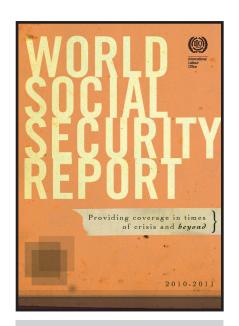


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ISBN

978-92-2-123268-1

Price

CHF 50; USD 50; GBP 30; EUR 35

Trimmed Size

A4

Page Count

170 pages

Publication Date

November 2010

World Social Security Report 2010/11

Providing coverage in times of crisis and beyond

Social security systems play a critical role in alleviating poverty and providing economic security, helping people to cope with life's major risks and adapt to change. They can have a remarkable effect on income inequality and poverty in developing countries through income transfers. The 2008/09 financial crisis has shown that they are also powerful economic and social stabilizers, with both short- and long-term effects. However, there are serious problems of access to social security around the world which the crisis has shown into sharp relief, and the financing of systems has been put at risk by shrinking national budgets.

The *World Social Security Report 2010/11* monitors social security coverage across the world, and examines the role of social security in times of crisis. It maps social security coverage globally and by region or other country grouping, presenting methods and approaches to assessing social security coverage. It also identifies gaps in measurable statistical knowledge on not only social security coverage but its costs and impacts. The report includes full statistical annexes.

The *World Social Security Report 2010/11* is the first in a new series of ILO reports monitoring social security coverage and is an essential reference for anyone interested in social security issues.

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