Sergio Amaral/MDS, goo.gl/X8TtICt

Annual Report
2016
socialprotection.org

socialprotection.org

Acknowledgments

The mission of socialprotection.org is to be the premier online focal point for knowledge-sharing, capacity building and collaboration on social protection based on South-South Cooperation. To this end, solid partnerships and engagement are pivotal to building a long-lasting platform. Celebrating the first year anniversary of the platform, we would like to seize this opportunity to reinforce our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of socialprotection.org's members.

Special thanks are owed to our funders: the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and the German Development Cooperation through the *Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ). We would also like to extend our gratefulness to the Development Working Group of the G20 as well as the Social Protection Inter-agency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B) for their support, and to the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth of the United Nations Development Programme (IPC-IG/UNDP) for developing and hosting the platform.

Further thanks are due to the hundreds of individuals, colleagues, researchers, policymakers, representatives from non-governmental organisations, bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies and partner institutions that continuously and generously contribute to the construction and improvement of socialprotection.org as a collaborative tool. This is what has allowed the platform to progressively bring together all the themes that are of interest to the community of social protection practitioners worldwide into a single virtual space.

The socialprotection.org team

Introduction

The date of 12 September 2015 marked the United Nations International Day for South-South Cooperation. It also marked the launch of socialprotection.org. This member-based online platform is dedicated to social protection, which is a policy approach that impacts millions of poor and vulnerable people worldwide. The goal of socialprotection.org is to foster knowledge-sharing and capacity-strengthening on efficient social protection policies and programmes, by drawing on the experiences of low-income (LICs) and middle-income (MICs) countries. It is hoped that by providing a platform to support such initiatives, the lives of these people can be improved, ensuring no one is left behind.

Socialprotection.org was sparked by the will to provide practitioners, policymakers and researchers with the most comprehensive, up-to-date content on social protection and encourage their interactive engagement. Following the development of a prototype of the platform in 2012, DFAT greenlighted the project at the end of 2013. As a result, an official agreement between the IPC-IG and DFAT was signed in January 2014, to further develop and launch the prototype. Since December 2015, the GIZ has also been funding the platform.

As a neutral and interactive online hub, socialprotection.org hosts content from individuals, bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies, non-governmental organisations, research centres, government bodies and academia, allowing users and organisations to share and network with each other. This initiative fosters South-South knowledge-sharing and capacity-strengthening.

Since its launch, socialprotection.org has gathered more than 1400 members and amassed over 2000 publications. It has organized 15 webinars in cooperation with a wide range of partners, and hosts 26 multi-language Online Communities.

This first anniversary of socialprotection.org presents an opportunity to reflect back on the collaborative achievements reached so far with partners, members, colleagues, and funders. To this end, the Annual Report provides a full review of the platform's content, major accomplishments and activities, from September 2015 to September 2016. The report begins by presenting conceptual definitions and general action frameworks of social protection. It then grants insight into the platform's features. Third, it provides an analysis of the first year achievements of the platform. Chapters four and five, respectively, present the communications strategy developed for socialprotection.org, and the engagement activities that the team participated in or contributed to as part of the platform's knowledge sharing and outreach strategy. The report concludes with what is next for socialprotection.org, from the challenges to the platform's sustainability, to new features and tools that are under development to fulfil the members' needs and demands.

Summary

1.

What is social protection?

Over the past decade, social protection programmes have been introduced in many developing countries to tackle poverty and inequality. Since 2010, the number of programmes in low- and middle-income countries has almost doubled, with every country having at least one programme in place. Even so, less than one fifth of the population in developing countries is covered by social protection programmes.[1] Reducing poverty, inequality and vulnerability demands strong and dynamic social institutions, inclusive economic growth and widespread access to high quality public services. Against this background, financial constraints, designing and implementing effective programmes as well as targeting and delivering benefits to the people most in need represent the central challenges facing social protection policymakers, practitioners and researchers worldwide.

Social policies addressing these issues have evolved considerably since the 1980s, with the initial approach involving 'social safety nets'. The World Bank's conceptualisation of social protection in the 1990s involved targeted social assistance in countries too poor and

administratively weak to introduce universal social welfare programmes. By 2012, the International Labour Organisation called for a rights-based approach, resulting in the concept of the social protection floors and social security guarantees, thus expanding the definition of social protection.

Still, no consensus exists on the definition of social protection. Poverty is a multidimensional concept and the avenues of addressing it are numerous, depending on the particular contexts and policy approaches of each county. However, by compiling the various definitions of prominent international institutions, one is able to deduce that social protection comprises a set of policies and programmes aimed at supporting individuals and families who deal with vulnerabilities throughout their lifecycle and become more resilient against crises and shocks. Social protection favours social inclusion and the building of human and social capital through income and consumption smoothing, ensuring access to basic goods and services and stimulating inclusive production through the development of capacities, skills, rights and opportunities.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers a renewed approach to promoting global development and inclusiveness, by intertwiningly tackling global poverty, inequality, gender issues, climate change challenges and other urgent development challenges. Making inclusive growth a global reality and reducing poverty are priorities of the international community, as reflected in Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs) 1—End poverty in all its forms everywhere—and 10—Reduce inequality within and among countries. Social protection has the capacity to cater to this multiplicity of interrelated demands and challenges to achieve sustainable development. Socialprotection.org thereby aims to support knowledge exchange and capacity building in pursuit of the SDG agenda.

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1. Sources: The State of Safety Net (World Bank 2014) and World Development Report (International Labour Organization 2014).

2.

Why socialprotection.org?

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Socialprotection.org was brought about in response to a demand from the Development Working Group of the G20. In 2012, the IPC-IG took the lead in developing a prototype in consultation with the World Bank Group, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and leading agencies gathered under the Social Protection Inter-agency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B). The platform continues to aim to enhance South-South learning on social protection policies by fostering active and informed networks that share experiences, particularly across middle- and low-income countries. The goal is to provide the most comprehensive and up-to-date content on social protection, and to encourage interactive user engagement, while promoting key social protection themes.

Socialprotection.org is a member-based platform, meaning members are able and encouraged to share their content and engage with other fellow members. Any individual dedicated to the field of social protection can share their content via their member account. The platform is divided into four sections, designed to provide members and users with an overview of options for active engagement:

FEATURES OF THE PLATFORM

- **Discover:** The Publication Search directs access to the content of partner sites and other independent contributors. The Programme Search provides insight into individual social protection programmes. The Member Search allows one to search for registered members while the Stakeholder Search allows one to search for institutions or organisations related to the content of the platform.

- **Connect:** Members can join Online Communities for virtual engagement dedicated to a particular interest area, network on various topics via the Discussion Forum and stay up to date on upcoming social protection events with the Events calendar. The Social Space provides members with an overview of their activities, while allowing one to follow the activities of fellow members of the platform. The Survey feature allows members to create surveys and respond to those by other members.

- **Learn:** The Virtual Campus and Learning Tools facilitate access to workshops, webinars and courses. A Glossary is available on social protection and related topics. The News feature provides the latest insights into social protection.

- **Share:** Share your documents by adding a Publication, Programme, Stakeholder, Online Community, Forum topic, Event or News item to the platform's interactive database. Create a Survey for the social protection community or propose a webinar.
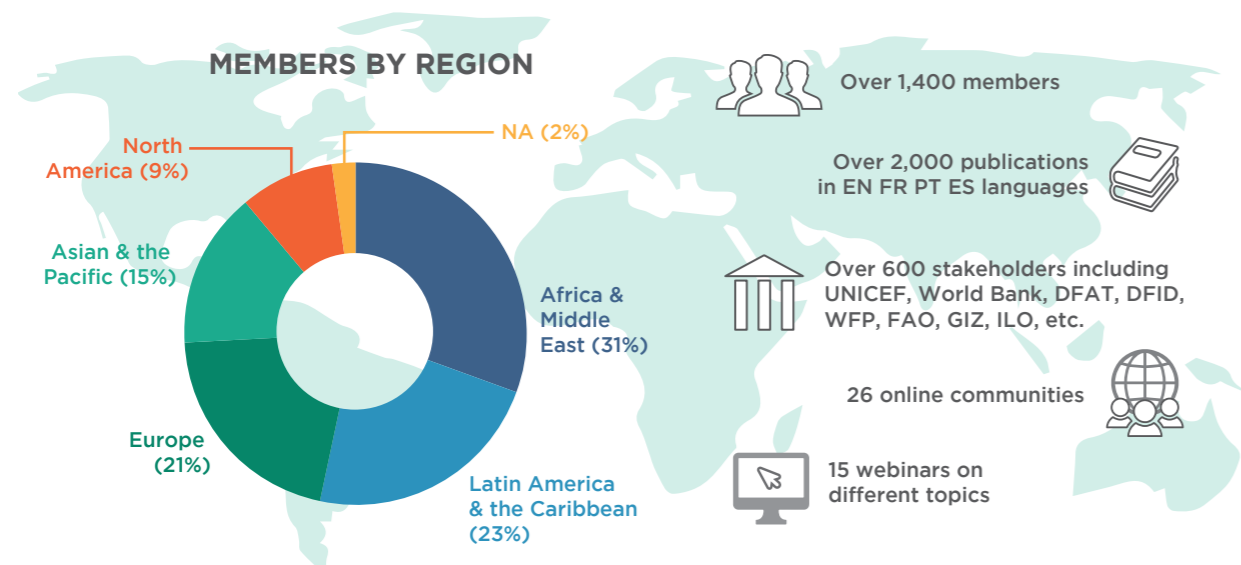
3.

First year achievements

Since the platform's launch one year ago on 12 September 2015, socialprotection.org has amassed over 1,400 members from all regions. The platform currently hosts over 2,000 publications with global coverage; with almost half of them having been published between 2014 and 2016. 26 Online Communities have been created to facilitate the activities of working groups, to promote specialised knowledge exchange among policymakers and disseminate information on specific topics. The Communities are administrated by 16 different leading international institutions. 15 webinars have been organised together with many different partner institutions, featuring a broad range of panellists. Over a total of 1,200 attendees have participated in all webinars, representing over a hundred countries in total.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE FIRST YEAR

MEMBERS BY REGION

North America (9%)
NA (2%)
Asian & the Pacific (15%)
Africa & Middle East (31%)
Europe (21%)
Latin America & the Caribbean (23%)

Over 1,400 members

Over 2,000 publications in EN FR PT ES languages

Over 600 stakeholders including UNICEF, World Bank, DFAT, DFID, WFP, FAO, GIZ, ILO, etc.

26 online communities

15 webinars on different topics

Highlights from this past year include socialprotection.org featuring, among other partners, in the Asia-Pacific Social Protection Week (APSP 2016) in Manila, Philippines, which took place during 1-5 August, 2016. The week-long event was dedicated to discussing recent issues affecting social protection in developing economies. The platform was also presented at the Kick-off Meeting of the EU Social Protection Systems Programme in Paris, on 16 September, 2015 and to participants of the Fourth Annual Southern Africa Social Protection Experts Network Conference "Sustainability of Social Protection: Economic Returns, Political Will and Fiscal Space" in Johannesburg on October, 2015. In November, Alicia Spengler and Raquel Tebaldi introduced socialprotection.org to members of the SPIAC-B in New York on 24 November, 2015.

At the institutional level, socialprotection.org has strengthened relations with key partners in prominent regions on a wide range of topics. These relationships have led to concrete results, as demonstrated by the platform's Online Communities and webinars, which align to the needs and demands of existing and potential new members of the platform. Since December 2015, the German Development Cooperation (GIZ), another member of the SPIAC-B, has been on board as a financer of the platform for its second development phase. This will include new features such as an upgrade of the Virtual Campus and a notification system, while existing features will be improved. Additionally, the platform will be made available in other languages.

