

SOCIAL SECURITY IN BRIEF

Social security is a basic human right enshrined in international treaties such as the 1944 ILO Declaration of Philadelphia and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The provision of social security is an effective means of reducing poverty and social exclusion, preventing social unrest, and fostering long-term economic growth.



Recent ILO research has shown that basic social security is affordable for countries at virtually all stages of development and constitutes an essential tool in the struggle to reach the Millennium Development Goals.

Yet, extending social security coverage to all through sustainable, rights-based and affordable national social security systems remains a considerable challenge. The sharing of successful experiences, the promotion of innovations, and the exchange of information on how to develop and implement social security extension strategies thus play a crucial role in securing the right to social security.

“Basic social security is affordable for countries at virtually all stages of development.”

AN INTERACTIVE TOOL

All the information described in this brochure is freely available to the public on the GESS platform, a tool which:

- provides information on country experiences, statistical data, and methodological and didactic tools;
- offers free access to resources, news, training and workshop material;
- serves as a space for dialogue and knowledge sharing for those involved in the joint UN Social Protection Floor Initiative;
- facilitates interaction for collaborative work on projects through a discussion forum and personalized workspaces.

To facilitate utilization of the platform, a help service (gess@ilo.org) has been set up and user guides are available for your convenience on each section of the website.

Visit us today!

www.socialsecurityextension.org

Contact us!

gess@ilo.org

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International
Labour
Office
Geneva

GLOBAL EXTENSION OF SOCIAL SECURITY

*An interactive space for **collaboration** on
the extension of social security to all*

GESS Global Extension
of Social Security

What is GESS?

GESS is a trilingual global knowledge sharing platform, developed to promote the extension of social security. It is run by the ILO Social Security Department and currently involves users from some 130 countries.

A key tool of the Global Campaign on Social Security for All, the platform is designed to capitalize on experiences in the field, produce and disseminate knowledge, and facilitate the exchange of information and ideas. To achieve this, GESS builds on the efforts of a team of experts and ILO specialists, as well as on the contributions of its users and the dialogue they have with each other through the platform.

“GESS promotes collaboration and user interaction, aiming to create a global social network for all those in the field of social security.”

Who is GESS for?

GESS is designed to engage all actors involved in the extension of social security, including: technical cooperation experts; policy makers; teams from ministries of health, finance, employment or social protection; donors; social security fund managers; mutual health organization staff; NGOs staff; trainers; and researchers.

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What can GESS offer you?



NEWS

GESS offers a selection of news and information about country developments, new publications, events and training.



RESOURCES

GESS includes a library with over 2000 social security resources (policy papers, technical country reports, manuals...etc.); a statistics section with access to social security data from different sources (e.g. Social Security Inquiry); direct links to ILO's legal databases, NATLEX and ILOLEX; a social security glossary; a database of experts; and relevant links.



TOPICS

GESS provides concise summaries of topics such as social security policy areas (e.g. old age or health), instruments (e.g. social insurance), and tools (e.g. social budgeting or costing tools), as well as related policy documents, training, links, and on-going projects.



REGIONAL & COUNTRY PROFILES

GESS provides an increasingly comprehensive overview of regional and national social security systems, activities and results to date, as well as detailed examples of the application of Social Protection Expenditure Reviews, actuarial valuations, and social budgeting methodologies.



SERVICES

GESS outlines the services offered by the ILO Social Security Department: legal services, financial and actuarial services, and training.



WORKSPACES & G-FORUM

Through the GESS platform, professionals and experts can communicate directly about their work and get in touch with each other via the online forum, or by creating workspaces to collaborate on tasks such as technical cooperation projects.

How can you participate?

Register today to benefit from the full range of services available on GESS and to be able to actively participate by:

- creating workspaces to communicate with a community of social security professionals;
- uploading resources to the library;
- posting news and comments;
- subscribing to customized news alerts;
- uploading your CV into a database of social security experts.

Become a GESS user: search, share and contribute!

GESS GLOBAL EXTENSION OF SOCIAL SECURITY

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REGIONAL & COUNTRY PROFILES

NEWS

SOCIAL TRANSFERS IMPACTS

ONGOING DISCUSSIONS

KEY READINGS

UPCOMING TRAINING

SIGN IN

To start using GESS, simply click on Sign up here, fill in the form and register!

Visit us today!

www.socialsecurityextension.org