

## 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 6.2

A culture of social protection at all levels

**Thursday, 28 November 2019**

**10:45am – 12:00pm**

#### BACKGROUND

Since the beginning of the 20th century, social security has experienced an important development around the world. Almost every country has laws on pensions, health care, employment injury, disability, maternity, family and sickness benefits. This marks a generalized concern of societies to generate protection for their citizens. However, while there have been real efforts to extend coverage at national and international level, progress has been slow. Yet, some 71 percent of the world's population continues to live without adequate coverage. This can be attributed to problems closely related to the labour market, such as informality, low income, deregulation and political instability.

Recently, a new emerging factor has been identified as an essential element in the extension of coverage: the development of culture of social security.

Experience shows that countries that have considerably extended social protection, and in certain cases, reached almost universal coverage, in addition to political and technical measures, have designed and implemented programmes to develop a culture for social protection among policy makers, employers, workers and the whole population.

More and more countries<sup>1</sup> are becoming aware and are working in this direction, they are including in their social protection extension strategies actions to create culture for social protection at different levels. Essentially, these programmes promote the dissemination and realization of the fundamental human right to social protection (social security values, principles, rights and obligations).

However, creating a culture of social protection through education, awareness raising and communication is a long-term investment that involves several actors. It requires sufficient investment in the social protection systems as it generates expectations and increases the demand for benefits and services.

Creating a social protection culture is a country specific process that concerns society as a whole and relies on strong and engaged political will over time. At the time of designing social protection education and awareness raising programmes, each country builds its own strategy based on its social

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<sup>1</sup> ILO, 2017: Uruguay. Building a Culture of Social Protection; ILO, 2017: Belgium. Mass campaign: Social Protection for All.

contract, specificities and needs. Therefore, Programmes' objectives and scopes differ from one country to another.

This session will bring together governments, social partners, international organizations and development partners, as well as a private sector foundation to discuss on why and how a culture for social protection impacts on the extension of coverage to all and facilitates the implementation of structural changes of the systems. Panellists will present different challenges and perspectives of the process of developing a culture for social protection.

## OBJECTIVES

This technical session has the following objectives:

- To explore the concept of “culture of social protection”, its scope and delimitation.
- To discuss the importance of creating a culture of social protection at all levels for the development of national social protection systems, its sustainability and the extension of the coverage to all.
- To highlight lessons learnt and country experiences on creating a culture for social protection and the impact and/or the consequences of the lack of culture for social protection in view of facing current and future challenges, risks and opportunities.

## 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.

Questions will focus on:

- Realizing the human right to social protection through the creation of a culture a social protection.
- Building a culture of social protection to support the operation of systems, the reform and the sustainability on the long-term.
- Developing and implementing measures aimed at building a culture of social protection, including for employers' and workers' organizations.

## MODERATOR AND PANELLISTS

Moderator: **Helmut Schwarzer**, Senior ILO Social Protection Specialist for Central America

- **Dominique Libault**, Director, Ecole nationale supérieure de la sécurité sociale, France
- **Mirai Chatterjee**, Director, Self-Employed Women's Association Social Security, India
- **Eduardo Méndez**, Director, Centro de Estudios en Seguridad Social, Salud y Administración del Banco de Previsión Social, Uruguay
- **Moisés Comiche**, National Director of Social Action, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Action, Mozambique
- **Malika Ok**, ILO Project Officer, Cambodia, ILO
- **Matthias Savignac**, President, Education and Solidarity Network, France