One of our most successful Online Communities has been the Social Registries and Integrated MISs for Social Protection Online Community, with 100 members. It held webinars dedicated to Kenya's Single Registry: A tool for planning, coordination and monitoring and Turkey's Integrated Social Assistance Service System. The Gender-Sensitive Social Protection Online Community, based on a collaborative effort between the IPC-IG and the FAO, was created to allow members to learn more about how social protection programmes contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment. It also allows members to stay posted through its Gender-Sensitive Social

Protection Webinar Series, of which two have already taken place.

UNICEF collaborated with the IPC-IG and the socialprotection.org team in the creation of social protection programme profiles for African countries, which were compiled in the publication Social Protection in Africa: Inventory of Non-Contributory Programmes. This publication gathers information on 127 programmes from 39 African countries, which will be made available in the Programme Search of the platform. Socialprotection.org was also acknowledged as a main partner of the NutriSSAN Global Network in its first publication, especially citing its NutriSSAN: N4G Global Network / Rede Global de Ensino, Pesquisa e Extensão em Nutrição e SSAN Online Community as a major follow-up action to reunite its members and disseminate content among the group, being an "essential channel" to keep its institutions updated on the Network's progress.

DISCOVER

The Discover area allows users to search socialprotection.org's database of Publications, Programmes, Members and Stakeholders. The Publications Search directs access to the content of partner sites and other independent contributors. The Programme Search provides insight into individual social protection programmes. The Member Search allows one to search for registered members while the Stakeholder Search allows one to search for institutions related to the content of the platform.

> PUBLICATIONS

The platform currently hosts over 2,000 publications, revised and categorised by our knowledge management team. Almost 30 per cent of the content available on socialprotection.org was uploaded by members themselves. Among the publications recently shared by the platform members, cash transfers and labour market programmes are recurrent, with informality and unemployment, migration and health featuring as prominent topics.

Geraint Rowland (goo.gl/Jk4xos)

Eduardo Arraes (goo.gl/cefU8)

Dominic Chavez/World Bank (goo.gl/cefU8)

Ashleigh Slingsby/IPC-IG

Binyam Teshome/World Bank (goo.gl/cefU8)

Sergio Amaral/MDS (goo.gl/v4Z1z4)

REGIONAL COVERAGE OF PUBLICATIONS

Region	Number of publications	Per cent
Global	519	25%
Africa	622	28%
Americas	527	24%
Asia	466	21%
Europe	84	4%

Publications are relatively evenly distributed among Africa (28 per cent), the Americas (24 per cent) and South and East Asia (21 per cent), thus representing much of the developing world.

Kenya and South Africa have gained attention and are the most represented African countries, while Brazil and India are highly represented in their respective regions.

MOST REPRESENTED SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMES[2]

Programme types	Number of publications
1. Social assistance	1,118
Social transfers (general, in-kind and cash transfers)	844
Subsidies	104
2. Social insurance	458
Old age pension	213
Health insurance	113
3. Labour market /public works/productive inclusion programmes	344
Training	85
Cash for work	52
Total of publications categorised under 'social protection programmes'	1,875

The majority of the publications recorded under 'social protection programmes' are related to social assistance (60 per cent), among which 75 per cent refer to social transfers.

24 per cent of the publications refer to social insurance, and 18 per cent to labour market programmes/public works/ productive inclusion.

2. The categories around which publications are organised are not mutually exclusive, meaning that one publication can belong to multiple categories at the same time. Additionally, when included in the platform, each publication must be classified in at least one of the following categories: 'social protection programmes', 'social protection topics' or 'cross-cutting areas'.

MOST REPRESENTED SOCIAL PROTECTION TOPICS*

Topic	Number of publications
Coverage	531
Financing social protection	524
Targeting	480
Programme design and implementation	478
Social protection systems	344
Monitoring and evaluation	294
Governance	293
Payment/delivery of benefits	241
Social protection definition and features	232
Level of benefits	197
Labour regulation	168
Total number of publications categorized under a topic	1,698

The most represented topics are 'coverage' and 'financing social protection', with 31 per cent each, closely followed by 'targeting' and 'programme design and implementation', each representing around 28 per cent of all publications categorised under a specific topic.
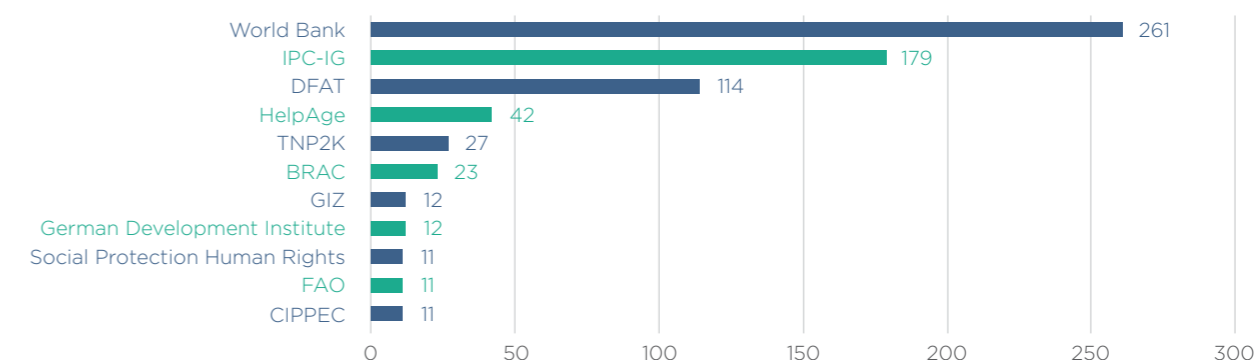
MOST REPRESENTED CROSS-CUTTING AREAS*

Cross-cutting area	Number of publications
Poverty	798
Labour market (child labour, informality, labour allocation, unemployment)	511
Health (child, maternal, HIV)	422
Risk and vulnerability	384
Education	346
Social inclusion	270
Food security	269
Gender	254
Inequality	238
Agriculture and rural development	178
Total number of publications categorised under 'cross-cutting areas'	1,669

* See note 2 on page 15.

The most prominent cross-cutting area is 'poverty' (48 per cent), followed by 'labour market' (30 per cent), health (25 per cent) and education (21 per cent).

MOST PROACTIVE INSTITUTIONS IN TERMS OF CONTENT INCLUSION

World Bank	261
IPC-IG	179
DFAT	114
HelpAge	42
TNP2K	27
BRAC	23
GIZ	12
German Development Institute	12
Social Protection Human Rights	11
FAO	11
CIPPEC	11

The ten most proactive institutions in terms of content inclusion are very diverse. Some are large institutions such as the World Bank and DFAT, while TNP2K is an initiative of the Indonesian Government, and HelpAge International and BRAC are international non-governmental organisations.

Among our most active members, representatives from the World Bank have largely contributed to enriching the platform's content, covering a variety of social protection programmes on social assistance, labour market programmes and social insurance, as well as on cross-cutting areas such as poverty, the labour market, and risk and vulnerability. We have also been able to observe that smaller instit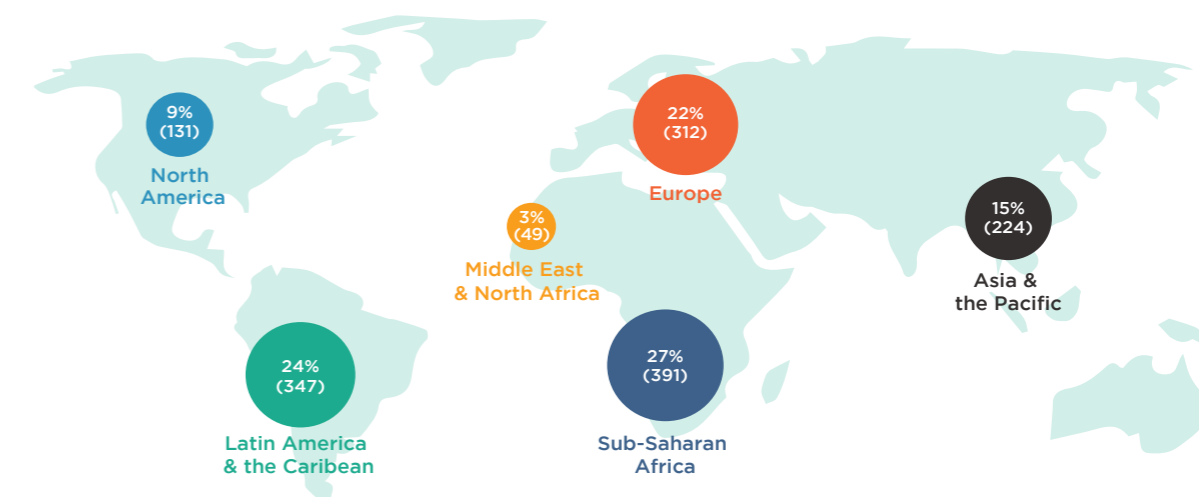utions have started engaging more and more in content inclusion, the majority from developing countries, such as the Centro de Políticas Públicas del Chile, CLP Bangladesh, and World Solidarity (WSM Nepal).

> MEMBERS

Members use the platform to access and share knowledge, while some institutions use the platform as a repository for their publication databases. By providing free online learning tools, the platform's members are able to cost-effectively promote and share their experiences and know-how globally. The aim remains for the platform to firmly establish itself as the online focal point of knowledge sharing on social protection.
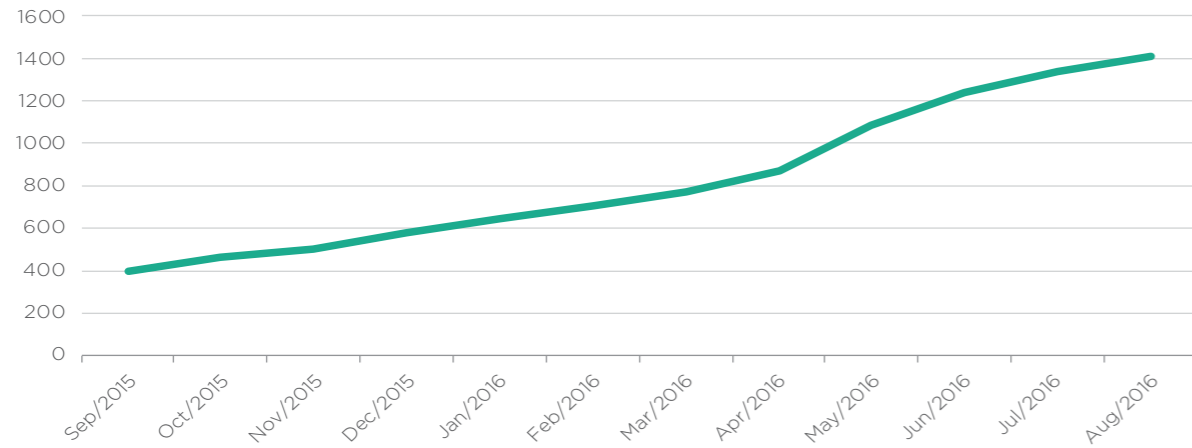
WHERE DO MEMBERS COME FROM?

