



International
Labour
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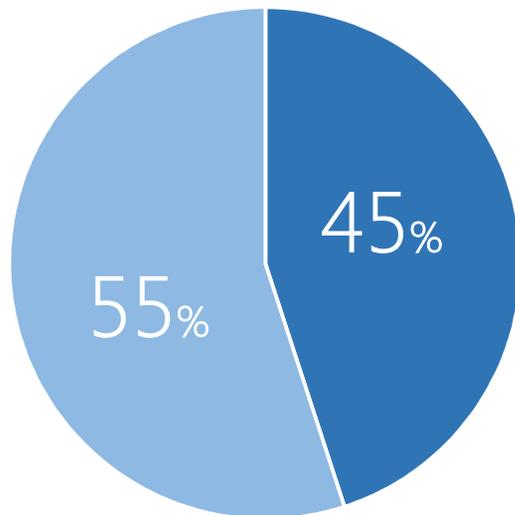
How to realize gender-responsive social protection systems, including floors?

IPU & UNWOMEN event: Investing in gender equality: Parliaments ensuring social protection, public services and infrastructure deliver for women and girls

CSW63, New York, 13 March 2019

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Social security is a universal human right, but...



Only **45%**
of the world population is covered
by at least one social protection
benefit (SDG indicator 1.3.1)



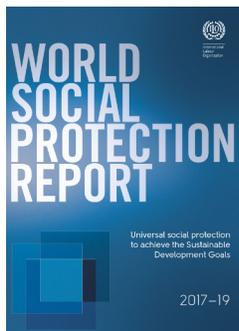
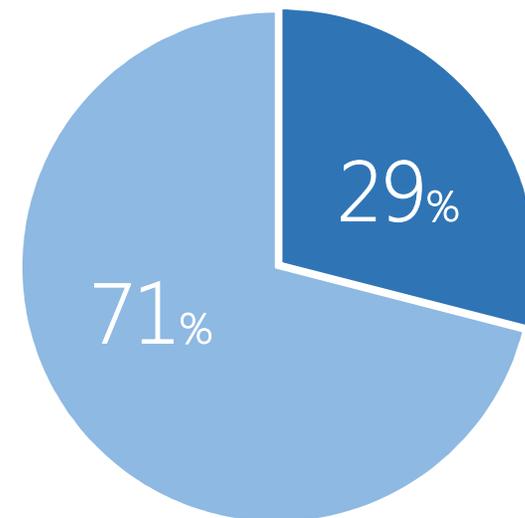
SDG indicator **1.3.1**

4 billion people
(55%) are still unprotected

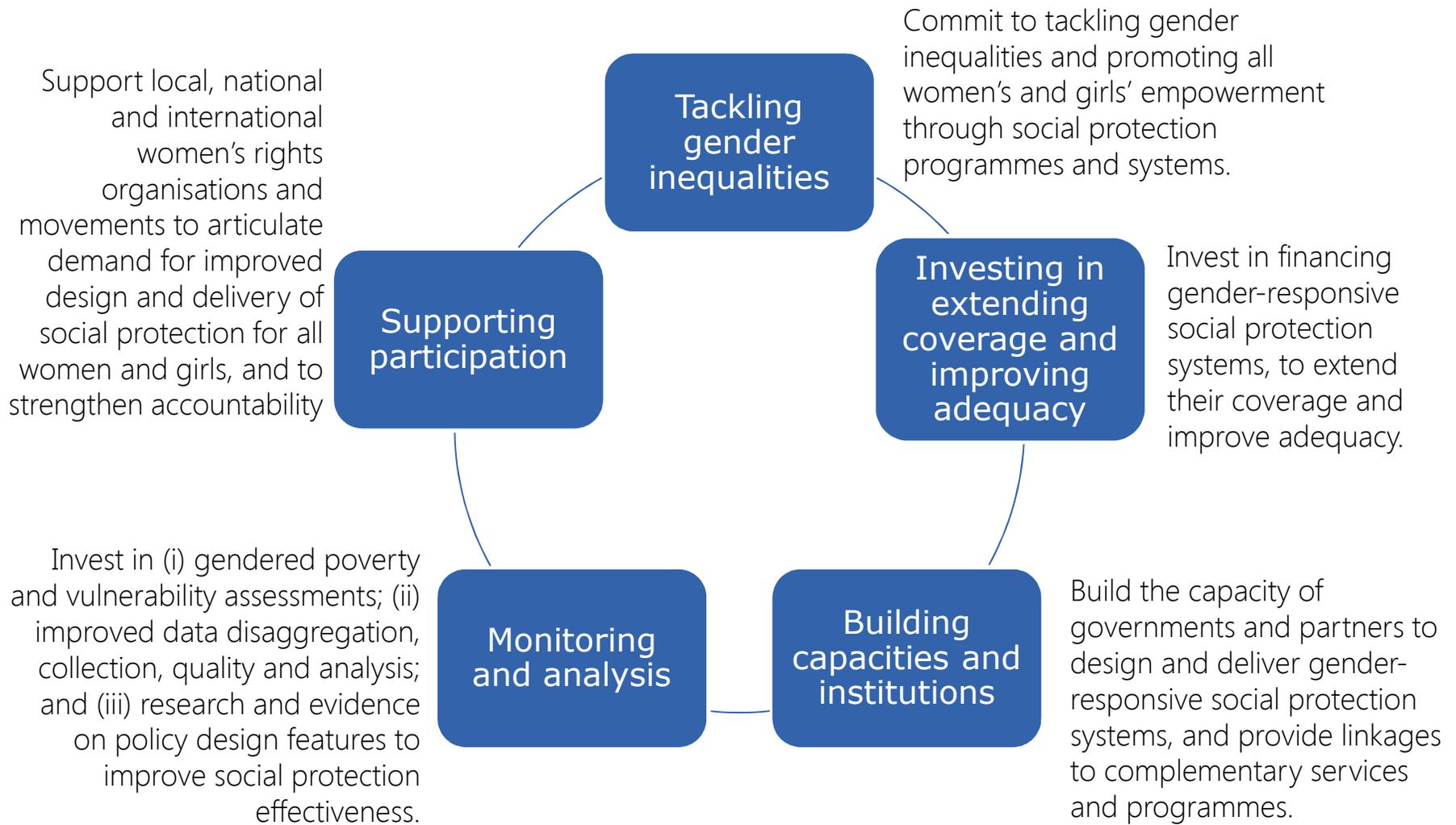
If we consider all areas of social protection from child benefits to old-age pensions

Only **29%**
of the global population has access
to **comprehensive** social protection

5.2 billion people
(71%) are not, or only partially, protected



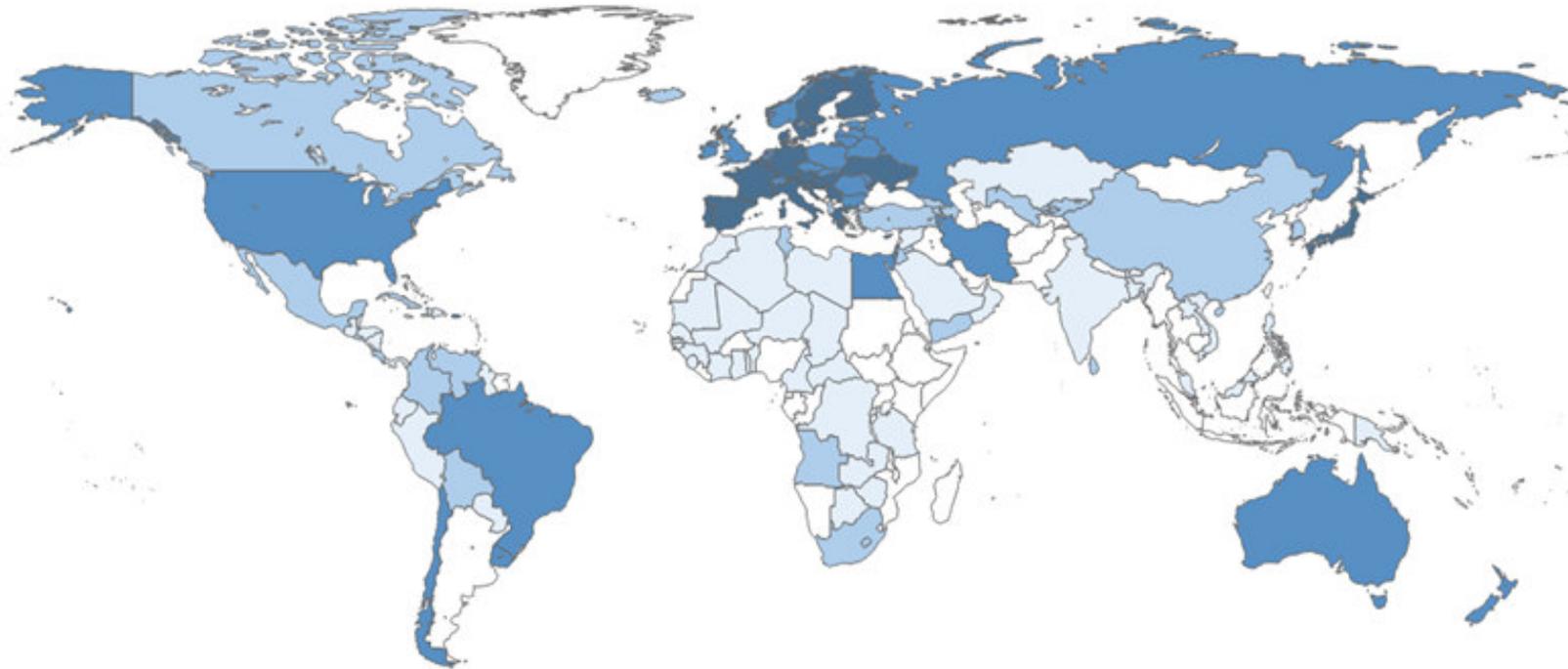
What is needed to ensure that social protection promotes gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment?



