



► Universal social protection for an inclusive and resilient recovery from COVID-19

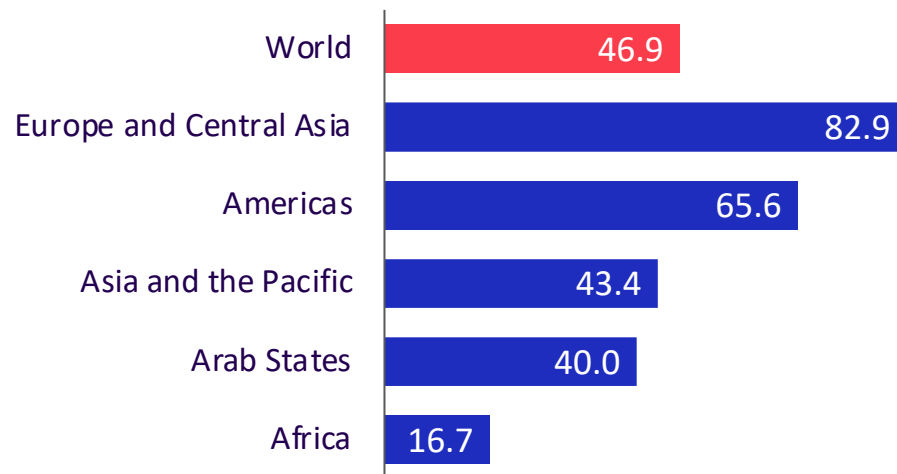
UN Expert Group Meeting “Inclusive and resilient recovery from COVID-19 for sustainable livelihoods, well-being and dignity for all: eradicating poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions to achieve the 2030 Agenda”
Session 5: Effective strategies to eradicate poverty and hunger (Part II): social protection systems and floors
29 July - 3 August 2021

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COVID-19 social protection policy response through two channels:

1 “Automatic” response through existing social protection systems

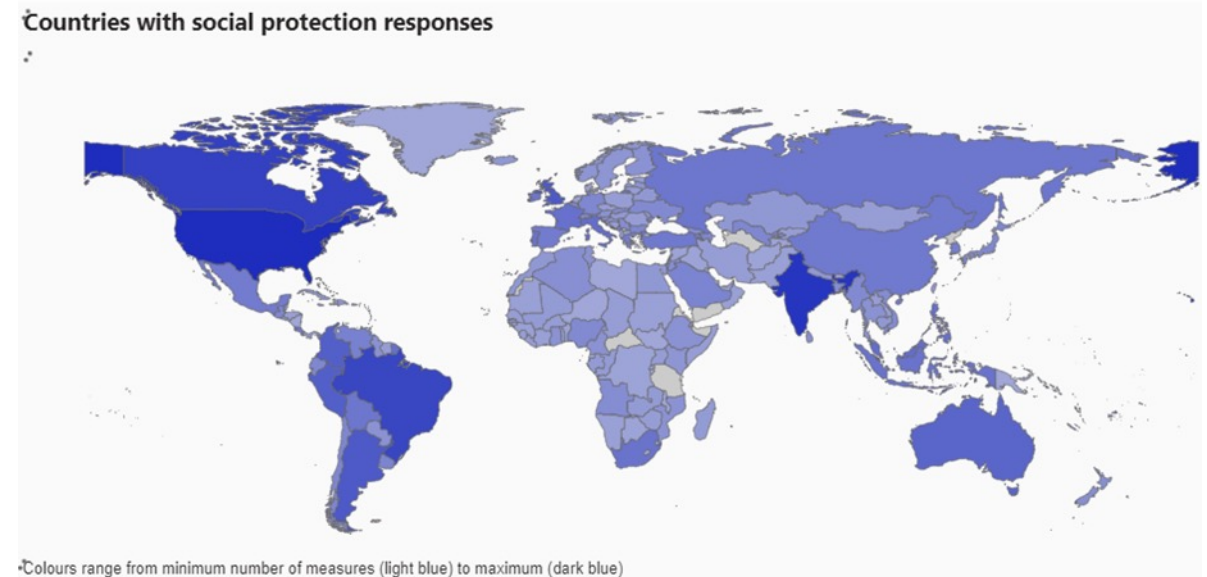
Only 46.9% of global population covered prior to COVID-19: 4.1 billion people excluded from coverage (SDG indicator 1.3.1)



Source: [ILO World Social Protection Database](#);
ILO World Social Protection Report 2020-22 (forthcoming).

2 Emergency policy responses to close coverage and adequacy gaps – temporary and often insufficient

COVID-19 social protection policy response:
urgent measures to extend coverage and improve benefits

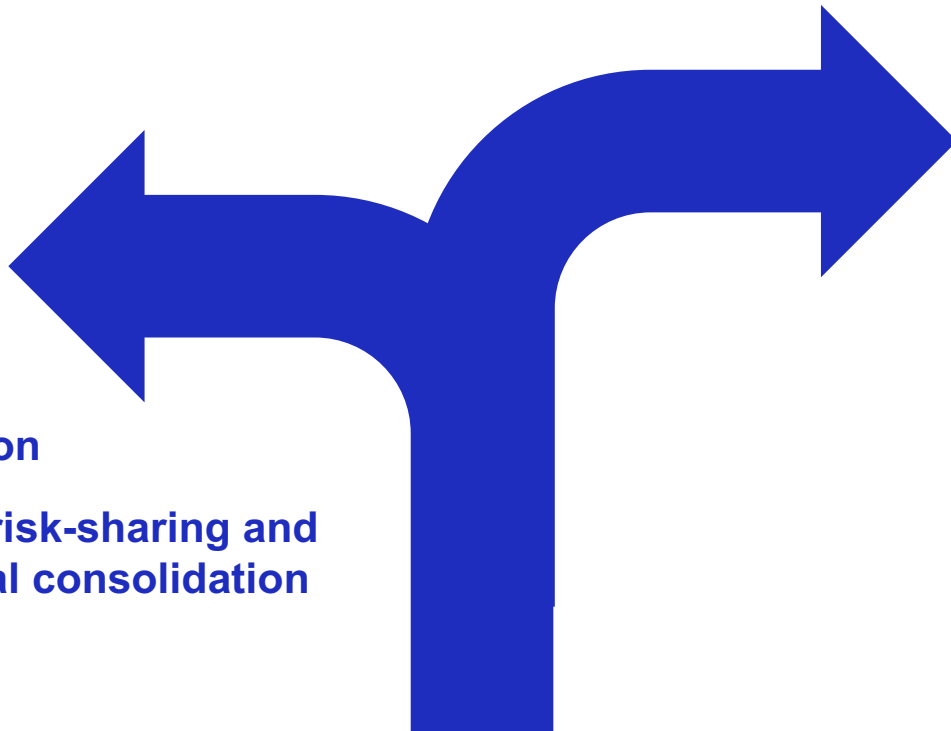


Source: [ILO COVID-19 Social Protection Monitor](#) (15 January 2021)

▶ Recovering from COVID-19: Social protection at a crossroads Towards a new “better normal”?

Austerity context

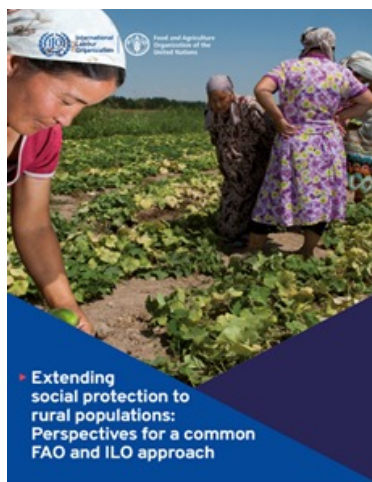
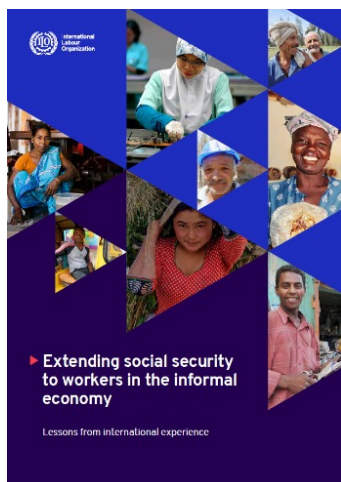
- ▶ Limited coverage
- ▶ Minimal benefits
- ▶ Gaps in labour and social protection
- ▶ Limited solidarity, risk-sharing and redistribution, fiscal consolidation
- ▶ No decent work



Towards universal social protection systems, including floors

- ▶ Universal coverage
- ▶ Adequate protection
- ▶ Comprehensive protection
- ▶ Sustainable and equitable financing
- ▶ Adapted to the world of work

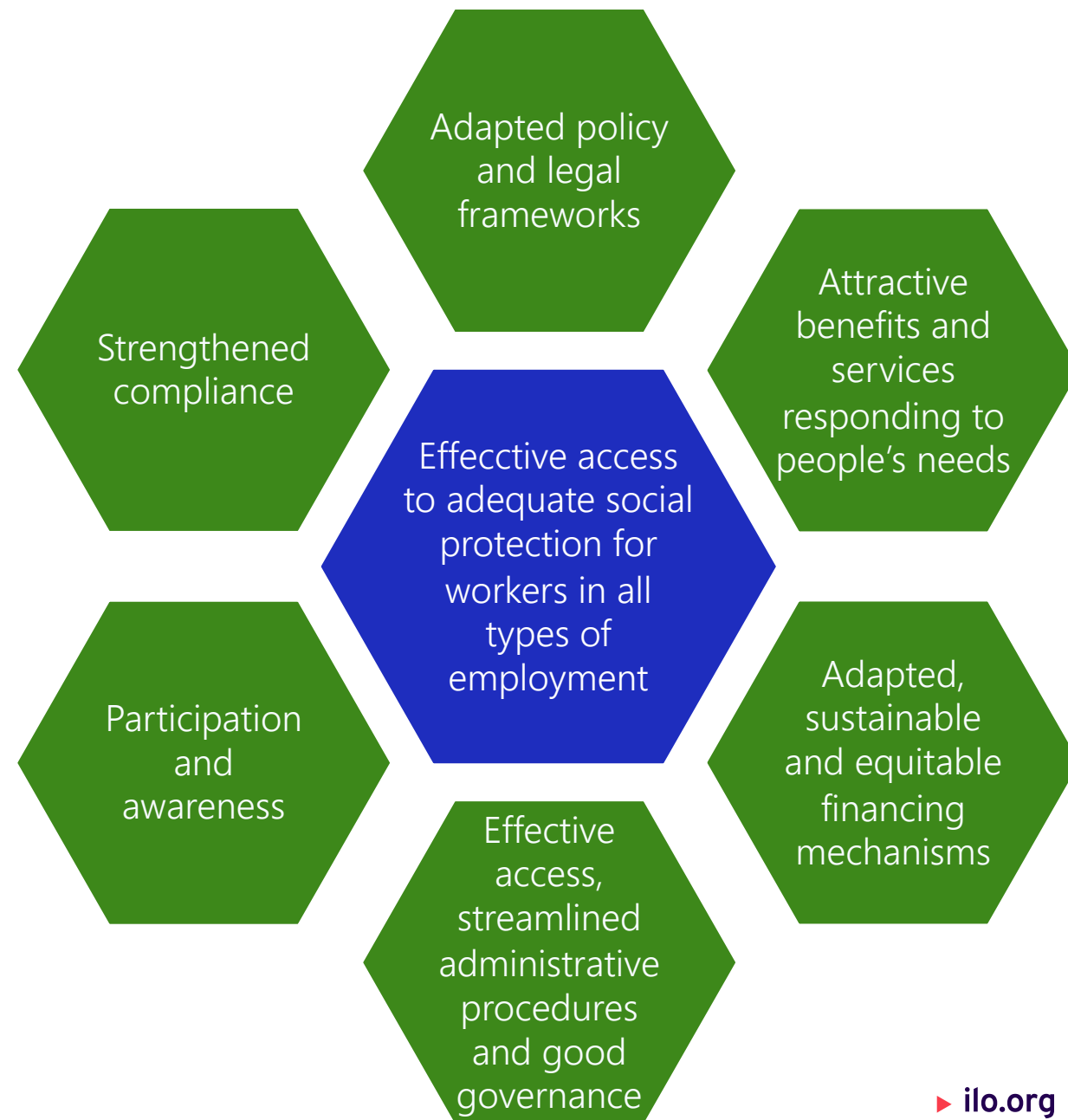
Recovery priority 1: Accelerating the extension of social protection to those in the informal and rural economy



More information:

[ILO policy resource package on extending social security to the informal economy 2021](#)

[Extending social protection to rural populations – Perspectives for a common FAO and ILO approach, 2021](#)



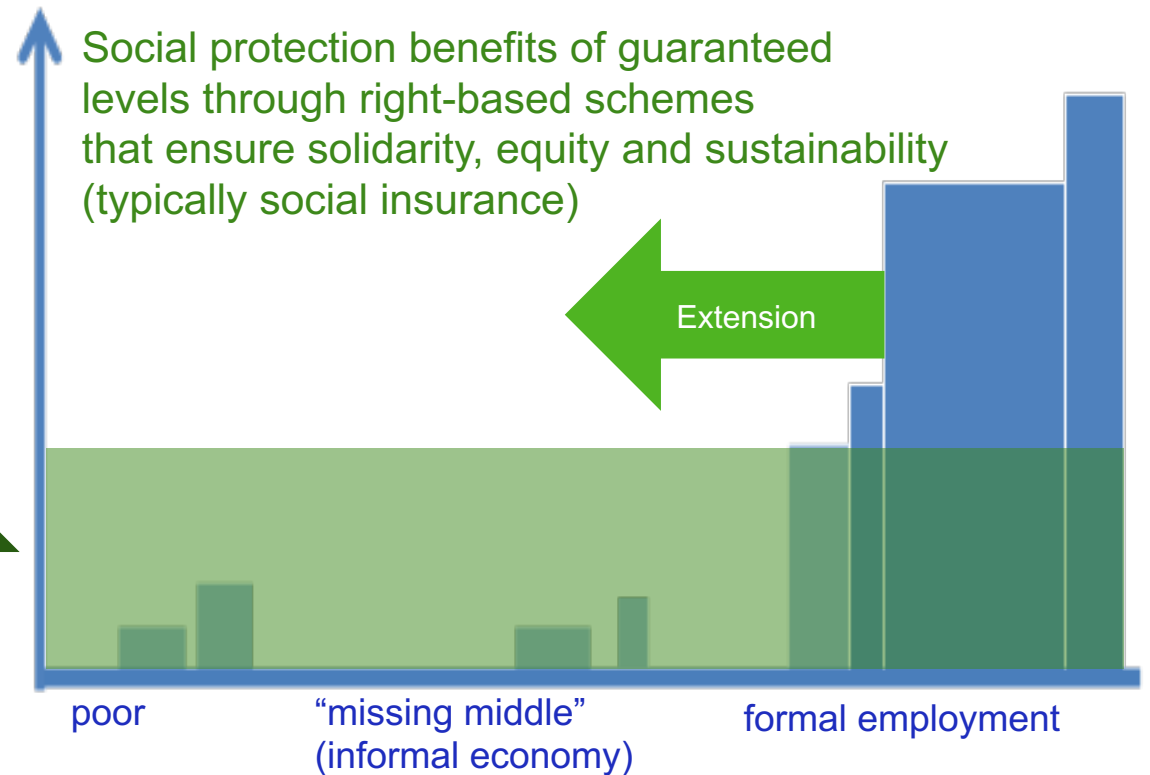
Recovery priority 2: Strengthening social protection systems, including floors

- ▶ **Building rights-based universal social protection systems** in line with human rights, international social security standards, and anchored in **national legislation**
- ▶ **Social protection floor** in line with ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation and SDG targets 1.3 and 3.8
- ▶ **Embedded in conducive policy framework**, addressing structural issues, such as the root causes of poverty, inequality and informality and promoting decent work and inclusive and sustainable growth.

Social protection floor that guarantees at least a basic level of income security and effective access to health care



