

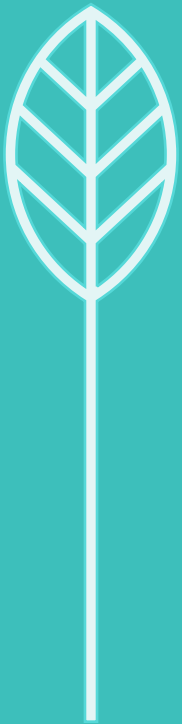


Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Social protection

system



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United Nations publication issued by ESCWA, United Nations House, Riad El Solh Square,
P.O. Box: 11-8575, Beirut, Lebanon.

Website: www.unescwa.org

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NOTE

This study, “Social protection system”, was conducted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA). It was developed within the framework of the Libya Socioeconomic Dialogue Project, and funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The project was carried out in partnership with ESCWA and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). The aim of the project is to provide a platform for Libyans, at both the national and sub-national levels, to discuss and develop a socioeconomic vision for Libya,¹ as well as to discuss the relevant policy options needed to support and strengthen such a vision. The platform also addresses the structural challenges inherent in developing a new social contract, institutionalising the State, and strengthening the sustainable development framework in Libya.

This document is one of a set of eight studies² on policy options relating to the socioeconomic vision mentioned above, conducted by ESCWA in collaboration with a group of Libyan experts. These studies are meant to contribute to realising this vision, addressing its challenges, and facilitating the process of drafting policies and developing strategies that take into account its socioeconomic and institutional dimensions.

¹ A rights-based socioeconomic vision and roadmap for foundational growth in Libya.

² Titles of these studies:

1. Towards an inclusive national identity in light of a just citizenship State.
2. **Social protection system.**
3. Human capital, youth and women empowerment, and the integration of militant forces.
4. The role of the State in sustainable economic development and the strategic positioning of Libya in the global economy.
5. Strengthening the State authority and the rule of law through a fair and independent justice system, and human security based on human rights and the principles of comprehensive justice.
6. Restoring trust and reconciliations to establish a national charter.
7. Building a State of institutions, regional integration and international cooperation.
8. Mechanisms for economic reform and recovery.



Executive summary

Social protection systems play an important role in every society, as they provide a source of income to members of society when they lose their original income (temporarily or permanently), provide a safety net against the threats besetting society, and contribute to ensuring a decent life to all citizens. Article 22 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) states that “Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality”. This includes the individual’s right to freedom from forced labour, the right to obtain fair and equitable wages, the right to access social security and achieve a decent standard of living, as well as the right to healthcare, education, housing, clothing and clean drinking water.

Libyan society has a long history of social solidarity and mutual support, reflected in Government programmes and interventions relating to social security. Indeed, Libyan legislators have crafted laws to provide social welfare and healthcare to vulnerable social groups as per international standards, and the post-1969 period witnessed the passing of numerous laws in this respect.

Yet the social protection network in Libya is currently going through a difficult stage, in view of the many challenges arising from the repercussions of fighting and conflict, chief among them the institutional division that has affected social welfare institutions such as the social security and pension funds. Those institutions have in turn faced considerable challenges that have prevented them from fulfilling their function. Such challenges include the difficulty of collecting contributions, the inability to provide due benefits to vulnerable social groups, and the hampering of their investment plans due to war and fighting, all of which threaten their ability to adequately fulfil their obligations in the future.

The worsening economic situation has also had a major impact on the social situation of Libyan citizens, as the continued fighting over oil resources and sovereign State institutions had led to poor ratings for the country. Indeed, while Libya had once ranked among countries with a

high median income, it now ranks among those with a low median income. The ability of the State to support people with limited income, minimum wage earners and vulnerable groups has also been weakened, as has its ability to ensure public services, due to its weak financial sustainability. Meanwhile, poverty rates have increased considerably among the population, due to the instability of oil revenue and the inflation resulting from the security and political situation. Healthcare and education services have also deteriorated, and are now in need of development and modernisation mechanisms to keep up with subsistence requirements and the job market.

