

BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS AS ONE UN TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES STARTING WITH A NATIONAL DIALOGUE



International
Labour
Organization

A PARTICIPATORY PROCESS UNITING MANY ACTORS

Social protection fosters growth and development. It is also a UN priority demonstrated in past and new commitments to improve social protection coverage, including the Sustainable Development Goals. Building social protection floors is a long and continuous process. The Assessment Based National Dialogue (ABND) exercise is the first step towards the achievement of nationally defined social protection floors. This national dialogue helps formulate relevant and feasible policy options, based on a collaborative assessment of the social protection situation and cost estimations for coverage reform and expansion.

It involves national authorities, employers' and workers' representatives, civil society organizations and UN agencies who formulate recommendations in line with government strategies and international commitments, and who advocate for these recommendations to ensure that they can be translated into concrete action.



AN OPPORTUNITY FOR UN COLLABORATION

The ABND provides an opportunity to “deliver as One UN” with all UN agencies involved in the Social Protection Floor Initiative (ILO, UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UN WOMEN, WFP, FAO and others). Each agency has core competencies in different areas, which, when combined, create an unparalleled body of expertise and more efficient division of labour. In addition to policy formulation and scheme design, the creation of delivery, coordination, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are all supported in order to make social protection a reality for all.

A THREE-STEP APPROACH

1 Development of the assessment matrix

The four guarantees of the social protection floor (SPF) are used as benchmarks to measure existing social security, social protection and other poverty alleviation programmes, identify policy gaps and implementation issues (see diagram), and produce recommendations for the design and implementation of further social protection provisions

	SPF objectives	Existing SP provision	Planned SP provisions (strategy)	Gaps		Recommendations
				Design gaps	Implementation issues	
Health						
Children		The social protection situation		Design gaps and implementation issues (to complete the SPF)		
Working age		Social Protection Floor template: guarantees and objectives				
Elderly						Priority policy options to be decided through national dialogue

with the aim of guaranteeing at a minimum the SPF to all the population.

The assessment matrix is compiled in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, using face-to-face consultations and workshops at both national and sub-national levels.

2 Rapid Assessment Protocol (RAP)

The cost of the proposed social protection provisions is then estimated and projected over a 10-year period using the ILO Rapid Assessment Protocol (RAP). This costing exercise can serve as a basis for discussions on available fiscal space, government budget reallocations, and the prioritization of different social protection policy options.

After costing the different scenarios through the RAP exercise, the parameters of the different scenarios are fine-tuned at participatory costing workshops on social protection.

3 Finalization

The finalized assessment report is handed over to the government for endorsement and decisions on next steps.

SOCIAL PROTECTION ASSESSMENT BASED NATIONAL DIALOGUE IN THAILAND

In Thailand, social protection was chosen as one of the six key areas of partnership between the Royal Thai Government and the United Nations system within the United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPAF). To enhance Thailand's capacity to provide universal basic social protection and higher levels of benefits, a UN Social Protection Floor (UNSPF) Joint Team, including the ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO, UN WOMEN, WHO and UNDP, was created in March 2010.

From June 2011 to October 2012, the UNSPF Joint Team engaged line ministries, social partners, civil society organizations, academia and other relevant stakeholders in the conduct of an Assessment Based National Dialogue (ABND) exercise of the social protection situation. This 18-month process drew up appropriate policy recommendations for the achievement of a comprehensive social protection floor in Thailand.

In the wake of the launch of the SPF Assessment Report in 2013, Thailand adopted a child support grant in 2015 and is considering the introduction of a long-term care scheme. The assessment also contributed to the publication of the ABND good practices guide which is a unique resource package that provides step-by-step support for conducting an ABND exercise.



FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

Social protection is one of the key priority areas of the United Nations system and a good opportunity to work as One UN in implementing the post-2015 agenda.

With you, we can support many countries to define their national social protection strategies through a national dialogue or to otherwise set SPF priorities, and ultimately, the right to social protection will become a reality for millions of people. For one country, together we can:

- Define the national SPF through the assessment matrix.

US\$ 150,000 (one year)

- Estimate the cost of the SPF.

\$ 100,000 (8 months)

- Formulate recommendations and finalize the ABND report and national launch.

\$ 50,000 (4 months)

- Share the country's experience through country briefs, web pages, and videos.

\$ 50,000

- Build capacities through conducting workshops and study tours to countries with relevant experiences.

\$ 150,000

LISTENING TO YOUR AMBITIONS


As a partner/donor, you receive regular reports detailing the progress made, and have access to information about on-going project activities and performance indicators.

To further discuss your needs and the ways you can support national dialogues and improve the lives of millions of people in many countries with the ILO, you can contact:



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