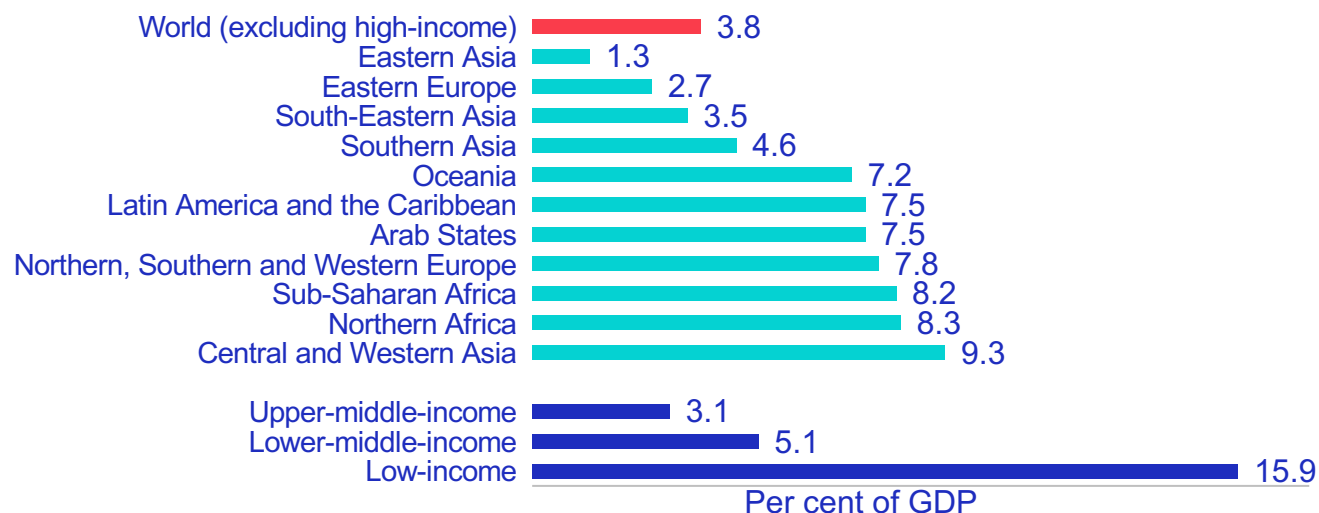
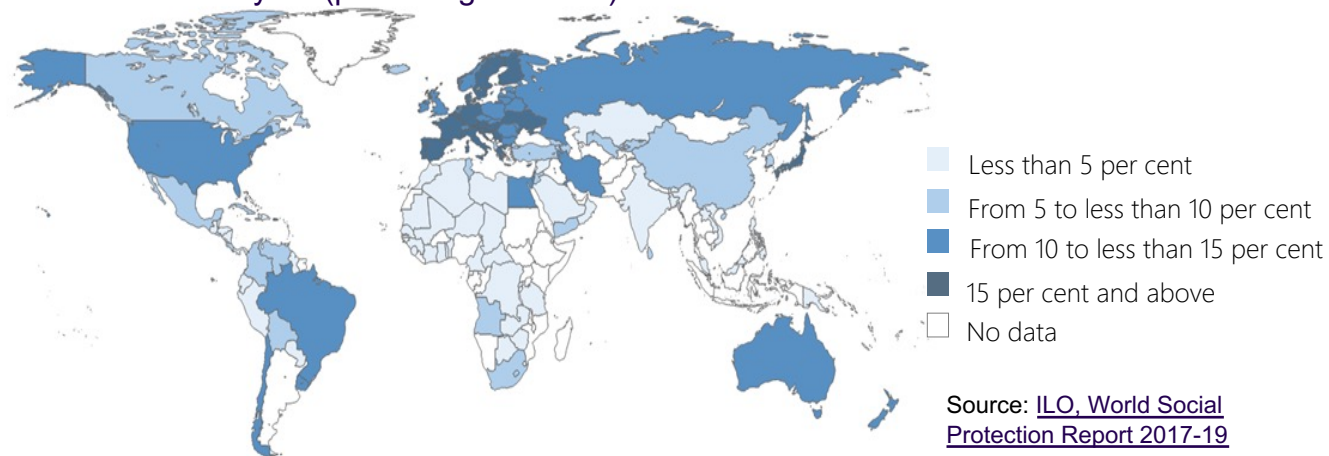
Closing social protection coverage and adequacy gaps



Recovery priority 3: Investing in universal social protection systems for more resilience

- ▶ **Social protection financing gaps widened** due to COVID-19; austerity could have negative impacts on progress achieved
- ▶ A **nationally defined social protection floor** will require additional investments. **Low-income countries** would need to invest an additional USD 77.9 billion or 15.9% of GDP per annum to guarantee at least a basic level of social security for all.
- ▶ **Safeguarding and strengthening sustainable and equitable domestic financing mechanisms** for universal social protection systems, including through taxes and social security contributions
- ▶ **International support** needed to support countries with insufficient own capacities > exploring options, including for a Global Social Protection Fund

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



Notes: The graph shows the financing gap for achieving a universal package comprising social protection benefits for children, maternity, disability, and old-age and access to essential health care in 2020 as a percentage of GDP (low- and middle-income countries only).