Among the Libyan population, a new social group emerged after 2012, namely that of those displaced and dispossessed by war and conflict, who are facing numerous difficulties resulting from the loss of their income, the deterioration of their livelihood situation, and the difficulty of obtaining appropriate education and healthcare services. The number of people internally displaced in Libya reached 435,000 in 2016, while about 125,000 were displaced abroad. Added to them are those who were displaced as a result of the war on Southern Tripoli, amounting to roughly 425,000 people.

To address the challenges of social welfare in Libya, work must be done to achieve a series of steps. Those would mainly include strengthening the role of the family, taking care of vulnerable groups, supporting institutions connected to the social protection network, broadening the scope of healthcare services, ensuring comprehensive health insurance coverage and passing laws to that effect, and working to replace commodity subsidies with more effective economic growth policies. Social protection should also be broadened by ensuring the economic and social rights of individuals, in such a way as to achieve equality between men and women, and enshrine everyone’s right to social protection, as an inalienable right guaranteed by the social contract, constitution, policies and legislation. In addition, work should be done to revitalise the role of partnership between the public and private sectors, so as to ensure the development and diversification of the economy, create new and sustainable job opportunities, and ensure a continued cashflow to social welfare institutions.

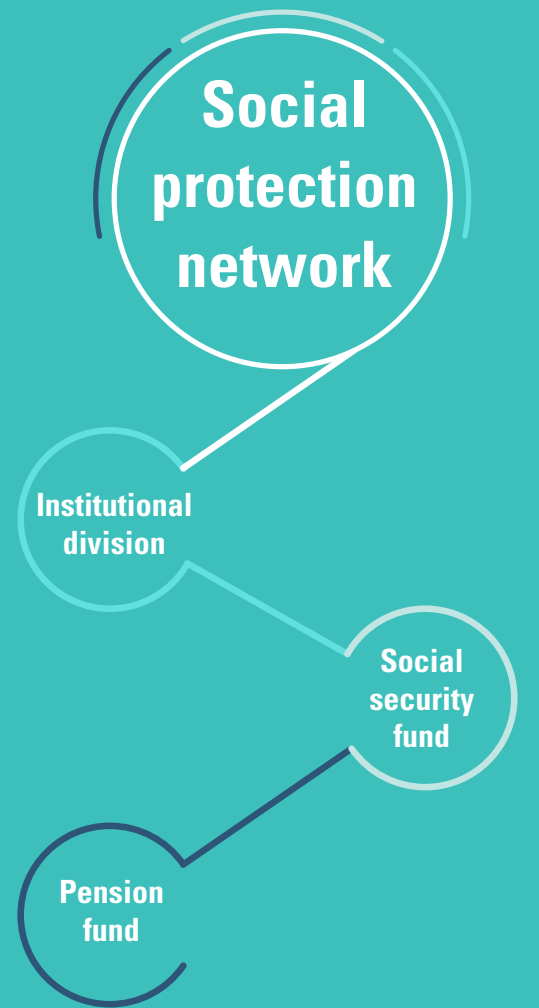
Introduction and historical background

Social protection represents a rights-based national demand for sustainable socio-economic development and strengthened economic growth policies. Social protection is a right of all citizens, and the State must adopt sound and effective social policies that would ensure combating poverty, unemployment and social marginalisation. Such policies would also encourage civil society organisations to support a fair and sufficient social protection system for all citizens, one that would ensure them a decent life and help them secure their rights. Social protection helps move the cycle of growth towards building societies in which social justice and stability prevail, and the basic elements of sustainability are available.

Social protection is also a tool to achieve social justice and attain a just distribution of wealth. Indeed, the principle of a right to social protection is itself connected to the core values of social justice, and is considered a direct translation of the notion of just redistribution of wealth. Social justice relies on social protection, as the latter includes a set of effective tools to prevent the threats of social inequality and limit poverty, under a system of rights shared by all.

