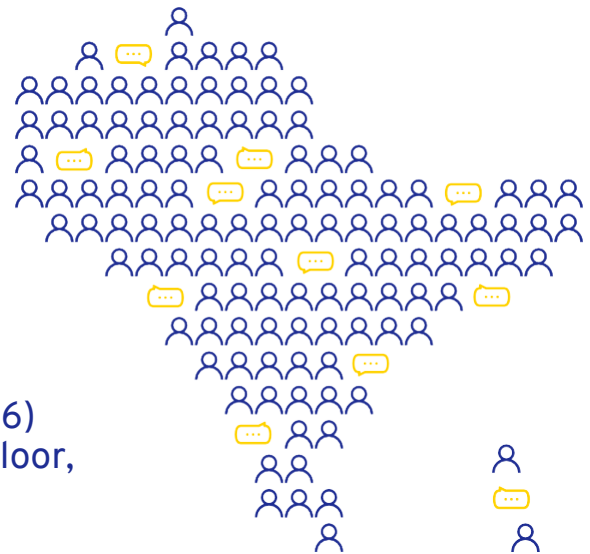




Concepts of Universal and Comprehensive Social Protection and International Standards

27 September 2022, Tuesday
09:00 - 14:00 (Bangladesh Standard Time, GMT+6)
Venue: Conference Room, BRAC Centre Inn, 1st Floor,
BRAC Centre, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212



Background

Universal social protection (USP) and social insurance are considered key policy instruments in national development strategies to tackle poverty and vulnerabilities, address inequality, and facilitate human development and access to decent work. Such policies help develop skilled workforce and boost employability of labour market participants actively looking for jobs. These policy efforts are thus recognised as economic enablers contributing to strong, sustainable, and inclusive growth. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), under Target 1.3 and Goal 1, calls for implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and achieving substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable. In recent years, many countries have made substantial progress toward extending social protection and building rights-based social protection systems.

In the context of Bangladesh, the government formulated and adopted the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) in 2015. The strategy envisages a streamlined social security system, primarily based on the widely acceptable lifecycle approach, providing support to all eligible individuals to address livelihood risks at different stages of their life e.g., childhood, working age, and old age. Nevertheless, lack of progress in implementation means vulnerabilities of the working population remain unabated. Given this, the on-going initiatives of social protection coverage expansion and the operationalisation of the National Social Insurance Scheme (NSIS)—comprising sickness, maternity, injury, and unemployment benefits for the employees — cannot be overemphasised.

From the Midterm Progress Review of NSSS implementation, it becomes evident that meeting many social protection goals and targets have remained rather slow. One important contributing factor in this regard is

inadequate knowledge and awareness about the social protection system amongst various social partners and stakeholders including the implementing ministries/departments, employers, and employees. This problem is more prevalent when it comes to labour-related social insurance programmes.

In a recent survey, carried out as part of an ILO study, a majority of participants drawn from tripartite-plus constituents self-assess their not possessing much knowledge about social security and social insurance-related issues. Lack of capacity/awareness-building initiatives have been recognised by the stakeholder representatives as the main reasons behind the social partners' low awareness/knowledgebase.

In the above backdrop, the ILO country office in Bangladesh aims to undertake a series of awareness-raising and capacity-building initiatives with the overarching goal of promoting social protection and social insurance programmes in the country.

Objectives

The envisaged specific objectives are:

- ▶ To raise awareness about various technical concepts and issues associated with comprehensive and universal social protection and social insurance including international Standards and global practices.
- ▶ To promote understanding about the state of social protection schemes in the country and to help improve participants' knowledge about implementation challenges and ways to overcome those.
- ▶ To discuss the role of various stakeholders in taking forward the social protection agenda and contribute to social dialogue process in building consensus.





Workshop Outline

Modality:

In-person

Date:

Tuesday, 27 September 2022

Time:

09:00 - 14:00 (Bangladesh Standard Time, GMT+6)

Participants:

Government officials, employers, representative from trade union, business associations, business membership organizations, business foundations, corporate leaders, social think tanks, UN agencies and other development partners.

Workshop Agenda

Concepts of Universal and Comprehensive Social Protection and International Standards

Date:

Tuesday, 27 September 2022

Time:

09:00 - 14:00 (Bangladesh Standard Time, GMT+6)

Venue:

Conference Room, BRAC Centre Inn, 1st Floor, BRAC Centre, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

Time	Agenda	Conducted by
09:00 - 09:30	Registration	
09:30 - 09:35	Opening of program by Master of Ceremony	
09:35 - 09:35	Opening Remarks Mr. Tuomo Poutiainen , Country Director, ILO Bangladesh	
09:45 - 09:55	Remarks by Special Guest Representative , Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of Bangladesh	
09:55 - 10:00	Remarks by Chief Guest Dr. Md. Kawser Ahmed , Member (Secretary), GED Planning Commission, Ministry of Planning	
10:00 - 10:40	Concept of Universal Social Protection and International Standards – followed by Q&A Session	ILO
10:40 - 11:20	Awareness and knowledge gaps in social protection and social insurance issues	RAPiD
11:20 - 11:40	Coffee Break	
11:40 - 12:20	The State of Social Protection Schemes in Bangladesh – followed by Q&A Session	ILO
12:20 - 13:00	Way Forward – for a Comprehensive & Universal Social Protection in Bangladesh – Structured discussion	Participants
13:00 - 13:20	Closing Session	
13:20	Lunch	

