



▶ Social Health Protection

Service offer

▶ Approach

The ILO promotes a rights-based approach to social health protection, with the objective of ensuring effective access to quality health care without hardship and impoverishment. This rights-based approach is rooted in the body of human rights and ILO standards which represent a global consensus to guide the development of social health protection systems.

Making the right to social health protection a reality: an urgent necessity

- ▶ Each year, **100 million** people fall into poverty as a result of health care spending, and **800 million** spend at least 10 percent of the household budget on health care, a situation that disproportionately affects the poorest.
- ▶ **Two-thirds** of the world's population are protected by a social health protection scheme, this proportion is only one-third and one-fifth in lower middle-income and low-income countries, respectively.
- ▶ The **extension of social health protection** is therefore a priority to improve access to care, avoid impoverishment and improve productivity.

▶ Key areas of Intervention

Dialogue and Strategy

- ▶ **National dialogue on social health protection** and coordination of social policies.
- ▶ **Cost estimate, financial projection and analysis of the fiscal space** for the extension of coverage.

Design

- ▶ **Analysis of needs and participation.**
- ▶ **Definition of coverage parameters, affiliation modalities, reimbursement methods and financing approach.**
- ▶ **Normative framework building through capacity building and formulation of legal frameworks** anchoring principles and parameters set out in ILO standards.

Implementation

- ▶ **Economic and actuarial analysis** using in-house tools such as **the ILO/HEALTH** Actuarial Health Model and the **ILO/RAP** Rapid Assessment Protocol Costing Tool.
- ▶ **Governance and management of operational processes.**



► **Priority countries**

The ILO works with line ministries and social health protection institutions, especially in low- and middle-income countries, requesting technical support on social health protection.

Some country support include:

- **India:** The ILO is supporting the Ministry of Labour & Employment and the ESIC in the strengthening of the country's largest social health protection scheme, ESI through an institutional diagnosis, the identification of potential and current beneficiaries' social health protection needs and technical support.
- **Kenya:** The ILO is supporting the National Health Insurance Fund in its extension to the informal economy and in the design and introduction of maternity cash benefit through an actuarial valuation.
- **Vietnam:** ILO supports the National Health Insurance Fund in improving its financial and actuarial management and in legislative reforms.

► **Partnerships**

The ILO takes an integrated approach with other development partners working on health. In particular, the ILO works in a complementary fashion with the member organizations of the main networks on social health protection and health financing and provides its normative and technical contribution.

Some partners include:

- **P4H Network:** The Global Network for Health Financing and Social Health Protection
- **openIMIS initiative:** Open source information system platform for social health protection
- **UHC 2030:** International Partnership for UHC
- **Sparks Network:** International interdisciplinary research network on health and social health protection for poverty-related diseases with prominent social determinants and consequences.
- **Working for health (W4H):** A joint ILO-WHO-OECD programme to expand and transform the health and social workforce to drive inclusive economic growth and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
- **Global Action Plan for healthy lives and well-being for all:** Sustainable Financing for Health Accelerator (SFHA).



- **Regional centers of expertise on social health protection**
- Taking advantage of its global presence, the ILO promotes experience sharing and south-south and triangular cooperation.
- The ILO is a founding member of the Regional Hub on Social Health Protection in Asia, CONNECT, which provides a pool of technical expertise for expanding coverage.
- Drawing on this experience, the ILO is supporting its partners in West Africa in the feasibility of a centre of expertise in social health protection.

Contact us

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