



Concept Note & Program

**56th UN Commission for Social Development Session, Side Event at
the UN Headquarters, New York**

February 5, 2018

Rights-Based Social Protection: From Rhetoric to Action

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in partnership with the Worldwide Network Nigeria: Women in Development and Environment, a member of the Society for Family and Social Protection, will be hosting a side event at the 56th UN Commission for Social Development session on 5 February 2018 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

It is the objective of the session to contribute to the realization of the aims and objectives of the Rights-Based Social Protection in Africa project whose secretariat is at Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Zambia. The project partners include the African Platform for Social Protection (APSP), the International Trade Union Confederation – Africa Labour Research Network (ITUC-ALRN) and the Women in Informal Employment: Globalising and Organising (WIEGO).

The aim of the project is to widen existing political will and to expand more technical discourses into a comprehensive societal discussion so that governments use the current time slot in favor of broad participation and democratization. The time window is fed from the increased resources through the economic recovery of Africa and the significantly increased willingness of donors to build Social Protection by start-up funding. This motivates African governments to start social programs in partnership with bilateral donors and UN agencies such as ILO and UNICEF, as well as the World Bank, with increase speed. The generally structurally weak civil society organizations that exist in this policy field have few opportunities to influence the policy process in the accelerated implementation.

It is against this background that the side event themed “**Rights-Based Social Protection: From Rhetoric to Action**” has been organized to promote the discourse around rights-based social protection and lobby and advocate for African developing countries especially in Africa to put social protection on a legal basis.

The panel discussion will focus on the following topical issues:

1. **Rights-Based Social Protection: Progress and Challenges**
2. **Rights-Based Social Protection: From Policy to Action the case for Nigeria**
3. **Policy and Legal Framework Developments and Implementation: From National Social Protection Policy to Social Protection Law the case for Zambia**
4. **Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through Rights-Based Social Protection**
5. **Monitoring and tracking of Rights-Based Social Protection**

Program Outline

56th session of the UN Commission for Social Development

Theme: Rights-Based Social Protection: From Rhetoric to Practice

February 5, 2018

Room: Conference Room D

Moderator: Dr. Dr. Ify Ofong - Worldwide Network Nigeria: Women in Development and Environment

Time	Session	Presenter/facilitator
11:45	Arrival and Registration	FES
11:45 – 11:50	Opening Session	
	Opening Remarks	Ms. Bettina Luise Rürup, Executive Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, New York Permanent Representative of Republic of Zambia to the UN (tbc)

11:50 – 12:00	Rights-Based Social Protection: Progress and Challenges	Mr. Dawda Samba Platform for Social Protection (PSP), Gambia
12:00 – 12:10	Rights-Based Social Protection: From Policy to Action the case for Nigeria	Mr. Oyebisi Oluseyi Society for Family and Social Protection (SFSP), Nigeria
12:10 – 12:20	Policy and Legal Framework Developments and Implementation: From National Social Protection Policy to Social Protection Law the case for Zambia	Ms. Esther Ngambi Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS), Zambia
12:20 – 12:30	Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through Rights-Based Social Protection	Ms. Rosario Diaz Garavit Founder of The Millennials Movement Operating Partner UN NGO Major Group - Latin America
12:30 – 12:40	Monitoring and tracking of Rights-Based Social Protection	Dr. Abiola Tilley-Gyado Society for Family and Social Protection (SFSP), Nigeria
12:40 – 12:55	Plenary Sessions	
12:55 – 13:00	Closing Remarks	Mr. Helmut Elischer Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Zambia

Aim: To highlight the benefits of a rights-based approach in social protection as a sure way to eradicate poverty and achieve the SDGs

Side Event - 11:45am – 1:00pm