Empowering individuals and rights-holders to participate in the decision-making process on a system of rights and obligations, would strengthen the bonds between social justice and social protection. Social justice would thus require the effective participation of citizens to ensure the success of social policies, especially those connected to social protection, the spread of unregulated employment, poverty, the weakness of political power structures and the shortage of administrative capabilities.

It should be stressed here that social protection is the responsibility of the State under the existing “social contract” between the individual and the State. Indeed, social protection represents an essential part of this contract, under which the State is committed to offer social welfare and healthcare, by providing the minimum amount acceptable of basic needs, healthcare service, housing and education. It is also the duty of the State to take care of social groups in need of protection, and to use its available resources to ensure the right to social protection for all members of society.



Basic rights connected to the principle of social protection

Social protection systems play an important role in every society, as they provide a source of income to members of society when they lose their original income, temporarily or permanently. They also contribute to stimulating national savings and improving the ability to fund investments. Social protection provides members of society with a safety net, helps them confront the threats besetting society as a whole, and contributes to ensuring a decent life to all citizens. Social protection also contributes to achieving social peace and political stability, supporting coexistence in a cohesive atmosphere, and strengthening the sense of societal belonging among individuals.

Article 22 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) states that "Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality". Perhaps the most important of these rights are the following:

- Individual rights, including the right to freedom from forced labour, the right to make decisions freely when accepting or choosing a job, the right to fair wages, the right to equal payment for work of equal value, the right to leisure, the right to a reasonable limitation of working hours, the right to safe and healthy working conditions, the right to join and form labour unions, and the right to go on strike as a means of voicing one's objections or expressing one's opinions.
- The right to social security, including the right not to be deprived of social security coverage in an arbitrary or unreasonable way, and the right to equal and sufficient protection in cases of unemployment, illness or old age (retirement).
- The right to provide protection and assistance to one's family, the protection of motherhood and fatherhood, and the protection of children from economic and social exploitation.
- The right to a decent standard of living, including the right to food and freedom from hunger, and the right to suitable housing and clean water.
- The right to healthcare, including the right to access healthcare facilities, commodities and services, the right to professional treatment in a healthy environment, and the right to protection from infectious diseases, in addition to the rights connected to sexual and reproductive health.
- The right to education, including the right to free and mandatory primary education, and to free secondary and higher education.

A. Social policy in Libya

Libyan society has a long history of social solidarity and mutual support, reflected in Government programmes and interventions relating to social security. Since the country's independence in 1951, Libyan authorities have worked to give special importance to the issue of social safety, despite the difficult circumstances Libya was going through, and despite the severe shortage of funds needed to achieve social protection. Libyan legislators crafted laws to provide social welfare and healthcare to vulnerable social groups as per international standards, and the post-1969 period witnessed the passing of numerous laws in this respect. Many of these laws focused on clearly separating the institutions meant to achieve the social safety net from those that were tasked with providing social services.

Social policy in Libya is restricted to the social safety net, which provides services to people with disabilities, widows and others. It represents the main foundation for providing the minimum requirements for a decent life to citizens and residents alike. Yet it has become necessary to move from a social safety net to a comprehensive social protection system, in view of the fact that the social policy currently in place suffers from severe shortcomings, most notably:

- The fact that it provides compensation services to individuals, and those who have suffered harm, in the market economy and for a limited period of time (meaning that it is unconnected to the social contract between the individual and the State).
- The fact that it targets specific segments of society non-comprehensively for a limited period of time (meaning that it does not grant the right to social protection to all individuals without discrimination of any kind).
- The fact that it has a rentier dimension (and not a growth dimension that would guarantee education, healthcare, employment and housing, and empower individuals to prosper and become productive forces).
- The fact that it is not connected to the right to work, but rather to a policy of unproductive rentier transfer of job opportunities (it also does not approach work as a human right, which would require working to integrate employment policies with social protection policies).

- The fact that it drains public funds in a less productive way (and does not incentivise productivity and economic transformation by achieving complementarity between the labour policies and employment policies adopted by the State).

B. The economic situation

The worsening economic situation has had a major impact on the social situation of Libyan citizens, as the continued fighting over oil resources and sovereign State institutions, in addition to institutional division, had led to poor ratings for the country. Indeed, while Libya had once ranked among countries with a high median income, it now ranks among those with a low median income. The ability of the State to support those of limited income, minimum wage earners and vulnerable groups has also been weakened, as has its ability to ensure public services, due to its weak financial sustainability. Meanwhile, poverty rates have increased considerably among the population, with the African Development Bank estimating that about a third of all Libyans are living under the national poverty line. This is due to the fact that State spending on public services has been negatively affected by the instability of oil revenue and the inflation resulting from the security and political situation (African Development Bank, 2018).

While a majority of Libyans are employed in the public sector at low wages, most segments of Libyan society are being negatively impacted by the current inflation, and gradually losing their ability to provide for their own basic needs. Meanwhile, public sector services have been weakened (especially when it comes to medical treatment), forcing citizens to spend their entire savings on their medical needs abroad. In addition, market consumption and a declining manufacturing sector are considered further causes of the country's

rising poverty rates. Indeed, a large proportion of food products (estimated at about 80 per cent of total domestic consumption) are imported and priced according to the parallel market exchange rate, making it difficult in many cases for Libyans to buy these products. Moreover, the shortage of liquidity plays a major part in making the situation worse.

C. The displaced

A new social group emerged in Libya after 2012, namely that of those displaced and dispossessed by war and conflict, who are facing numerous difficulties resulting from the loss of their income, the deterioration of their livelihood situation, and the difficulty of accessing suitable education and healthcare services. The number of people internally displaced in Libya reached 435,000 in 2016, while about 125,000 were displaced abroad. And although estimates indicate that around 200,000 people have returned to Libya in recent years, most of them have found it challenging to reintegrate society and rebuild a normal and decent life. In early 2017, there were more than 1.3 million people in the country (including those internally displaced, those returning, migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and other non-displaced vulnerable groups) in need of humanitarian assistance. In addition, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 425,714 people were displaced by the war on Southern Tripoli.

D. Commodity subsidies

For many years, Libya has provided subsidised consumer products to its citizens at reduced prices. This programme was designed to help low-income social groups, and the total amount of funds allocated to it by the interim Government is estimated at around 500 million Libyans



dinars. In 2016, the Government of National Accord allocated 1.2 billion dinars to this programme, covering 11 basic commodities provided at the official exchange rate.

The majority of these goods, imported with documentary credits, do not reach citizens at the officially set price, as they usually end up being sold at the parallel market rate or smuggled to other countries. Sometimes, the credits are sold at much higher than the official price, or used to purchase loose cargo (as has occurred in several documented cases). The inflation rate reached 2.4 per cent in 2014, rising to 9.8 per cent in 2015, then to 25.3 per cent in 2016.

The considerable differences in the price of hard currency, and in the profit margins from imports, have given rise to conglomerates specialised in the trade of subsidised goods, within closed circles that are difficult to breach. Thus, the benefits of subsidised commodities now accrue much more to importers than to ordinary citizens. Moreover, a large proportion of the subsidised goods imported to Libya end up smuggled to neighbouring countries, or benefiting foreigners residing in Libya.

Ultimately, it is ordinary Libyan citizens and families who are having to face these high inflation rates. As a result, vulnerable groups are gradually losing their ability to resist, savings are being eroded, people with limited income (such as those who rely on financial assistance or minimum wage earners) are seeing their standards of living deteriorate. Meanwhile, subsidies have become a waste of financial resources and a burden on the Public Treasury.

