

# ILO's Social Protection Monitor: Tracking Climate Change Trends in News

2024



International  
Labour  
Organization

## Part I - Adaptation, resilience and loss and damage

### ▶ **United States: Implementation of the Serious Needs Assistance program**

19/01/2024 – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) replaces the Critical Needs Assistance program with a cash relief program called the Serious Needs Assistance. Previously only provided based on a disaster-by-disaster evaluation, the program will now be available in all disasters. [Read more](#)

### ▶ **United States: Creation of the Displacement Assistance benefit**

19/01/2024 – The Displacement Assistance is designed for survivors who cannot return to their homes following a disaster and provides them with up-front funds to assist with immediate housing options of their choice. [Read more](#)

### ▶ **Mozambique: 11,000 households receive drought cash assistance**

29/01/2024 – Around 11,000 households affected by drought in the South and Center of Mozambique will receive assistance from the National Social Action Institute (INAS), starting in March, as part of an early response plan. [Read more](#)

### ▶ **Brazil: Government announces reconstruction grant and range of social security measures to support victims of floods in Rio Grande do Sul**

15/05/2024 – Around 240,000 affected families will receive a one-off payment of 5,100 Brazilian reais (US\$850). Other social security measures include anticipated payments of contributory and social pensions and family benefits (Bolsa Familia), access to severance accounts, a two-month extension of unemployment benefits, and an additional 21,000 families to be enrolled in Bolsa Familia. [Read more](#)

### ▶ **Bangladesh: Strengthening the social protection system for better resilience**

12/06/2024 – The Asian Development Bank approved a US\$250 million policy-based loan for Bangladesh to strengthen its national social protection system, including by integrating climate-adaptive measures. [Read more](#)

### ▶ **India: Insurance helped 46,000 women avoid deadly work during heat waves**

12/06/2024 – A parametric insurance pilot run by the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) labour union provided a total payout of US\$340,000 to women across 22 districts in India when temperatures breached 43.6 degrees. Premiums are paid partly by the women and payouts cover basic necessities. [Read more](#)

### ▶ **The Philippines: Coconut farm workers in typhoon-affected areas benefit from social protection coverage and cash-for-work**

15/07/2024 – Participants of a cash-for-work programme designed to support the recovery from Super Typhoon Rai (Odette) are registered for the first time with the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation and the Social Security System. [Read more](#)

▶ **The Philippines: Government provides emergency cash transfers and cash-for-work schemes for typhoon-affected families**

25/07/2024 – The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) announced financial assistance to affected families based on assessment of DSWD social workers and a Rapid Damage and Needs Analysis. [Read more](#)

▶ **Jamaica: Ministry of Labour and Social Security provides emergency grants and leverages existing social programmes**

25/07/2024 – A billion-dollar relief plan for Jamaicans affected by Hurricane Beryl was announced by Labour minister Charles Jr. and includes grants for 8,700 households who lost their homes, grants to affected micro-business operators, and tertiary-level students from severely affected households. [Read more](#)

▶ **Viet Nam: Streamlined procedures to ensure health and social insurance access for typhoon Yagi-hit areas**

18/09/2024 – Measures were put in place to ensure continued and smooth access, including coordination with local authorities, dispatchment of social security officers to severely affected areas and advance payment of health-insurance covered treatment. [Read more.](#)

▶ **United States: Unemployment claims spike in wake of hurricanes**

10/10/2024 – The number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits was higher than forecasted (258,000 instead of 230,000), with the largest increases registered in North Carolina and Florida, which were hit hardest by hurricane Helene. [Read more.](#)

▶ **The Philippines: DSWD pilots anticipatory action through the social protection system**

22/10/2024 – The pilot programme aims to address the impacts of floods, typhoons, and droughts by linking technology for risk information, impact-based forecasting, and early warning systems as trigger mechanisms for social safety nets. [Read more.](#)

▶ **Spain: Government announced a range of social security measures to support affected workers, companies and vulnerable households**

18/11/2024 – The measures include temporary exemptions or deferrals of paying social security contributions, enhanced benefits for temporary disability (physical and psychological) due to the floods, and simplified unemployment benefit claims for self-employed workers, among others. [Read more.](#)

▶ **The Philippines: Calamity loan for tropical cyclone-affected members of social security system**

25/11/2024 – The Social Security System (SSS) offers a calamity loan to qualified members equivalent to their one monthly salary credit or up to 20,000 Philippine pesos (US\$345). Loans are available to all members resident in areas declared under a state of calamity who have made at least 36 monthly contributions. [Read more](#)

▶ **Spain: One month after the floods, over 85,000 people have benefited from enhanced social security measures**

05/12/2024 – Benefit values for beneficiaries of social assistance and social pensions increased by 15 per cent, and the child benefit increased by 30 per cent in affected areas (for a minimum of 3 months). An additional 1,000 people became eligible for social assistance. 4,564 extraordinary medical / temporary disability cases were granted, and pensions for permanent disability, widowhood and orphanhood caused by the floods were enhanced. Over 30,000 workers across over 2,800 companies were placed on furlough. [Read more](#)

▶ **The Philippines: Typhoon-hit pensioners urged to avail of advance pensions**

06/12/2024 – The Social Security System (SSS) encouraged its pensioners affected by multiple recent tropical cyclones to apply at their nearest SSS for a three-month advance of their pension payment. [Read more](#)

▶ **Spain: Four days of ‘paid climate leave’ per year**

10/12/2024 – The Spanish government announced reforms that would grant workers to take four days off work per year on full pay in the event of extreme weather-related events. Where a calamity persists after four days, workers can be placed on government-subsidized furlough schemes. [Read more](#)

## **Part II - Mitigation, transition and environmental protection**

▶ **China: Over 230,000 fishermen affected by the Yangtze fishing ban received social security services, financial support and vocational training from government**

02/01/2024 – The ten-year fishing ban in the Yangtze River has made significant achievements in protecting biodiversity. Over 230,000 fishermen received compensation and 155,000 with employment capacity have found new income sources. [Read more](#)

▶ **Canada: British Columbia province increases Climate Action Tax Credit**

10/01/2024 – The British Columbia government significantly increased the Climate Action Tax Credit to address rising costs and give a boost to the people who need it most. A single person could receive as much as 447 Canadian dollars per year, which is double what they received in 2022. [Read more](#)

▶ **Canada: Pollution pricing rebates**

15/01/2024 – 8 out of 10 households will receive more money back through the pollution price rebate than they pay as a result of the federal pollution pricing system, with low- and middle-income households benefiting the most. [Read more](#)

▶ **Malaysia: Revenue and savings from carbon tax and fuel subsidy reform to be channeled towards low-income individuals**

18/10/2024 – The Malaysian government announced fiscal reforms aimed at reducing emissions and enhancing fiscal sustainability. Savings from subsidy reforms will be allocated to education and healthcare. Cash aid for 9 million low-income individuals will be increased from 10 billion Malaysian ringgit to 13 billion ringgit from 2025. [Read more](#)