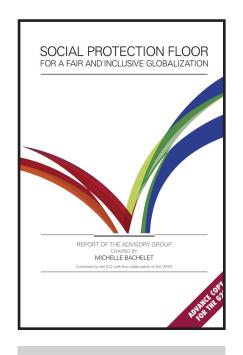


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# Social Protection Floor for a Fair and Inclusive Globalization

Report of the Advisory Group chaired by Michelle Bachelet

Convened by the ILO with the collaboration of the WHO

In many ways the power of the social protection floor lies in its simplicity. The floor is based on the idea that everyone should enjoy at least basic income security sufficient to live, guaranteed through transfers in cash or in kind, such as pensions for the elderly and persons with disabilities, child benefits, income support benefits and/or employment guarantees and services for the unemployed and working poor. Together, in cash and in kind transfers should ensure that everyone has access to essential goods and services, including essential health services, primary education, housing, water and sanitation.

This report, prepared under the guidance of Ms Michelle Bachelet and members of the Advisory Group, shows that the extension of social protection, drawing on social protection floors, can play a pivotal role in relieving people of poverty and deprivation. It can in addition help people adapt their skills to overcome the constraints that block their full participation in a changing economic and social environment, contributing to improved human capital development and stimulating greater productive activity. The report also shows how social protection has helped to stabilize aggregate demand in times of crisis and to increase resilience against economic shocks, contributing to accelerate recovery towards more inclusive and sustainable development paths.

### **ABOUT THE ADVISORY GROUP**

This Advisory Group was convened in August 2010 by the ILO, with the collaboration of the WHO, under the framework of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) Social Protection Floor Initiative, to enhance global advocacy and provide guidance on the conceptual and policy aspects of the social protection floor. This report outlines the main conclusions and recommendations of the Group.

### Introduction

# 1. The social protection floor – A policy coherence approach The concept

Social protection floors in practice International recognition

### 2. The global social challenge

Pervasive poverty and income inequality
Social security is still a privilege
Lack of essential health services
Inadequate access to water, sanitation and housing
Food insecurity and nutritional deficits
Demographic challenges
Fragile and conflict-affected countries

# **3.** The case for the social protection floor Realizing human rights and social justice

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Affordable even in low-income countries
Ensuring adequate opportunities for decent work
Helping to address the social and economic impact
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A tool for gender empowerment
Enhancing social cohesion

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Committing donors and promoting innovative financing
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Pathways to economic inclusion
Scale and beneficiary selection

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Policy coherence and coordination among international organizations
Linking to the Millennium Development Goals and beyond
International standard-setting mechanisms

International standard-setting mechanisms International development cooperation and support to low-income countries

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