



Extending access to social protection  
and portability of benefits  
to migrant workers  
and their families



## Extending social protection to migrant workers and their families

### A HIGH LEVEL CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

Addis Ababa, 3 – 6, December 2018

#### DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

##### 1. Background/context

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The **African Union (AU) Migration Policy Framework** recognizes that “migration will be a major topic in the 21st Century and will therefore pose certain social, economic and political challenges for policy makers in the future management of migration for the betterment of African societies”. A range of policy response frameworks have already been developed the AU Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment Promotion and Poverty Alleviation in 2004, the AU Migration Policy Framework in 2006, the AU Social Policy Framework in 2008, the Conclusions of the 13th African Regional Meeting and the 2015 Declaration on Migration.

Access to social protection for migrant workers has been an important component of policy frameworks on migration and development. The Ouagadougou + 10 Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment, Poverty Eradication and Inclusive Development, includes strengthening the capacities of social security agencies as well as enhancing the harmonisation and coordination of labour and social protection legal and regulatory frameworks for improved social protection coverage and portability of benefits, with the ultimate aim of ensuring equal treatment and non-discrimination between migrant workers and national workers. In 2015, the AU Executive Council requested the AUC to develop a Protocol on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security, which would be added to the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights, and to elaborate a Social Agenda for the AU Agenda 2063. The 2016 African Union Migration Policy Framework, recommends to “Provide social protection and social security benefits particularly unemployment insurance, compensation for employment injury and old age pension for labour migrants while working abroad and/or upon their return”.

Recently, in January 2018, AU Member States adopted the **Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community Relating to the Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment** in Kigali (Popularly known as the AU Free Movement Protocol). The Protocol recognizes the **right to social security** for migrants, among other rights, and urges Member States to facilitate the portability of social security through bilateral, regional or continental arrangements through (Art.19).

At the global level a **Global Compact for Safe Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)** has been negotiated and will be adopted in Marrakesh in December 2018. The GCM calls for a comprehensive approach to migration governance through 23 objectives. **Objective 22** specifically focuses on establishing mechanisms for the portability of social security



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entitlements and earned benefits. Moreover, access to Social protection and services, including social protection floors, is also recognized to achieve the objectives of the Global Compact.

The ILO promotes rights at work, encourages decent work opportunities, enhances social protection and strengthens dialogue on work-related issues. Extending social security access and portability to migrant workers and their families will realise numerous continental policy priorities and goals. In this regard, the ILO under the Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP) is implementing an EC funded project: *Extending social protection access and portability of benefits to migrant workers and their families in selected RECs in Africa*. The project aims to extend social protection to migrant workers, including those in the informal economy, and their families, through strengthening the capacities of RECs to provide and drive the implementation of regional social protection and migration frameworks.

## 2. Objective

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The objective of the proposed training is to build the capacity of the AUC, RECs and regional and sub-regional social partners to support the development and implementation of social protection instruments, including social protection extension strategies to migrant workers in the informal economy.

Specific learning objectives:

- a) To enhance the understanding of participants on building comprehensive social protection systems.
- b) To build capacities of participants to promote coherence across different social protections policies and strategies in order to improve the governance, administration and coordination of social protection systems at RECs and national levels.
- c) To contribute to the harmonization and/or coordination of policies, strategies and initiative at RECs and national levels.
- d) Understand the issues and opportunities related to the extension of social protection to migrant workers and their families
- e) Appreciate the international legal and policy frameworks covering migrant workers and refugees
- f) Analyse the different policy measures for extension of social protection to migrant workers in both countries of origin and destination
- g) Share experiences/ good practices and lessons on enhancing access to social protection and portability of benefits to migrant workers and their families.

## 3. Content

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The training workshop is based on two training packages: **TRANSFORM** and the **ILO How-to-Guide on extending social protection to migrant workers**. TRANSFORM is an innovative learning package on the administration of national social protection floors in Africa.



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TRANSFORM has been primarily developed by Africans experts to support policy formulation and implementation for comprehensive social protection systems - specific to addressing challenges of building and managing social protection floors in Africa. It covers a range of topics from design to implementation and monitoring and evaluation of social protection programmes. The **How-to-Guide on extending social protection to migrant workers** is a global program designed to build capacities of policy makers on extending social protection to migrant workers. It focuses on the particularities of migrant workers, the challenges and opportunities to access social security and policy options for effective access to social protection in both countries of origin and destination.

#### 4. Methodology

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**TRANSFORM (2 days):** This training will introduce the compressed version of TRANSFORM, designed for senior officials and policy makers. The training delivery will be based on the TRANSFORM methodology that uses a pedagogical approach based on the principle that everyone involved in the training can take leadership for the change at different levels of social protection systems, and this change can contribute to transforming the system. The training materials include: a facilitators Guide, Activities Tool box, scenarios and case studies, presentations slides and participant's material and hand-outs.

**How-to-Guide on extending social protection for Migrant workers (2 days):** The training methods will combine lectures and discussions, case studies, open space debate, role play exercises and group work. An action-oriented and participatory approach will be used, with particular attention to experience and knowledge sharing.

The gender dimension will be a cross-cutting theme throughout the training programme.

#### 5. Target audience

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Senior/Policy level officials engaged in policy dialogue and drive the design and implementation of regional social protection and migration policy frameworks. Target institutions include: AUC, AU Organs, RECs, Regional Organizations and Regional Social Partners.

#### 6. Date and Venue

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3 - 6 December 2018; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia