



Social Protection Systems for All to Prevent Homelessness and Facilitate Access to Adequate Housing

Expert Group Meeting on "Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness"
United Nations Office at Nairobi, 22/24 May 2019
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Social protection in the Sustainable Development Agenda to leave no one behind: interconnecting SDGs

SDG1: End poverty in all its forms
1.3: Social protection systems and measures for all, including floors

SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

SDG11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable

11.1: Ensure access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

SDG10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

10.4: Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage, and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality

10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people



SDG3: Ensure health lives and promote well being for all at all ages

3.8: Achieve universal health coverage

SDG5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls

5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work

SDG6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

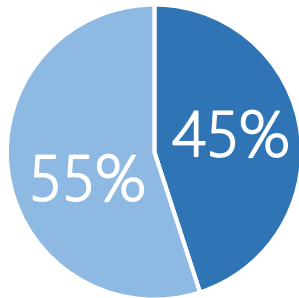
6.2 Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene all

SDG8: Promote decent work and economic growth

8.5: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

The rights to social security and adequate housing

Social security is a human right, but...



SDG indicator 1.3.1

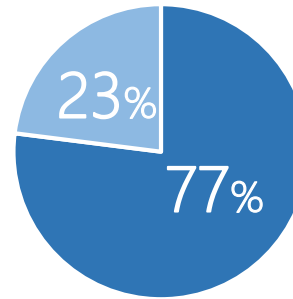
55%

of the world population is not covered by at least one social protection benefit (SDG indicator 1.3.1)

This means that **4 billion people** are still unprotected

Human rights to social security and an adequate standard of living

Adequate housing is a human right, but...



SDG indicator 11.1.1

Still **23%**

of the urban population lives in slums (SDG indicator 11.1.1)



Three dimensions of the right to adequate housing

Universal social protection systems, including floors, to prevent homelessness and facilitate access to adequate housing

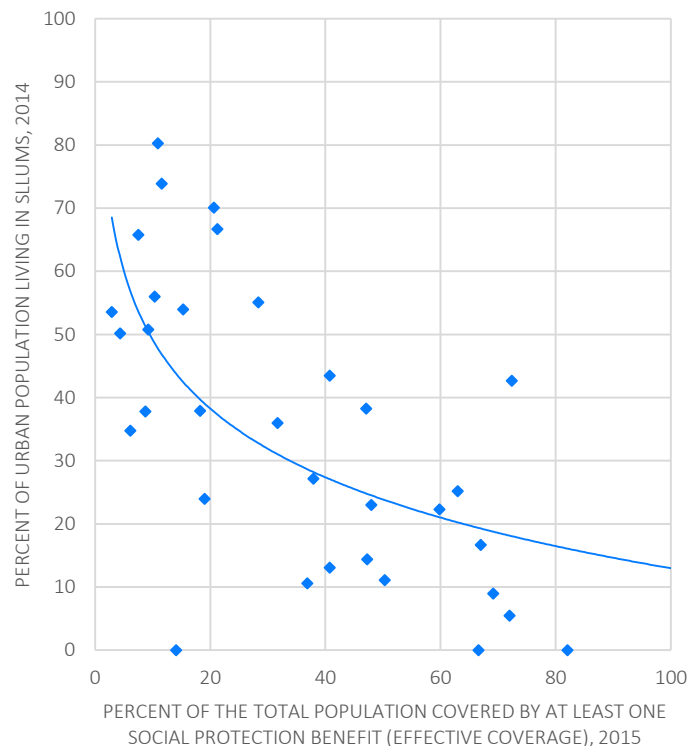
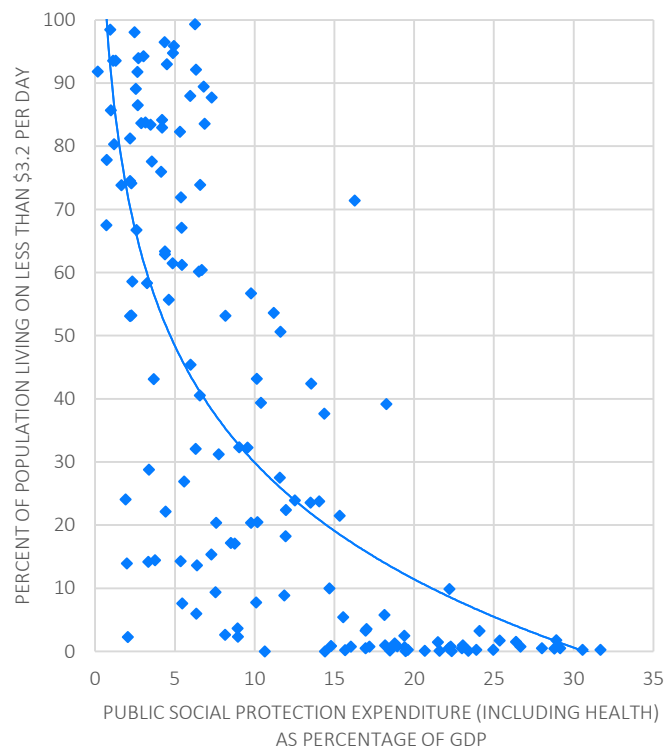


Figure 1: Social protection expenditure (including health, percentage of GDP) and percent of population living on less than \$3.2 per day, latest available years

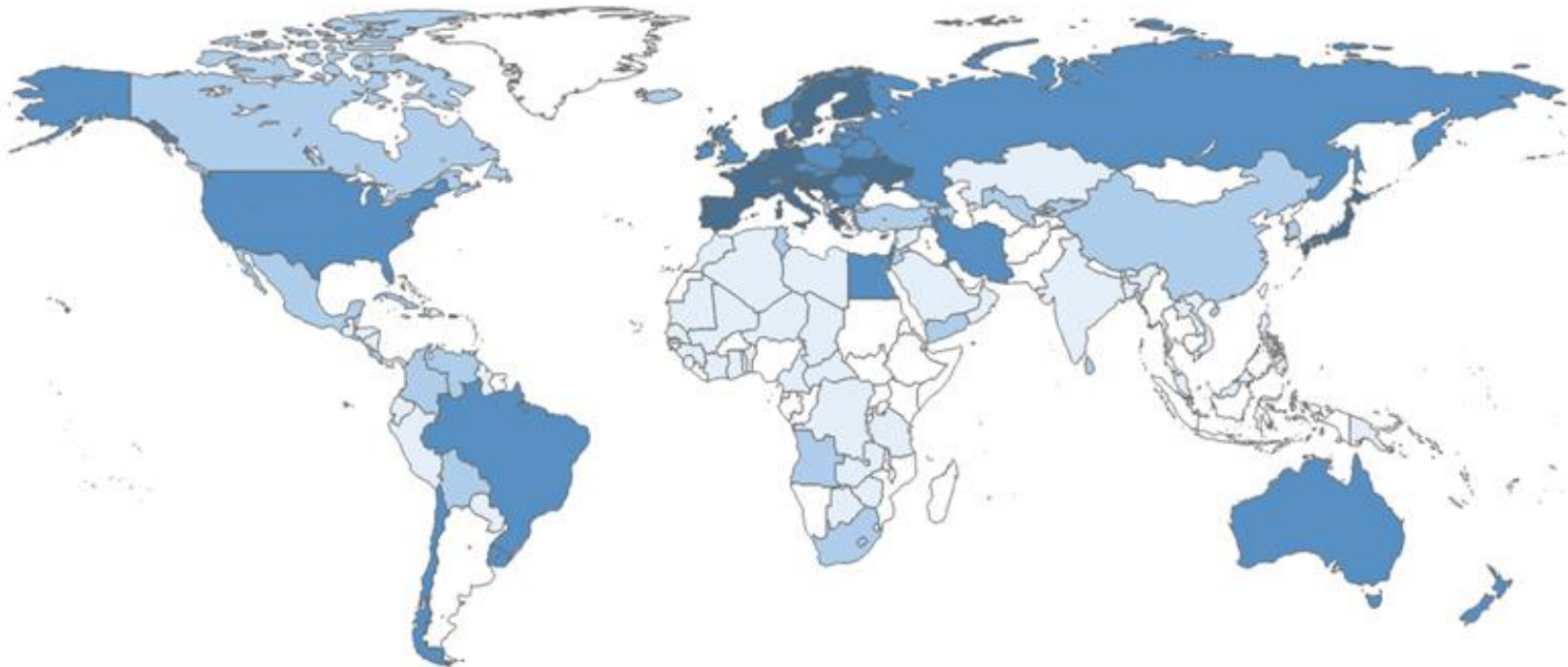
Source: World Social Protection Report 2017-2019 (ILO, 2017) and PovcalNet (World Bank, 2019, data accessed in May 2019).

Figure 2: Effective social protection coverage (SDG indicator 1.3.1) and urban population living in slums (SDG indicator 11.1.1), 2014/2015

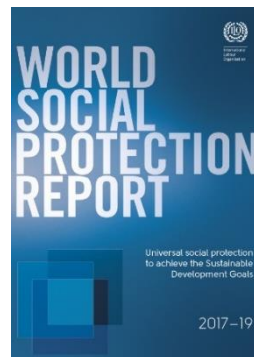
Source: ILO World Social Protection Report 2017-2019 (ILO, 2017) and UN-Habitat (2019, data accessed in May 2019).

Underinvestment in social protection

Public social protection expenditure, excluding health, latest available year (percentage of GDP)



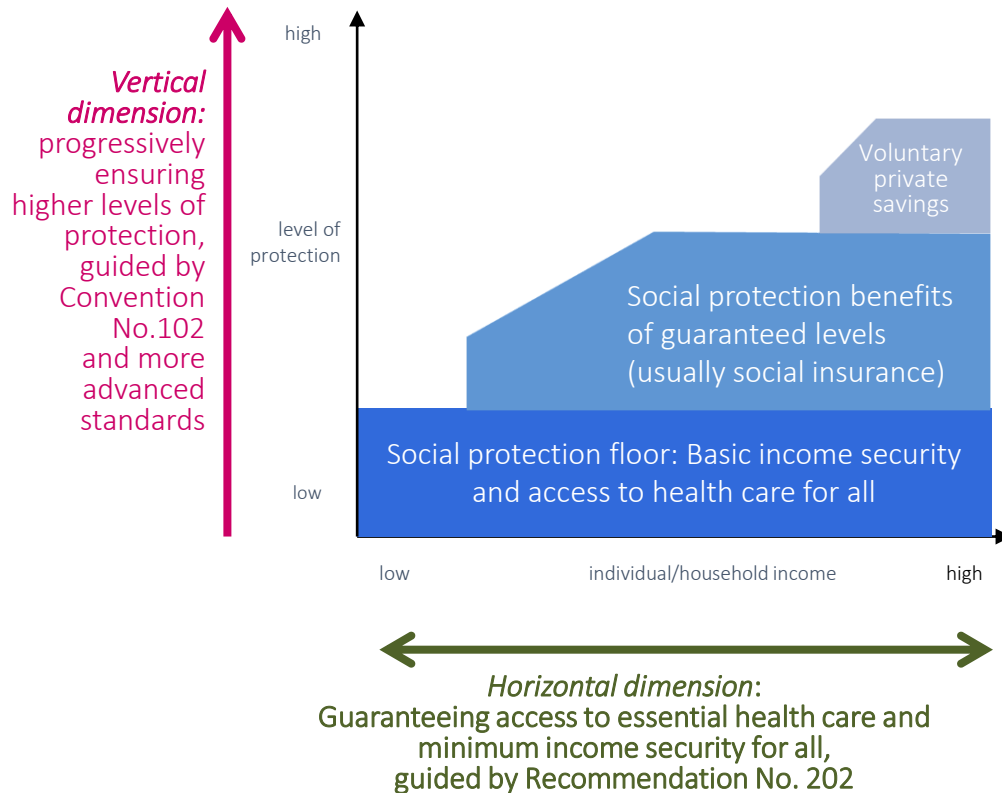
- Less than 5 per cent
- From 5 to less than 10 per cent
- From 10 to less than 15 per cent
- 15 per cent and above
- No data



Coverage gaps are associated to underinvestment in social protection

Negative impacts of austerity or fiscal consolidation cuts: narrow-targeting or eliminating schemes

The design of universal social protection systems, including floors, to prevent homelessness and facilitate access to adequate housing



Social protection floor:

Four basic guarantees



All residents have access to **essential health care**, including maternity care



All **children** enjoy basic **income security**, providing access to nutrition, education, care, and any other necessary goods and services



All persons in **active age** who cannot earn sufficient income, enjoy **basic income security**, particularly in cases of sickness, unemployment, maternity, disability



All **older persons** have basic **income security**

International human rights instruments and ILO social security standards:

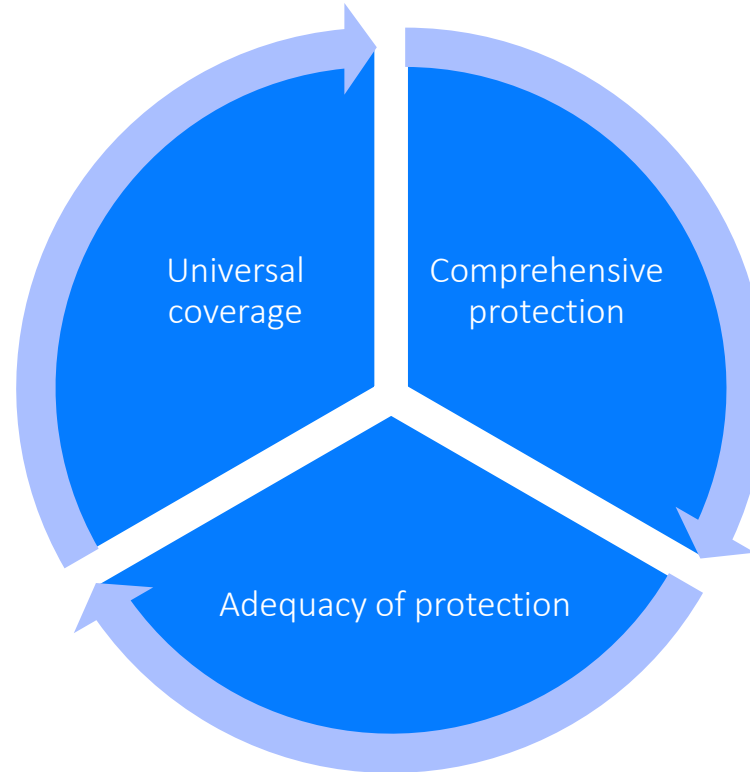
- Universal Declaration on Human Rights (1948)
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)
- **Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102)**
- ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 102)



Three key aspects of universal social protection

In terms of persons

protected: At least all residents and all children; taking into account the principles of social inclusion; respect for people's rights and dignity; non-discrimination, gender equality and responsiveness to special needs (e.g. persons with a disability)



In terms of risks

covered: Including benefits in case of sickness, unemployment, employment injury, disability, maternity, old age, survivorship, as well as benefits to reduce and prevent poverty, child and family benefits and effective access to health care

In terms of goods and services included:

- Nationally-defined social protection floors should guarantee access to essential goods and services that allow life in dignity (Recommendation No. 202, paras. 4 and 8) – this would also include housing needs.
- Minimum essential level of benefits will enable individuals and families “acquire at least essential health care, **basic shelter and housing, water and sanitation**, foodstuffs, and the most basic forms of education” (CESCR, 2008, para. 59a)
- Adequate protection goes beyond just reducing poverty – it should prevent poverty, and guarantee social security and an adequate standard of living in line with human rights and ILO social security standards.

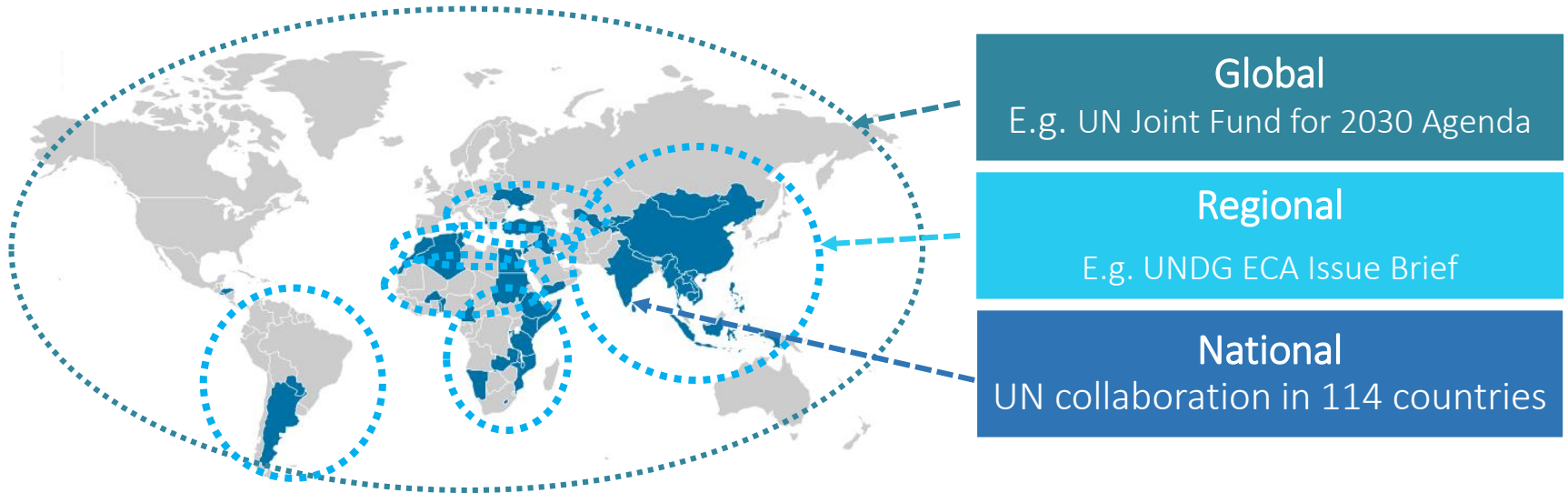
Coordination and coherence with other social, economic, and employment policies



