



The ILO Turin Centre's facilities

Located in an attractive park on the banks of the River Po, the Centre's campus provides a congenial environment in which to live and study.

It contains 21 pavilions with fully equipped modern classrooms, conference halls and meeting rooms fitted out for multilingual simultaneous interpretation, a computer laboratory, and a computerized documentation centre linked to various data banks.

The campus has 287 study/bedrooms, all with private bathrooms, telephones and cable television. It also has:

- a reception desk open 24 hours a day;
- a restaurant, a self-service canteen and a coffee lounge, all catering for international dietary needs;

- a bank;
- a travel agency;
- a laundry service;
- a post office;
- an internet point;
- a recreation room;
- facilities for outdoor and indoor sports;
- an infirmary.

Social events are regularly held both on and off campus, so that participants from different cultural backgrounds can make the most of the stimulating international climate.

For further information, please contact:

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A902508

Extension of Social Protection: towards a universal social protection floor

1 – 12 November

Turin, Italy

English and French



International Labour Organization



International Training Centre

Extension of Social Protection: towards a universal social protection floor



Context

There is a general agreement on the fact that households accessing social protection are less affected by economic downturns and that the redistribution of wealth through social protection allows vulnerable households to continue contributing to the economy. Yet, globally, only one person out of five has adequate social protection coverage. The large part of the excluded are found in the informal economy and amongst the poor and vulnerable populations of society.

Recognizing the role of social protection as a poverty alleviation instrument, the United Nations System Chief Executives Board (CEB) adopted "the social protection floor initiative" in April 2009 as a priority response to the global economic crisis. In the context of the "One UN", with United Nations' agencies joining forces and adopting common priorities and recognized solutions for a larger impact, the social protection floor has been identified as a sound and sustainable instrument for diminishing socio-economic inequities and contributing to economic growth in the long term.

The extension of social protection coverage is a strategic objective of the ILO decent work agenda, its member states and social partners. This objective has been re-affirmed in the Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008) and the Global Jobs Pact adopted in 2009. The course will look at extension of social protection in both horizontal & vertical dimensions. The horizontal dimension aims at providing a national universal minimum guaranteed set of social protection benefits to the poor and the most vulnerable populations, while the vertical dimension addresses the improvement/safeguarding of minimum benefit entitlements in the formal and formalizing sectors, i.e. within the frame of reference of Convention 102.

As components of the social protection floor are being implemented worldwide and impact studies are becoming available, the International Training Centre of the ILO in Turin, in close collaboration with the Social Security Department of the ILO and related agencies of the UN System, is organizing a training and knowledge sharing activity on the "Extension of social protection - towards a universal social protection floor".

This year, we have decided to offer the course in both French and English in order to increase the exchange of experience and knowledge between regions.



Objectives

The main objective of this interregional training activity is to strengthen the capacity of key actors and stakeholders to design and implement strategies to extend social protection, within the framework of the social protection floor initiative and other extension channels.

Learning objectives

At the end of the training, the participants will have increased knowledge and skills enabling them to:

- 1) Understand the importance of the extension of social protection as a powerful tool to reduce poverty and inequalities and contribute to economic growth and development;
- 2) Review the social protection floor concept and initiative, its context, components and operational phases;
- 3) Understand the process for a diagnosis of current national social protection systems and formulation of a national strategy on the extension of social protection;
- 4) Participate in knowledge sharing at international and regional levels on extension of social protection strategies;
- 5) Review various initiatives around the world which are components of the social floor or milestones for extension of social protection, in view of their replication and adaptation in other countries.



Participants' profile

The course is designed for:

- Policy planners from governmental structures such as:
 - Ministry of Labour;
 - Ministry of Finance and Planning;
 - Ministry of Health;

- Ministry of Social Protection;
- Ministry of Social Affairs

- Planners, advisers and professionals working in social security institutions or with social protection mechanisms;
- Representatives of workers and employers' organizations involved in the extension of social protection coverage;
- Practitioners and consultants of UN agencies working on social protection and the social protection floor initiative;
- Leaders and key members of associative or non-governmental organizations engaged in social protection policy formulation;
- Other international organizations and sponsors in the area of social protection.



Programme

The training programme will focus on the following topics:

- The Social Protection Floor (SPF) Initiative
 - Different social protection models and mechanisms and the need for the extension of coverage;
 - The SPF initiative, development, concept and its dimensions;
 - The role and contributions of relevant UN agencies;
 - Combining the main components, according to priorities, national contexts and financial constraints;
- Implementation at country level
 - Building national consensus and a national policy framework;
 - Assessing the current situation of social protection at country level and the financing options based on fiscal space, international cooperation, innovative financing (tools & approaches, gender considerations);
 - Elaborating and implementing an extension of social protection strategy, including the horizontal and vertical dimensions;
 - Monitoring, evaluation and performance indicators.
- Knowledge management
 - Knowledge sharing on extension of social protection initiatives.



Methodology

Our training activities use a participatory and interactive approach to encourage active involvement, knowledge sharing, as well as the exchange of views and experiences among participants. Various learning technologies will be used, including an open space to build answers to specific concerns raised by the participants. Gender dimensions will be highlighted throughout the entire programme.



Language

English & French (simultaneous interpretation)



Applications

The cost of participation, **excluding international air travel**, is **3,250 Euros**, payable in advance. This covers tuition fees, the use of training facilities and support services, training materials, accommodation and full board at the Centre's campus. A lump sum allowance for incidental expenses is provided as well as emergency medical care insurance.

Applications to participate in the workshop should be sent **no later than 25 September 2010** to:

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Applications should be supported by a curriculum vitae and nomination letter from the sponsoring institution indicating how the participant will be financed. Please note that if a Schengen visa for Italy is needed, the average time required is a minimum of three weeks or more.

As an organization dedicated to fundamental human rights and social justice, the ILO is taking a leading role in international efforts to promote and realize gender equality. In line with this ILO focus, women candidates are especially welcome.