- North America 9% (131)
- Europe 22% (312)
- Middle East & North Africa 3% (49)
- Asia & the Pacific 15% (224)
- Latin America & the Caribean 24% (347)
- Sub-Saharan Africa 27% (391)

Being a neutral and unbranded platform, socialprotection.org aims to have equal regional representation among its members. Accordingly, it has started to engage in tailored regional communication strategies, primarily focusing on Sub-Saharan Africa. These strategies have proved to be efficient, resulting in the region now accounting for the highest number of users.
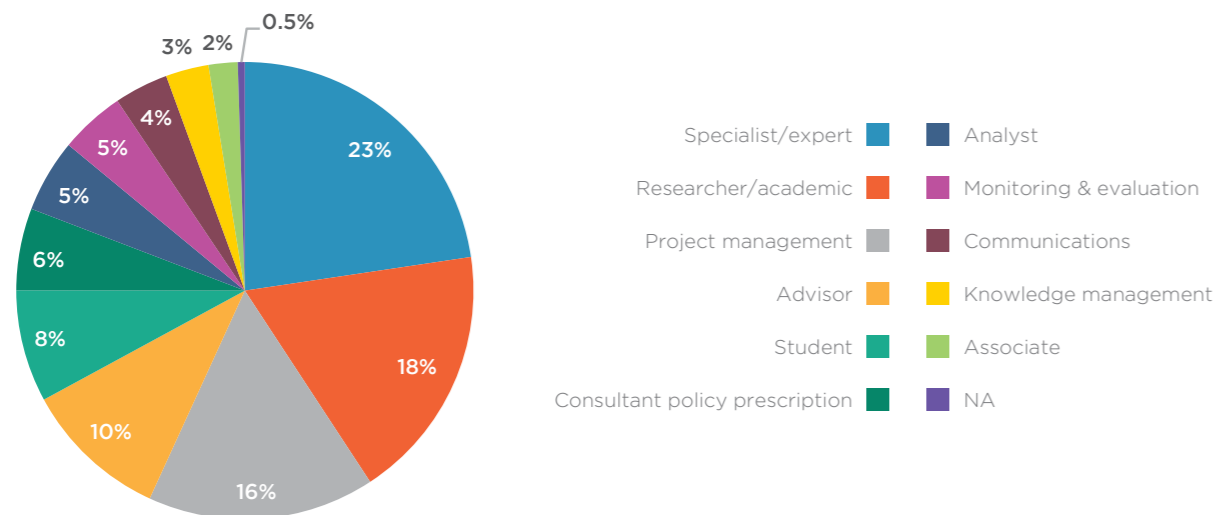
NUMBER OF REGISTERED MEMBERS

The number of new members is regularly increasing. Within one year, the platform has been able to attract more than 1,400 specialised and dedicated members from all around the world.

This is thanks to its proactive and comprehensive communications strategy, as well as to the support and collaboration of partner institutions who promote the platform among their networks.
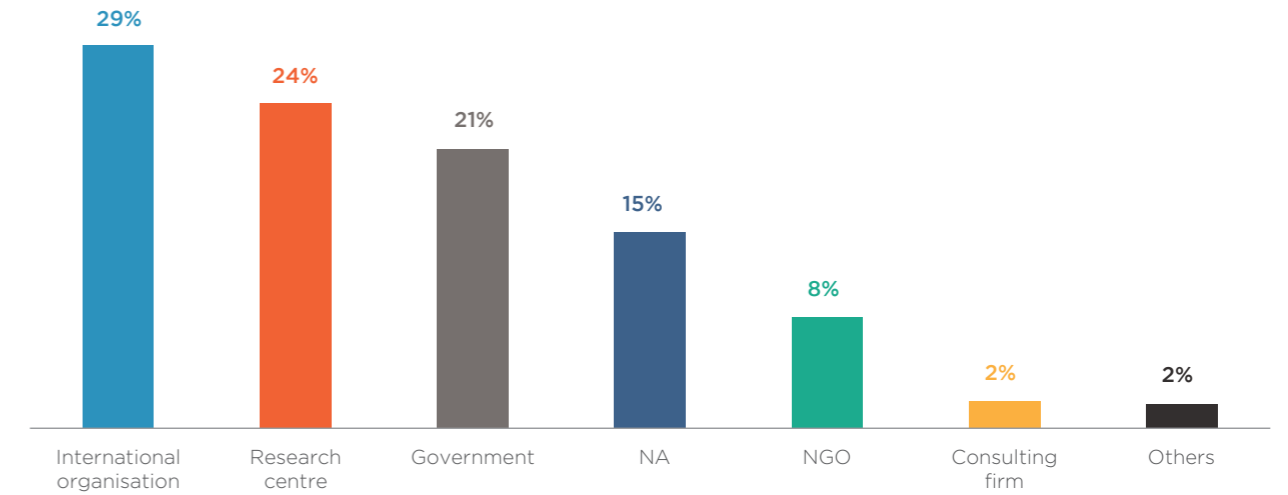
WHAT ARE THE PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS OF SOCIALPROTECTION.ORG MEMBERS?

0.5%
3% 2%
4%
5%
5%
6%
8%
10%
16%
18%
23%

Specialist/expert — Analyst
Researcher/academic — Monitoring & evaluation
Project management — Communications
Advisor — Knowledge management
Student — Associate
Consultant policy prescription — NA

The platform welcomes members spanning a wide range of professional profiles. This variety is crucial to the platform's objective of promoting and achieving global knowledge-sharing in the social protection sphere. The more diverse the profiles of the platform's members, the more fruitful this knowledge exchange can be.
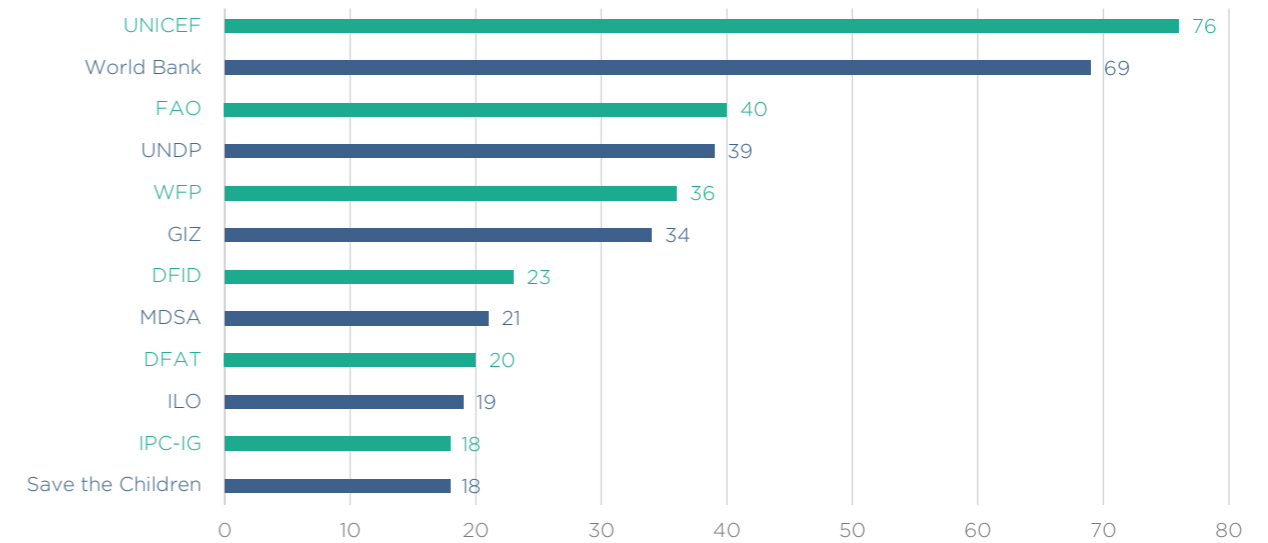
WHICH INSTITUTIONS DO THE PLATFORM MEMBERS REPRESENT?

29%	24%	21%	15%	8%	2%	2%
International organisation	Research centre	Government	NA	NGO	Consulting firm	Others

International organisations, of which many are United Nations organisations, Have the highest number of representatives. Governments also count with good representation (21 per cent), which is considered to be a very positive result from the first phase of development. Other important stakeholders are represented, such as research centres and non-governmental organisations. This stakeholder diversity is also a decisive factor in having a qualitative and fruitful knowledge sharing experience among members.
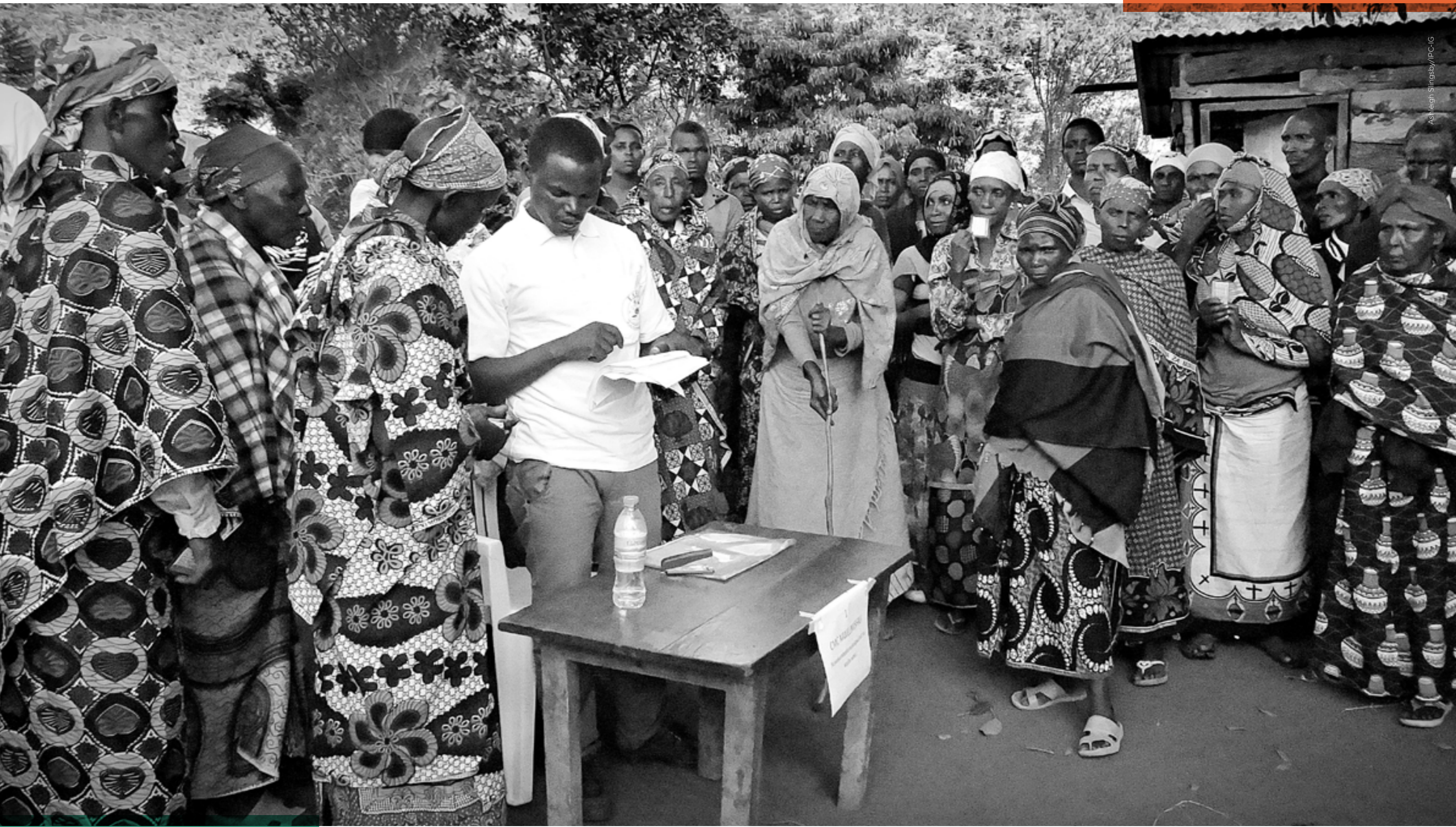
MOST REPRESENTED INSTITUTIONS

