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



International Labour Organization

# EXTENDING SOCIAL PROTECTION COVERAGE

Pakistan implements several social protection programmes such as the Benazir Income Support Programme, Bait-ul-Mal, and Zakat, among others. The programmes usually reach out to only a limited number of people. Many of them operate without structured coordination that often results in duplication. Also, national capacities to implement, monitor and evaluate the programmes are low.

There is a need to increase the coverage of the existing programmes, improve the adequacy of benefits, and create coherence and coordination across social protection programmes and institutions.

# IMPLEMENTING A SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM IN KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA PROVINCE

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province in Pakistan has a population of 30.523 million people and is one of the poorest in the country. 39 per cent of the people live below the poverty line and are in need of basic social transfers and services like health, education, food distribution, shelters, among others. 2.2 million, nearly 10 per cent of the population is constituted by refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Floods and earthquakes in KP are common. After decades of insecurity and hosting millions of refugees from neighbouring Afghanistan, the province is now on a way to normalcy in social and economic development. It makes the establishment of a national social protection floor (SPF) crucial.

With financial support from the Government of Japan, the ILO has actively supported the Provincial Government of KP in its efforts to set up a comprehensive social protection system, based on the concept of national SPFs in line with ILO's Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202).



In partnership with district government bodies, trade unions, employer organizations, civil society and development partners like UNICEF, WFP, UN Women and GIZ, ILO has built capacities of local stakeholders, conducted a social protection assessment and identified recommendations for an SPF and performed a pilot test of a Coordinated District Implementation Model in KP province. For the latter, an MIS and baseline survey have been completed and a graduation strategy for 300 households is being developed. In 2017, a national mapping and situation study on existing social protection schemes was undertaken. It identified that there is hardly any scheme in Pakistan which conforms to the Social Protection Floors concept.

In 2015, a Pakistan Business Network for Social Protection (PBN-SP) was launched, to engage employers and the private sector in dialogue on social protection. A UN-wide Social Protection Working Group has also been created to collectively respond to multi-disciplinary demands of national partners for improving the social protection system.

The Provincial Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is committed to putting in place a comprehensive social security system in the province, for the welfare of its citizens in both the long run and in the short run.

> *- Asif Shahab, Project Director, Social Protection Reform Unit, Provincial Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa*



### FROM POLICY TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

Pakistan's Constitution recognizes the right of citizens to social security. Improving social protection is a priority in Pakistan's UN Sustainable Development Framework 2018-22. Extension of social protection is also identified as a priority area in the ILO's Decent Work Country Programme 2016-20.

With your help, we can extend social protection coverage to 27 million people living in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, as well as to people in other provinces in Pakistan.

You can support us to:

 Rollout the District Implementation Model to all 25 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

US\$ 1,200,000

Extend the Implementation Model to three other provinces.

#### US\$ 3,600,000

Share the experience of KP with other provinces and other countries through South-South cooperation.

#### <u>US\$ 80,000</u>

Design a context-specific social protection scheme for KP through legal, financial and institutional feasibility studies.

#### <u>US\$ 350,000</u>

Develop the legal framework to guarantee the sustainability of the social protection scheme in KP.

<u>US\$ 150,000</u>

Conduct an awareness raising campaign.

US\$ 100,000

Build capacities of the Government and social partners to administer and monitor social protection in KP.

US\$ 300,000

Support the Pakistan Business Network to undertake analytical work for effective advocacy.

<u>US\$ 100,000</u>

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



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