

Terms of Reference for Data Collection on Social Protection Programming



Requirement	National Consultant
Assignment	Data collection for Social Protection Floors (SPF) Assessment
Start date	1 st August
End date	30 th October
Total working days	30 days

1. Background of the study

Social protection is at the forefront of the development agenda, given its positive social and economic impacts. It is a key element of national strategies to promote human development, political stability and inclusive growth; it ensures that people enjoy income security and have effective access to health and other social services, and are empowered to take advantage of economic opportunities. By raising household incomes, such policies play a key role in boosting domestic demand, supporting structural transformation of national economies, promoting decent work, and fostering inclusive and sustainable growth.

Social protection is one of the priorities for the Government of Nepal (GoN). The Constitution of 2015 recognizes social protection as a right to all citizens (Article 43), further reinforced in Article 33 on the Right to Employment, Article 41 on the Rights of Senior Citizens, and Articles 37, 40, 42 highlights that women, Dalit, vulnerable groups and indigenous communities under threat of disappearing, respectively, should receive special attention to access social protection. The 15th National Development Plan has set ambitious targets to achieve its goals on universal social protection including 60 percent coverage of the population with basic social protection schemes and the allocation of 13.7 per cent of the National Budget for social protection in FY 2023/24.

While the target on budget allocation seems slightly behind but progressing, with 11.5 percent of the national budget allocated for social protection for FY 2021/22, against the planned 12.9 percent, progress in the extension of the coverage remains concerning. According to a 2019 estimate by the ILO, the proportion of the population protected in at least one area of social protection is 17 per cent and the proportion of vulnerable persons covered by floors/systems is only 14.8 per cent.¹ Thus, notwithstanding the progress made, poor and vulnerable households of Nepal remain predominantly unprotected and often

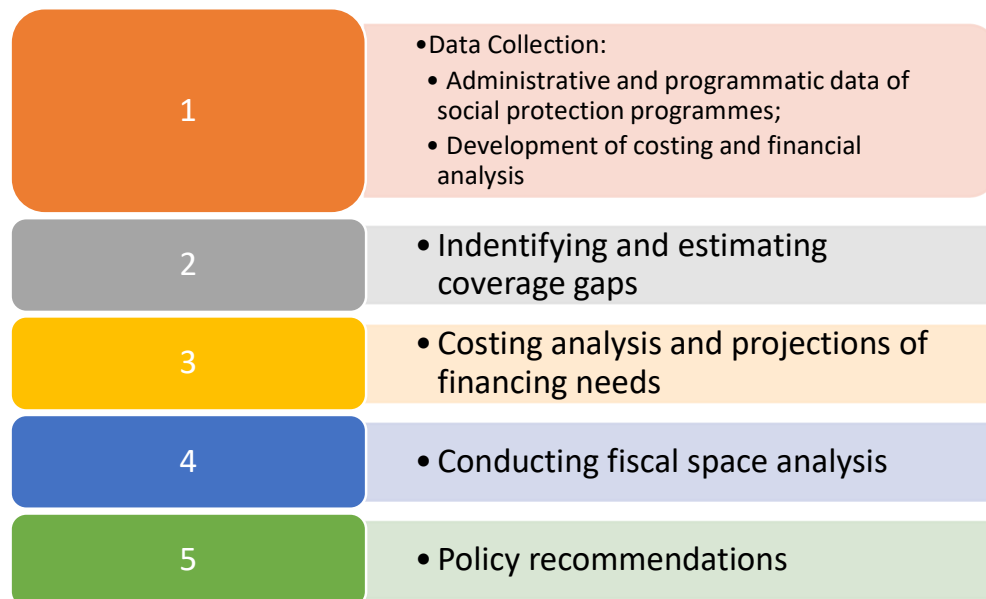
¹ ILO calculations based on the latest data available through the Social Security Inquiry (SSI) database in 2020.

unprepared to cope with a range of shocks and life-course stresses, aggravated by the current COVID-19 crisis.

A fundamental step for designing and implementing comprehensive social protection systems is to measure gaps in both coverage and financing for social protection (see Figure 1). The ILO Country Office for Nepal is implementing the Project on *‘Enhancing Social Protection System: Towards Investments for Results in Nepal in Nepal’* (SPPFM Project) as part of the European Union’s global Action on improving synergies between social protection and public finance management. The objective of the project is to support the Government of Nepal (GoN) in improving social protection policies; financing strategies; coordination mechanism; and implementation and monitoring systems in order to increase coverage to the excluded, including persons with disabilities (PWD), informal sector workers and people living in disaster prone areas.

The ILO has proposed a **series of studies to review the existing social protection system of Nepal**, understand its gaps and challenges, and identify potential strategies to extend the coverage and improve the adequacy of schemes and for the sustainable financing of the sector under the SPPFM Project.

Figure 1: Phases of Social Protection Floor Costing and Fiscal Space Analysis



2. Objective of the ToR

This terms of reference focuses on data collection of administrative and programmatic data of social protection programmes. Detailed programme information, such as the legal basis for the programme, target group, benefits (including information on the nature of benefits,

average value, delivery mechanism, benefit calculation formula, conditionalities), coverage information disaggregated by gender, age, and geographical distribution will be collected.

While ILO's Social Security Inquiry (SSI), ILO's main tool for collecting data on social protection, will provide a basis for the data collection exercise, indicators will be finalized based on Nepal's context and existing information already available through studies undertaken by GoN agencies such as the National Planning Commission (NPC) and donor partners working in social protection (UNICEF, World Bank, etc.).

3. Task/Activities

Under the supervision of the Social Protection Team in ILO Nepal, the external collaborator will work on the following:

1. Finalize the assessment matrix with key indicator for data collection in collaboration with the Social Protection Team in ILO Nepal;
2. Collect programmatic data on social protection programmes from administrative and official sources based on the assessment matrix; and,
3. Input collected data into the assessment matrix.

The expected number of days for this task is 30 days.

4. Deliverables

Final assessment matrix with data on social protection programmes

5. Payment Schedule

Full payment will be made upon submission of agreed deliverable to the satisfaction of the ILO.

6. Reporting

The consultant will work under the general supervision and direction of the Social Protection Team in Nepal ILO Office.

7. Qualification & Experience Required

The consultants should have the following qualification and experience:

1. Bachelor's degree in social science, organizational management or related field;
2. Familiarity with social protection concepts, programmes and schemes in operation in Nepal;
3. 1-2 years of experience in data collection with understanding of primary and secondary research techniques;
4. Experience in liaising with Government of Nepal ministries;
5. Excellent communication and public relations skills as well as working knowledge of local languages and command in written English; and,

6. Previous work experience with government institutions, the UN System in general and with ILO in particular, will be added advantage.

8. Submission

Interested individual consultants are invited to submit their application (expression of interest) along with updated CV with evidences of similar type of work experiences and expected daily rate of consultancy to KTM_PROCUREMENT@ilo.org no later than 17:30hrs, July 18th, 2021. Please indicate "SP Data Collection, SPPFM" in your email subject line.