E. The restriction of social protection in Libya to the social safety net

The current social safety net does not meet the requirements of subsistence, and does not keep pace with international and regional expectations. Indeed, social protection in Libya is restricted to social safety nets that target specific segments of society for limited amounts of support. The problems faced by this social safety net, as well as its shortcomings, can be summed up as follows:

- The laws and procedures put in place to protect family, motherhood and childhood fall short of providing for the needs of Libya today.
- Current programmes are unable to continue providing family allowances (for children and homemakers), due to budget deficits and the suspension of payments as per Law no.27 of 2013.
- Support programmes that suffer from administrative and organisational problems are still being relied upon, especially when it comes to the subsidisation of basic consumer goods. And while Libyan families are unable to fully benefit from these subsidies, as well as from continued fuel subsidies, high levels of spending continue to be allocated to these programmes instead of more effective ones (such as cash transfer programmes).

- Social Security is currently restricted to public sector employees, and unable to cover people working in unregulated sectors, the private sector, foreign labour and the self-employed.
- There are no clear plans for the work of State and non-State institutions, and a lack of coordination between them. Meanwhile, non-State parties have been working with international organisations without involving the relevant institutions.
- The social safety net has failed to protect the displaced from the repercussions and dangers of the armed conflicts that have destroyed their property and led to the death of many of them. Indeed, its role has been restricted to providing food baskets and converting a few schools into temporary shelters for a limited number of those displaced. Despite the massive amounts of funds allocated, it has not provided any direct financial assistance, or any effective social welfare and healthcare programmes.
- No long-term strategy has been put in place for managing and investing in social welfare funds, which has led to diminishing returns and outright losses.
- The social safety net lacks an unemployment insurance system and effective job market policies that would help reintegrate the unemployed in the labour force.
- Healthcare services suffer from significant shortcomings, as well as from the absence of a comprehensive vision on healthcare and health insurance.

F. Healthcare and education

Healthcare represents a cornerstone of the social protection system, as its provision helps lift the financial burden of illness from families, and reduce the costs of hospitalisation and medical treatment. This is especially relevant at a time when there are over two million Libyan citizens in need of basic healthcare services. Libya spends nearly 5 billion dinars per year on the healthcare sector, while the costs of medical treatment abroad, particularly in neighbouring countries, reach up to about 6 billion dinars per year. The severe shortage of subsidised medication of various kinds in public hospitals in Libya has resulted in increased activity for private commercial pharmacies, as many patients have been forced to purchase their medication from them. The current state of healthcare and health insurance in Libya represents a complex and difficult issue. As the country's main healthcare provider, the State needs to develop a comprehensive strategy to raise the level of its healthcare services, health insurance, medication policies, family health plans and primary healthcare. The health insurance system also needs to be examined, with a view to achieving social justice, so that it may guarantee the right to healthcare protection and strengthen solidarity among members of society. The healthcare sector in Libya

provides a concentrated example of the kinds of challenges faced by State administration. Indeed, the level of healthcare services has been considerably reduced, as a result of the severe shortage of medical supplies, political and institutional division, and the continued fighting leading to worsening crises in the healthcare sector. With the onset of the Coronavirus crisis, the local spread of the pandemic, its worsening due to the weak implementation of social distancing measures, and its expansion to all Libyan cities, healthcare-related challenges have only worsened, despite the massive amounts of funds allocated to fighting the pandemic.

When it comes to education, which represents another cornerstone of the social protection system, problems and difficulties are no less abundant. Thus, while the Libyan State spends large amounts of money on the education sector every year, this has not had a significant impact on channelling graduates to the job market, and the result has been one of high unemployment rates. The country's education system suffers from problems in terms of quality and the ability to prepare graduates for the local and international job markets, not to mention the damage and challenges faced by educational institutions after 2011. When it comes to institutes and training centres, current technical and vocational training programmes are being run in relative isolation from the job market, which is creating a gap between skilled and unskilled workers. The private sector is also facing difficulties in finding skilled workers on the Libyan market. All of these problems have created an incompatibility between the education system and the demands of the market. This in turn has provided an opportunity for foreign workers to fill the vacuum, and caused greater pressure on the social welfare network (Abuhadra and Ajaali, 2014).

