

## Global Social Protection Week

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

### Stream 6

Making the right to social protection a reality for all

### Technical session 6.3

Tripartite action for the development of sustainable and socially responsive social  
protection systems

**Thursday, 28 November 2019**

**14:00pm – 15:15pm**

#### BACKGROUND

Building social protection systems is the primary responsibility of the State, yet it will take the contribution of all stakeholders to achieve the goal of universal and sustainable social protection and SDG 1.3 by 2030. The formulation, implementation and monitoring of social protection systems, including floors should be based on national consultations through effective social dialogue and participation by government, employers', and workers' representatives. Wider national dialogue, which includes consultation with other relevant and representative organizations of persons concerned, can also help ensure that the systems are economically sustainable and socially responsive for all.

While it is ultimately the responsibility of States to ensure the existence of adequate social protection for society and to plan, organize and, in some cases, finance the necessary protection, enterprises can play a significant role in promoting and realizing social security and social protection floors adapted to each country.

There is often a discussion about labour costs, however, what is sometimes forgotten is the extent to which enterprises benefit from social security and ultimately a healthy and qualified workforce. They play a key role in ensuring that their workforce has access to health care, that disability benefits facilitate rehabilitation and return to work, that unemployment benefits help reintegrate workers in qualified jobs, or that maternity benefits are being paid by social insurance or from the government budget instead of the individual employers. This is particularly important for smaller enterprises. This is why the private sector is and should be closely involved in policy design and financing of social protection through mechanisms taking into account social justice and equity. The lack of social protection is not only unacceptable from a human rights perspective, but it is also a missed opportunity from an economic and social development point of view. Companies can help to convey this message to the whole business community and beyond, through participation in national employers' organizations and collaborating with the ILO.

The inclusion of workers' organisations is essential for inclusive and socially responsive systems. As one of the primary contributors and beneficiaries, workers have a long tradition in advocating for social protection extension and enforcement, as well as safeguarding social rights. Workers' organisations are well-placed to participate in the formulation, implementation, and monitoring of

social protection systems including floors, to hold their governments accountable, and to ensure that benefits are sustainable and adequate, in particular in the face of austerity and social security reforms.

Developing social protection systems requires contributions from governments, workers and employers. Governments are primarily responsible for policy design, implementation and, in the case of tax-based social assistance, for the financing; workers and employers contribute in the design of schemes, through national dialogues, in financing through the payment of social contributions and through their participation in the governance of social protection schemes and programmes. These joint responsibilities are a foundation for tripartite design and implementation of social protection systems including floors.

This session seeks to highlight the importance of social dialogue for building economically sustainable and socially responsive social protection systems including floors, and identify tangible examples that can be useful to a variety of contexts.

## OBJECTIVES

This session will consider how social partners can best work with governments towards the expansion of national social protection systems including floors as well as the achievement of the SDGs on social protection.

This session should allow the audience to hear concrete experiences from different stakeholders' perspectives. Their testimonies can serve as points of reference for wider engagement by all social partners.

## MODERATOR AND PANELLISTS

Moderator: **Vera Paquete-Perdigao**, Director, Governance and Tripartism Department, ILO

- **Ouk Samvithyea**, Executive Director of the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), Cambodia
- **Eduardo Méndez**, Director, Centro de Estudios en Seguridad Social, Salud y Administración del Banco de Previsión Social, Uruguay
- **Elise Debiès**, Directrice de l'IHEPS et des relations internationales de l'EN3S, France
- **Kwabenh Ooto**, Director of Research and Policy from the Ghana Trades Union Congress, Ghana
- **Worker representative** (TBD)
- **Worker representative** (TBD)
- **Paul Mackay**, Manager Employment Relations Policy, BusinessNZ, New Zealand
- **Veronique Rochet**, Director, Global Supply Chain Sustainability, Fast Retailing Co. Ltd, Japan (TBD)
- **Carole Hommey**, Coordinatrice Initiative for Compliance and Sustainability, France
- **Valérie Schmitt**, Director ad interim, Social Protection Department, ILO