



International
Labour
Organization

World of Work Summit: Social Justice for All

14–15 June 2023, Palais des Nations, Room XX

▶ Panel: Jobs and social protection for just transitions

Thursday, 15 June 2023, 10.40 a.m.–12.00 p.m.

There is broad agreement that the world must do more to address the crises facing all countries, particularly developing countries that have more limited fiscal capacity to cope with the challenges. The devastating impacts of climate change together with rising levels of debt and the risk of fiscal austerity require a significant shift in the global response, with a greater focus on creating decent jobs and extending social protection to facilitate inclusive transitions and structural transformations. Against this backdrop, the UN Secretary-General launched the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions in September 2021, which aims to increase the level and coordination of the multilateral system's efforts to support countries in creating 400 million decent jobs, including in the green, digital and care economies, and to extend social protection coverage to the 4 billion people currently excluded.

If designed and implemented in an integrated manner, investment in skills and pro-employment macroeconomic policies that aim to increase employment opportunities and social protection coverage contribute to inclusive structural transformations. They are essential to support formalization and the creation of decent employment in key sectors of the economy that are marked by decent work deficits (such as digital, green, care, tourism and agriculture) and the active participation of women and disadvantaged groups in decent employment and their effective access to adequate social protection, while facilitating a job-rich recovery and a just transition to the green, care and digital economy. This virtuous circle also contributes to the expansion of fiscal space through an increase in social contributions and tax revenues for social investments, which is critical for developing countries. Coordinated and scaled-up investments in decent jobs and social protection are needed for a human-centred recovery and sustainable development. However, many countries are currently facing a difficult trade-off between containing their debt vulnerabilities or increasing much-needed public investments to shape and guide the transformations to create decent work and promote social justice.