Institution	Members
UNICEF	76
World Bank	69
FAO	40
UNDP	39
WFP	36
GIZ	34
DFID	23
MDSA	21
DFAT	20
ILO	19
IPC-IG	18
Save the Children	18

Within a year, we have attracted 76 members from UNICEF, 69 members from the World Bank group, 40 from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 39 members representing the United Nations Development Programme and other significant members from prominent international organisations. The Brazilian Ministry of Social and Agrarian Development (MDSA) is the most represented government organisation, with 21 members already.
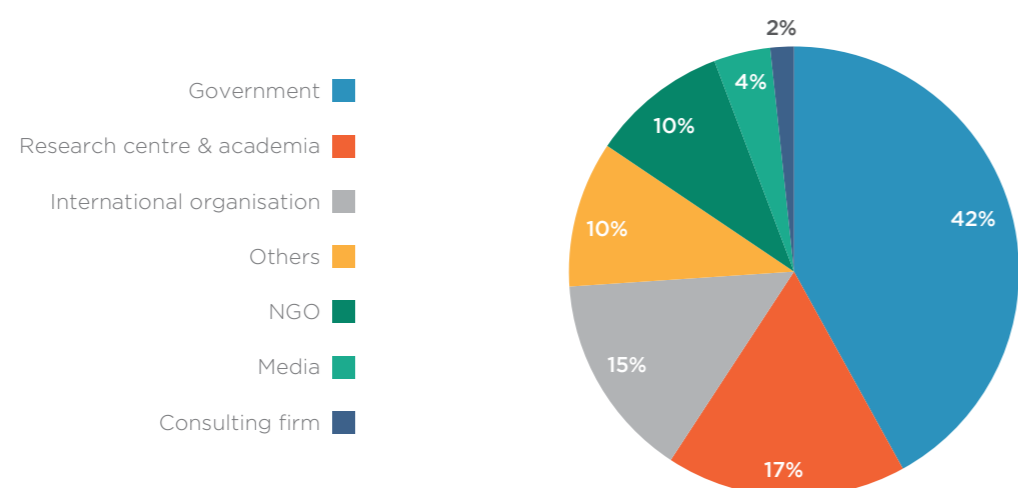
> STAKEHOLDERS

592 stakeholders, directly or indirectly related to social protection, are already included in the Stakeholder Database of the platform.

Almost half of the institutions included as stakeholders on the platform fall under the 'government' category. Once each institution has been recorded, the general strategy is to engage with a focal point within the institution and invite them to participate in the activities of the platform, be it content inclusion, participation in a webinar or the commencement of an Online Community.

STAKEHOLDER TYPE

- Government
- Research centre & academia
- International organisation
- Others
- NGO
- Media
- Consulting firm

42%
17%
15%
10%
10%
4%
2%

CONNECT

In the Connect area of socialprotection.org, members can connect with other members of the platform via the Discussion Forum and join Online Communities for virtual engagement dedicated to a particular interest area. They can also peruse the Events Calendar to stay up-to-date on upcoming social protection events. Members are also able to use the platform's Social Space.

> ONLINE COMMUNITIES

Socialprotection.org's Online Community feature allows members to create and manage private, semi-private or public communities, dedicated to particular areas of interest, for focused virtual engagement. Education, food and nutrition security, poverty and social inclusion have been the most discussed topics in the communities that have emerged over the past year. 26 Online Communities, administrated by 16 different institutions, have been created to facilitate the activities of working groups,

to promote specialised knowledge exchange among policymakers and disseminate information about specific topics.

Online Community highlights include the launch of the Social Protection for Employment – Community (SPEC). The Community was born out of the *South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum: Linking Social Protection to Employment Opportunities* event, which took place from 24-25 May 2016 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Online Community is supported by DFAT and GIZ. It will also host a series of webinars dedicated to country experiences on linking social protection to employment.

Socialprotection.org is also hosting the Evaluating National Integrated Cash Transfer Programs private Online Community. The objective of this community is to follow-up on discussions held during the fifth Transfer Project Workshop, hosted by UNICEF Ethiopia and FAO Ethiopia in April 2016. The aim is to learn about the impact and operation of cash transfer and 'cash+' programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as other regions of the world.

LIST OF THE 26 ACTIVE ONLINE COMMUNITIES

Online Community title	Institutional organiser	Type	No. of members
Social Registries and Integrated MISs for Social Protection	DFAT, OPM	Webinar series, event follow up	100
Brazil-Africa Social Protection Community	IPC-IG	DFID project	80
Community of Practice on Cash Transfer in Africa / Communauté de Pratique sur les Transferts Sociaux Monétaires en Afrique	World Bank Group	Event follow up (COP)	58
The Child Allowance Online Community	IPC-IG	Webinar series	57
Social Protection for Employment – Community (SPEC)	DFAT, GIZ	Event follow up	56
Gender-Sensitive Social Protection	IPC-IG, FAO	Webinar series	52
Cooperação Sul-Sul em Proteção Social e Segurança Alimentar	IPC-IG	DFID project	43
NutriSSAN: N4G Global Network / Rede Global de Ensino, Pesquisa e Extensão em Nutrição e SSAN	MCTI	Event follow up, int. network	40
Ambassador Programme Online Community	IPC-IG	Private working group	38
Social Protection in humanitarian, fragile and risk-prone contexts/La Protection Sociale dans les contextes de crise humanitaire et situations de risque	OPM, UNICEF	Webinar series	36
Curso Monitoria e Avaliação - CAP Universidade Eduardo Mondlanne / IPC-IG	IPC-IG	DFID project	35
Fiscal space for social protection: knowledge sharing initiative	IPC-IG, HelpAge	Webinar series	32
ISPA Website Launch	ISPA Coordination Team	Private working group	29
The Brazilian experience of Social Protection Programmes	WWP	Webinar series	23
SPIAC-B Informal Working Group on Social Protection Capacity Strengthening	DFID, Finland, GIZ and others	Private working group	23
Working Group: Food Security and Nutrition-Specific Inter-Agency Social Protection Assessment Tool (FSN-ISPA)	FAO	Private working group	18
Evaluating National Integrated Cash Transfer Programmes	FAO, UNICEF	Event follow up	17
ISPA Social Protection Payment Delivery	ISPA	Webinar series	11
Working Group of the Asia Pacific Report on Social Protection	DFAT	Private working group	10
CoP francophone - elaboration du rapport sur la rencontre annuelle	IPC-IG	Event follow up (COP)	9
Berlin Global Learning Forum 2015	GIZ	Event follow up	6
SPIAC-B informal group: Social Protection in humanitarian, fragile and risk-prone contexts	UNICEF, DFID, WFP, EC, FAO, World Bank	Private working group	5
Graduation Program Community of Practice	CGAP	Private working group	3
Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC	Event follow up	2
Labour migration from South Asia: what to demand from SAARC	Individual	Private community	1
Social Protection of Tanzania	Individual	Private community	1

As shown in the previous table, the types of Online Communities hosted by the platform are very diverse. Some webinar series have resulted in the creation of corresponding Online Communities for registrants to connect and share documents following the live event. Other communities were born out of an institutional initiative as follow up to events or for working groups.

The socialprotection.org team highly values the opportunity to increase knowledge exchange through Online Communities. We are therefore dedicated to making them more user friendly and incorporating tools that will help members collaborate from a distance.

> DISCUSSION FORUM

Various Discussion forums were initiated by platform members, who exchanged information on specific research topics such as Universal pension systems in developing countries. The discussion forum with highest participation is the Job Opportunities and Calls for Papers.

LEARN

The Learn area comprises the Virtual Campus that facilitate access to workshops, webinars, and courses as well as Learning Tools which take the user to online tools and documents on how to implement a social protection programme. A Glossary is available on social protection and related topics. The News feature provides the latest insights into social protection.

> VIRTUAL CAMPUS

The Virtual Campus hosts interactive learning content, including audio, video and online courses. The majority of Virtual Campus content types are webinars (29) and videos/online courses (20). The majority of the content is from the Americas region (18), more specifically from Brazil (10). It is an ambition of the platform to further diversify content beyond the Americas. By social protection topic, 'programme design and implementation' (18) followed by 'coverage' (12) are the most numerous. The vast majority of Virtual Campus content is in English (36).

>> WEBINARS

Since August 2015, 15 webinars have been organised by the socialprotection.org team, together with many different partner institutions and a broad range of highly qualified panellists, gathering over 1,200 participants. Hosting regular webinars has proven to be the primary vehicle for promotion of the platform among new audiences, attracting new members with each event. Socialprotection.org provides technical and communications support for each webinar. 'Gender', 'poverty' and 'social inclusion' have been the cross-cutting areas most frequently addressed in the webinars offered through the platform. 'Programme design and implementation' has featured as the most prominent social protection topic. The webinars realized in the first year of the platform are:

1. **The South African experience with the Child Support Grant (14 August 2015)**
   The first webinar in the "Child Allowance Webinar Series", The South African experience with the Child Support Grant (CSG), presented one of the world's most comprehensive social protection programmes. The webinar provided first-hand insights into the CSG and discussed several aspects related to the programme's design and implementation. It was supported by the IPC-IG and UNICEF. It featured *Brenton Van Vrede* (Acting Deputy Director General, Social Security, Department of Social Development, South Africa) as the presenter, *Roxana Maurizio* (Associate Research-Professor in Economics, Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento – UNGS) as discussant, and *Alejandro Grinspun* (Chief for Social Policy, UNICEF South Africa) as moderator. 88 people registered and 61 attended. This webinar series is supported by a corresponding Child Allowance Online Community, hosted by socialprotection.org and organised by the IPC-IG, to support knowledge sharing after the events. Recording available here.

2. **Asignaciones Familiares de Uruguay (24 September 2015)**
   The "Child Allowance Webinar Series" presented the *Asignaciones Familiares de Uruguay*, the Uruguayan programme of child allowances. The webinar was supported by the IPC-IG and Economic Commission for Latin

America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). It was held in Spanish, with 46 registrants and 33 attendees. It featured *Gabriel Lagomarsino* (Vice President of the *Banco de Previsión Social*, Uruguay) and *Matías Rodríguez* (National Director of Social Policies at the Ministry of Social Development, Uruguay) as presenters, and *Verónica Amarante* (Director of CEPAL, Uruguay) as moderator. Recording available here.

3. **Mongolian experience with the Child Money Programme (27 October 2015)**
   The Mongolian experience with the Universal Child Money Programme was the focus of the third session of the "Child Allowance Webinar Series". This last webinar in the series was organised with the support of the IPC-IG, UNICEF and Development Pathways. It featured *Munkhzul Lakhagvasuren* (Director of the Social Protection Department in Mongolia's Ministry of Population Development and Social Protection) as the presenter, *Bjorn Gelders* (Senior Social Policy Specialist at Development Pathways) as discussant and *Judith Bruno* (Deputy Representative at UNICEF Mongolia) as moderator. 101 people registered and 50 attended the webinar. Recording available here.

4. **Towards universal social protection: Latin American pathways and policy tools (10 March 2016)**
   In celebration of its 6-month anniversary, socialprotection.org presented the webinar Towards universal social protection: Latin American pathways and policy tools. The webinar explored the content of the book by the same title, published by the ECLAC. It featured *Simone Cecchini* (Social Affairs Officer, Social Development Division of the Economic Commision, ECLAC) as the presenter, *Sergei Soares* (Senior Researcher, Institute for Applied Research, Ipea) as discussant and *Alicia Spengler* (former Senior Project Officer, IPC-IG). 189 people registered and the event was attended by 89 people from 23 different countries. Recording available here.

