

# BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS WITH THE ILO TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES WITH THE SUPPORT FROM THE P.R. CHINA



International  
Labour  
Organization

## SUPPORTING SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

China is assuming an active role in promoting South-South cooperation worldwide.

Assisting countries in the South to develop their economies, reduce poverty and fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 is considered as an important component of China's international diplomacy. China believes that international cooperation can create greater opportunities for economic and social development of all the cooperating countries.

In consequence, China's South-South cooperation efforts continue to grow, particularly after the announcement of President Xi to establish a South-South Cooperation Fund with an initial investment of US\$2 billion, and the implementation of "the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road Initiative" (the Belt and Road Initiative), which involves more than 60 countries. Meanwhile, the topics and format of China's South-South cooperation have been largely expanded, including new triangular cooperation models.

Against this background, a new ILO-China Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed in September 2016 with a new partnership component, among others, to further strengthen the promotion of social justice, the decent work agenda, a fair globalization and the SDGs.

Actually, an ILO-MOHRSS Partnership Agreement on the ILO-China South-South Cooperation Project to Expand Employment Services and Enhance Labour Market Information in Cambodia and Lao PDR had been already signed in 2012 and amended in 2016. Directly benefiting from this amended extension, an ILO-China High-Level Seminar on social protection was held in September 2016 in Beijing to promote the SDGs concerning social protection through South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC).



## RELEVANCE OF CHINA'S EXPERIENCE

About 1.3 billion people (or 95 per cent of the population) and 860 million people have been covered by health insurance and old-age pension schemes respectively in China in less than 10 years. Its experiences, partially listed below, are rich, innovative and relevant for many countries from the South:

- Setting up a national strategy for social protection with objectives and action plans;
- Developing a legal framework to regulate the implementation of the strategy;
- Providing fiscal support to the rural population, low-income families and other vulnerable groups;
- Developing integrated social security information systems;
- Improving and decentralizing social security services;
- Cooperating with the labour inspection services to increase the compliance with social insurance laws.

Given China's success in the extension of social protection and ongoing social and economic collaboration between China and many countries, there is a growing interest from Southern countries to learn China's social security experiences.

## ILO-CHINA SOUTH-SOUTH SEMINAR ON SOCIAL PROTECTION

The Seminar was convened from 6 to 8 September 2016 in Beijing. A total of 90 policymakers, practitioners, representatives of workers' and employers' organisations, private sector and development partner representatives from China, ASEAN and other countries, took part in the meeting.

Its main purpose was to strengthen the institutional capacity of ILO constituents to reach universal social protection (USP) coverage using SSTC.

<http://beijing.social-protection.org>



### FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

China is a strategic partner of the ILO Global Flagship Programme on Building SPF for All. The ILO is therefore seeking more financial and technical support from China, which can sponsor the following projects or the others as appropriate:

- Developing and disseminating good practices and information through briefs, technical notes, videos and China South-South Expos.

[US\\$ 120,000 per year](#)

- Conducting knowledge sharing and technical workshops inside and outside China.

[US\\$ 100,000 per event](#)

- Organizing field visits to learn how social security schemes are implemented in China.

[US\\$ 50,000 per visit per delegation of 10 people](#)

- Financing year-long training programmes at Chinese universities with an internship in Chinese social security institutions.

[US\\$ 35,000 per trainee](#)

- Funding a technical project on extending social protection coverage in ASEAN countries with the support of experts from China and the global South.

[US\\$ 1,000,000](#)

- Supporting a technical project of five years on promoting universal social protection (USP) in selected countries in South Asia covered by the Belt and Road Initiative.

[US\\$ 1,500,000](#)

### LISTENING TO YOUR AMBITIONS

Any entity in China can make financial contributions, including government agencies, workers' and employers' organizations, members of the private sector and NGOs.

As a donor, you receive regular reports on the progress made and have access to ongoing project activities and performance indicators.

To further discuss your objectives and the ways in which you can support the extension of social protection and improve the lives of millions of people, you can contact:



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