sessions, participants were invited to participate in a mapping exercise during which they indicated their organization's priorities and commitment to the development of social protection systems and floors.

	AfDB	Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung	IDAY	lrish Aid	Italy	Lao PDR	Save the Children	World Solidarity (WSM)
Cabo Verde								
Cambodia								
Cameroon								
Egypt								
El Salvador								
Honduras								
India								
Indonesia								
Kyrgyzstan								
Lao PDR								
Malawi								
Mozambique								
Myanmar								
Niger								
OPT								
Pakistan								
Paraguay								
Senegal								
Timor-Leste								
Togo								
Viet Nam								
Zambia								
Other		Losta Rica, Iraq, Morocco, Mongolia, Nisceia, Namibia, Tusisia	Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda					

Development partners' priority countries among the ILO's Flagship Programme 21 target countries

Development partners' priority areas of social protection

	AfDB	IDAY	lrish Aid	ltəly	ISSA	Lao PDR	Save the Children	World Solidarity (WSM)
Child and family benefits				School mentor, municipal public services			Children under 5, women in Zambia	
Disability benefits								
Employment injury								
Health care		Top priority						
Long-term care								
Maternity								
Old-age pensions								
Other								
Paternity								
Public works programmes								
Survivors` benefits								
Unemployment protection & active labour market programmes								

Indicate your priority areas of social protection ("branches")

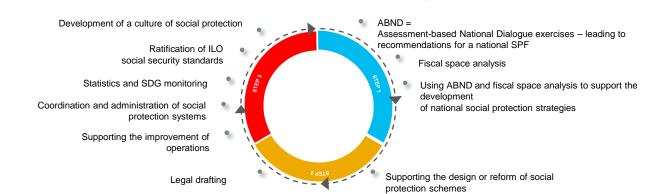


SPF steps that development partners are willing to support

	Afdb	Bread for the World	Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung	IDAY	lrish Aid	Italy	ISSA	Kela	Lao PDR	OECD	World Solidarity (WSM)
Legal drafting											
ABND: Assessment-based National Dialogue exercises - leading to recommendations for a national SPF		faith-based organizations to	Civil society guide on SPF. SPF index. Publications within project: Social Security for All. case studies on participating countries about experiences at the national level with SPF (demand for and participation in national dialogue).								
Coordination and administration of social protection systems											
Development of a culture of social protection		campaigns of partner organization	Promoting trade unions & civil society participation in national dialogue on SPFs. Training on SPFs for trade unionists/civil society. Awareness-raising events								Both for development of culture & ratification of ILO standards
Fiscal space analysis			SPF Index (financing of SPFs) within project Social Security for All.								
Ratification of ILO social security standards		campaigns of	Promoting trade unions & civil society participation in national dialogue on SPFs. Training on SPFs for trade unionists/civil society. Awareness-raising events								Both for development of culture & ratification of ILO standards
Statistics and SDG monitoring						Develop cooperation in a number of countries					
Supporting the design or reform of social protection schemes											
Supporting the improvement of operations											
Using ABND and fiscal space analysis to support the development of national social protection strategies											

Building social protection floors requires several steps

Indicate which step you are involved in or willing to support



	AfDB	IDAY	ISSA	UNHCR	World Solidarity (WSM)
Children					
Domestic workers					
Migrants					
Persons affected by climate change and disasters					
Persons in need of maternity protection and paternity support					
Persons with disabilities					
Refugees					
Self-employed workers					
Unemployed workers					Informal economy workers, precarious workers, domestic workers, migrants
Workers and their dependants affected by employment injuries					

Target groups that development partners are willing to support for the extension of SPF

Indicate which target group you are willing to support for the extension of social protection



Children



Domestic workers



Persons affected by climate change and disasters



Self-employed workers



Persons with disabilities



Persons in need of maternity protection and paternity support



Workers and their dependants affected by employment injuries



Migrants



Refugees



Unemployed workers

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CREDITS

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