

Social Protection, Freedom and Justice for Workers Network

2nd Webinar – 23 October 2018, 14:00 – 17:15 (Geneva time)

Context

The Social Protection, Freedom and Justice for Workers Network was initiated in 2017 by the ILO in cooperation with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and involving members of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors. As one of the strategic partnerships of the [ILO's Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All](#), the network was created to support workers' organizations in the promotion and defence of the right to social protection.

Through capacity-building, awareness raising and knowledge-sharing, the network intends to strengthen the capacities of workers to defend social protection, meaningfully participate in national dialogues on social protection. Workers' organizations have a decisive role to play in the various dimensions of social protection in the effort to achieve SDG 1.3 on social protection systems and floors in line with relevant ILO standards. Trade unions are also key to safeguard acquired rights that are threatened by inadequate short-term adjustment measures and social security reforms.

On 24 October 2017 the network had its first meeting to consult workers' organizations from across the globe on the need for a network of this nature, and to define its objectives according to the priorities of workers. In the past year, an [online knowledge-sharing platform \(http://workers.social-protection.org\)](http://workers.social-protection.org) was created to facilitate the access of workers' organizations to relevant materials and tools on education, advocacy and accountability in the field of social protection to equip workers with technical and policy arguments for advancing rights-based social protection.

This web-based discussion will offer an opportunity to share information on the network, exchange experiences, and discuss topics of relevance for the labour movement in the field of social protection.

Objectives

- To strategize how to advance social protection in times of austerity;
- To discuss progress made towards the achievement of universal social protection and the promotion of the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102) and the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), with a special focus on gender issues and on the extension of social protection to workers in the informal economy;
- To take stock of recent ITUC, trade unions', and ILO activities in the field of social protection;
- To share information on developments of the Workers Network and discuss how the network can best serve the needs of workers organizations.

Logistics to ensure your participation:

1. Participants must confirm their attendance by replying to the invitation email sending their name, title, telephone number, the name of the organization they represent, and indicating if their participation will be online or in person to cotinguiba@iloguest.org and mullerk@iloguest.org.
2. Online participants are asked to start the connection process 30 minutes prior to the meeting.
3. Computer systems must comply to the following minimum requirements: 0.5 Mbps Internet connection; camera, microphone and speakers; have flash player installed; and have operating systems and Internet browsers.
4. A WebEx connection guideline will be sent to online participants one week prior to the event.
5. In case your connection does not meet the minimum requirements, please let us know and we will facilitate your access to a computer in an ILO Country Office in the field.

Agenda

14:00-14:10	<p>Welcoming remarks: Achieving universal social protection, fighting austerity and promoting C102 and R202</p> <p>The Social Protection, Freedom and Justice for Workers Network and meeting agenda Representatives from ITUC, ACTRAV and SOCPRO <i>Isabel Ortiz, Director of Social Protection, ILO</i> <i>Evelyn Astor, Wages and Social Protection Specialist, ITUC</i> <i>Ursula Kulke, Bureau for Workers' Activities (ACTRAV), ILO</i></p>
14:10-15:30	<p>The extension of social protection: Thematic issues</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The transition from the informal to the formal economy and ILO work <i>Christina Behrendt, Social Protection Department ILO (5 min)</i> <i>Hilma Mote, Executive Director, Africa Labour Research Network (5 min)</i> Discussion (10 min) 2. Social protection and gender gaps <i>Evelyn Astor, Wages and Social Protection Specialist ITUC (5 min)</i> <i>Damaris Muhika, Programme Officer for COTU-Kenya and Trustee of the Kenyan National Social Security Fund (5 min)</i> Discussion (10 min) 3. Austerity and social security reforms and outcomes of the ITUC global conference on financing social protection <i>Isabel Ortiz, Director of Social Protection ILO (5 min)</i> <i>Evelyn Astor, Wages and Social Protection Specialist ITUC (5 min)</i> Discussion (10 min)
15:30-16:10	<p>Stocktaking of recent union activities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workers' organizations activities: negotiations, campaigns, research <i>Ath Thorn, President of the Cambodia Labour Confederation (5 min)</i> <i>Guillermo Zuccotti, Social Protection Specialist at CGT-RA Argentina (5 min)</i> Discussion (10 min) 2. Presentation of the forthcoming FES "Civil Society and Trade Union Guide to Social Protection Floors" <i>Sarah Ganter, Social Protection Coordinator FES (5 min)</i> Discussion (10 min)

16:10-17:00	<p>ILO activities and next steps for the Workers Network</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ILO General Survey on Social Protection Floors: Unions' responses to the general survey and the process going forward <i>Evelyn Astor, Wages and Social Protection Specialist ITUC (5 min)</i> <i>Kroum Markov, Social Protection Department ILO (5 min)</i> Discussion (10 min) 2. Engaging workers' organizations in promoting and building social protection systems and floors (DWCPs, ILO centenary and the Global Commission on the Future of Work) <i>Karuna Pal, Social Protection Department ILO (5 min)</i> 3. Further development of the Workers Network and online knowledge-sharing platform (http://workers.social-protection.org) Discussion (10 min)
17:00-17:15	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p>Representatives from ITUC, ACTRAV and SOCPRO</p>