Source: SPIAC-B Joint Statement to CSW63.

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

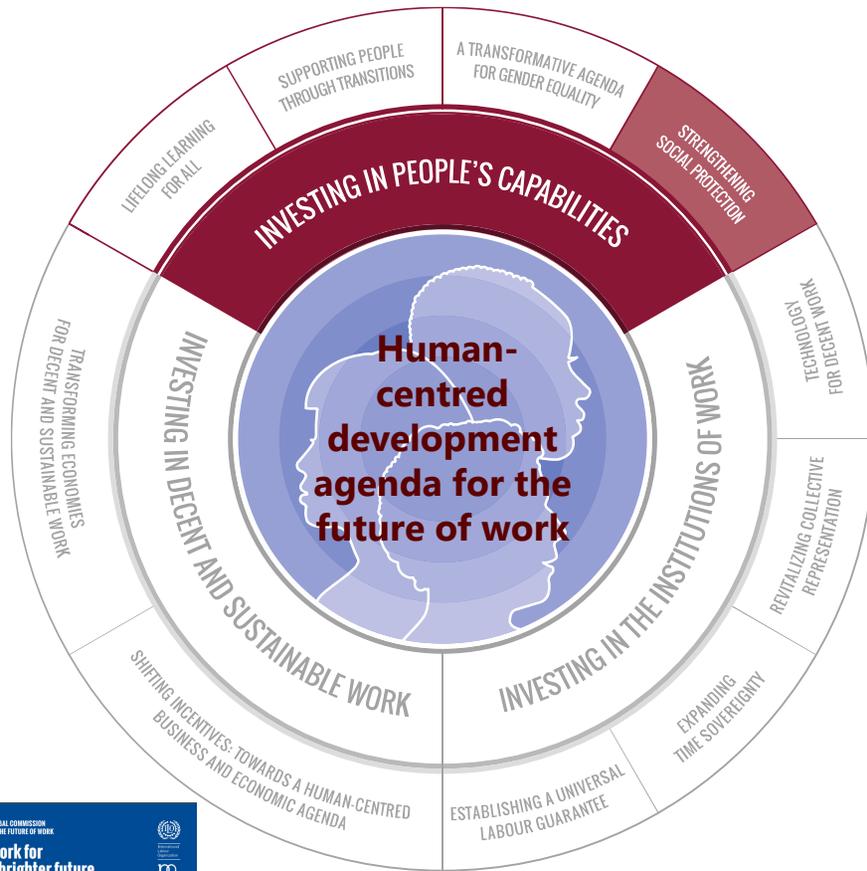


Source: [ILO, World Social Protection Report 2017-19](#)

Coverage gaps are associated to underinvestment in social protection

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

Investing in social protection for the future: Recommendations of the Global Commission for the Future of Work



The future of work requires a strong and responsive social protection system that ensures universal social protection from birth to old age

- based on the principles of solidarity and risk-sharing
- to provide support to meet people's needs over the life cycle

How to ensure effective protection for all?

