



Concept Note - " Financing Social Protection: Finding the Political Will"

Background:

With the adoption of the Agenda 2030 in 2015, Member States committed to “end poverty in all its forms and everywhere” (Goal 1) and to “reduce inequality within and among countries” (Goal 10). Social protection systems are listed as targets to meet to realize both of these goals. 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda for Financing for Development also includes a strong commitment to “deliver social protection and essential public services for all” and to “provide fiscally sustainable and nationally appropriate social protection systems, including floors” (Addis Ababa Action Agenda, paragraph 12).

Establishing effective social protection systems including floors will address labor constraints, boost household livelihood investments, generate productive opportunities for women, marginalized communities including migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and future generation. Eleven out of the seventeen SDGs and 27 targets have direct linkages to social protection 2030 Agenda offers an opportunity to make transformative change to address inequalities at all level and forms. The role of Social Protection including floors at addressing inequalities is undisputed. However, the debate continues to hinge around the financing aspects of social protection. As studies have indicated that barring nine countries in vulnerable situations, others have the capacity to provide social protection to their citizens within their national GDP, political will is paramount importance to ensure universal social protection coverage.

Logistics:

Date & Time: April 17, 8:00 am -9:30 am

Location: Conference Room 12

Objectives of the event:

The objectives of the panel are to generate substantive discussion and propose concrete measures to address the challenges to financing and implementing social protection systems including floors. Panelists will highlight initiatives taken at the highest level resulting in actions, policy changes and innovative partnerships at the national level leading to effective financing

and implementation of social protection programs. The panel will also show-case success stories of multi-level collaboration leading to successful implementation.

The panel information:

- H.E. Dr. Toshiya Hoshino , Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN
- Ms. Valerie Schmitt Director of Social Protection, ILO
- Mr. Mamadou Diallo, ITUC Deputy General Secretary
- Ms. Miriam Brett, Bretton Woods Project

Moderator – Barry Herman, Board Member, Social Justice in Global Development & Member, NGO Committee on Financing for Development

The panelists will cover topics including costs of non-implementation, steps being taken to address the challenges to implementation, especially financial challenges, share best practices where political will has led to effective implementation, and strategize on ways civil society organizations can collaborate to advance implementation.

Co-sponsors: International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Labrique International, Partnership for Global Justice, Social Justice in Global Development, Vivat International, & Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund