

Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors Narrative Report January 2022 – December 2024

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I. KEY AREAS OF WORK

The main activities of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors (GCSPF) in the period included advocacy for social protection floors and for a Global Fund for Social Protection, at global and regional forums, disseminating position statements and research reports. The Coalition also implemented an advocacy project in selected developing countries (Senegal, Uganda, Nepal and Cambodia) which was carried out in 2022 and 2023. The campaign "Social Security for All: Key Pillar for New Eco-Social Contract" was launched in Marrakech in October 2023. The campaign has been active since then and it is supported by NGOs, TU, and not all of them are members of the GCSPF.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had an enormous impact in the world and in the work of the GCSPF, as it created a massive and unprecedented global rise in the need of social protection, with very disparate responses from different countries, due to their different capacities and also different governmental policies and ideologies.

After the Covid-19 pandemic inequalities have increased both within and between countries, poverty and unemployment have risen and the need for new concepts and paradigms around social protection and care in general has been highlighted in many international fora.

On the other hand, confinements around the world deeply affected the way in which social movements, unions and NGOs -including the members of the Global Coalition - work and mobilize.

The work of the secretariat during this period was to support the advocacy of the GCSPF that was very active, particularly in the area of financing social protection.

During this period the GCSPF maintained its presence as an active participant in several international policymaking processes, including intergovernmental fora. In this report the different activities are linked to the main areas identified by the Core Team and the working groups.

A. Global Advocacy and Agenda Setting

a) Advocacy & United Nations Engagement

HLPF Side Event: "How to achieve the SDGs despite the worsening hunger and poverty crisis?"

The HLPF virtual side event: How to achieve the SDGs despite the worsening hunger and poverty crisis? took place on 6 July, during the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) 2022.

The side event was focused on the discussion on "Building forward better" around four interlinked themes – vaccines, hunger, debt and social protection, and livelihood while discussing it in context of the achievement of the SDGs, especially SDG 5 using the gender lens.

Gunnel Axelsson Nycander participated on behalf of the GCSPF. Download <u>here</u> her presentation. <u>Watch the</u> <u>recording</u>

This event was part of the series of actions and discussions hosted by Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) and the wider civil society coalitions in the build-up to the Global Week of Action (GWA) culminating in September 25.

Global People's Assembly

The Global People's Assembly (GPA) is a self organised space hosted by GCAP during the United Nations General Assembly high level week. The aim is to bring the voices of the people to the forefront, at a time where

decision makers engage in high level debate without people's involvement.

Tavengwa Nhongo (APSP and member of the coalition core group) participated in the <u>African Assembly</u>, and he spoke on the right to universal social protection in Africa and the call for the global fund.

Florian Juergens-Grant (WIEGO) participated on behalf of the GCSPF at the session <u>Leave No Woman Behind</u>. The GCSPF supported the GPA in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Strategy Meeting Towards the Second World Social Summit for Social Development

The recording of the event "Strategy Meeting Towards the Second World Social Summit for Social Development" is now available. The event was held at the Global People's Assembly 2024 on 23 September, 2024.

The objective of this session was to create a collective work agenda to fill the existing social dimension gap, through the review of the good and not so good done since Copenhagen, and the addressing of the challenges the social world faces nowadays.

Position Paper of the GCSPF at the Commission for Social Development 61st Session

In February 2023 the GCSPF released the position paper for the <u>61st Session of the Commission for Social</u> Development CSocD61.

<u>Virtual Side Event "On the Road to 2025: A New Social Contract with Universal Social Protection and Full Employment and Decent Work for all"</u>

The event tackled the diverse and interconnecting perspectives on social protection and the urgency of a "renewed" social contract anchored in human rights for a new era and consider why the Global Fund for Social Protection is necessary to deliver to all the right to social protection.

The side event was held on February 8, 2023, during the <u>61st Session of the Commission for Social Development CSocD61</u>.

The side event was organized by the <u>GCSPF</u> and co-organized by <u>GCAP</u>, <u>Gray Panthers</u>, <u>African Platform for Social Protection (APSP)</u>, <u>Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd</u>.

GCSPF at the Development Cooperation Forum

Barry Herman made an <u>intervention</u> on behalf of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, a member of the GCSPF and also on behalf of the GCSPF at the <u>UN's Development Cooperation Forum</u>. The <u>UN's Development Cooperation Forum</u> that met at ministerial level on 14-15 March 2023 in New York, included a session on "<u>Building momentum for effective social protection measures</u>."

GCSPF at the "Global Forum on Adaptive Social Protection Protecting lives and livelihoods in times of crisis"

The <u>Global Forum</u> provided an opportunity for policymakers, practitioners and social protection experts to jointly examine and discuss the scope and potential of Adaptive Social Protection (ASP) to foster resilience and promote adaptation.

<u>Dr. Magdalena Sepúlveda</u> spoke on behalf of the GCSPF in the <u>opening session "Towards social protection for all in the face of multiple global crises"</u>. The video of her intervention is <u>here</u>.

The German NGO association VENRO released a <u>statement on the Global Forum on Adaptive Social Protection</u>. The <u>"Global Forum on Adaptive Social Protection"</u> was hosted by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the World Bank (WB) and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in cooperation with partners and with support from <u>socialprotection.org</u>. The Forum took place in Berlin in June 2023.

"Social Justice: Social Protection and Health, People's Vaccine"

The hybrid session "Social Justice: Social Protection and Health, People's Vaccine" co-organized by the GCSPF, GCAP Asia, GCAP Africa, PVA and Africa Japan Forum was held during the Global People's Assembly (GPA) 2023 on 17th September in New York.

Statement at the 54the Session of the Human Rights Council

In September 2023 the GCSPF presented a statement to support the Study "<u>Inequality, social protection and the right to development</u>". This study was published by the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, and it was released at the 54th regular session of the Human Rights Council.

The GCSPF key demands at COP28

The GCSPF demands the use of climate funding to invest in social protection system building, as this will facilitate more sustainable and transformative support than humanitarian aid and reconstruction of damaged infrastructure alone. The Statement was released in November 2023.

Press Release. <u>COP28: GCSPF Calls for Building Social Protection Systems to deal with "Loss and Damage"</u>

The GCSPF welcomes the decision to establish a Loss and Damage Fund. It is an important step towards climate justice. Estimates by scientists projecting climate damages ranging from \$290 to \$580 billion by 2030 and surpassing one trillion dollars by 2050 underscore the urgency of such measures.

Member organizations of the GCSPF collectively advocate for strategic utilization of financial resources from this Fund. A central concern is to specifically allocate fund resources for the establishment and fortification of rights-based Social Protection Systems. These systems play a pivotal role in mitigating the catastrophic consequences of climate change and adequately cushioning individual damages and losses, while contributing to increase resilience and improve adaptation.

The GCSPF participated in the process towards the Summit of the Future.

The GCSPF inputs to the Summit of the Future

The GCSPF welcomes the initiative to convene a Summit of the Future (SofF). The agenda of the Summit focuses on topics that are of crucial importance for the future of the global community.

In December 2023 the GCSPF <u>contributed to the informal consultations with stakeholders</u> and also <u>submitted its</u> inputs for the preparation of the Zero Draft of the SotF.

Written Statement at the Commission for Social Development 62nd Session

The GCSPF delivered a written statement at the 62nd session of the Commission for Social Development 2024 which priority theme is "Fostering Social Development and Social Justice through Social Policies to accelerate Progress on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication".

Side event "The transformative potential of expanding the coverage of child benefits to eliminate child poverty"

The side event was held in New York on February 14, 2024. The event was held during the 62nd Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD62).

This event was organised by Save the Children International, UNICEF and ILO and co-sponsored by the GCSPF, the Permanent Mission of Luxembourg and USP2030.

Side event "Advocating Universal Social Protection Floors for Asian Countries"

The virtual side event was held during the 11th Asia Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD) on February 21, 2024. The side event discussed the scope of Universal Social Protection Floors to address poverty, hunger, inequality and adapt to climate change.

The GCSPF inputs to the Global Digital Compact

The GCSPF delivered a <u>statement</u> in the Informal consultation with relevant stakeholders in preparation of the zero draft of the Global Digital Compact (GDC) that was held on March 1st, 2024.

This round of informal consultation was a contribution to the elaboration of the zero draft of the GDC which is annexed to the Pact for the Future.

The GCSPF delivered a <u>Statement</u> at the consultation the Road to the Summit Discussion Series, Meeting 15 Summary Responding to <u>Rev.2</u> that took place on 25 July 2024.

The GCSPF submitted a <u>Statement</u> to the consultation Engagement of Major Groups and other Stakeholders and Civil Society held on 31 July 2024.

Joint Statement "Towards Universal Social Protection"

The <u>Statement</u> was developed by co-organizers of the workshop series on **Towards Universal Social Protection**, held in Kathmandu on 17 February 2024 during the World Social Forum 2024.

The GCSPF at the UNECE Regional Forum 2024

Ms. Sylvia Beales Gelber and Ms. Odile Frank, both members of the GCSPF, participated in the 2024 UNECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development that took place in March 2024.

Side event on Social Protection at the 2024UNCSC

The side event "Why universal social protection is essential for inclusive development, peace and security in the present and future" took place during the 2024 UNCSC in Nairobi, Kenya on May 9, 2024.

The speakers were Jane Anyango (Founder, Polycom Development Project, Nairobi), David Lambert Tumwesigye (Global Policy & Advocacy Lead, Child Poverty, Save the Children International) (download his presentation), Umberto Cattaneo (Public Finance Economist, Universal Social Protection Department - SOCPRO, International Labour Organization - ILO) (download his presentation) and Cyrilla Heyi (Program Manager, Child Rights Governance, Africa Platform for Social Protection - APSP) (download her presentation). The event was moderated by Ingo Ritz (Director, GCAP).

The side event was coorganized by <u>Save the Children International</u>, <u>Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors</u> (<u>GCSPF</u>), <u>Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP</u>), <u>UNANIMA International</u>, <u>Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM)</u>, <u>International Presentation Association (IPA)</u> and <u>Building Blocks for Peace Foundation</u>.

Policy Brief "Social Protection for Climate Justice: Why and how?"

This policy brief argues for a strategic use of climate funding, and in particular for its use in strengthening rights-based social protection systems. Social protection is an important mechanism in managing climate-change related risks and their social and economic consequences as a short-term response to extreme weather events, but also supports people in adapting to climate change in the long-term. The policy brief was launched in May 2024.

Event "Social Justice and International Financial Architecture"

The public event "<u>Social Justice and International Financial Architecture</u>" was co-organized by Social Watch, Latindadd and the GCPSF, and it took place in Chile, on June 25, 2024, during the IV Regional Seminar on Social Development, organized by the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Event "Is the debt crisis killing the SDGs?"

The event "Is the debt crisis killing the SDGs?" was organized by the GCAP, member of the GCSPF, organized this online event in cooperation with Latindadd, NGO Federation of Nepal, Asia Dalit Rights Forum (ADRF), The Inclusivity Project (TIP), Pakistan Development Alliance (PDA), Wada Na Todo Abhiyan, India, Noakhali Rural Development Society, Bangladesh, Coordination Committee of Cambodia (CCC), Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM), Polycom Girls/GCAP Kenya, GCAP Ghana, GCSPF, LDC Watch and South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE). The event took place during the HLPF on July 16, 2024.

Written Statement of the GCSPF at the CSocD63

The GCSPF delivered a <u>written statement</u> at the 63rd Session of the Commission for Social Development 2025. The Statement, in light of 2025's 2nd World Summit for Social Development, calls to strengthen solidarity, social inclusion and social cohesion by making clear commitments to finance universal social protection and by fostering public spaces to raise the voices of grassroots communities, along civil society organisations, trade unions and practitioners, who know best the consequences of the slowdown of global poverty reduction.

Social Justice and International Governance: Latin America and Global Decision-Making

In October 2024, two webinars were coorganized by <u>Social Watch</u>, the GCSPF, <u>Global Initiative for Economic</u>, Social and Cultural Rights (GI-ESCR) and Latindadd.

The Latin American webinar "Social Justice: from the Summit of the Future to the World Social Summit 2025" (the video is here: <u>Justicia social: de la Cumbre del Futuro a la Cumbre Social Mundial 2025</u>". The speakers were Valentina Contreras (GI-ESCR), Verónica Serafini (Latindadd), Claudio Fernandes (Gestos, Brazil). Roberto Bissio (Social Watch) was the moderator.

The video of the Latin American webinar <u>"Justicia social, justicia fiscal y arquitectura financiera global"</u> is available. The speakers were Patricia Miranda (Latindadd), Ezequiel Steuermann (GI-ESCR), María González (Futuro En Común, Spain). The evento was moderated by Roberto Bissio (Coordinator, Social Watch).

b) The right to be cared

Contributions to the discussion on Social Protection in South America

With the aim of strengthening the political incidence of civil society in favour of social protection in South America, a cycle of conferences with the participation of various organizations of civil society (e.g. feminists, trade unions, ecumenical, etc.) and experts in the field took place. It is necessary an official care policy which contemplates supports and complements care work and defends the recognition of the "right to care", gender equality and human development. Likewise, ways of financing social protection are explored, including the creation of a global fund. The following conferences were held and the videos (in Spanish) are on line:

- 1. <u>"Thinking about social protection from care"</u>. Speakers: MA.(Econ) Soledad Salvador (Uruguay), Licenciada en Ciencia Política Patricia Cossani Padilla (Uruguay), PhD. Hildete Pereira de Melo (Brazil) and PhD. Corina Rodríguez Enríquez (Argentina). Moderator: BA(Econ) Alma Espino (Uruguay).
- 2. <u>"Community care in times of COVID-19"</u>. Speakers: MA.(Soc) Norma Sanchís (Argentina), Mag Ec. Natalia Moreno (Uruguay), BSc. (Psych) Alma Colin Colin (Mexico) and Mag. Florencia Cascardo (Argentina). Moderator: BA(Econ) Alma Espino (Uruguay).
- 3. <u>"When the State misses the appointment: the (un)sustainability of life"</u>. Speakers: Mag. Graciela Rodríguez (Brazil), Soc. Rosario Aguirre (Uruguay), Dra Verónica Serafini (Paraguay) and Dra. Alison Vasconez (Ecuador). Moderator: Mag Soledad Salvador (Uruguay).

4. <u>"What the pandemic left us: necessary transformations"</u>. Speakers: Roberto Bissio (Uruguay), PhD Lucía Pérez (Mexico) and PhD Valeria Esquivel (Argentina). Moderator: BA (Econ) Soledad Salvador (Uruguay). These activities were organized by Ciedur, Red de Género y Comercio, Social Watch and the GCSPF.

Regional workshop "Protección Social, Cuidados e Igualdad de Género: Desafíos frente a las Políticas de Austeridad"

A face-to-face regional workshop "Protección Social, Cuidados e Igualdad de Género: Desafíos frente a las Políticas de Austeridad" with experts, trade unionists, members of feminist organizations, academics, and activists was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 9 November, 2022. The workshop examined the experiences of our common struggles for economic and gender justice, and especially the role of the State and public policies. The speakers were Dão Santos (Brasil), Ana Falú (Argentina), Verónica Serafini (Paraguay), Valeria Esquivel (Argentina), Lucía Cirmi (Argentina), and Alma Espino (Uruguay) was the moderator.

This workshop was proposed as a parallel activity of the <u>XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean of ECLAC</u> in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

These activities were organized by <u>Ciedur</u>, <u>Red de Género y Comercio</u>, <u>Social Watch</u> and <u>GCSPF</u>.

A new social contract cannot ignore care

UN Geneva, 112th International Labour Conference (ILC) – Make Mother Matters (MMM) contributed to the discussion on the <u>International Labour Organisation Director General's report</u> calling for a new social contract. The statement was supported by the GCSPF, of which MMM is a member. The statement was delivered in the <u>112th</u> ILC's plenary on 12 June 2024 by Valerie Bichelmeier, MMM's Vice-President.

c) Demands on health and social protection

<u>Universal access to essential health care</u>: propositions from public international law to implement essential health care in conjunction with universal social protection"; by Odile Frank. This background paper was prepared on behalf of Global Social Justice for the Working Group on the Role of Universal Health Coverage, now the Working Group on Health. March 2022.

B. Financing Social Protection

a) Financing Social Protection

In March 2022 a revised version of the <u>Civil Society Call for a Global Fund for Social Protection</u> to respond to the COVID-19 crisis and to build a better future was released.

Support for a Global Fund for Social Protection in the Global South

The GCSPF working group on a new international financing mechanism for social protection organized an exchange (<u>concept note</u>) on how to widen the support for a global fund for social protection in the global south. The zoom meeting was held on September 14th, 2022.

The working group was interested in learning from the GCSPF members and their partners and networks how we can address the concerns raised in low- and middle income countries.

Webinar "Progressive realisation: Building inclusive social protection systems in low- and middle-income countries using the principle of universality"

There is broad consensus that expansion of social protection is a necessary response to the global food and economic crises. But an immediate reaction of countries when approached with the solution of universal social protection is "we can't afford that!". The teams at ACT Church of Sweden, Development Pathways and Action Against Hunger showed how, in actual fact, universality can be affordable.

This event was co-organised by Act Church of Sweden, Action Against Hunger France, Development Pathways and Human Rights Watch, with the support of the GCSPF on Tuesday, November 22, 2022.

Webinar "Be an expert universal social security advocate"

The webinar: "Be an expert universal social security advocate" was moderated by Lena Simet, Senior Researcher and Advocate, Human Rights Watch. Stephen Kidd, CEO, Development Pathways, and Holly Seglah, Social Protection Officer, Development Pathways were the speakers. Richard Obiga (Programme Officer, Social Protection Secretariat, Kenya) and David Tumwesigye (Global Advocacy Manager, Save the Children International) shared their comments and there was a rich discussion with the audience.

The webinar was co-organised by <u>Development Pathways</u> and <u>Act Church of Sweden</u> and the <u>GCSPF</u> and was held on March 21st, 2023.

GCSPF at the LDC5 Civil Society Forum

The side event "Progress through Social Protection - Current initiatives and financing at national and international level" during the Civil Society Forum of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) that was held in Doha, Qatar on March 6th 2023.

Speakers at the event were Massimiliano La Marca (Senior Economist, International Labour Office - ILO), Elibariki Msengi (Christian Council of Tanzania), Martha Bekele (Development Initiatives, Ethiopia) and Ana Zeballos (GCSPF).

The event was co-organised by the <u>GCSPF</u>, <u>Africa Platform for Social Protection (APSP)</u>, <u>Development Initiatives</u>, Christian Council of Tanzania, <u>Act Church of Sweden</u> and <u>Brot für die Welt</u>.

Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions

Statement on the development of a new international financing mechanism for social protection

The GCSPF acknowledges recent initiatives taken by the ILO, World Bank, and other development cooperation partners to direct greater international financing towards supporting social protection programs in the context of the ILO Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection.

Such efforts could be a first step towards the creation of an international financing mechanism on social protection, or Global Social Protection Fund, long-promoted by the GCSPF as necessary in order to mobilise and coordinate international financial assistance in order to truly support the development of universal social protection systems, particularly in the global south.

The GCSPF wishes to underline some key specific criteria that need to be met by any kind of international financing mechanism that would be developed. The statement was released in May 2023.

Webinar "UN Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions"

The webinar on the "UN Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions" took place in April 2024. Markus Kaltenborn presented an overview of the GA (its goals, actors, and its governance structure) and Valérie Schmitt informed us about the national level processes, the current stage of implementation in the different countries and the civil society organizations and trade unions involvement at country level, including opportunities for participation.

Members of the GCSPF participate in the steering committee of the Global Accelerator and many of them are involved in the process at national level.

C. Bretton Woods Institutions

a) Bretton Woods Institutions (BWI)

Webinar: Work Bank, IMF and Universal Social Protection following COVID-19: The Good, the Bad and the Unclear

Representatives from different CSOs, unions and workers' organisations shared their perspectives on whether, and if so, how, IFIs have changed their position on social protection in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on newly published evidence, we discussed what is new regarding IFI's engagement on social protection, what counts as progress, and what are areas where IFIs may continue to fall short on realising the right to social protection for all. The webinar took place on October 20, 2022.

GCSPF response to the World Bank's new social protection strategy

In November 2022 the GCSPF reacted to the World Bank's new strategy for social protection, published under the title "Charting a Course Towards Universal Social Protection: Resilience, Equity, and Opportunity for all". Recognising the human right to social security, as well as the central role that social protection plays in ensuring adequate standards of living, promoting inclusive and sustainable growth, enhancing resilience, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs), the GCSPF promotes the right of all people to social security and universal Social Protection Floors (SPF).

Session "IMF's strategy on social spending facing austerity: new direction or bandaid?"

The session "IMF's strategy on social spending facing austerity: new direction or bandaid?" took place at the Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) during the 2023 International Monetary Fund - World Bank Group Spring Meetings. The event was moderated by Alex Cambpell (International Trade Union Confederation - ITUC). And the speakers were Rodrigo Cerda (Division Chief, Expenditure Policy Division, Fiscal Affairs Department, International Monetary Fund - IMF), Shahra Razavi (Director, Social Protection Department, International Labour Organization - ILO), Alexander Kentikelenis (Oxfam International) and Ahilan Kadirgamar (Senior Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka).

The event was co-organized by the GCSPF, <u>Bretton Woods Project</u>, <u>Human Rights Watch</u>, <u>International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)</u>, <u>Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation</u>, <u>NGO Committee on Financing for Development</u>, <u>Oxfam International</u>, <u>Social Justice in Global Development</u>, <u>Social Policy Initiative (South Africa)</u>.

b) Campaign Social Security for All

Launching of the Campaign "Social Security for All"

The Campaign: Social Security for All – Key Pillar for a New Eco-Social Contract was launched on an event moderated by Farah Al Shami (Arab Reform Initiative). Global testimonies on the challenges of poverty targeting and pension privatization were presented by Allana Kembabazi (ISER, Uganda), Sarala Emmanuel (Feminist Collective for Economic Justice in Colombo, Sri Lanka), Guillermo Zuccotti (CGT, Argentina) and Manuel Riesco (CENDA Foundation, Chile). Isabel Ortiz (Global Social Justice) presented the Campaign Social Security for All. The Campaign was launched in October 2023.

Global Demand for Universal Social Security

Governments and international financial institutions should make a commitment to create social security systems that enable everyone to realize their rights, 43 human rights and economic justice organizations said today. Governments and financial institutions should end policies that have been failing millions of people.

The groups sent a joint statement to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in advance of the 2023 annual meetings of both institutions in Marrakesh, Morocco, from October 9 to 15, 2023.

Event at the IMF/WBG Annual Meetings in Marrakech

The hybrid session "Building a New Eco-social Contract and Advancing Social Security in Times of Debt and Austerity" took place during the Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) of the WBG-IMF Annual Meetings 2023 in Marrakech, Morocco on October 13th, 2023.

Event "Building a New Eco-social Contract and Advancing Social Security in Times of Debt and Austerity"

The event "Building a New Eco-social Contract and Advancing Social Security in Times of Debt and Austerity" took place on October 13, 2023 during the Civil Society Policy Forum of the WBG-IMF Annual Meetings 2023 held in Marrakech, Morocco.

Submission to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on good practices and challenges to strengthen the fulfilment of the right to social security

Twelve organisations collaborated on a joint submission to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for the Human Rights Council Resolution 52/11 on the question of the realisation in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights, with a focus on the right to social security. This submission comprises research conducted across 16 countries from 2019 and 2023, highlighting both positive steps but also gaps and challenges towards the enjoyment of the right to social security. The submission concludes with recommendations for the effective implementation of universal social security for all.

World Bank and IMF Executive Directors: Support States to Realize the Human Right to Social Security

Human rights, faith-based, and economic justice organizations wrote to the World Bank and IMF Executive Directors to express concerns that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group (WBG) are failing to support states to realize the human right to social security for all.

The letters were sent in the framework of the Spring Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the IMF and the WBG that took place in April 2024, in Washington DC.

"Examining the Progress of the World Bank's Commitment to Universal Social Protection"

The Civil Society Policy Forum event 'Examining the progress of the World Bank's commitment to universal social protection,' took place at the 2024 World Bank/IMF Spring meetings in Washington D.C. on 17 April 2024. The event was sponsored by members of the Campaign for the Right to Social Security.

International Development Association - IDA

The <u>International Development Association (IDA)</u>—the World Bank's arm that works in low- and lower-middle-income countries—is one of the largest sources of development assistance for the world's poorest countries. It is also a crucial tool for resource-constrained governments to borrow on affordable terms compared to other creditors.

The <u>GCSPF</u> and the <u>Social Security Campaign</u> provided comments and inputs to the regional forums to ensure that IDA21 is ambitious to tackle inequality and support recipient countries' efforts to invest in universal, rights-aligned public systems of education and health care that ensure the availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of these services.

IDA21 Third Replenishment Meeting

On behalf of civil society organizations from all over the world Mr. Om Thapaliya and Mr. Tilottam Paudel (President of SPCSN) delivered the statement (English version, French Version) on the IDA21 Forum to Mr. Martin Raiser (World Bank Regional Vice President for South Asia), Mr. Ed Mountfield (World Bank Vice President, Operations Policy and Country Services - OPCS), Mr. Akihoto Nisho (World Bank Vice President of Development

Finance - DFi) and Mr.Seku Sambandheen Sesay (Independent Chair Person, IDA). The event took place on June 17th, 2024 in Nepal.

IDA21 Regional Forum for Europe and Central Asia

The GCSPF and the Social Security Campaign provided comments and inputs (<u>download pdf file</u>) to the <u>IDA21</u> Regional Forum for Europe and Central Asia. The event took place on July 24, 2024.

Lebanon's Poverty Crisis: A Dire Need for Universal Social Security

The World Bank data reveals that over 70% of Lebanon's population now experiences multidimensional poverty, highlighting the failures of means-tested social security programs that cover only 20% of the population. This joint statement supported by the GCSPF underscores the urgent need for comprehensive reforms to prevent Lebanon's poverty and human rights crisis from worsening further. This statement was released in August 2024.

Mauritius Extends Universal Child Benefits

The <u>CSO statement</u> commend the Government of Mauritius for its decision to extend the country's universal child benefit, known as the Contribution Sociale Généralisée (CSG) Child Allowance till June 2025. The extension of this scheme highlights Mauritius' efforts to strengthen its universal social security system. This statement, supported by the GCSPF, was released in September 2024.

Annual Meetings 2024

The 2024 Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group (WBG) took place from Monday, October 21 to Saturday, October 26. Further information about the activities organized by the GCSPF and its members is available at the <u>e-newsletter #108 - October 2024</u>.

<u>Universal Social Security and the Social Contract: A Critical Examination Through Case Studies</u>

The event, co-sponsored by the GCSPF, was the launching event of the publications "<u>Towards the right to Social Security for all</u>" and it was held on October 23rd, 2024. Watch the recording <u>here</u>.

Publications: World Bank, IMF are Missing the Mark on Social Security

GCSPF published five case study briefs about the harms of austerity and means-testing, authored by a group of economic justice, human rights, and faith-based organizations, exposing the failure of IMF and World Bankbacked programs. The cases cover Argentina, South Africa, Serbia, Sri Lanka, and a brief demonstrating that universal social security systems can be both affordable and feasible. The article is here.

a. <u>FOUR ARGUMENTS FOR UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS TO ACHIEVE THE RIGHT TO SOCIAL SECURITY FOR ALL</u>

Action contre la Faim & Development Pathways

b. <u>THE IMPACT OF FOREIGN DEBT AND HARSH AUSTERITY ON ARGENTINA'S SOCIAL PROTECTION</u> SYSTEM

Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS)

- c. <u>THE SOCIAL CARD REGISTRY: ENTRENCHING POVERTY AND DISCRIMINATION</u>
 Amnesty International
- d. <u>TARGETED SOCIAL PROTECTION DURING UNPRECEDENTED ECONOMIC CRISIS: CASE OF SRI</u>
 <u>LANKA</u>

Colombo Urban Lab & Feminist Collective for Economic Justice

D. Political advocacy on and practical involvement with International Cooperation on Social Protection

a) <u>Programme Improving Synergies Between Social Protection and Public Finance Management</u> (EU DEVCO Project)

Programme Improving Synergies Between Social Protection and Public Finance Management

The Improving Synergies Between Social Protection and Public Finance Management Programme (SP&PFM) provided medium-term support to multiple countries aiming to strengthen their social protection systems at a national level and ensure sustainable financing.

SP&PFM aimed to support countries in their efforts towards achieving universal social protection coverage. Activities focus on enhancing the design and implementation of social protection systems, ensuring they are gender-sensitive, disability-inclusive and shock-sensitive, as well as improving their financing through strong public finance management.

The COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the urgency of developing more resilient and adaptable systems. In response to the health emergency, partner countries are working to scale up their social protection systems. Funded by the European Union (EU), this initiative that started in October 2019 and ended in October 2023 was implemented jointly by the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNICEF, and the GCSPF, in collaboration with national partners and EU Delegations in each country.

Within this context, the GCSPF assumed the responsibility to facilitate the participation of civil society in Cambodia, Nepal, Senegal and Uganda in the development of national financing strategies based on PFM. This involvement has generated rich experience, knowledge and learnings as documented in the report "Strengthening Civil Society Advocacy Networks for Universal Social Protection: Experiences from Cambodia, Nepal, Senegal, and Uganda".

Final GCSPF Exchange Workshop

The SP&PFM Programme was designed to be innovative in many ways. Besides its focus on improved financing and financial monitoring of social protection policy at national level, also improved cooperation between all main stakeholders at the national level was an important aspect of the implementation, knowing that development partners often work in an uncoordinated, even non-complementary way on this issue.

Importantly, it was acknowledged that civil society and its organisations had to be an equal stakeholder in the design, implementation and governance of the programme, hereby acknowledging their stake in the social contract, representing the rights-holders, and to promote a genuine rights-based approach. The GCSPF was entrusted with the task of organising and facilitating civil society participation with regard to the objectives of the programme. As such a complicated task, not only because the focus on PFM was new and at times highly technical, but also because of the complexities around the management of the grant (three ILO subgrantees on behalf of the GCSPF -WSM, HelpAge and Oxfam- acted as coordinating organisations) and the intense engagement of the GCSPF representatives at various levels, topped up by multiple accountability lines. Since, the GCSPF took full ownership of their role in the programme.

In September 2023 members of the GCSPF exchanged and discussed with the GCSPF programme implementers to draw further lessons from this experience, to ask ourselves the relevant questions, to look at the future, for the four country networks and also for the GCSPF as a whole. The four country teams (Cambodia, Nepal, Senegal and Uganda) together with members of the GCSPF gathered for a final workshop that was held in Brussels, so as to maximize the results of this programme.

Strengthening Civil Society Advocacy Networks for Universal Social Protection

Experiences from Cambodia, Nepal, Senegal and Uganda

This <u>report</u> highlights the valuable lessons and insights garnered with regards to the network building strategies used by the GCSPF to effectively influence decision makers.

With a focus on inclusiveness, effectiveness, and sustainability, these network-building strategies hold significance in the pursuit of lasting impact on the path to social protection floors and universal social protection. The GCSPF seeks to empower these networks to exert influence and maintain their strength beyond the programme's conclusion.

Through the presentation of our findings, our hope is to inspire CSOs worldwide. We also wish to emphasise the critical message that collaboration is needed not only across borders and between international development partners, but also across different types of CSOs, to overcome divides in strategies, approaches, and ideologies.

The <u>Final Presentation of the programe Improving synergies between SP and PFM</u> was shared on 18 January 2024.

International symposium: Improving synergies between social protection & public finance management
The International symposium "Improving synergies between social protection & public finance management" cohosted by the ILO, UNICEF, the GCSPF, and the European Union brought together policymakers, social partners,
civil society, and development partners from 24 countries to discuss innovative practices and strategies for
building sustainable and rights-based social protection.

Many members of the GCSPF participated in the Symposium online, whereas Uzziel Twagilimana (WSM) and Beatrice Di Padua (ITUC) attended physically. As representatives of the GCSPF, Uzziel Twagilimana moderated the Opening and Panel 1: "Extending social protection to all" and Beatrice di Padua spoke at Panel 5: "Joining forces for universal and sustainable social protection and closing remarks".

The event took place on June 27-28, 2023.

Conference "Social protection & public finance management"

The programme "Improving Synergies Between Social Protection and Public Finance Management (SP&PFM)" was jointly implemented by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors (GCSP) between 2019 and 2023. This Conference (recording is here) took place a year after the programme's completion. Uzziel Twagilimana (Deputy Director Programmes, WSM) participated on behalf of the GCSPF.

> USP2030 and SOCIAL REGISTRIES

USP2030 has endorsed the linking of civil registration and vital statistics databases (CRVS) with SP-MIS. USP2030 has also endorsed linking integrated beneficiary registries (IBR), which consolidates data on the benefits received by programme beneficiaries across several programmes, with SP-MIS. USP2030 endorsement was also sought for linking social registries to SP-MIS.

In December 2024 the GCSPF released a statement to inform that the GCSPF does not endorse these standards, as they fail to meet numerous criteria, including - but not limited to - respect for human rights, universality of social protection, and failure to strengthen national systems of civil registration and vital statistics.

II. STRENGTHENING THE GCSPF

During the reporting period, GCSPF has grown in size and taken on additional activities (see above, in particular). This section of the narrative on activities from January 2022 to December 2024 reports on the growth of membership, meetings held, secretariat activities and communication.

A. Membership

As of December 2024, the Global Coalition has 135 member organizations (several of them are regional or global networks) and six individual members. The regional distribution of the organizations is as follows: 33 from Africa, 23 from Asia, 31 from Europe, 8 from Middle East and North Africa (MENA), 19 from North America, and 5 from Latin America and more than 20 with a regional or global focus.

There are members in the following 49 countries: Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Congo, Dem. Rep., Cyprus, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Korea, Lebanon, Liberia, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The complete list of member organizations and individual members is available here.

Twenty-five organisations and two individuals' members are part of the Core Team. Members of the Core Team are from the following regions: three from Africa, four from Asia, eleven from Europe, one from MENA, one from North America, two from South America, more than five with a Global focus and two individual members which are based in Europe. The list is available here.

New members

Twenty-three organizations joined the GCSPF from January 2022 to December 2024, these organizations are: Action Contre les Violations des Droits des Personnes Vulnérables - ACVDP (République Démocratique du Congo); Action humaine pour le développement intégré au Sénégal (AHDIS); Action pour les Femmes et Enfants Marginalises (AFEMA- Democratic Republic of Congo); Africa Network for Environment & Economic Justice – ANEEJ (Benin); Amman-Jordan, Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development - ARDD (Jordan); Amnesty International, Arab Reform Initiative (ARI), Asian Roundtable on Social Protection (AROSP), Building Blocks for Peace (BBFP) Foundation (Nigeria); Centre for Social Sciences Research & Action (CeSSRA, Cyprus, Lebanon); COL'OR – Camminiamo Oltre L'ORizzonte (Walking Beyond the Horizon, Italy); Christian Blind Mission (CBM), Community Focus Foundation Ghana (CFF-Ghana); Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP); Global Social Justice (Switzerland); Institute for Economic Justice – IEJ (South Africa); Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (Sweden); Lutte Nationale Contre la Pauvreté - LUNACOP (Democratic Republic of Congo); Make Mothers Matter (MMM); People's Courage International (PCI); RAISE - Research & Action for Income Security; Social Protection Civil Society Network (SPCSN) and Veille Citoyenne Togo.

These are the countries that have members of the Global Coalition and are in this list for the first time: Congo, Dem. Rep, Cyprus, Liberia, Senegal and Togo.

Further information about them is available in Annex 1.

B. Secretariat

The secretariat or administrative coordination of the Global Coalition has been hosted by Institute del Tercer Mundo (Third World Institute, ITeM) based in Montevideo, Uruguay. ITeM is a tax-exempted, secular, non-profit institution that also hosts the international secretariat of Social Watch.

The secretariat received financial support from the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) from January 2017 till June 2020, from ITeM in July and August 2020 and from Brot für die Welt since September 2020 to November 2026.

The main role of the secretariat is to ensure a timely and regular information flow between the members of the GCSPF, to facilitate the communications (further information below), and to support the planning and organization of meetings and activities.

C. Meetings

1) Virtual Strategy Meeting

The virtual strategy meeting brought together Core Team members as well as regional members and experts to discuss pressing issues on its agenda and to chart a way for future activities. The virtual meeting was coorganized by members of the Core Team together with the Secretariat, and it took place virtually in April 2022.

The meeting of the core team of the GCSPF highlighted opportunities and challenges existing in the area of implementing social protection floors and charted the way forward for the activities of the Coalition. Among the key issued discussed were how to provide support to Coalition members in terms of information sharing and the coordination of regional activities, the preparation of "shadow" reports in the context of the monitoring and evaluation of international commitments, advocacy for and promotion of resolutions dedicated to social protection systems. The issue of financing social protection and new approaches in that area were also discussed.

The aim of this meeting was to bring together the members of the Core Team in order to share information among the members on activities in their working area, to discuss and develop future strategies and actions on all levels with specific focus on the regional, national and local level in developing countries, to discuss and decide respective action plans for 2022 and 2023.

2) Core Team Strategy Meeting, Johannesburg, South Africa, November 2024

The Core Team Strategy and the Regional meetings took place in Johannesburg, South Africa in November 2024. The meetings were co-organized by members of the Core Team together with the Secretariat, and the logistical support of FES offices in Geneva and South Africa.

The aim of the Core Team Strategy Meeting was to bring together the members of the Core Team in order to define our future strategy and plan of work particularly taking into account the Financing for Development Conference in Sevilla in June – July 2025 and the World Social Summit for Social Development in Doha in November 2025.

The final version of the Report of the Core Team strategy meeting is <u>here</u> and all the documents are in <u>this shared</u> <u>folder</u>.

3) Regional meetings

i) Latin America regional meeting, Chile, June 2024

The Latin America Regional Strategy meeting took place in Santiago de Chile, Chile in June 2024. The regional meeting was an opportunity to strategy with other organizations of the region towards the Financing for Development Conference in Sevilla in June – July 2025 and the World Social Summit for Social Development in Doha in November 2025.

The <u>Event "Social Justice and International Financial Architecture"</u> also took place in this opportunity and webinars on those conferences were held in October 2024.

ii) Africa regional meeting, South Africa, November 2024

The Africa Regional Strategy meeting took place in Johannesburg, South Africa in November 2024. The regional meeting was co-organized by members of the Core Team, members from the region together with the Secretariat, and the logistical support of FES offices in Geneva and South Africa.

The regional meeting was meant to strengthen the involvement of regional members in the work of the coalition and its working groups, as well as to listen to current regional news and advocacy priorities.

The final version of the Report of the regional meeting is here and all the documents are in this shared folder.

4) Informal meeting

Usually when members of the GCSPF participate in different meetings or conferences, they took advantage of these opportunities to hold informal meetings. The aim of these meetings is to exchange information and develop proposals for further action to be discussed by the full Core Team for final decision. During this particular period and due to Covid-19 many international meetings were moved to a virtual or hybrid format. Face to face meetings took place during the Annual Meetings of the IMF and WB in Washington, in October 2022 and in Marrakesh in October 2023 and during the Spring Meetings in Washington.

D. Working Groups

In November 2019 nine working groups (WGs) were established to frame the work of the Global Coalition. The working groups started their work in 2020 and there were changes since then there were changes.

Currently these are the working groups: 1) Strategy on social security standards, 2) Human Rights Monitoring of the Implementation of the four Social Security Guarantees, 3) Bretton Woods Institutions (BWI), 4) USP 2030, 5) EU DEVCO Project, 6) Advocacy – UN Engagement, and HLPF 2020, 7) Strategy on global financing mechanism (e.g. global fund, also including the discussion on a new UN tax body) and its sub-group on the Africa Region, 8) Health, 9) The right to be cared, 10) Dialogue with INTPA on Social Protection.

During this period conference calls were held with coordinators and/or members of the WGs. These calls serve to update each other on all the core activities they were designated for and also to coordinate future activities. Three conference calls were held in 2020 (in February, June and November) and one in 2021 (May). Links to the notes of the conference calls are as follows: 1st call on February 13, 2020, 2nd call on June 10, 2020, 3rd call on

November 6, 2020, 4th call on May 6, 2021, 5 call on December 14, 2021, the 6th call on January 2023 and the 7th call on January 18th, 2024.

Further information about these WGs, including the documents prepared by each of them, is available in Annex 2.

E. Terms of Reference

In 2020, taking into account the concerns and suggestions shared during the 2019 CT meeting, a working group of the CT prepared a proposal with changes to the ToR. This draft was discussed in the 2022 virtual meeting of the CT. This updated version of the ToR was approved in July 2022 and is available here.

F. Information and communications

Given the vast scope of the GCSPF and its members, successful communication plays a vital role in a wide array of its functions. As such, the GCSPF recognizes the importance of effective and up-to-date communication methods and strives to implement them in an innovative and practical manner.

1) Mailing lists

The main communication tools to reach the Global Coalition membership are the mailing lists. News and information are disseminated by the secretariat through three email lists, one for all the members, another one for the members of the Core Team and the third one is for the wider distribution of the electronic newsletter and important information to members and non-members.

2) E-Newsletters

The GCSPF monthly E-newsletter, with articles featuring news from the Global Coalition, the members as well as new resources and articles of interest has been published monthly by the Secretariat since June 2017.

Forty-eight issues (#63 to #110) have been published in thirty-six months (from January 2022 to December 2024). Eighty-six percent (86%) of them include information of activities, publications, etc, organized or co-organized by the Global Coalition.

There is a specific mailing list which is set only for distribution of the monthly newsletter. The newsletters are also published on the website and are available here. Special issues have been published during international meetings; some of them were sent to those that participated in those particular meeting, such as HLPF, CSocD, etc.

In 2022 the newsletter was redesign and uses a new software based on mailchimp.

3) Website

The <u>website</u> is permanently updated by the secretariat with information about its own activities and also with input from the members. The website was completely redesigned in 2022.

4) Social Media

As another means of fostering communication in and between our members and civil society in general particularly to promote our own activities, the Global Coalition has a <u>Facebook page</u> and a <u>twitter account</u>. The Facebook page has now more than five thousand "friends" and more than seven hundred followers. The twitter account has 1202 followers.

ANNEXES

- New members
 Working Groups

ANNEXES

(Only the information that it is not published on the website is included as annex.)

Annex 1. New members

The following organizations and individual members joined the GCSPF from January 2022 to December 2024.

Action Contre les Violations des Droits des Personnes Vulnérables - ACVDP

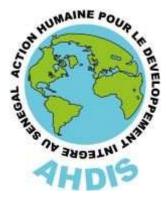


L'Action Contre les Violations des Droits des Personnes Vulnérables (ACVDP) est une organisation non gouvernementale des droits de l'homme reconnue comme Asbl par l'Etat Congolais sous le N°F.92/9945 du Ministère de la Justice, des droits humains et des affaires sociales. Elle est dotée du statut consultatif spécial des Nations Unies ECOSOC et basée à Kinshasa sur l'avenue Mikondo N°3A Quartier Biyela dans la Commune de Kimbanseke. Avec des antennes dans 5 provinces à savoir Nord et Sud Ubangui, Nord et Sud Kivu et Mongala.

Dans son actif, l'ACVDP compte plusieurs réalisations dans les domaines social, humanitaire, de développement durable, des droits de l'homme, de la démocratie et de la bonne gouvernance, avec l'appui du Bureau Terrain de Kinshasa-Bureau Conjoint des Nations Unies aux Droits de l'Homme/MONUSCO, IFES, RCN Justice et Démocratie, Centre Carter, Counter part International, la Section des Affaires Publiques de l'Ambassade des Etas Unis en RDC, du CIVICUS, Peace One Day.

Contact information
KOBOLONGO KONGUNDE Crispin, Président National
acvdp2000@gmail.com
https://acvdp2.wordpress.com/2023/08/10/acvdp/
https://www.facebook.com/acvdp.acvdp

Action humaine pour le développement intégré au Sénégal (AHDIS)



Human Action for Integrated Development in Senegal (AHDIS) is a mixed and democratic Association whose members have decided to associate freely to pool their visions, ambitions and resources with the aim of actively participating in the emergence of an organization capable of taking charge of its own economic and social development in Senegal.

AHDIS is independent of any political power and intervenes in the rural world without discrimination of race, ethnicity or religion. It is a full member of civil society whose interests and aspirations it defends.

AHDIS has developed expertise in the areas of: The promotion of development financing activities for the strengthening of public programs and projects as well as the national private sector, through national and foreign investment funds; The promotion of microfinance as a support mechanism for community development activities in all regions of the country; Promotion of the right for health and support for activities to combat food insecurity and malnutrition, Social Protection For All (SPFA); Publication of sectoral policy

reports on the national economic and social development strategy as well as studies on global issues of public governance; The promotion of a decentralized mechanism for the review and monitoring and evaluation of public policies at the local level by supporting the Regional Committees for the Study and Monitoring of Economic and Social Policy (CRESPES) in the fourteen (14) regions from the country; and Capacity building of economic and social development actors at regional and sub-regional level.

AHDIS is ruling ad regional president of International Council of Social Welfare (ICSW) in West and Central Africa. Contact information: Amacodou DIOUF. President

http://ahdis.org/ Facebook: OngAHDIS

Action pour les Femmes et Enfants Marginalises (AFEMA-RDC)



L'AFEMA-RDC c'est une organisation chrétienne pour le développement et la défense des droits de la femme et de l'enfant en RDC. L'idée fondamentale de l'AFEMA-RDC c'est le développement est très complexe, car on n'est peut pas développer un pays sur base de discriminations des genres, et pourtant aux yeux de nos cultures, coutumes voir même nos lois traitent la femme et l'enfant avec beaucoup de méfiance. Read more

Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ)



The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ) is a non-government organization whose goal is to amplify the voice of the weak, the less privileged and the marginalized groups in the society including women, youths, and People Living With Disabilities in order to increase their participation in the democratic decision-making process. As its basis, ANEEJ believes in a democratic system for managing human interest and operates within two broad focal areas namely environmental and economic justice. Specifically, ANEEJ implements projects relating to governance and democracy, human rights (including migration and development issues) and anti-corruption, peace building and conflict resolution, development effectiveness, environment including water, sanitation and hygiene among others.

Currently, ANEEJ is engaged in a follow-on project focused on poverty alleviation, livelihood support, advocacy for Social Protection, Climate Justice, and Anti-Corruption efforts in Nigeria's Niger Delta region. We lead the Nigeria Network on Social Protection (NNSP), which ensures nationwide coverage of our social protection advocacy campaigns.

Contact information: Rev David Ugolor (Executive Director, dugolor@gmail.com) https://www.aneej.org/

Amman-Jordan, Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development



Amman-Jordan, Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD) is a Jordanian NGO founded in 2008. Our programs aim to mobilize the untapped potential of our societies in the Arab region and outside to contribute positively to their journey towards the renaissance, by encouraging dialogue, research, education, training, youth empowerment, gender justice, social and economic development, in addition to the provision of relief, social protection services and direct legal assistance. Working towards a renewed Renaissance in the Arab world finds its foundation in the values of AlNahda. Since appearing during AlNahda, the legacy of pluralism, intellectual curiosity, and humanism has been overshadowed by regional conflict, yet ARDD prioritizes these trends as the roots of democracy and development. These values are the building stone in all our programs: Gender Justice; Youth Enablemente and Education; Social Peace and Cohesion; Governance; Legal Aid and Justice Sector Development; Right to

Contact: Mar Logrono, Ph.D., Senior Advisor Access to Justice and Inclusive Social Protection *Read more*

Economic Development; Relief and Recovery.

Information and Freedom of Speech; Forced Migration, Refugees & Shataat; Human &

Amnesty International



Amnesty International (AI) is a global movement of more than 10 million people campaigning for a world where human rights are enjoyed by all. Amnesty International campaigns and advocates for human rights change on the basis of serious and thorough research on a variety of issues all over the world. Amnesty International is funded by members and is independent of any political ideology, economic interest or religion.

Amnesty International works on the full spectrum of human rights – civil, cultural, economic, political, and social. In the realm of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR), and has done extensive research and campaigning on a number of issues including on the rights to education, food, health, adequate housing, sanitation, water, and work. Around two years ago, Amnesty International expanded its ESCR portfolio to also work on the right to social security. Amnesty International is building their body of work on the right to social security, in particular around – universal coverage, comprehensive coverage and non-discrimination. It is in this context that Amnesty International seeks to join the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors as we believe that we can both benefit and contribute to the work of the Coalition.

Contact information: Malavika Vartak, Researcher / Policy Adviser, Economic and Social Justice Team, Malavika.Vartak@amnesty.org - Further information at: https://www.amnesty.org/en/

Arab Reform Initiative - ARI



ARI is a collaborative think tank established in 2004 to articulate a home-grown agenda for democratic change in the whole Arab region.

Please visit their <u>Social Protection Program's webpage</u> to know about their work on social protection, and indexes the program's publications, events/activities, and campaigns. It also includes links to their Arab Region Hub for Social Protection and their joint CSO Declaration on Building Universal Social Protection in the Arab Region (signed by more than 120 organizations and individuals).

Contact information SP Program Director: Ms. Farah Al Shami (<u>f.alshami@arabreform.net</u>)

Asian Roundtable on Social Protection - AROSP



The network Asian Roundtable on Social Protection (AROSP) is an Asia-based regional network of marginalized and grassroots members-based workers' organizations and networks.

AROSP plays an important role in the region and subregions in the promotion of social protection from and with a grassroots perspective. The dominant narrative faced by marginalised workers justifies only market-based social protection schemes in their countries, which allow for little or no redistribution of wealth in

society. Confronting this challenge, AROSP is developing its own narrative where the concerns and interests of marginalized workers and their member-based organisations are placed in the centre.

Contact information Coordinator: Van Thi Thu Ha (Thuha@amrcentre.org)

Building Blocks for Peace Foundation

Building Blocks for Peace Foundation

Building Blocks for Peace (BBFP) Foundation is a non-governmental organization working on Conflict Prevention, Prevention of Violent Extremism, Peacebuilding and Sustainable Development in Nigeria.

BBFP advocates and campaigns for equal access of all citizens to primary health care. During the peak of COVID-19, BBFP provided relief services including medical assistance and food materials to 100 women and elderly.