5. **Kenya's Single Registry: A tool for planning, coordination and monitoring (29 March 2016)**
   Kenya's Single Registry for Social Protection was recently created as an electronic solution

for social accountability. The integrated registry assists the social protection sector with planning, coordination and monitoring of the country's four main cash transfer programmes, while also integrating data from the World Food Programme's Cash for Assets programme. The webinar was organised by DFAT, Oxford Policy Management and Development Pathways. It discussed how the introduction of Kenya's single registry came about, its evolution, benefits, challenges and the limitations faced in implementation and future plans. 226 people registered and 117 attended from 28 different countries. It featured *Winnie Mwasiaji* (Coordinator, Social Protection Secretariat, Kenya), *Evelyn Gathecha* (Single Registry Specialist, Social Protection Secretariat, Kenya) and *Richard Chirchir* (Senior MIS Specialist, Development Pathways) as presenters, and *Valentina Barca* (Consultant, Oxford Policy Management) as moderator. The corresponding Online Community, Social Registries and Integrated MISs for Social Protection, has 100 members. Recording available here.

6. **La política fiscal como mecanismo para combatir la desigualdad: análisis en Brasil y Guatemala (12 April 2016)**
   The Fiscal policy as a mechanism to combat inequality in Brazil and Guatemala analysis was hosted by socialprotection.org as its second Spanish language webinar, together with the Organization of American States (OAS), through its Inter-American Social Protection Network (IASPN). It was the 14th webinar of the Inter-American Dialogues Series of Social Protection, with 103 registrants and 50 attendees. It featured *Hilcias Estuardo Moran* (Commitment to Equity Institute, CEQ) and *Rodrigo Orair* (Researcher, International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth; Research Associate, Institute for Applied Economic Research) as presenters, and *Alexandra Barrantes* (RIPSO/Departamento de Inclusión Social, OEA) as moderator. Recording available here.

7. **Gender and Social Protection: Current Issues and Policy Trends (3 May 2016)**
   The IPC-IG and FAO organised the Gender and Social Protection: Current Issues and Policy Trends webinar, to discuss gender

equality and women's empowerment in terms of poverty reduction strategies, particularly in rural areas. It also covered the impact on gender relations within the household and in the community. The webinar had 294 people register and 148 people attend from 39 different countries. *Nicola Jones* (Senior Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute) and *Agnes Quisumbing* (Senior Research Fellow, The International Food Policy Research Institute) presented; while *Ana Paula De la O Campos* (Strategic Programme Advisor for FAO's programme on Rural Poverty Reduction) was the discussant. It was the first of the "Gender and Social Protection Webinar Series", which prompted the creation of the Gender-Sensitive Social Protection Online Community, administrated by the IPC-IG and FAO. Recording available here.

8. **A Framework and Practical Guidance on Linking Humanitarian Cash Transfers with Long-Term Social Safety Nets (12 May 2016)**
The webinar A Framework and Practical Guidance on Linking Humanitarian Cash Transfers with Long-Term Social Safety Nets was organised by The Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP) and Oxford Policy Management (OPM), commencing the "Shock-Responsive Social Protection Systems Webinar Series". It had 380 people register and 181 people attend from 32 different countries. The presenters were *Clare O'Brien* (Senior consultant, Poverty and Social Protection, OPM)*, Nupur Krukrety* (Consultant, CaLP) and *Paula Gil Baizan* (Advocacy Coordinator, CaLP), while *Alicia Spengler* (former Senior Project Officer, IPC-IG) was the moderator. The corresponding Online Community, Social Protection in humanitarian, fragile and risk-prone contexts was launched by OPM and UNICEF, with online discussions being held in English and French. Recording available here.

9. **Turkey's Integrated Social Assistance Services System Webinar (2 June 2016)**
The webinar Turkey's Integrated Social Assistance Services System was supported by DFAT, OPM and Development Pathways. It covered a variety of topics on Turkey's Integrated Social Assistance System (ISAS).

186 people registered and 66 people attended from 16 countries. It featured *Mustafa Sencer Kiremitci* (Social policy expert, Turkey's Ministry of Family and Social Policy) and *Çağlar Çınar* (Social policy expert, Turkey's Ministry of Family and Social Policy) as presenters, *Richard Chirchir* (Senior MIS Specialist, Development Pathways) as discussant, and *Valentina Barca* (Consultant, Oxford Policy Management) as moderator. Recording available here.

10. **Social protection and the empowerment of rural women in Africa (23 June 2016)**
The Social protection and the empowerment of rural women in Africa webinar was organized by the IPC-IG and FAO, with the support by DFID. The objective of the webinar was to introduce the topic of social protection and rural women's empowerment, exploring the particularities of social protection interventions targeted at rural women and of the Sub-Saharan African context in terms of rural women's economic empowerment. *Amber Peterman* (Social Policy Specialist, UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti) and *Markus P. Goldenstein* (Practice Leader, World Bank Africa Region, Africa) presented, *Leisa Perch* (Deputy Representative, UNWomen Mozambique) served as the discussant and *Ana Paula De la O Campos* (Strategic Programme Advisor for FAO's programme on Rural Poverty Reduction) moderated the event. It had 257 people register and was attended by 112 people from 27 different countries. Recording available here.

11. **The *Bolsa Família* Programme: Access to and Dissemination of Information (12 July 2016)**
Socialprotection.org and the Brazil Learning Initiative for a World Without Poverty (WWP) organised the first webinar of the Series "The Brazilian experience of Social Protection Programmes". The webinar The *Bolsa Família* Programme: Access to and Dissemination of Information addressed the communications strategy of the *Bolsa Família* Programme on a "how-to" basis. The event highlighted the continuous development of the programme. *Bolsa Família* was only allocated specific budgetary resources for communications activities after 10 years.

Even so, access to information is a necessity that has been addressed since the programme's implementation in 2003. The webinar's presenters included *Cibelle Calmanetti e Souza* (Technical Analyst on Social Policies of the National Secretariat for Citizenship Income, Ministry of Social and Agrarian Development, Brazil) and *Antonio Claret Campos Filho* (Researcher at the Institute for Applied Economic Research and Associate Researcher of the IPC-IG), and the moderator was *Luis Henrique Paiva* (Researcher at the Institute for Applied Economic Research and Associate Researcher of the IPC-IG). It had 291 people register and 143 people attend from 11 different countries. The Online Community, the Brazilian experience of Social Protection Programmes was created to support further knowledge exchange and is administrated by the IPC-IG and WWP. Recording available here.

12. **Inequality and Redistribution: Taxes and Transfers (28 July 2016)**
The webinar Inequality and Redistribution: Taxes and Transfers was organised by HelpAge International and the IPC-IG. It was the first webinar of the Series "Fiscal Space for Social Protection: Knowledge Sharing Initiative". In the developing world, the impetus towards expanding social protection over the last twenty years has generated concern over the sustainable financing of these programmes and systems. Though social protection spending in low- and middle-income countries has increased over this period, these countries still have space for increasing their expenditure and revenues through taxation. What's more, international development agencies are putting financing at the centre of the debate. Panellists included *Michael Hanni* (Associate Economic Affairs Officer, ECLAC) and *Rodrigo Octávio Orair* (Researcher, Ipea, and Research Associate, IPC-IG). The webinar had 210 registrants and 83 attendees in total. Following the launch of the webinar series, the Online Community Fiscal space for social protection: knowledge sharing initiative was inaugurated on socialprotection.org, being administrated by the IPC-IG and HelpAge International. Recording available here.

13. **Shock-responsive social protection in practice: perspectives from Kenya and Mozambique (29 August 2016)**
The Shock-responsive social protection in practice: perspectives from Kenya and Mozambique was the second webinar of the Series "Shock-Responsive Social Protection Systems", organized by OPM in partnership with the Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP), Kenya. The webinar presented that Northern Kenya's cash transfer programme, the HSNP, has a mechanism for extending coverage to support extra households in the event of a drought. This 'emergency payment' mechanism was triggered for the first time in 2015. It also explored Mozambique's well-developed disaster risk management system. Panellists included *Clare O'Brien* (Senior Consultant, OPM), *Catherine Fitzgibbon* (Consultant on design of HSNP scale-up mechanism) and *Sarah Bailey* (Research Associate, Overseas Development Institute, and team member of Mozambique study, Shock-Responsive Social Protection Systems research). The webinar had 281 registrants and 131 attendees in total. Recording available here.

14. **The ISPA Tool: Assessing the Quality of Social Protection Payment Delivery Mechanisms (7 September 2016)**
Organised by the Inter-Agency Social Protection Assessment (ISPA), the "ISPA Tool Webinar Series" commenced with the webinar The ISPA Tool: Assessing the Quality of Social Protection Payment Delivery Mechanisms. The webinar presented the Social Protection Payments Delivery Mechanism Tool, which displays the main elements of a well-performing payment delivery mechanism and provides guidance to those wishing to carry out or commission a country or programme assessment of payment mechanisms used to deliver cash transfers for social protection programmes. ISPA tools are a set of practical tools that help countries improve the performance of their social protection systems, programmes and delivery mechanisms by analysing strengths and weaknesses, identifying options for further development. Panellists included *Matthew Hobson* (Senior Social Protection Specialist,
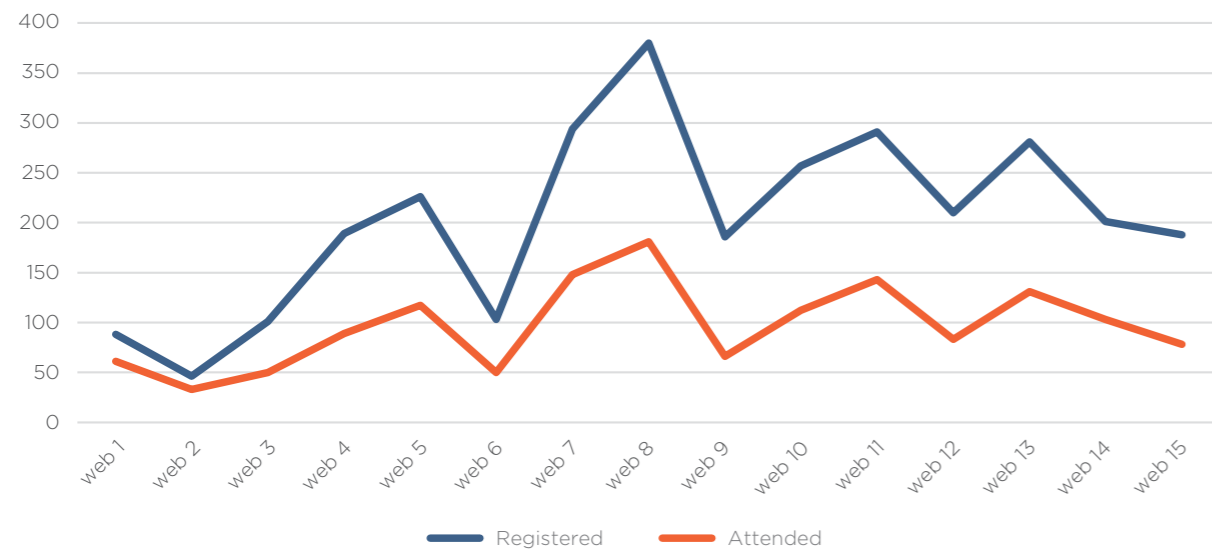
the World Bank Group), *Laura Rawlings* (Lead Social Protection Specialist, the World Bank Group), *Caroline Pulver* (Consultant) and *Harish Natarajan* (Lead Financial Sector Specialist, the World Bank Group). The webinar had 201 registrants and 103 attendees in total. Following the launch of this webinar series, the Online Community titled ISPA Social Protection Payment Delivery was created on socialprotection.org and is administrated by ISPA. Recording available here.

