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# ILO-China-ASEAN High Level Seminar to achieve the SDGs on Universal Social Protection through South-South and Triangular Cooperation



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## ILO-China-ASEAN High Level Seminar to achieve the SDGs on Universal Social Protection through South-South and Triangular Cooperation

6 – 8 September 2016,  
Beijing, China



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## Background

According to Article 22 and Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), everyone has a right to social security and a decent standard of living, including access to essential social services.

Social protection powerfully contributes to reducing poverty, exclusion, and inequality while enhancing political stability and social cohesion. It can also be a powerful tool to prevent and recover from the economic crisis, natural disasters, and conflicts. Social protection is needed for economic reasons as well. Social protection contributes to economic growth by supporting household income and thus domestic consumption. Furthermore, social protection enhances human capital and productivity, making it a critical policy for transformative national development. Social protection is therefore essential for inclusive development and social justice.

The 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development is composed of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Social protection, including floors, are among and contribute to five of these goals, namely SDG 1 on ending poverty, SDG 3 on ensuring healthy lives, SDG 5 on achieving gender equality, SDG 8 on promoting decent work, and SDG 10 on reducing inequality.

Today nearly 73 per cent of the world's population lack access to adequate social protection coverage.

To reduce such a deficit, the ILO has launched a global campaign and a Global Flagship Programme with a view to assisting countries to provide better access to social protection to 130 million people in the next five years and 500 million by the end of 2030, in which knowledge exchange among the countries in the Global South plays an important role.

Following the adoption of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), many member States of the ILO, particularly those from the Global South, have acknowledged the importance of social

protection in their development agendas and made significant progress in the extension.

In this respect, China has rapidly expanded social security coverage in the last decade and committed to realizing universal basic social security coverage by 2020.

As a whole, there are rich and abundant accumulated national knowledge and experience in building SPF for all and achieving universal social protection, which are very much relevant and precious for other countries with similar socioeconomic development conditions. Exchange of these experiences among the countries from the South can help, encourage and inspire them to further their SPFs agenda and as a consequence, contribute to the reduction of the global deficit in SPFs.

With the newly launched Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All, the ILO's capacity to support the establishment of tailor-made and functional SPFs in targeted countries will be increased. Based on relevant country experiences, methodologies and practical tools are developed to support country-level interventions. A knowledge development and knowledge-sharing process is created where country experiences are documented in a systematic manner and then contribute to increase the social protection knowledge base.



## Objectives

The ultimate objective of the Seminar is to contribute to the implementation of the global Decent Work Agenda by way of facilitating access to Social Protection for All.

Its immediate objective is to strengthen the capacity of ILO constituents from the Global South to build and reform their social protection policies and strategies in line with ILO Recommendation No.202, Convention No. 102 and other ILO social security standards.

More specifically, this High-Level Seminar will provide an opportunity to:

1. Share China's experiences and challenges in universalizing social protection and facing new social protection challenges including the challenges resulting from demographic change.
2. Exchange experiences and challenges faced by other participating countries in building Social Protection Floors for all and reforming social protection systems to ensure universal coverage with adequate benefits, and regional/sub-regional South-South & Triangular Cooperation experiences on Social Protection.
3. Enrich the ILO knowledge base by compiling a compendium of good national practices presented at this Seminar, which will be shared online later and contribute to the development of a number of ILO guides on SPFs.
4. Strengthen the SSTC and partnership on SPFs, particularly through developing a strong and comprehensive partnership with China.
5. Increase engagement in SSTC modalities through peer-to-peer approaches in sub-regional/cross-regional cooperation projects.



## Participants

Participants are officials responsible for social protection policy development and implementation, social partners, researchers, development partners and other stakeholders involved in social protection policy development and implementation.



## Methodology and Programme design

The ITC promotes a three phases approach in its learning activities:

- **Phase I:** Pre-course information on the Internet-based learning platform, which will be accessible to the participants.

- **Phase II:** Face-to-Face Seminar will be held from 6 to 8 September 2016 in Beijing, China.
- **Phase III:** Post-Training on the Internet-based learning platform, following the face-to-face course.



## Contents

As an indication, please see below some of the topics that will be covered during the Conference:

- Universal social protection to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals through South-South Cooperation
- Experiences and success factors from participating countries in building Social Protection Floors for all and reforming social protection systems to ensure universal coverage with adequate benefits
- How to create through South-South & Triangular Cooperation a broad engagement for universal social protection floors, involving governments, workers and employers' organizations, the civil society, the business community and development partners

During the Conference, a particular attention will be given to sharing international experience with a view to fostering cooperation between countries from the Global South.



## Language

English and Chinese



## Application

Nominated participants should complete the online nomination form.

The nomination form can be found at: <http://intranetp.itcilo.org/SHN/A3510193/en>