BBFP organizes programs and dialogue on the role of ageism in the distribution of resources and services and calls for social security support for children, elderly and the unemployed.

Contact information: Rafiu Lawal, Oluwaranti Adesola

Centre for Social Sciences Research & Action (CeSSRA)



The Centre for Social Sciences Research & Action (CeSSRA, Cyprus, Lebanon) is an action-oriented research centre, with the motto "social sciences for change". It is a multidisciplinary space creating synergies and bridging between the scientific, practitioner, and policy spheres. The Centre aims to foster social change through innovative uses of social sciences digital technologies, and publication and exchange of knowledge. The CeSSRA has published extensively on social protection in the region, notably several reports, papers, infographics, and timelines focusing on Jordan, Tunisia, and Lebanon, and regularly organizes webinars and round table discussions, as well as participates to various fora to discuss these issues. Read more

Christian Blind Mission - CBM



CBM is an international Christian development organisation committed to improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities in the poorest countries of the world.

To deliver their goals, CBM focuses on two key areas - Initiatives: Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) and Inclusive Eye Health (IEH).

Additionally, through their work with the Inclusive Humanitarian Action team, CBM strives to reach persons with disabilities during disasters and emergencies.

Contact information: Anne Schrader - *Read more*

COL'OR - Camminiamo Oltre L'ORizzonte

COL'OR2

COL'OR – Camminiamo Oltre L'ORizzonte (Walking Beyond the Horizon) is an NGO founded in 2002 which aims to support comprehensive human development through international cooperation projects, fully respecting the beneficiaries' needs and sensitivity, as well as the sustainability of the ecosystems in which it operates. The organization promotes fair and multidimensional development through inclusive and innovative projects strengthening social protection systems and social safety nets in the countries of intervention.

Over the years, the organization has implemented projects linked to three macro areas: health, rural development, and education. The countries involved have been Kenya, Albania, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Senegal, and Tanzania, while new initiatives are being prepared in Asia and Central and South America.

COL'OR NGO is an independent NGO which, however, closely collaborates with private companies and governmental institutions of the countries of intervention to ensure the most effective interventions. Furthermore, our organisation always employs international standards and frameworks coming from ILO and the UN, among others, to strengthen local social protection systems.

We closely collaborate with Promos, a consultancy composed of researchers from the University of Eastern Piedmont (UPO). In doing so, we ensure we use the most innovative frameworks to design interventions and the most effective methodologies for M&E.

Further, for each program we make sure we partner with local private companies to spur innovation and support economies. For instance, during a project aimed at supporting HIV-positive children, we fostered the digitalisation of the health system in Kenya collaborating with the local software-development company AfvaRekod.

Working mainly for the most fragile groups of populations (such as women, children and disabled people), who are often overlooked by their own governments, we have always received the local institutions' approval for our interventions. Moreover, we've helped local institutions to strengthen their services, especially in education and healthcare.

Lastly, COL'OR NGO is a member of the Consultative Forum of EUAA (European Union Agency for Asylum). The Consultative Forum is composed of 118 organisations from all over the EU and it is the main channel through which the Agency collaborates with relevant Civil Society Organisations, facilitating the exchange of information and sharing of knowledge.

In November 2023 our organisation participated in the second plenary meeting of the EUAA Consultative Forum, during which we took part in discussions on the EU priorities in the migration policy agenda, on new strategies for the protection of asylum-seekers' fundamental rights and the related complaint mechanism, and the new system for identifying vulnerable migrants using the COI tracing system (Country of Origin Information).

Contact information: Lisa Grandi (<u>I.grandi@colorngo.org</u>) - https://colorngo.org/

Community Focus Foundation Ghana (CFF-Ghana)



The MISSION is to empower communities to harness available local resources (human, materials and financial) of the society for the socio-economic development of their respective communities. Our VISION is a Ghana where the governance architecture prioritizes development to the benefit of all citizens.

Contact information: Richard Kasu (cffghana2018@gmmail.com) - https://cffghana.org/

Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP)



Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) defends and promotes human rights, gender justice, social justice, climate justice and the security needed for the dignity and peace of all.

GCAP is a network of over 11,000 civil society organisations (CSOs) organized in 58 National Coalitions and in constituency groups of women, youth and socially-excluded people, among others.

The strengths of GCAP are: Strong political leadership from the Global South, A focus on the structural aspects of inequalities, Proven ability to mobilise millions of people in support of rights-based advocacy, A solid grassroots foundation, consisting of thousands of small & mid-sized civil

society organisations and, A real bottom-up process led by marginalized groups and women's organisations.

Contact information: Ingo Ritz (Director - ingo.ritz@gcap.global)

Further information can be found here. Facebook: GlobalCalltoActionAgainstPoverty / Twitter:

@whiteband

Global Social Justice (Switzerland)



Global Social Justice (Switzerland) was established in 2016 and is a civil society assocation registered under Swiss law.

The mission of Global Social Justice is to advance human rights and equality, generate debate on the distributional impacts of public policy support policy alternatives based on the rights of all peoples to benefit from economic, environmental and social progress.

Contact information: Odile Frank (Executive Director, odile.mc.frank@gmail.com) Isabel Ortiz (President, iortiz@globalsocialjustice.org)

Institute for Economic Justice (IEJ)



The IEJ is a progressive think tank based in South Africa that provides rigorous economic analysis designed to arm policy-makers and the public with progressive policy options to combat the scourge of poverty, underdevelopment, and inequality in South Africa, the region and the continent. <u>Read more</u>

Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation



The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (Sweden) promotes women's rights in over 20 conflict-affected countries in the MENA region, sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and the South Caucasus. We do so by supporting 140 local partner organisations across the world. Their four focus issues are: Gender-based violence, Equal participation, Women, peace and security and Economic empowerment.

Their long-term vision: A world of sustainable peace based on democracy and gender equality, where conflicts are solved without violence. A world in which human rights are respected and everyone can feel safe and secure. A world in which women have influence over decision-making and participate fully and effectively in society's development.

Contact information: Monica Erwér, Advisor Women's Economic Empowerment monica.erwer@kvinnatillkvinna.se

Further information can be found here and at Facebook: kvinnatkvinnafoundation/

Lutte Nationale Contre la Pauvreté (LUNACOP)



LUNACOP aims to create a more just society in which the rights of children and young people are fully respected. It works through community sensitization, advocacy, capacity-building and socio-economic support to reach its objectives. LUNACOP was founded in 2005 in the Democratic Republic of Congo. *Read more*

Make Mothers Matter - MMM



Make Mothers Matter (MMM) is an international NGO which was created in 1947 at the UNESCO in Paris. We were among the first INGO accredited to the UN in 1949 and we now have General Consultative Status with the UN ECOSOC. We are also active at the ILO, participating every year in the International Labour Conference, and we were invited to join the Global Coalition on Social Justice.

In a nutshell, our Mission is to make mothers' voices heard at the international level, to defend and advance their rights, and empower them. Based on their lived-experience, we raise awareness among decision-makers of the educational, social, economic and cultural impact of mothers, as well as the injustices they suffer. Our aim is to change society's view and influence laws, policies and practices in their favour, so that they are fully recognised and supported in their various roles.

We do advocacy work at the European Union, the UN, and the UNESCO. One of our main focus has been the issue of the inequitable distribution of unpaid domestic and care work, which is at the root of Gender inequalities and discriminations against women, in particular when they are mothers. Our call to government is to recognise the indispensable value of this work, and adopt policies to support and redistribute unpaid care work, responsibilities and costs more equitably, both between men and women, and across society. Establishing Social Protection Floors is one way to recognise and support unpaid caregivers.

For more information on our work, please visit their website: https://makemothersmatter.org and their brochure is on https://online.fliphtml5.com/eqig/czvc/#p=1.

Contact information

Valerie Bichelmeier, Vice-President & Main Representative at the United Nations in Geneva valerie@makemothersmatter.org
https://makemothersmatter.org/

People's Courage International



People's Courage International (PCI) is a USA-based not-forprofit organization. PCI works across South and South East Asia for: Safe migration and worker protection, Prevention of violence against women and children, Building resilience in the not-for-profit organizations in the region.

PCI is working on the extension of social protection to informal economy workers and migrant workers in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, the Philippines and Indonesia.

PCI seeks to end violence against women and children in South and South East Asia. Besides, it aims to ensure safe migration and labor security for the most marginalized social groups.

Contact information: Ashif Shaikh (CEO, ashif@peoplescourageinternational.org) https://peoplescourageinternational.org/

RAISE - Research & Action for Income Security



'RAISE - Research & Action for Income Security' has as its mission to ensure that everybody has income security. We work towards this through two objectives: job creation and social protection.