15. Fiscal Space for Social Protection: Harmonization of Contributory and Non-Contributory Programmes (8 September 2016)

Considering the growing interest of practitioners combined with a context of global economic slowdown, the webinar Fiscal Space for Social Protection: Harmonization of Contributory and Non-Contributory Programmes looked at the need for more

evidence-based research and knowledge-sharing opportunities in the area of financing social protection. The webinar was the second in the "Fiscal space for social protection: knowledge sharing initiative Webinar Series", organised by the IPC-IG and HelpAge International, which aims to contribute towards fiscally sustainable social protection systems. It covered the following topics: the coverage gap of old age social protection; contributory and non-contributory programmes (joining up schemes for system-wide effectiveness and sustainability) and extending social security to the informal economy. Panellists included *Stephen Kidd* (Senior Social Policy Specialist, Development Pathways) and *Rebecca Holmes* (Acting Head of Programme, the Overseas Development Institute). The webinar had 188 registrants and 78 attendees in total. Recording available here.

TIMELINE OF PEOPLE REGISTERING AND ATTENDING

Generally speaking, the number of registrants and attendees to the webinars organized by the platform is increasing. The 8th webinar, A Framework and Practical Guidance on Linking Humanitarian Cash Transfers with Long-Term Social Safety Nets, was by far the most popular one, mostly due to its attractive topic and the active collaboration of the organisers in its promotion.

The large number of registrants shows that socialprotection.org has an efficient communication strategy for its webinars. Members who wish to attend the webinar but are unable to, due to time differences or other commitments, can access the recording of the webinar on socialprotection.org's YouTube channel.
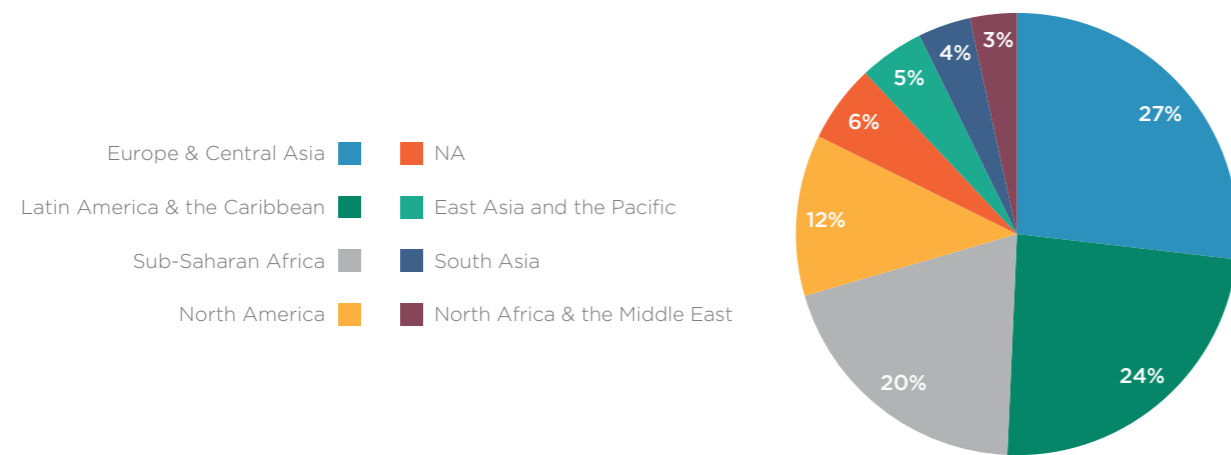
GENERAL INDICATORS CONCERNING WEBINARS

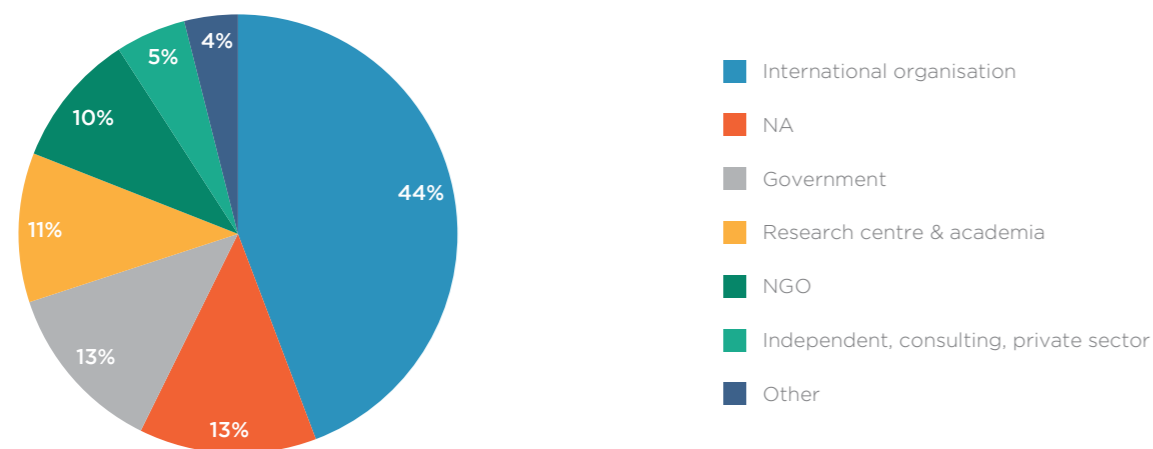| Indicators	Average
Actual duration (minutes)	122
Registrants	203
Attendees	96
Attendance rate (per cent)	49%
Total amount of questions and comments	112

Over time, the socialprotection.org team has become well trained in organising each webinar in an efficient and methodical manner, adapting to the organiser's needs. We have received

several positive comments at the end of each webinar, and the vast majority of attendees state that they would be interested in attending future webinars.
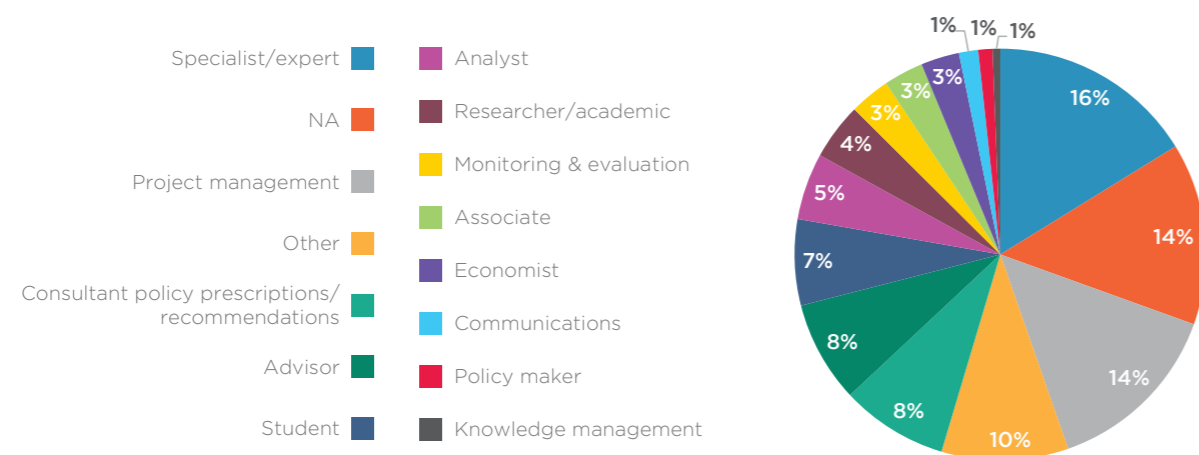
OUR WEBINAR AUDIENCE BY REGION[3]

Europe & Central Asia
Latin America & the Caribbean
Sub-Saharan Africa
North America
NA
East Asia and the Pacific
South Asia
North Africa & the Middle East

Pie chart values: 27%, 24%, 20%, 12%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%

TYPES OF INSTITUTIONS ATTENDING THE WEBINARS[3]

Pie chart values: 44%, 13%, 13%, 11%, 10%, 5%, 4%

- International organisation
- NA
- Government
- Research centre & academia
- NGO
- Independent, consulting, private sector
- Other

PROFESSIONAL TITLE OF ATTENDEES OF THE WEBINARS[3]

Specialist/expert
NA
Project management
Other
Consultant policy prescriptions/recommendations
Advisor
Student

Analyst
Researcher/academic
Monitoring & evaluation
Associate
Economist
Communications
Policy maker
Knowledge management

Pie chart values: 16%, 14%, 14%, 10%, 8%, 8%, 7%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 3%, 3%, 1%, 1%, 1%

3. The large number of NA answers is due to the fact that the questionnaire, which is automatically sent to attendees, was only developed after the initial webinars. With time, this section will gradually decrease.

Webinar attendees are regionally diverse: the European & Central Asia, Latin America and African regions are harmoniously represented. The Asian audience is lower, mostly due to time zone differences.

The majority of the institutions attending our webinars are international organisations, followed by government representatives. research centres & academia. NGOs have also had a relevant participation in our webinars.

Our webinar audience is quite heterogeneous, ranging from specialists and experts to project managers. This means we have been able to attract most fields related to social protection and adapt to a public with diverse expectations. The large number of project managers indicates that the knowledge we are providing is practical and useful to people in the field, while the presence of specialists, experts and students shows that we are also able to provide our audience with theoretical knowledge.

Comments from webinar attendees:

- "It worked really smoothly as a remote participant - thank you for a great first session!" - South Africa's Child Support Grant webinar attendee

- "It was a great session- so many participants enrolled to this webinar. Presenters and moderators were informative and captured important points of this webinar" – Kenya's Single Registry webinar attendee

- "This type of webinar should be encouraged to support the capacity building of practitioners and Policy makers for Social Protection Programmes both in the CSO and Government. It will encourage common approaches and provide a platform for scaling up innovation for may new emerging programmes." – Kenya's Single Registry webinar attendee

> LEARNING TOOLS

The Learning Tools section houses online tools, slides and text document types. Text (123) represent the majority of the tools, mostly dedicated to the Latin America and the Caribbean and Sub-Saharan African (19 each) Regions. 'Programme design and implementation' (61)

and 'monitoring and evaluation' (56) are the most popular topics. The vast majority of learning tools are available in English (128).

Over the past year, cash transfers have emerged as the type of programme most frequently addressed by the Learning Tools, while monitoring and evaluation, and programme design and implementation have featured as the most prominent topics. 'Disaster and crisis management', 'food and nutrition security', 'poverty' and 'risk and vulnerability' were the most popular cross-cutting areas included in the platform´s Learning Tools database. These trends expose how social protection has the capacity to tackle the most pressing contemporary concerns in international development.

> GLOSSARY AND NEWS

The News section welcomes all articles from national and international sources, having a special focus on social protection programmes in developing countries. In one year, we have gathered a significant amount of qualitative national information on social assistance (201) and social insurance matters (133). Not surprisingly, social transfers (132), and especially cash transfers (110), are widely represented. We try to cover all parts of developing regions equally. Asia is thus represented within 209 news articles, while 190 of them focus on Africa and 118 on the Americas.

The Glossary lists the definitions of some key notions within the realm of social protection. The term 'social protection' itself is the most comprehensive one, with definitions from different international organizations and institutions, such as the FAO or the World Bank Group. We welcome government representatives to contribute to this section by adding their own definition of what social protection is.