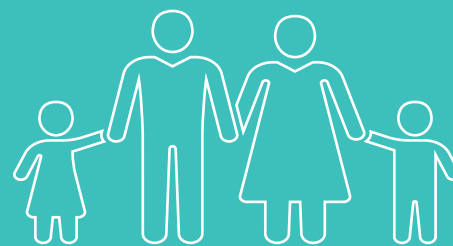
I. Methodology

Over the course of an entire year, the ESCWA team conducted preliminary studies to identify and analyse the challenges facing Libya, relying on official statements issued by Government officials. The research team then recommended mechanisms for reform, connected to the role of the State in initiating the process of economic recovery and furthering sustainable development, which were presented to 88 Libyan experts, so that they may assess them, suggest additions and provide appropriate clarifications, making use of the best past experiences at the global level. Priority issues were then identified, particularly when it comes to the social protection system, broadening its scope and revitalising the work it does. These recommendations were then discussed in a wide-ranging societal dialogue, which included various different social groups, and representatives from every region of Libya. This dialogue went on for eight sessions, with discussions involving 262 Libyan participants, and over 857 written submissions received. All of these efforts led to a set of important recommendations and priorities for the preparation of a unified national vision for the future. All of the data previously obtained were then gathered, reformulated and presented in a validation session, with the participation of 81 Libyan citizens of diverse backgrounds.

Recommended mechanisms were presented to **88 Libyan experts**

The dialogue went on for **8 sessions**

Discussions involved **262 Libyan participants**



II. Recommended options and policies

A. Rights of the family, women, social welfare and healthcare

The rights of the family, women, social welfare and healthcare in Libya are currently facing a major challenge, in view of the abundance of problems mentioned above. Among such problems, the one that is absolutely the most critical is the issue of institutional division among social welfare institutions, and the impact this has had on their investments, and on their ability to collect revenue and dues. This has placed vulnerable social groups in a real predicament, in the face of the many impediments to securing their livelihood. In addition, the problem of the decline of healthcare institutions, and their inability to provide either basic or specialised healthcare services, is forcing Libyan citizens to travel abroad for medical treatment at exorbitant cost. Meanwhile, social welfare institutions working with the disabled are suffering from performance problems. This is affecting the people they are meant to help, a group that already faces a great deal of neglect, especially in term of the lack of rehabilitation programmes to help them become effectively integrated in society. There is also a dire need to pay attention to some of the other neglected groups, namely those in need of medical treatment, and patients in need of pensions to face the challenges of securing their livelihood. Attention should also be paid to some other pending issues, such as those pertaining to insurance coverage for workplace injuries and occupational illnesses, maternity benefits, disability pensions, and more. All of these challenges require the development of mechanisms to address them and provide an effective and comprehensive social welfare network rooted in sound rights-based principles.

B. Social protection system

The current social protection system does not include all segments of society, but is instead restricted to specific segments, such as public sector employees. This is why social protection is required to broaden its scope of action to include coverage for all. This basic coverage should also be complemented with additional benefits to ensure that all those in need (the elderly, the unemployed, the disabled, women, migrants, the displaced, and unregulated workers) can obtain sufficient support in terms of income, education and healthcare. This in turn would make it imperative to create a comprehensive health insurance system, and develop effective healthcare plans. In addition, the public institutions tasked with providing social security, welfare and

healthcare should be reformed, the foundations of social responsibility should be laid, and sustainable development programmes should be coordinated. All of this must be implemented within a comprehensive plan that would strengthen individual rights with social protection, and place the four pillars of social justice (equality, fairness, rights and participation) at the heart of the process of drafting general policy goals.

