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Special Unit for South-South Cooperation

## South-South and triangular cooperation

### Implementation of gender sensitive Social Protection Floors at country level

#### What does the project do?

- Supporting selected countries from the South in designing and implementing national Social Protection Floors

This project is the result of a collaboration between UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation and ILO. It aims at supporting countries from the South in the design, implementation, monitoring or harmonization of Social Protection Floor policies or components. Five countries have been initially selected: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Togo.

- Establishing a South-South and triangular cooperation framework

The project provides country-tailored support through facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation between countries and other partners that have acquired expertise in a particular area related to the design and implementation of Social Protection Floors (SPF), with those countries that are currently seeking for assistance to overcome a particular challenge in their efforts of reforming, designing or implementing their SPF policies.

Many developing countries have already successfully taken measures to introduce elements of national SPFs. The programmes in these countries show us that the impact of the social floor on poverty, vulnerability and inequality can be significant. Considering the technical knowledge of these countries of the

South, they are in the in a unique position to advise and support other countries in their efforts in building, expanding, extending or reorienting their social protection systems. It is well recognized that the knowledge, skills, and technical expertise which can be exchanged through South-South and triangular cooperation are in many cases those most suitable to meeting the development challenges faced by others in the South. Potential countries providing expertise in this project include Brazil, China, India, Pakistan and Thailand.

- Particular attention to gender-sensitive approach in introducing SPF elements

As women are particularly affected by interrupted biographies, precarious working relationships and working in the informal economy, the project will pay particular attention to promoting a gender-sensitive approach.

- Knowledge management and sharing

The project experiences, best practices, lessons learned and other relevant information will be documented and widely disseminated through the internet platforms GESS (an interactive platform on the Global Extension of Social Security) and GSSD (Global South-South Development Academy).

GSSD: <http://academy.ssc.undp.org>

GESS: [www.socialprotectionfloor.org](http://www.socialprotectionfloor.org)



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### What is the Social Protection Floor?

The Social Protection Floor (SPF) concept highlights the social, economic and political importance of providing guaranteed access to a certain level of social services and transfers of adequate quality. Social protection floors allow people to lead a life in dignity and enjoy their basic human rights. The concept of a social protection floor is very clear. No one should live below a certain income level and everyone should be able to access at least basic health services, primary education, housing, water, sanitation, food security and adequate nutrition. Social transfers, in cash or in kind, that provide income security as well as food security must be guaranteed.

### Aims of the project

To **improve access** of the population, particularly vulnerable groups, to a **basic level of social transfers and services**.

- Improve South-South and triangular cooperation through facilitating the sharing of experiences between the country requesting and the country providing expertise.
- Improve the technical capacities of officials in the government and social security institutions to plan, manage and implement gender sensitive social services and transfers
- Raise awareness and provide evidence base for national stakeholders through documenting and disseminating the experiences and findings of the project.

### Contact us:

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### Target Groups and Partners

- Population currently not covered by existing social protection systems
- Representatives of relevant ministries and authorities at the local level.
- Social security, social partners and other institutions at country level involved in the supply/delivery of social protection benefits along the various dimensions of the Social Protection Floor
- UN agencies and development partners involved in the Social Protection Floor Initiative.

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