SHARE

The Share area allows members to share their content by adding a Publication, Programme, Stakeholder, Online Community, Forum Topic, Event or News item to the platform's interactive database. Members can also create a Survey for the social protection community or propose a webinar.

4. Communications strategy

Socialprotection.org has a comprehensive communications strategy. This includes a monthly newsletter with 1,335 subscribers as well as active Facebook, Twitter and YouTube social media accounts, which are progressively expanding in reach and engagement. Our team also creates tailored communications campaigns by email, to engage with the platform's members and stakeholders.

NEWSLETTERS

Our monthly newsletter, which was launched in December and followed every month since, has evolved to feature major trends in the social protection arena and is frequently produced in collaboration with partner institutions. This includes the June newsletter, which was dedicated to the theme of *Agriculture and Social Protection* and produced in collaboration with our partner institution, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). July's newsletter, on *Human Rights Social Protection*, was produced in collaboration with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) and partners' online knowledge sharing platform, Social Protection and Human Rights. Check out our past newsletters:
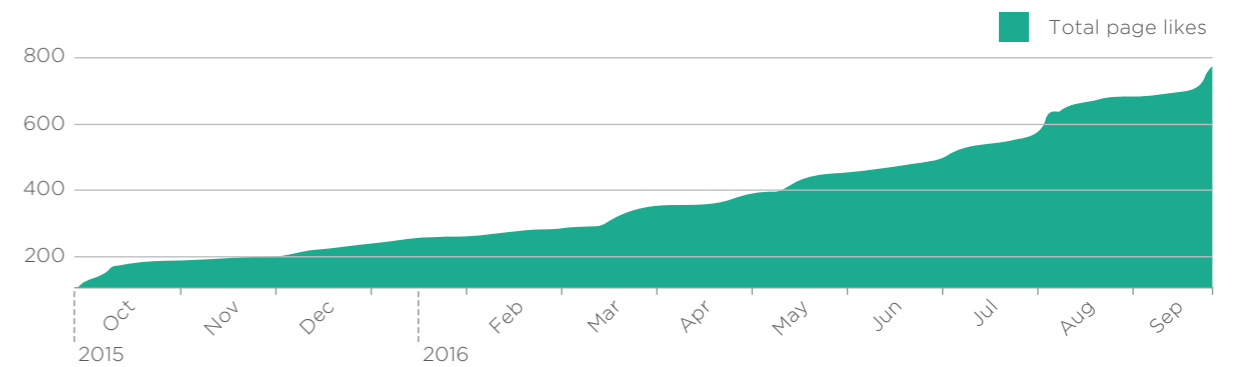
- December 2015 - Newsletter

- January 2016 - Newsletter

- February 2016 - Newsletter

- March 2016 - Newsletter:
  International Women's Day:
  Pledge for Parity

- April 2016 - Newsletter:
  Inequality and Financing
  Social Protection

- May 2016 - Newsletter:
  Social Protection in Humanitarian,
  Fragile and Risk-Prone Contexts

- June 2016 - Newsletter:
  Agriculture and Social Protection

- July 2016 - Newsletter:
  Human Rights Social Protection

- August 2016 - Newsletter:
  Employment and Social Protection

- September 2016 - Newsletter:
  1 Year Anniversary

SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

facebook

Socialprotection.org's Facebook has 837 page likes from 45 countries spanning all continents. Women represent 57 and men 42 per cent of its audience. The majority speaks Portuguese and/or English.
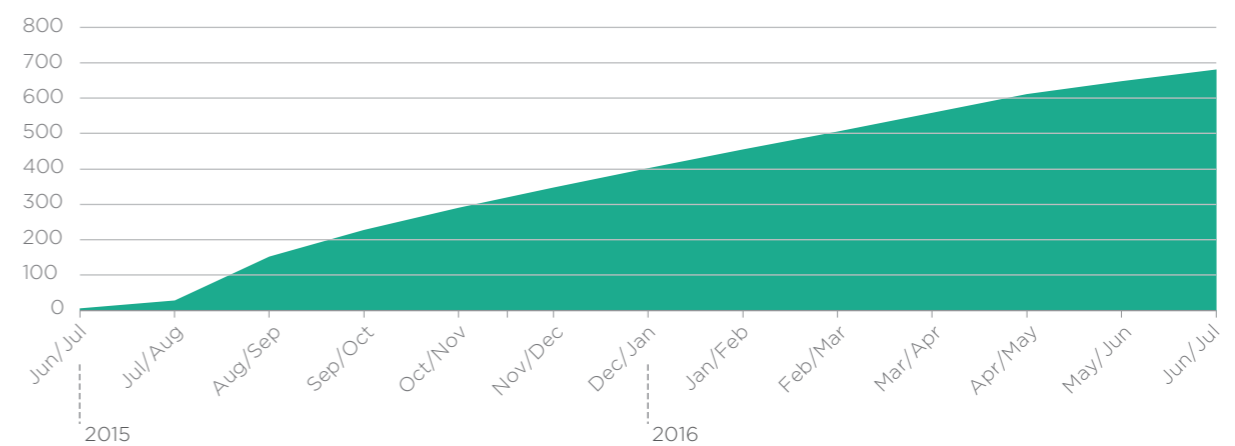
TOTAL PAGE LIKES BY SEPTEMBER 12 2016: 847

twitter

Socialprotection.org's twitter account has 708 followers, 259 likes, is following 411 accounts and has made 879 tweets. Tweets related to webinars generate the greatest engagement and impressions, thanks to live tweeting campaigns accompanying each webinar, as well as the support of partner webinar organisers in retweeting webinar-related content.

CUMULATIVE TWITTER FOLLOWERS

OUR TOP TWITTER FOLLOWERS

Date	Top followers
June - July 2015	Online Volunteering (UNV)
July - August 2015	IPC-IG
August - September 2015	ONU Brazil
September - October 2015	FAO statistics
October - November 2015	FAO knowledge
November - December 2015	Bangladesh news 24
December - January 2015	FAO newsroom
January - February 2016	Planeta Voluntários
February - March 2016	CrowdTNGO
March - April 2016	nonprofitOrgs

Socialprotection.org's YouTube channel has 18 uploads. The video of Linking Humanitarian Cash Transfers with Long Term Social Safety Nets has received the most views (278) of all webinar related recordings, while the video What is Social Protection has received 912 views.

Ashleigh Slingsby/IPC-IG

5.

Outreach and engagement activities

PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

Participation in face-to-face and virtual meetings is part of the platform's knowledge sharing and outreach strategy. Over the past year, the socialprotection.org team participated in and/or contributed to a variety of activities. Among them, we would like to highlight the presentation at the Fourth Annual Southern Africa Social Protection Experts Network (SASPEN) Conference, and the collaboration to the Asia-Pacific Social Protection week (APSP 2016).

- 16 September 2015: Alicia Spengler (former IPC-IG Senior Project Officer) attended the kick-off meeting for the *European Union Social Protection Systems Programme*, in Paris. The meeting brought together key stakeholders and partners for a discussion on how best to support countries in the development and reform of national social protection systems.

- 23 October 2015: Alicia Spengler also presented the platform to Dr. Flora Myamba (Director of Research in Social Protection of

Policy Research for Development/REPOA) and Dr. Tumpe Lukongo (Research and Development Officer, Tanzania Social Action Fund/TASAF) during a meeting at the IPC-IG headquarters in Brasília, Brazil.

- 20-21 October 2015: Mario Gyoeri (IPC-IG Research Associate), delivered a keynote address titled *South-South Learning: Introducing socialprotection.org*, during the Fourth Annual Southern Africa Social Protection Experts Network (SASPEN) Conference dedicated to the *Sustainability of Social Protection: Economic Returns, Political Will and Fiscal Space*, in Johannesburg, South Africa. The conference brought together national governments, social partners, academics, the private sector, social security institutions, civil society, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), international organisations and development partners.

- 30 October 2015: The socialprotection.org team participated in the online event, *Twitter Chat Session on Social Protection*, promoted

by FAO, where content related to the key themes of social protection were posted on its twitter account.

- 24 November 2015: Alicia Spengler and Raquel Tebaldi (IPC-IG Research Assistant) participated in the 7th Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B) meeting, in New York, USA. The platform was presented to all SPIAC-B members during the meeting.

- 22-26 February 2016: Alicia Spengler delivered a presentation about socialprotection.org to the members of a delegation from the Republic of Uganda that participated in a study tour on knowledge sharing on social protection, hosted by the IPC-IG, in Brasília, Brazil.

- 6 April 2016: Alicia Spengler delivered a presentation on socialprotection.org as part of a knowledge-sharing activity on social protection and public policies during a

working meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MOFALD) of the Government of Nepal, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Nepal and from DFID during a visit to the IPC-IG headquarters in Brasília, Brazil.

- 26-27 April 2016: Representing socialprotection.org, Fábio Veras Soares (IPC-IG Senior Research Coordinator) participated in the *SPIAC-B Informal Working Group on Social Protection Capacity Strengthening* in Turin, Italy. The meeting aimed at drafting a work plan for the Working Group, reaching a consensus on focus areas and objectives and sharing current activities.

- 16-20 May 2016: Rafael Osório (IPC-IG Senior Research Coordinator) and Ashleigh Kate Slingsby (IPC-IG Knowledge Management Assistant) participated in the *African Community of Practice of Cash and Conditional Transfers* (CoP) meeting with its Anglophone group in Arusha, Tanzania.

Dominic Chavez/World Bank (goo.gl/pkVJgy)

Ana Nascimento/MDS (goo.gl/bxpBpB)

Eduardo Aigner/MDA (goo.gl/Wh2c6A)

UN Photo/JC McIlwaine (goo.gl/wkw4VP)

Dominic Chavez/World Bank (goo.gl/mVduh8)

Ubirajara Machado/MDS (goo.gl/FnmNDg)

- 16-21 May 2016: Mario Gyoeri and Raquel Tebaldi joined the meeting of the *Francophone group of the Africa Community of Practice of Cash and Conditional Cash Transfers* (CoP) held in Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo.

- 1-5 August 2016: socialprotection.org was one of the partners of the Asia-Pacific Social Protection week (APSP 2016), organised by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), in Manila, Philippines. The APSP 2016 broached recent issues affecting social protection in developing economies and showcased successful stories from countries with advanced social protection systems. Government representatives, policymakers, researchers and practitioners gathered in Manila to discuss recent issues affecting social protection in developing economies, showcasing success stories from countries with advanced social protection systems. Ashleigh Slingsby detailed day-by-day coverage of the event is available here.

THE AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

The socialprotection.org Ambassador Programme is an online volunteer programme, operated via the United Nations Volunteer website, whereby individuals apply to participate in activities related to providing content, knowledge exchange and networking to socialprotection.org as well as its promotion and dissemination. The Programme

has a six-month duration period, with a selection of Ambassadors from around the world twice a year. It was first launched in tandem with the launch of the platform in September 2015, and 33 Ambassadors were selected. The Programme has recently commenced its second phase, which saw the selection of 35 Ambassadors.

The Ambassadors actively participate in content provision; online discussions; webinars, Online Communities, disseminating and promoting the platform and inviting their networks to engage in social protection knowledge exchange and capacity strengthening within a region. Ambassadors participate in multiple areas of activity, which might include:

1. Content sourcing and upload

2. Knowledge exchange and networking

3. Promotion of the platform

The objectives of the programme are:

- To ensure up-to-date and relevant content concerning the Ambassador's regional or thematic interests are available on the site.

- To promote and provide opportunities for engagement with socialprotection.org's interactive features.

- To increase the visibility of socialprotection.org within the Ambassador's region and/or network.

