



International  
Labour  
Organization

## BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS WITH THE ILO **TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES THROUGH DEVELOPING SOCIAL PROTECTION MODELS AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT TOOLS**

### **THE NEED TO DEVELOP KNOWLEDGE**

Social protection is a human right. Therefore, the decision to develop a social protection floor to ensure a fairer and more inclusive society is primarily a political decision. However, implementing a social protection floor has a cost and therefore demands political decisions to increase fiscal space.

In order to convince national stakeholders of the importance of investing in the development of a social protection system, there is a need to develop evidence on the impact of social protection on economic growth and society, as well as in terms of the return on investment governments can expect. The establishment of social protection systems also impacts enterprises, necessitating the need for further documentation of the interdependence between the provision of social protection and business performance.

### **PROMOTING SOCIAL PROTECTION THROUGH EX ANTE MODELS**

An ex ante impact evaluation attempts to measure the intended impacts of future programmes and policies. The development of ex ante models using existing empirical evidence on the impact of social protection programmes could be used to inform national dialogues intended to define a national strategy on the progressive establishment of a social protection floor. These models could also make significant contributions to defining scheme parameters, maximizing potential positive impacts at micro/individual, mezzo/community, and macro/country levels.

Based on work developed as part of a long-standing partnership with Maastricht University, the ILO's Social Protection Department can continuously update its ex ante models and develop complementary analyses to support its constituents in the establishment of social protection floors.

### **DEVELOPING EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE USING EX POST EVALUATIONS**

Ex post evaluations measure actual impacts accrued by beneficiaries that are attributable to programme interventions. Ex post evaluations have immediate benefits



and reflect reality, making them very important as evidence supporting arguments for the establishment of social protection. The ex post evaluations document the impact of social protection on reducing poverty, attenuating inequality, vitalizing local economies, and so on. These evaluations, however, sometimes fail to explain the underlying reasons for the success or failure of the programmes.

Benefiting from the establishment of the Global Business Network for Social Protection Floors launched in October 2015, the ILO's Global Flagship Programme will carry out ex post evaluations to document the impact of social protection on businesses.

## EXAMPLE OF A RECENT ILO RESEARCH<sup>1</sup>: LINKING THE PROVISION OF SOCIAL PROTECTION WITH THE ODDS OF CLOSURE

In an era of globalized competitive pressure, most employers in developing countries do not provide social protection benefits to their employees. This study tests the presumed argument that such provisions threaten firm survival by increasing labour costs. The findings suggest that increased compliance to social protection labour standards (social protection compliance) is associated with reduced odds of factory closure. This result implies that increased social protection compliance can enhance the well-being of workers while maintaining a firm's competitiveness.

<sup>1</sup> Jetha, Q.; Linsen, J. 2015. *Survival of the fittest, and most compliant: Evidence on the relationship between firm survival and social protection compliance*, Better Work Discussion Paper, No. 19 (Geneva, ILO).



### FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

The ILO is recognized for its capacity and unique expertise at the macro level in the areas of social protection financing and the establishment of rights-based legal and institutional frameworks, inspired by international social security standards.

With your support, we can accelerate making social protection floors a reality for millions of people by documenting its importance for fair and sustainable development. You can support us to:

- Install partnerships with universities to develop ex ante models to capture the impacts of social protection development at micro, mezzo, and macro levels.

US\$ 200,000 per model

- Adapt these ex ante models to country situations and use them as part of national dialogues on social protection.

\$ 100,000 per country

- Develop protocols and conduct ex post impact evaluations for some key projects of the ILO Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All.

\$ 200,000 per impact evaluation

- Support the Global Business Network for Social Protection Floors in developing the business case for public social protection schemes.

\$ 200,000

- Produce a series of "Social protection has impact" briefs.

\$ 200,000

- Develop training material and organize workshops to disseminate and discuss the knowledge developed by the ILO and its partners at national, regional, and global levels.

\$ 100,000 per event

### LISTENING TO YOUR AMBITIONS

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


To further discuss your needs and the ways you can improve the lives of millions, you can contact:



**Thibault van Langenhove,**


Social Protection policy Officer,  
vanlangenhove@ilo.org


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