Important links with
decent work –
and implications for
a human-centred agenda
for the future of work



Leaving no one behind and social protection: Working as One UN and Joint SDG Fund



UN Joint Fund for 2030 Agenda

- Stimulate integrated and transformative policy shifts, and support the UN in creating SDG financing strategies and making strategic investments so that countries can accelerate progress on the SDGs
- Call in March 2019 on **Leaving No One Behind (LNOB)**, and specifically social protection
- 60 million dollars for 30 countries
- 114 proposals received (ILO participating in 74 proposals)
- Some may have an explicit link to SDG 11.1 (e.g. India)

What is needed to strengthen social protection systems, including floors, to prevent homelessness and facilitate access to adequate housing?

Priority actions:

WHAT?

- Accelerating progress towards universal social protection (SDG 1.3 - USP2030)
- Accelerating progress towards universal health coverage (SDG 3.8 – UHC2030)
- Policy coherence and coordination with other policy areas

HOW?

- Rights-based approach
- Ensuring universal coverage, adequate benefits, comprehensive protection
- Particular emphasis on including excluded groups as to leave no one behind

WHEN?

- Now.

USP2030 Call to Action

Accelerating progress towards achieving SDG target 1.3 by

- **ACTION 1. Protection throughout life cycle:** Establish universal social protection systems, including floors, that provide adequate protection throughout the life cycle;
- **ACTION 2. Universal coverage:** Provide universal access to social protection and ensure that social protection systems are rights-based, gender-sensitive and inclusive, leaving no one behind;
- **ACTION 3. National ownership:** Develop social protection strategies and policies based on national priorities and circumstances in close cooperation with all relevant actors;
- **ACTION 4. Sustainable and equitable financing:** Ensure the sustainability and fairness of social protection systems by prioritizing reliable and equitable forms of domestic financing, complemented by international cooperation and support where necessary;
- **ACTION 5. Participation and social dialogue:** Strengthen governance of social protection systems through institutional leadership, multi-sector coordination and the participation of social partners and other relevant and representative organisations, to generate broad-based support and promote the effectiveness of services.

Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (USP2030 – www.usp2030.org)





We have only 11 years
to make **social protection**
a reality for all



Further references

ILO publications

- Social protection systems for all to prevent homelessness and facilitate access to adequate housing, Social Protection for All Issue Brief, May 2019 (Geneva, ILO, 2019 - DRAFT).
- World Social Protection Report 2017-19: Universal social protection to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (Geneva, ILO, 2017).
- Universal social protection for human dignity, social justice and sustainable development (Geneva, ILO, 2019).
- Building social protection systems: International standards and human rights instruments (Geneva, ILO, 2017).
- Towards universal social protection for children: Achieving SDG 1.3 (Geneva and New York, ILO and UNICEF, 2019).
- Global Commission for the Future of Work: Work for a brighter future (Geneva: ILO, 2019).
- 100 years of social protection: The road to universal social protection systems and floors. Volume I: 50 country cases (Ortiz et al., Geneva, ILO, 2019).

International labour standards

- Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202)
- Social security (minimum standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102)

Web platforms

- Social Protection Platform: www.social-protection.org/
- Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection: www.USP2030.org
- Joint UN web platform on social protection and human rights: www.socialprotection-humanrights.org

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