LIST OF REPRESENTED COUNTRIES BY REGION

East Asia & Pacific	Europe & Central Asia	Latin America & Caribbean	Middle East & North Africa	North America	South Asia	Sub-Saharan Africa
China	Bulgaria	Argentina	Jordan	USA	Bangladesh	Kenya
Malaysia	France	Brazil	Lebanon		Vietnam	Nigeria
	Germany	Peru	Pakistan			South Africa
	Italy					Uganda
	Macedonia					Zimbabwe
	Netherlands					

6.

The way forward and new developments

The priorities of the platform evolve according to the needs of its members and stakeholders. Interactive activities such as the Webinar Series and Online Community Discussions will continue to feature prominently in socialprotection.org's future developments, supporting knowledge exchange and new learning formats on a global scale.

IMPROVEMENTS AND NEW FEATURES

The platform will be made available in other languages and content that is available in multiple languages will be uploaded and indicated accordingly. One of the most in demand features of the platform is the Online Community feature. Therefore, new developments will improve the administrative interface and interactions available to members. The Programme Search will also be redesigned and is expected to host over 100 social protection programme profiles by the end of 2016.

Finally, the Virtual Campus will see the introduction of a Learning Management System. This feature will provide a virtual learning space

that will host online courses in a variety of formats (such as self-paced courses or instructor-led courses) dedicated to a broad range of social protection topics. Members of the platform will be able to enrol in as well as create courses in this new learning environment. Course administrators, like Online Community administrators, will have complete control over the online spaces of their courses, their content management and student enrolment.

CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

Flexibility and adaptation are the core virtues of the platform. There is a constant need to review and enhance its technical functionalities in order to improve the user experience. The priority is to provide academics, policymakers, implementers, practitioners and donors with a practical tool that allows users to easily and quickly find the information they are looking for. Remaining branding-neutral, to ensure the space represents balanced and diverse perspectives at the institutional and individual levels is also essential.

The socialprotection.org team is also committed to increasing user engagement, with a special focus on policymakers from developing countries. The second development phase shall naturally attract more members, but the platform also has a communications strategy dedicated to its prospective target audiences. After the

demonstrable success in communications outreach with the African continent, the socialprotection.org team will now focus its efforts on the Asian continent, with a view to increasing the amount of members from this region. Finally, a significant challenge for the platform is to ensure financial support for future developments.

7.

The team

Niky Fabiancic, Director of the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth

Diana Sawyer, Senior Research Coordinator
Fábio Veras Soares, Senior Research Coordinator
Luis Henrique Paiva, Senior Research Coordinator
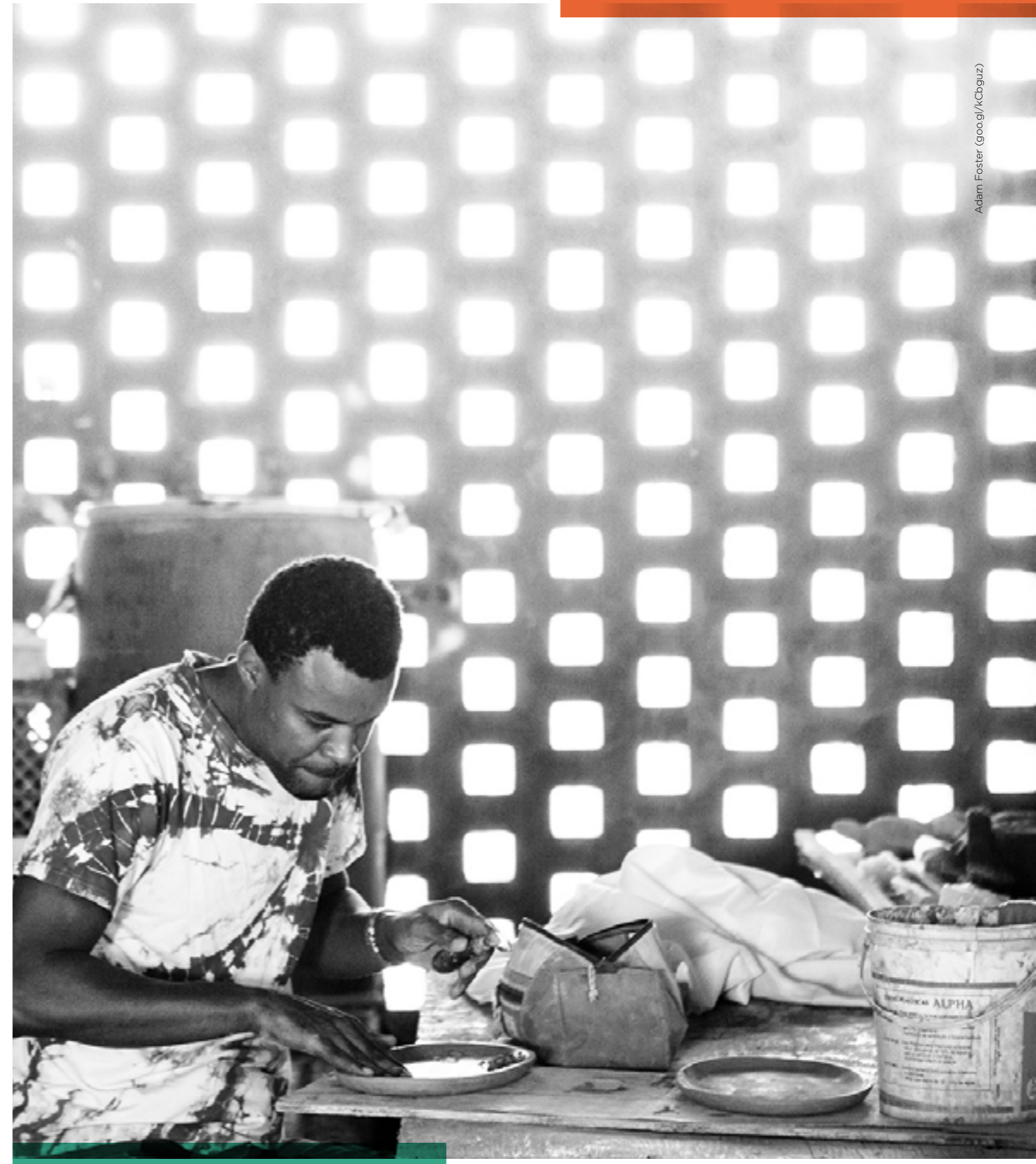Rafael Guerreiro Osório, Senior Research Coordinator

Andre Lyra, IT Coordinator
Ashleigh Slingsby, Knowledge Management Assistant
Denise Marinho dos Santos, Communications Officer
Flávia Amaral, Desktop Publishing Assistant
Guillemette Martin, Business Advisor Consultant
Hane Libânio, Executive Assistant
Isabela Martins Machado, Research Assistant
Manoel Salles, Editorial Clerk
Mariana Balboni, Senior Project Officer
Mario Gyoeri, Research Associate
Raquel Tebaldi, Research Assistant
Ricardo Ferreira, Knowledge Management Assistant
Roberto Astorino, Publications Manager
Rosa Maria Banuth, Desktop Publishing Assistant
Yannick Roule, Web Developer

Amélie t'Kint de Roodenbeke, Communications Intern
Gabrielle Leite, Research Assistant Intern

FORMER COLLEAGUES

Alicia Spengler, former Senior Project Officer
Amelie Courau, Knowledge Management Assistant
Ariane Alvarenga, Knowledge Management Assistant
Cecilia Amaral, Communications Assistant
Cristina Cirillo, Research Associate
Marcelo Fraga, Web Manager

Aaron Athias, Graphic Design Intern
Isabela Coelho, Communications Intern
Isadora Steffens, Gateway Intern
Joao Hernani Vasconcelos, Gateway Assistant Intern
Luisa-Francesca E. Schalck, Communications Intern
Maria Fernanda N. Pacheco, Research Assistant Intern
Maria Fernanda Villari, Research Assistant Intern
Mihaela Onofras, Research Assistant Intern
Nabil Silva, Communications Intern
Sacha Harris, Gateway Intern
Sidney José Vasconcelos R. da Silva, Gateway Intern
Stefan Trifunovic, Communications Intern
Suéllyn Schopping, Gateway Intern
Zhongwen Zhang, Gateway Intern

Adam Foster (goo.gl/kCbguz)

> " Congratulations to the socialprotection.org team on your one-year anniversary! The platform has made remarkable achievements in its first year by offering access to over 2000 recent publications and hosting useful webinars and Online Communities. DFAT's Social Protection Hub is proud to be part of the journey of socialprotection.org. We have benefited immensely from being able to use the platform to conduct Online Communities, namely the Social Registries and Integrated MISs for Social Protection Community and the Social Protection for Employment-Community (SPEC). DFAT is using these communities to share and increase knowledge on these important topics, and keep our stakeholders learning long after the workshops have ended. There is huge potential for these communities to make an even bigger contribution to global social protection learning and the improvement of systems.
>
> **by Hannah Derwent, Assistant Director, Social Protection-Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Fazley Mahmud, Social Protection Specialist at Social Protection Hub, A DFAT initiative**

> " For the occasion of celebrating the 1st year of existence of socialprotection.org, we from the Rede Global NutriSSAN would like to express our gratitude to this platform which has been crucial in providing the Rede with visibility in its objectives of disseminating, sharing and propagating the scientific and traditional knowledge, techniques and technology, on food and nutrition security.
>
> **by Rede Global NutriSSAN team**

> " Socialprotection.org has been an incredible tool supporting my daily work. It has helped me, and I imagine other researchers and practitioners, to stay up-to-date with recent developments in the area of social protection. In particular, the webinars promoted by socialprotection.org have disseminated cutting-edge research findings and very important policy discussions in the social protection field. Happy birthday to the socialprotection.org platform!
>
> **by Fábio Veras Soares, Senior Research Coordinator, The International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG)**

> " Socialprotection.org is not turning one to me – I had been anticipating its launch so much, I feel it is far older. Never before had the community of practitioners working in this field had the opportunity to share their knowledge to this extent, and the impacts in terms of changing practice are already tangible. For once, it is not the academics alone making their voice heard –geeky real-life technical discussions on implementation, design, people, systems, institutions are coming to the forefront. What have I appreciated the most? The tailored search function of content, the outreach granted by the Online Communities, the incredible webinar platform and above all the flexibility and availability of the socialprotection.org staff – keen to get this platform working for its users. Of course things are not perfect yet – but that is what a 'live' community is for, and I am honored to be part of this learning process. Happy birthday SP.org!
>
> **by Valentina Barca, Consultant at Oxford Policy Management (OPM)**

> " Partnering with the socialprotection.org platform to disseminate knowledge and generate debate on issues related to gender in social protection has enabled us, FAO, to increase the awareness and raise the profile of gender-sensitive social protection as a priority for poverty reduction. Over the last few months we have co-organized three webinars on these issues, reaching a vast global community of social protection practitioners. The webinars have been a great success, with more than a hundred participants in each session. We are planning to partner with the socialprotection. org platform in the future on more gender-related webinars and others related to FAO's work.
>
> **by Ana Paula De la O Campos, Strategic Programme Advisor, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).**

> " The celebration of the first year of socialprotection.org is a great chance to highlight the usefulness of this web-based platform that is devoted to one of the key development issues of the 21st century. Here at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), we are grateful to the socialprotection.org team for sharing our research and initiatives to a broader audience and also for giving us a chance to keep up-to-date on new and emerging social protection topics brought about by academia, think tanks, governments and international organizations. Happy birthday!
>
> **by Simone Cecchini, Social Development Division, Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC)**