Source: ILO, 2020: [Financing gaps in social protection: Global estimates and strategies for developing countries in light of the COVID-19 crisis and beyond.](#)

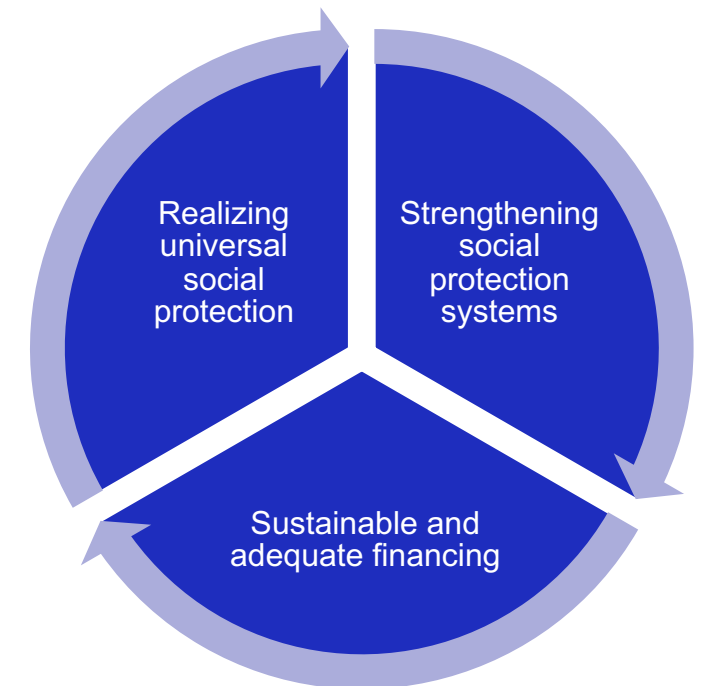
Tripartite consensus on a human-centred recovery and universal social protection (agreed at International Labour Conference, 2021)

ILO Global Call to Action for a Human-centred Recovery (2021)



- ▶ **Recovery from the crisis** must be **fully inclusive, sustainable and resilient** and support decent work and a just transition
- ▶ **Addressing inequalities and vulnerabilities**, in particular for those disproportionately affected by the crisis, such as those in the informal economy and in insecure forms of work
- ▶ Need for joint action and greater policy coherence
- ▶ **Universal social protection** at the core of a human-centred recovery

Resolution and conclusions on social protection (2021), framework for action



COVID-19 crisis response:

- ▶ [Global call to action for a human-centred recovery from the COVID-19 crisis](#) (June 2021)
- ▶ [Resolution and Conclusions concerning the second recurrent discussion on social protection \(social security\)](#) (June 2021)
- ▶ [ILO portal on social protection response to COVID-19](#), including
 - ▶ **Spotlight briefs:**
[Extending social protection to informal workers in the COVID-19 crisis](#); [Social protection responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in developing countries](#); [Unemployment protection in the COVID-19 crisis](#);
[Sickness benefits during sick leave and quarantine](#); [Financing gaps in social protection: Global estimates and strategies for developing countries in light of COVID-19 and beyond](#); [Towards solid social protection floors? The role of non-contributory provision during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond](#)
 - ▶ **Data dashboard:** [Social Protection Monitor: Social protection responses to the COVID-19 crisis around the world](#)
 - ▶ **Costing tool:** [Rapid Social Protection Calculator for COVID-19](#)
- ▶ [ILO portal on COVID-19 and the world of work](#)

Other key resources:

- ▶ [ILO World Social Protection Database](#)
- ▶ [World Social Protection Report 2017-19](#),
- ▶ [Policy resource package on extending social security to workers in the informal economy](#)
- ▶ [Extending social protection to rural populations – Perspectives for a common FAO and ILO approach](#)
- ▶ [Fiscal Space for Social Protection. A Handbook for Assessing Financing Options](#)
- ▶ [ILO Social Protection Platform](#)
- ▶ [Joint UN Social Protection and Human Rights web platform](#)
- ▶ [Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection \(USP2030\)](#)

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