GLOBAL BUSINESS NETWORK FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS
ENGAGING ENTERPRISES TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SDG TARGET 1.3

WHY IS SOCIAL PROTECTION KEY FOR ENTERPRISES?

• Social protection supports companies’ COMPETITIVENESS: social protection guaranteed to individuals leads to lower absenteeism, greater productivity of workers, and reduced turnover. Higher social protection benefits contribute to attracting and retaining talents and improving the corporate image.

• Social protection is a driver of GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT: social protection and, specifically, social protection floors (SPFs) powerfully contribute to reducing poverty, exclusion, vulnerability, and inequality. Social protection also boosts aggregated demand for goods and services by increasing income levels, which can create new business opportunities for private sector enterprises.

• Social protection is a SOUND INVESTMENT: investments in SPFs are demonstrated to generate high returns to the economy such as in the case of Brazil, where each dollar spent on social assistance generates US$1.33 in the wider economy.

• Social protection is also a driver of SOCIAL AND POLITICAL STABILITY, which are important factors that impact the success of private enterprises and economic development at large.

WHAT IS THE GLOBAL BUSINESS NETWORK (GBN)?
The Global Business Network for Social Protection Floors was launched on 28 Oct 2015 to provide a platform for private sector to contribute to the achievement of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals* (SDG) on social protection, notably SDG 1.3, and to support the ILO’s Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for all notably in countries that still have underdeveloped or fragmented social protection systems. Composed of enterprises and corporate foundations across the world, the network has the shared goal of fulfilling the human right to social protection.

GBN AMBITIONS FOR ENTERPRISES

Share the experience on social protection
• Create a peer-to-peer information sharing platform for those enterprises that are developing, or interested in developing social protection programmes for their employees
• Share and learn from the experience of enterprises that have already established social protection programmes for their employees

Support the development of national social protection floors
• Contribute to the development of knowledge on social protection, notably regarding the linkages between social protection and business profitability (business case)
• Support countries in the development of social protection floors, by promoting ILO standards, building employers’ organizations’ capacities, influencing the business communities and government policies
• Champion the Global Flagship Programme on SPFs through advocacy, technical and financial support

73 per cent of the world’s population is not adequately covered by social protection

I was struck by the tremendous disparities in social protection from one country to another. Yet L’Oréal must ensure security and protection so that each employee can work in total confidence wherever they are. The objective of the Share & Care Program is to ensure that L’Oréal’s employees around the world, wherever they may be, no matter what country they are in, will have access to the best benefits in four areas: social protection, health care, parenthood and quality of life at work. I am convinced that with this particularly ambitious program, we are opening a new chapter in our social history.

Jean-Paul Agon, Chairman and CEO of L’Oréal

**GBN Workplan**

1. **Strengthen and expand the Global Business Network:** by positioning it as a leading platform for enterprises to contribute to SDG 1.3, as well as by further expanding the network, including the development of national and thematic networks such as Pakistan Business Network for SPFs and French-speaking Platform of Businesses for SPFs.

2. **Document the business case for social protection:** by developing KPIs to evaluate the impact of existing social protection programmes on business performance, therefore promoting SPFs.

3. **Guide enterprises in designing and implementing social protection for their employees:** by sharing knowledge, documenting experience, developing good practices guides, sharing ILO standards as benchmarks for the design of such programmes.

4. **Guide the private sector in supporting the establishment of national SPFs:** by promoting specific projects of the ILO’s Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All that enterprises can support financially or technically.

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