It has never been more urgent to deliver on SDG 1.3

The COVID-19 pandemic and its health, economic and social consequences have drawn unprecedented attention to the need for universal social protection. It has never been more urgent to deliver on the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially target 1.3, to implement national social protection systems for all, starting from a solid floor of basic social protection guarantees.

Universal social protection is a human right and key to recovery, for a green transition and for sustainable and inclusive economic and social development for individuals, communities and nations.

Despite a wave of social protection responses following the COVID-19 outbreak, over half of the world’s population still have little or no access to social protection, dramatically increasing individuals’ and families’ vulnerabilities. COVID-19 has shown, once more, the vital importance of solidarity – the very spirit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – including the urgency of achieving universal social protection for all human beings, no matter who or where they are.

USP2030 can make this happen

All countries have committed to the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals, including SDG 1.3 with its bold premise that ensuring social protection for all the world’s citizens by 2030 is feasible. As that deadline approaches, the pressing question is ‘How?’

Effective social protection coverage worldwide:

SDG indicator 1.3.1: Proportion of population covered by at least one social protection benefit, latest year

Sources:
In 2016, the World Bank and the International Labour Organization jointly initiated the Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection (USP2030), to transform the SDG Agenda’s vision of universal social protection into reality. USP2030 has grown into a worldwide alliance which, for the first time, brings together governments, international and regional organisations, social partners and civil society organisations, in a shared commitment towards ensuring social protection for all.

USP2030 members can:
- draw upon a global network of key actors with cutting-edge expertise in universal social protection
- exchange country experiences in formulating and implementing social protection policies, and in monitoring progress towards achieving universal social protection
- engage in a global forum for knowledge development and sharing, bringing together all relevant stakeholders
- bring country and constituency perspectives to bear in shaping the global social protection agenda, and maintain a strong voice for country ownership, responsibility and participation.

Join the partnership!
Countries and organisations are invited to join USP2030 to promote social protection and accelerate progress towards achieving SDG 1.3. There are no financial obligations associated with membership, and contributions to USP2030 activities are entirely voluntary.

To join USP2030, interested governments or organisations should submit a formal letter (signed by a Minister or head of organisation) to the Steering Committee (PDF to secretariat@usp2030.org), stating their interest in joining and affirming their commitment to USP2030’s Call to Action. Full information on joining the partnership can be found here.

For more information on USP2030, visit www.usp2030.org, including the Call to Action, the governance structure of USP2030, and country briefs.

USP2030: One Mission, 5 Actions

USP2030's mission is to achieve the promise of SDG 1.3: Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.

Members of USP2030 commit to 5 Actions around the core principles of universal social protection:

1. Protection throughout the life cycle:
Establish universal social protection systems, including floors, that provide adequate protection throughout the life cycle, combining social insurance, social assistance and other means, anchored in national strategies and legislation;

2. Universal coverage:
Provide universal access to social protection and ensure that social protection systems are rights-based, gender-sensitive and inclusive, leaving no one behind;

3. National ownership:
Develop social protection strategies and policies based on national priorities and circumstances in close cooperation with all relevant actors;

4. Sustainable and equitable financing:
Ensure the sustainability and fairness of social protection systems by prioritizing reliable and equitable forms of domestic financing, complemented by international cooperation and support where necessary;

5. Participation and social dialogue:
Strengthen governance of social protection systems through institutional leadership, multi-sector coordination and the participation of social partners and other relevant and representative organisations, to generate broad-based support and promote the effectiveness of services.