



TRADE UNION-OECD DAC FORUM

3 MAY 2022 – TIME 14.00-16.00

Registration link: <https://ituc-csi-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZysdequpj0vEtE4AuQUki80Vp6Z56fZPgFg>

PROGRAMME

BUILDING RESILIENCE, ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY: THE ROLE OF ODA IN ACHIEVING UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PROTECTION

For the trade union movement a human-centred recovery must be aligned with the SDGs and SDG 8 in particular. SDG 8 is a key to social and economic progress and with its targets on employment, decent work, social protection, inclusive growth and environmental preservation, SDG 8 provides strong leverage for other goals, including SDG1 and SDG 10.

Social protection has been at the forefront of government responses to the COVID-19 crisis contributing to protect health, jobs and incomes, and plays a fundamental role to ensure a just recovery that builds the necessary resilience to face future crises.

Investing in social protection is not only fundamental to improve people's lives and contribute to the fight against poverty and inequalities, it is also an investment in the broader economy which can trigger a virtuous economic cycle that increases employment, productivity, tax revenue and overall economic growth, especially in developing countries.

Although policy makers, including OECD Ministers¹, have acknowledged the importance of social protection, the world is still facing many challenges in implementing universal social protection. According to the ILO, more than half of the world's population have no social protection at all and financing gaps are pervasive.²

ODA can play a fundamental role in catalysing the necessary resources for the development and strengthening of national social protection systems and help in closing financing gaps. Through technical support and financing it can help low-income countries to complement national social protection budgets, and build up their capacity to finance social protection over the medium-long term.

This event will discuss the potential of social protection in building recovery and resilience, and how trade unions and DAC members can work together to ensure the catalytic role of ODA towards achieving universal social protection as an essential component of the 2030 Agenda, which OECD Ministers have committed to achieve³.

¹ See 2021 Ministerial Council Statement §7: "As we promote a trade and investment agenda that benefits all, we will strive to protect our workers with adequate social protections." <https://www.oecd.org/mcm/MCM-2021-Part-2-Final-Statement.EN.pdf>.

²

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@dgreports/@dcomm/@publ/documents/publication/wcms_817572.pdf

³ See 2021 Ministerial Council Statement §4. "We affirm our commitments to achieve UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals." <https://www.oecd.org/mcm/MCM-2021-Part-2-Final-Statement.EN.pdf>

High Level Panel Debate	<p>Marc Leemans, TUAC Acting President <i>(moderating the event)</i></p> <p>Contributions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Susanna Moorehead, DAC Chair - Rahul Malhotra, Head of Division, Development Co-operation Directorate - Alexandre Kolev, Head of Social Cohesion Unit, OECD Development Centre - Sharan Burrow, ITUC General Secretary
<i>Open debate</i>	<p>Contributions from DAC members and TUAC/ITUC members</p>
<i>Round of Feedbacks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharan Burrow, ITUC General Secretary - Rahul Malhotra, Head of Division, Development Co-operation Directorate - Alexandre Kolev, Head of Social Cohesion Unit, OECD Development Centre - Susanna Moorehead, DAC Chair
<i>Closure</i>	<p>Marc Leemans, TUAC Acting President</p>
<p>Translation will be available in English, French and Spanish. Webinar Platform: Zoom. Connection details will be shared in due time.</p>	