

Welcome (in person or virtually) to the

Joint AU/FIN/ILO/UN-Women Side Event

Social Protection to Reduce Climate Loss and Damage – An Economy-of-Wellbeing Approach for Leaving No One Behind

*on Tuesday Feb 7th, 2023 at 1.15-2.30pm
at the UN Commission on Social Development (CSocD), Conference room 8, UN-HQ*

SPEAKERS:

Government of Finland: Ms. Hanna Sarkkinen, Minister of Social Affairs and Health
African Union Commission (AUC): Mr. Sabelo Mbokazi, Head of Labour, Employment & Migration
ILO: Dr. Shahra Razavi, Director of Social Protection
UN-Women: Dr. Silke Staab, Research Specialist
ACT-Sweden: Ms. Gunilla Nycander, Expert

Main objectives of the event

- The main goal of the side event is to exchange ideas between the African Union, Government of Finland, ILO, UN-Women and other partners.
- Specifically the partners will discuss what would be the optimal ways to ensure that Climate Loss and Damage Financing will be reaching vulnerable groups (women, youth, persons with disabilities) in the most vulnerable countries (e.g. in low-income Africa), and that it effectively compensates for their losses and damage caused by the climate change.
- In November 2022, the UN Climate Change Conference (COP27) resulted in an agreement to provide ‘loss and damage’ funding for vulnerable countries to address the impacts on communities hit and lives and livelihoods affected.
- The COP27 decision acknowledges “that existing funding arrangements fall short of responding to current and future impacts of climate change”. Literature indicates that the existing climate finance mechanisms have not been particularly good in reaching the vulnerable groups (women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities) in the most vulnerable countries.

- At regional level in Africa, the The African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2032 recognizes that:
 - “Social protection mechanisms have significant potential to improve or support households’ adaptation to climate change through social assistance (cash or in-kind transfers), social insurance (cover against designated contingencies), or labour market programmes (such as unemployment benefits).
 - Evidence is emerging that demonstrates by alleviating credit, savings and liquidity constraints, such transfers can stimulate agricultural production through investment in technology and productive assets (farm, livestock, non-farm).
 - Adaptive social protection emphasizes livelihood promotion in addition to protection, via mechanisms to increase benefits per participant and to reach more beneficiaries in the face of emerging shocks. Innovations in risk finance can increase the effectiveness and timeliness of adaptive social protection programmes.

**Join us in Conference room 8 at the UN-HQ
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