

## Global Social Protection Week

# Achieving SDG 1.3 and Universal Social Protection (USP2030) in the Context of the Future of Work

## Stream 5

Social protection in the context of the future of work

### Technical session 5.1

Investing in people's capabilities: The role of social protection in supporting lifelong learning and labour market transitions

**Thursday, 28 November 2019**

**09:00am – 10:15am**

## BACKGROUND

The global transformations under way, such as digitization, demographic shifts, climate change and globalization, are affecting the way people manage transitions throughout the course of their lives. Technological progress has potential to create new jobs, but also requires a more skilled labour force to seize new opportunities and may displace a large number of jobs, especially affecting those workers that are least equipped to undertake the transitions that will be required. Many of today's skills will not match tomorrow's jobs, and newly acquired skills may quickly become obsolete. Demographic shifts – reflected in expanded youth populations in some parts of the world and ageing populations in others – may put pressure on labour markets and social security systems, yet they could also provide opportunities to afford care and inclusive, active societies.<sup>1</sup>

It is widely acknowledged that these developments require both social protection measures and employment policies that focus on promoting lifelong learning, supporting people through labour market transitions and ensure income security, particularly in the event of unemployment.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, policies to facilitate transitions from the informal economy to the formal economy are also of key importance in this respect. Policies to strengthen access to quality education, skills development and social protection throughout the life course, as well as well-designed labour market and employment policies, are essential for enhancing school-to work transitions and life-long learning opportunities, and also contribute to preventing child labour and protect against violation of other fundamental rights and principles at work.

Strengthening people's capabilities so that they can benefit from the opportunities of a changing world of work requires effective lifelong learning and quality education for all, effective measures to support people through transitions they will face throughout their working lives and universal access to comprehensive and sustainable social protection. This is at the core of a human-centred agenda to the future of work, as charted out by the Global Commission for the Future of Work and laid out in

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<sup>1</sup> Global Commission for the Future of Work, 2019. [Work for a brighter future](#) (Geneva: International Labour Office).

<sup>2</sup> ILO, 2017. [World Social Protection Report 2017-19: Universal social protection to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals](#) (Geneva: International Labour Office).

the [\*ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work\*](#) adopted at the International Labour Conference in June 2019. This approach goes beyond investing in human capital, but relates to the rights and entitlements that enable people to realize their full potential and improve their well-being. It calls for universal access to comprehensive and sustainable social protection for all, together with a universal entitlement to lifelong learning and more investment in the institutions, policies and strategies to support working people, including young, working-age and older women and men, through future of work transitions.

This session will bring together governments, social partners, international organizations and development partners to discuss the policies needed to support people through the multiple transitions that are under way, explore how social protection can contribute to facilitating lifelong learning and labour market transitions and highlight experiences of countries that have stepped up their investments in people's capabilities.

## OBJECTIVES

This technical session has the following objectives:

- To discuss the challenges of the global transformations under way and the policies needed to effectively address them.
- To explore the link between social protection, lifelong learning and effective measures to support people through transitions that they face throughout their life cycles.
- To highlight experiences of countries that have taken steps to strengthen people's capabilities to reap all the benefits of a changing world of work.

## FORMAT

This technical session will consist of a moderated discussion, where the moderator will ask one or two rounds of questions to the panel members. The panel members will not be required to deliver any power point presentation.

## MODERATOR AND PANELLISTS

Moderator: **Fabio Bertranou**, Director of the ILO DWT and Country Office for the South Cone of Latin America

- **Maliki Maliki**, Director for Planning, Population and Social Security, BAPPENAS, Indonesia
- **Boitumelo Moloji**, Deputy Minister of Employment and Labour, South Africa
- Representative of the Government of South Africa (tbc)
- **Guillermo Zuccotti**, Social Protection Specialist, Confederación General del Trabajo de la República Argentina
- **Miriam Pinto Lomeña**, Responsible of International Affairs in the Department of Employment, Education, Diversity and Social Protection, Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales (CEOE), Spain
- **Indhira Santos**, Global Lead for Labor and Skills, World Bank
- **Pamela Dale**, Advisor, Social Policy and Economic Analysis (Europe and Central Asia), UNICEF
- **Lewis Temple**, Chief Executive Officer, BRAC United Kingdom