- Building a social protection floor that affords a basic level of protection to all in need
- Complemented by contributory social insurance schemes that provide increased levels of protection
- Individual savings can only be a voluntary option to top up stable, equitable and mandatory social insurance benefits

How to achieve a quantum leap for gender equality in social protection?

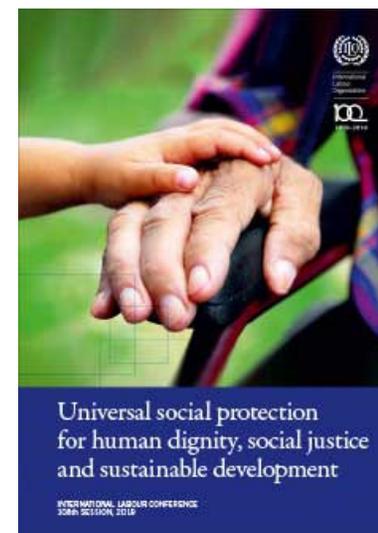
Strengthen the national social protection system in a gender-responsive way

1. Ensure **universal coverage and access to adequate social protection benefits** for all throughout the life course, anchored in national legislation.
2. Accelerate progress towards building a **social protection floor** that guarantees at least a basic level of social security for all
3. **Extend social protection** to those in the informal economy and foster transitions to the formal economy
4. Ensure appropriate and adequate social protection for workers in **all forms of employment**
5. Strengthen mechanisms that promote **gender equality** (such as care credits in pension schemes that recognize and reward unpaid work)
6. Strengthen **collective financing mechanisms** (progressive taxation, social security contributions), and avoiding to shift undue financial and economic risks to individuals, which hurt particularly women.
7. Pursue a **comprehensive approach** that also addresses gender inequality in the labour market, promotes decent work, and fosters high quality public services, including child care and long-term care.



A particular responsibility for Parliaments

- Ensuring that national social protection systems, including floors, are appropriately anchored in national legislation
 - Translating the human right to social security (often also a constitutional right) into clearly defined entitlements that people can count on
 - Ensuring transparency and accountability
 - Essential for ensuring sufficient fiscal space and a stable budgeting framework
- Raising awareness
 - Social protection is a matter of rights and dignity, not handouts or charity
 - Social protection is essential particularly in times of crisis
- Ratification and application of international labour standards
 - ILO Centenary ratification campaign
 - Ratification of ILO Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention (No. 102)
 - General Survey on application of Social Protection Floors Recommendation (No. 202)





We have 12 years
to make social protection
a reality for all



Useful references

ILO reports, issue briefs, etc.

- Global Commission for the Future of Work, 2019: [Work for a brighter future](#).
- ILO 2019: [A quantum leap for gender equality: For a better future of work for all](#).
- ILO, 2019: [Universal social protection for human dignity, sustainable development and social justice: General Survey concerning the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 \(No. 202\)](#).
- ILO, 2018: [Care work and care jobs for the future of decent work](#)
- ILO, 2018. [Women and men in the informal economy: a statistical picture](#).
- Ortiz I, et al. , 2018: [Universal basic income proposals in light of ILO standards: Key issues and global costing](#).
- ILO, 2017: [World Social Protection Report 2017-19: Universal social protection to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals](#).
- ILO, 2017: [Building social protection systems: International standards and human rights instruments](#).
- ILO, 2016: [Women at Work: Trends 2016](#).
- ILO (2016) [Non-standard forms of employment: understanding challenges, shaping prospects](#).
- ILO, 2016. [Maternity cash benefits for workers in the informal economy](#)
- ILO, 2014: [Maternity and paternity at work: Law and practice across the world](#).
- ILO, 2013. [The Informal Economy and Decent Work: a policy resource guide supporting transitio](#)

ILO standards

- [Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation](#), 2015 (No. 204).
- [Social Protection Floors Recommendation](#), 2012 (No. 202).
- [Domestic Workers Convention](#), 2011 (No. 189)
- [Maternity Protection Convention](#), 2000 (No. 183)
- [Employment Relationship Recommendation](#), 2006 (No. 198)
- [Home Work Convention](#), 1996 (No. 177)
- [Social Security \(Minimum Standards\) Convention](#), 1952 (No. 102)

More information

- Social Protection Platform: www.social-protection.org/
- Joint UN Social Protection and Human Rights web platform: www.socialprotection-humanrights.org/

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