



International  
Labour  
Organization

BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS WITH THE ILO

## TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES IN TOGO

### TOO MANY LEFT BEHIND

In 2015, more than half the population or 55.1 per cent was living below the poverty line. The poverty rate is generally higher in rural areas (68.7 per cent on average). Primary vulnerability factors are food insecurity, insufficient access to health care and unemployment or underemployment particularly prevalent among youth.

The current social protection system in Togo is characterized by limited coverage and a low level of public spending. Statutory social protection schemes are largely restricted to workers employed in the formal sector; the social health insurance scheme is accessible only by civil servants. This gap is particularly acute among the elderly population, with only 9 per cent of people aged 65 and over receiving a pension (ILO, 2015).

Social protection for vulnerable population is largely ensured by cash transfer projects whose scope and duration are limited and primarily funded by development aid. In addition, opportunities to participate in social insurance schemes are limited to people with sufficient income to do so.

### JOIN US TO ACHIEVE A SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOOR (SPF) FOR ALL

The Government of Togo is determined to improve the socio-economic performance of the country. In continuity of the recently adopted National Development Plan 2018-22, the country is now finalizing its national social protection policy with a vision to “protect all population in Togo against vulnerabilities and social risks by implementing a social protection system based on solidarity, equity and rights”, for adoption by May 2019.



The ILO is supporting Togo to move forward with this ambition. To help finalise the national social protection policy, in partnership with the OECD, the ILO has completed a comprehensive review of the situation using the inter-agency “Social Protection Policy Options Tool” (SPPOT). The results permitted the selection of policy options for social protection extension in the country, namely on universal health care, extended contributory schemes, integrated social assistance system and increased employability and decent employment. The exercise also established specific actions to strengthen the institutional and legal framework and to identify sustainable funding mechanisms.

Since 2006, our country has committed, as the result of a tripartite social dialogue, to provide social protection to every citizen without exception, starting with universal health care as an entry point. This commitment materialized with the establishment, in 2011, of the mandatory social health insurance scheme for civil servants and assimilated. This step represent the first of a processes that will lead to the coverage of the private sector, the informal and agriculture sector as well as indigents.

*- H.E. Mr. Selom Klassou, Prime Minister of Togo  
(Excerpt from opening remarks, 1st Forum on  
universal health care in CIPRES zone, 4 March 2019)*



## FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

The Government, workers' and employers' organisations of Togo have requested for ILO's support for the implementation of the forthcoming national social protection policy and strengthening of the system. The ILO has significant experience in supporting countries to provide and extend social protection for all. With your help, we can reach out to more people who are in need.

With your support, we can:

- Support the implementation of the universal health insurance scheme to at least 40 per cent of the population in 5 years.

US\$ 2,500.000

- Support the adoption of a national strategy for the transition from an informal to a formal economy with social protection as a backbone.

US\$ 350.000

- Support the design and implementation of measures aimed at extending social protection to workers in the informal and rural economy.

US\$ 1,500.000

- Develop national capacity for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the social protection strategy to enhance knowledge sharing and South-South cooperation at the regional level.

US\$ 500.000

## LISTENING TO YOUR AMBITIONS

As a donor, you receive regular reports on the progress made and have access to ongoing project activities and performance indicators.

To further discuss your objectives and the ways in which you can support stakeholders in Togo and improve millions of lives, you can contact:



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