

# BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS WITH THE ILO TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES IN THE TRANSITION TOWARDS GREENER ECONOMIES AND SOCIETIES



International  
Labour  
Organization

## BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS TO PROTECT PEOPLE AND PLANET

Around the globe, climate change is impacting the lives of millions of people. Higher temperatures, droughts, flooding, sea level rise and other extreme weather events pose significant challenges to individual livelihoods and national economies. Social protection can be used to protect populations at increased risk of climate-related hardship. Social protection benefits such as cash or in-kind transfers and employment guarantee schemes can help households affected by extreme weather events or by slow onset environmental degradation linked to climate change. Meanwhile, the observable impact of climate change is causing many countries to consider policies to reduce carbon emissions. The ILO estimates that, on the whole, some 24 million new jobs could be created by the 2030 through efforts to reduce carbon emissions and improve energy and resource efficiency. However, individuals whose livelihoods are tied to less environmentally-friendly practices will require assistance as countries make the difficult choices to phase out certain industries and enact sweeping conservation measures. In these instances, social protection offers unemployment and other forms of protection for those adversely affected by climate policies in times of transition.

## TURNING EXPERTISE INTO ACTION

The ILO's work is central to protecting people and the environment as countries seek to recover from and adapt to the effects of climate change. Decent work and social protection represent critical livelihood opportunities for climate-vulnerable and disaster-affected populations. Meanwhile, they engage communities in recovery and prevention efforts.

Immediately following a disaster, the ILO advocates for scaled-up access to employment opportunities and social protection. By involving tripartite constituents, the ILO pushes for an inclusive approach to advocacy, planning, implementation, governance and monitoring.



During early recovery, an intervention strategy is developed and often, Public Employment Programmes (PEPs) are implemented. These build on existing capacities, and the effort is towards ensuring rehabilitation and recovery.

In the reconstruction phase, the ILO leads local economic recovery programmes and supports the policy-shaping process with emphasis on job creation in reconstruction and recovery frameworks together with the development of and access to social protection.

At the same time, the ILO has adopted a set of guidelines following tripartite negotiations to ensure that structural transitions toward greater environmental sustainability are also socially equitable. The guidelines include recommendations for certain priority social protection measures that can accompany climate change mitigation efforts. The ILO assists its members in the design and implementation of these recommendations adapted to various country contexts.

The ILO is also researching ways in which social protection can serve to enhance the climate resilience of populations and to counter the negative distributional effects of climate policies in the transition to greener economies and societies.

## HELPING VICTIMS OF TYPHOON HAIYAN EARN THEIR LIVELIHOOD

Typhoon Haiyan struck the Philippines in 2013, taking away over 7,000 lives and affecting millions of livelihoods. ILO is working with the Government of the Philippines to implement an emergency employment and livelihood rebuilding programme, to help communities 'build back better'.

Emergency employment was an important part of the Government's response. The standards ensure that worker-beneficiaries receive 100 per cent of the regional minimum wage, basic safety orientation, personal protective equipment and social insurance.

- *Benigno S. Aquino III, Former President of the Philippines*



I lost my son during the typhoon and my boat was wrecked. I am entirely dependent on the sea for my income and have no work now.

- *Roberto Lagu, Victim of Typhoon Haiyan in 2013*

## FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

The ILO is committed to working with its UN partners and supporting countries to build climate-sensitive social protection systems.

You can support us to:

- Raise awareness by carrying out global, regional, and national campaigns on the importance of climate-sensitive social protection.

US\$ 200,000

- Strengthen policies to build resilience and improve the livelihoods of people at risk of climate change.

US\$ 300,000 per country

- Conduct feasibility studies to design or upgrade disaster management and recovery schemes and ensure that they include access to social protection.

US\$ 300,000 per country

- Support the design and implementation of accompanying social protection policies in countries aiming to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

US\$ 400,000 per country

- Facilitate South-South exchanges between countries that are vulnerable to climate change.

US\$ 100,000 per year

## 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 improve millions of lives, you can contact:



James Canonge  
Social Protection Officer  
ILO Geneva  
canonge@ilo.org

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