BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS WITH THE ILO

TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES
THROUGH THE SOCIAL PROTECTION, FREEDOM
AND JUSTICE FOR WORKERS NETWORK

MOBILIZING WORKERS FOR IMPLEMENTING AND
EXTENDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS (SPFS)

The Social Protection, Freedom and Justice for Workers Network was initiated in 2017 by the ILO, the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and in collaboration with members of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors. It aims to support workers’ organisations to promote and defend the right to social protection. Building on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 1.3 on the implementation of nationally appropriate social protection systems and floors for all, the network offers a dedicated space where workers’ organisations can build their capacities to advocate and defend workers’ rights to social protection.

ADVOCATE

- Advocate for social protection to improve national social protection systems including floors
- Contribute to the design and implementation of SPFs
- Educate members of workers’ organisations and the general public about the importance of social protection systems for all and the SPF approach
- Monitor social protection implementation and administration by holding national governments accountable for the enforcement of the SPF

DEFEND

- Defend the right to social protection in contexts of austerity and inadequate short-term adjustments by ensuring that any social security reform is done in the context of tripartite dialogue
- Mobilize workers to articulate their voices based on ILO Conventions and Recommendations to guarantee benefit adequacy, predictability, tripartite governance, and long-term sustainability of social security systems.

The engagement of workers’ organisations is thus fundamental to ensure that both the design and implementation of SPFs are done through appropriate consultation and national dialogue, guaranteeing that social protection benefits are adequate to the needs of the population. Workers’ organisations are well-placed for monitoring the implementation of SPFs, holding their governments accountable for its provision, and striving to guarantee that benefits are sustainable and adequate in the face of austerity and social security reforms.

For decades, workers’ organisations all over the world have been prominently fighting for the extension of social protection coverage and defending the safeguard of acquired rights. The knowledge that workers’ organisations have been developing, as well as their grounded experiences of struggle on behalf of social protection, comprise essential material for furthering the horizontal and vertical extension of social protection. Workers’ organisations’ commitment to the defence of social protection is particularly crucial due to the ongoing trend of short-term adjustment measures and social security reforms in 105 countries.
The UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) now include decent work and social protection, thanks to the hard work of many trade unionists and allies in government. The ITUC, active across all these and the other international issues of concern to workers, has stepped up its integrated and targeted campaign work, with significant results. The race to austerity has further slashed jobs, wages, social protection and consequently dampened demand. We have participated in negotiated fiscal consolidation in many countries at different times, but we would always argue for strategies leveraging a social protection floor and a minimum wage on which people can live with dignity, broader coverage of collective bargaining, and investment in jobs.”

Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of ITUC

FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

The ILO has long-standing experience in extending social protection to all. With your help, countries and workers’ organisations can ensure that social protection systems cover everyone’s needs.

You can support us to:

- Produce policy documents that consolidate ILO’s position on social security reforms, costs and fiscal space for the expansion of SPFs.
  
  US$ 50,000 per year

- Document case studies on best practices of workers’ organisations playing an important role in promoting SPFs and fighting inadequate social security reforms.
  
  US$ 50,000 per year

- Develop an online curriculum for workers’ organizations on education, advocacy, costing and accountability.
  
  US$ 100,000

- Design SPF monitoring tools that workers’ organizations can use to access information related to social protection coverage and implementation.
  
  US$ 100,000 per year

- Organise awareness-raising events and capacity-building training workshops to promote SPFs and participate in the development of national SPFs.
  
  US$ 50,000 per event

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 contribute to the Social Protection, Freedom and Justice for Workers and improve millions of lives, you can contact:

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