

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



International
Labour
Organization

A LARGE INFORMAL ECONOMY AND INADEQUATE SOCIAL PROTECTION

About 40 per cent of people in Cameroon live in poverty. The labour market is largely informal, with the rate of informality being as high as 88.6 per cent in 2014. Informality is more prevalent in rural areas as compared to urban areas.

Cameroon has the highest out-of-pocket health expenditure in Africa, which leads to impoverishment of households. The country also records one of the highest prevalence rates of HIV-AIDS in the sub-region. Further, less than 7 per cent of people are covered by adequate social health protection.

The current social protection system has two pillars: a scheme for civil servants and the National Social Insurance Fund (Caisse Nationale de Prévoyance Sociale - CNPS) for workers under the Labour Code. The CNPS covers approximately 10 per cent of the population and provides most of the benefits prescribed by the ILO's Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102), with the exceptions of unemployment and sickness benefits.

Workers outside the formal labour market are, to a large extent, uncovered. In 2011, out of the estimated workforce of 8.4 million, only 580,200 people (7 per cent) were protected.

EXTENDING SOCIAL PROTECTION TO ALL

The tripartite Yaoundé Declaration was adopted in October 2010, paving the way for implementing social protection floors (SPFs) in African countries. In 2011, a United Nations task force on social protection was created to help realize context-specific SPFs in each country. With the support of the task force, Cameroon produced a National Strategy for the Extension of Social Protection (SNePS).



The SNePS aims to help in reducing vulnerability among disadvantaged groups and in coping with significant risks in life, such as health related problems. It has four priorities:

- universal access to health care;
- social assistance for vulnerable populations;
- promotion of employment intensive programmes;
- expansion and modernization of existing social security schemes.

I express my gratitude to the United Nations System for its commitment and continual support to strengthening the capacity of national representatives in finding solutions to the development of a social protection floor.

This initiative aligns with the current reform of security and social protection policy framework formulated by the Head of State in Vision 2035.

- Catherine Bakang Mbock, Minister of Social Affairs, Cameroon



FROM POLICY TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

The ILO has significant experience in supporting countries to provide social protection for all. In Cameroon, the ILO has supported tripartite constituents to draft the National Strategy for the Extension of Social Protection to reach beyond the formal sector and to strengthen the existing schemes through actuarial valuations, policy formulation, and the development of a legal framework.

With your help, we can assist the Government and social partners to implement the national social protection strategy. This will also support Cameroon to fulfil SDG 1.3 through the implementation of a national SPF. The activities will be carried out in collaboration with the UN task force on social protection and the Providing for Health (P4H) network.

You can support us to:

- Extend coverage of the health protection scheme to at least 30 per cent of the population at the end of the 1st phase.

US\$ 1,050,000

- Conduct feasibility studies and design a social security scheme tailored to the needs of workers in the informal and agricultural sectors.

US\$ 350,000

- Design and implement a pilot Employment Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP).

US\$ 1,500,000

- Design a universal social assistance scheme providing cash transfers to vulnerable people.

US\$ 350,000

- Develop capacity building materials for national staff to efficiently administer the social protection schemes.

US\$ 250,000

- Raise awareness and share information on SPFs and national social protection schemes in Cameroon through country briefs, videos, and online material.

US\$ 50,000

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 Cameroon and improve millions of lives, you can contact:




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