RAISE has worked on livelihoods for refugees in Uganda since 2018, but are now in the proces of widening its scope both geographically and thematically.

Part of this is the development of their work on social protection. We recently had our first project in this area approved, which is a collaboration with ISER in Uganda with the title: Popularising the African Charter Protocol on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security as a new advocacy tool in Uganda.

Contact information: Rasmus Schjødt (Programme Director for Social Protection, rasmus@raiseorg.dk)
Further information at: https://www.raiseorg.dk/en/home/

Social Protection Civil Society Network (SPCSN)



Established on 16 February 2012, Social Protection Civil Society Network (SPCSN) has been active in raising the voice of right holders, promoting interfaces among right holders, experts and duty bearers, making duty bearers more accountable on various social protection issues.

Their objectives are: to conduct research on the social protection system, to lobby with and support the government agencies on their plans and policies, to ensure collective

dialogues to promote its' issues, to campaign and lobby for transparency and accountability of the plans and policies, and to ensure social awareness, skill development, and dissemination in local units on social protection programs.

The strengths of GCAP are: Strong political leadership from the Global South, A focus on the structural aspects of inequalities, Proven ability to mobilise millions of people in support of rights-based advocacy, A solid grassroots foundation, consisting of thousands of small & mid-sized civil society organisations and, A real bottom-up process led by marginalized groups and women's organisations.

Contact information: Saroj Acharya, Program Focal Point - sarozach@gmail.com Further information can be found here.

Veille Citoyenne Togo



Veille Citoyenne Togo is an association created in September 2019, and declared and registered in Togo since 2020 and intervenes in the field of citizen control of public action through: the citizen watch by promoting transparency of the budgetary process both at the national and local levels; citizen control of the transparency of public contracts and delegations of public services; citizen control of the efficiency of public spending; the fight against corruption and impunity; the denunciation of cases of misappropriation and mismanagement of public resources; the constitution of a file to be a civil party in economic crimes; monitoring the implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Policy (PISE); and advocacy and lobbying for Togo's membership in the Open Government Partnership and the promotion of Open Data and Open Contracts.

Contact: Pidenam SAMA, President/Executive Director *Read more*

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July 2025

Working Groups 2019 - 2025

Nine working groups (WGs) were established at the Strategy Meeting of the Core Team (CT) that was held in Geneva, Switzerland in November 2019. These WGs have been focusing on the main areas of work of the Global Coalition since then.

You are invited to join them, please feel free to contact the Contacts/coordinators of the WGs and/or the secretariat.

You will find below all the information related to the working groups and their work since then.

Let me know if you require additional information.

Background Information

The report of the 2019 CT meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland is <u>here</u>. The report of the Virtual Core Team meeting held in April 2022 is <u>here</u>. The report of the 2024 CT meeting held in Johannesburg, South Africa is here.

Conference calls with coordinators and/or members of the WGs were held to update each other on all the core activities they were designated for and also to coordinate future activities.

Three conference calls were held in 2020 (in February, June and November), two in 2021 (May and December) and in January 2023. Links to the notes of these conference calls are as follows: 1st call - February 13, 2020, 2nd call - June 10, 2020, 3rd call - November 6, 2020, 4th call - May 6, 2021, 5th call - December 14, 2021, the 6th call was held on January 2023 and the 7th call took place on January 18th, 2024.

You will find below information about the working groups and links to all the documents that have been shared by members of the WGs since 2019.

Please feel free to contact us if you need any further information.

1. Strategy on social security standards

Contact: Odile Frank.

Concept note (10 November 2019)

Note (CT Meeting, April 2022)

Report (CT Meeting, November 2024)

2. Human Rights Monitoring of the Implementation of the four Social Security Guarantees

Coordinators: Wouter van Ginneken, Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi.

Note 9 February 2020

Update on CESCR Concluding Observations to South Africa on Social

Security/Protection

Information note 6 November 2020.

Information about South Africa, November 2020.

Information note, December 2021.

Report and PowerPoint (CT Meeting, April 2022)

Report (January 2023)

Report (January 2024)

Report - Presentation (CT Meeting, November 2024)

3. Bretton Woods Institutions (BWI)

Contacts: Gunnel Axelsson Nycander, Barry Herman.

Report (CT Meeting, April 2022)

CAMPAIGN FOR THE RIGHT TO SOCIAL SECURITY

Contact: Lena Simet.

Report (January 2024)

Report (CT Meeting, November 2024)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

IMF Social Financing Strategy / IMF Country Level Monitoring Initiative

Contacts: Barry Herman and Roberto Bissio.

Note to start a WG discussion

Information note 5 November 2020.

Information note, May 2021.

World Bank

Contacts: Gunnel Axelsson Nycander and Johanna Wagman.

<u>Information about this group.</u>

IDA20 and social protection: Comments on proposed policy commitments

(word file and pdf file), September 2021

Comments on the social protection elements in the IDA20 draft Deputies

Report, November 2021

Comments on the social protection elements in the IDA20 draft Deputies

Report, November 2021. Brief assessment of social protection in IDA20,

April 2022

4. USP 2030

Contacts: Bart Verstraeten, Nicola Wiebe.

Concept note and work plan, February 2020

Information note, November 2020

Information note, documents (2021 workplan of USP2030, Advocacy

material), May 2021

Information note, December 2021

Assessment and update (CT Meeting, April 2022)

Report (January 2024)

Report (CT Meeting, November 2024)

6. Advocacy (UN Engagement)

Former: Joint engagement at CSocD, CSW and HLPF 2020

Contacts: Sylvia Beales (APSP).

Concept note, November 2019

Updated information, June 2020

Report December 2021.

Report and presentation (CT Meeting, April 2022)

Report (January 2023)

Report (January 2024)

Report (CT Meeting, November 2024)

7. Strategy on global financing mechanism (e.g. global fund, UN Global Accelerator, also including the discussion on a new UN tax body)

Contacts: Nicola Wiebe, Markus Kaltenborn.

A proposal for the decade of action on the SDGs 2020-2030.

Civil Society Call for a Global Fund for Social Protection to respond to the

COVID-19 crisis and to build a better future

Conceptual framework and results of discussions, January 2020

Report 6 November 2020.

Report 6 May 2021.

Report, December 2021.

Report (CT Meeting, April 2022)

Report (January 2023)

Report (January 2024)

Report - Presentation: The UN Global Accelerator (CT Meeting, November 2024)

8. Health

Contact: Odile Frank.

Concept note, 10 November 2019

L'accès universel aux soins de santé (Odile Frank, Revue Quart Monde

2020/3 N°255) Note (April 2022)

"Universal access to essential health care: propositions from public international law to implement essential health care in conjunction with universal social protection", by Odile Frank Background paper prepared on behalf of Global Social Justice for the Working Group on the Role of Universal Health Coverage, now the Working Group on Health. March

Report (CT Meeting, November 2024)

9. The right to be cared

Contact: Roberto Bissio

The concept note is available <u>here</u>.

Note on Argentina, 6 November 2020.

Care at the centre of a new model (CT Meeting, April 2022)

Report (January 2023)

Report - Presentation: Towards a "Care society" (CT Meeting, November 2024)

10. Dialogue with INTPA on Social Protection

Contacts: Action Against Hunger

Report (CT Meeting, November 2024)

Former Working Group

5. EU DEVCO Project

The project on social protection and public financial management started in 2019 and ended in September 2023.

The PFM&SP programme implemented by UNICEF, ILO and the GCSPF was funded by the European Union. Website of the Global Action

Contacts: Chandranshu (HelpAge), Uzziel Twagilimana (WSM), Hilde Van Regenmortel and Julien Gerard (Oxfam).

Inception workshop (Brussels, December 2019)

Programme, Concept note, Work plan, Managment.

The inception phase narrative reports for Cambodia (Oxfam), Nepal (WSM), Senegal (WSM) and Uganda (HelpAge) are here.

2020 Annual reports of GCSPF countries (Cambodia, Nepal, Uganda,

<u>Senegal</u>), and <u>2021 training manual</u> on PFM by Barry Herman and Gemma Adaba

Report December 2021, PFM Training (powerpoint).

Assessment, Progress and challenges in the SPPFM Project (ppt) (CT

Meeting, April 2022)

Report (ppt) (January 2023)

<u>Final Publication: Strengthening Civil Society Advocacy Networks for Universal Social Protection: Experiences from Cambodia, Nepal, Senegal, and Uganda</u> (September 2023)
<u>Final Presentation: Improving synergies between SP and PFM</u> (18 January

2024)
GCSPF Newsletter: Final activities (February 2024)