

# BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS WITH THE ILO TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES IN HONDURAS



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## A POPULATION WITH LITTLE OR NO SOCIAL PROTECTION

Honduras is a lower-income country in Latin America and the Caribbean region. In 2017, the percentage of the population living in poverty and extreme poverty was 68.8 per cent and 44.2 per cent, respectively. Socio-economic circumstances in the country make it imperative to establish social protection programmes which can have a positive effect on the living conditions of people.

Honduras considers social protection for all a national priority. The country has increased the investment level in social protection and has ratified the ILO's Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102). However, the social protection system is still fragmented and leaves a significant part of the people without adequate protection.

## A LAW FOR UNIVERSAL COVERAGE

In May 2015, the National Congress of Honduras approved the Ley Marco del Sistema de Protección Social (Social Protection System Framework Law). The text of the Law refers to a social protection floor (SPF) that can protect the entire population and gives priority to poor and vulnerable Hondurans who need it the most.

The Law seeks to benefit approximately 6 million Hondurans living in poverty, as well as to extend protection to 82 per cent of the working population that does not actively contribute to social security. Through the Ley Marco, Honduras strives to extend social protection to the entire population, thus following the established guidelines stated in the ILO's Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202).



The protection established by the Honduran national legislation goes beyond ILO Convention No. 102. However, coverage needs to be effectively extended. For example, even though national legislation provides universal protection for health and maternity care, in practice, only one employee out of every two is covered.

While the Government is committed to the expansion of social protection, the process of creating a new social protection system is not an easy task. Therefore, Honduras needs technical assistance to implement the Ley Marco and extend social protection coverage.

## LEY MARCO ENACTED 4 SEPTEMBER 2015

Article 5 of the Law states that a multi-pillar model should be created. This will consist of five schemes: social protection floor; contributory pension scheme; health insurance; workmanship compensation; and unemployment insurance.

In accordance with Article 7, "the social protection floor (SPF), is a non-contributory pillar that ensures access to essential services and social transfers, with emphasis on the poorest and most vulnerable people. Its approach incorporates the universal extension of social protection, but gives budgetary priority to the needs of the population suffering from poverty and high vulnerability."



### FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

The ILO has long experience in supporting countries to extend social protection to all. Despite recent positive developments, Honduras faces numerous challenges in establishing its social protection floor. With your help, we can support Honduras' commitment to extend access to social protection for all people.

With your support, we can:

- Improve articulation between social assistance programmes and social policy and the coordination between institutions in the social sector.

US\$ 200.000 for one year

- Expand the fiscal space to make the system sustainable, by expanding domestic financing.

US\$ 100.000 for one year

- Expand non-contributory programmes in vulnerable regions.

US\$ 200.000 per year

- Expand social security coverage to groups that are not covered, with the informal economy as a priority.

US\$ 200.000 per year

- Assist the health reform process under the leadership of the Ministry of Health.

US\$ 350.000 for two years

- Strengthen and mainstream social dialogue through continuous capacity building.

US\$ 100.000

### 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 Honduras and improve millions of lives, you can contact:



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