C. Partnership between the public and private sectors

Partnership between the public and private sectors could play a pivotal role in improving the social condition of Libyan citizens. There are many reasons for this, including successive budget deficits, and the inability of the State to generate any surpluses from its investments in development to create new job opportunities. There is also the rising public debt, the entitlements owed by the Libyan State, and the high costs required by stalled projects and the reconstruction process. Faced with such a situation, encouraging investment and partnership between the public and private sectors could provide a tremendous opportunity for completing stalled projects and developing the country's infrastructure. This in turn would lead to the creation of new job opportunities, and ensure a continuous cashflow from dues and contributions to social welfare institutions. Yet partnership between the public and private sectors faces its own challenges, including the lack of legislation needed to regulate such a relationship, and the lack of an institutional structure for dealing with such projects. The need to develop concepts and mechanisms to activate the role of partnership between the public and private sectors has become an urgent one, if not in truth the only solution available amid the current economic situation.

D. Social protection rooted in participatory and accountable management

Social protection rooted in participation and accountability represents one of the major ways to bring about a sound and transparent state of affairs, especially in the Government sector. The greatest challenge faced by Libyans today lies in the just distribution of wealth and in fair access to jobs in the political and economic sectors, as well as to scholarships. Thus, unless fair and transparent mechanisms are created to restore society's trust in State authorities, this challenge will continue to stand, and pose a threat to social protection and national unity. Social accountability requires providing mechanisms and tools to expose instances of corruption, negligence and incompetence. This can be done through

the use of oversight reports, and continued follow-up on all data and statistics, as well as by strengthening the role of civil society organisations to enable them to contribute to those follow-up, oversight and reporting mechanisms, and by increasing the participation of individuals in decision-making and policy-drafting when it comes to social protection.

E. Social protection institutions

Social protection and social security institutions play an important role, especially for people with limited income and vulnerable groups (such as widows, the elderly and the disabled). Yet current institutions, like other State institutions, suffer from institutional division, especially

when it comes to social welfare, due to the repercussions of war and conflict, and of political division. Those institutions face numerous challenges that have prevented them from fulfilling their function. Such challenges include their inability to collect dues from the Public Treasury in view of the current situation, their inability to disburse due benefits to vulnerable social groups, and the hampering of their investment projects due to war and conflict. This situation threatens the ability of those institutions to adequately meet their commitments in the future. It also reflects their need for restructuring and revised legislation, to meet both the current needs of Libyan society and international standards.

III. Moving forward

A. On the rights of the family, women, social welfare and healthcare

- Strengthening the status and foundations of the family, so that it may continue to provide for the needs of its members and to play its social role.
- Ensuring sufficient income for impoverished and needy families, and strengthening their financial ability to face the challenges of life; supporting productive families within a framework of economic empowerment; providing the funding needed to encourage all members of Libyan families to join the labour force.
- Providing care to people with disabilities, ensuring that they continue their education up to the university level, and providing a physical infrastructure suited to their needs.
- Integrating people with disabilities in social development programmes, by developing their ability for self-reliance.

- Ensuring the protection of the family, women, motherhood and children under the age of 18; and providing care for the elderly who are no longer able to work.
- Broadening the scope of healthcare services, ensuring comprehensive health insurance services, and developing legislation to this effect.
- Examining the possibility of replacing or eliminating subsidies, which should be accompanied by the introduction of mechanisms with clear goals, and a unified system of payment.

B. On the social protection system

- Broadening the scope of social protection by ensuring the economic and social rights of individuals, and doing so in such a way as to achieve equality between men and women.
- Enshrining everyone's right to receive social protection,



as an inalienable right guaranteed by the social contract, constitution, policies and legislation.

- Revising and amending the laws that govern social protection, by setting sound, sufficient and modern legal frameworks to ensure the full rights of individuals.
- Enshrining the right to work, and adopting an unemployment insurance system free of discrimination; adopting an approach in which effective job market policies function as a form of social protection, by providing job opportunities and reintegrating the unemployed into the labour force.
- Connecting social protection to sustainable development programmes, and especially local spatial development programmes, in such a way as to facilitate the integration of individuals in real development programmes that relate to their actual needs.
- Reaching and engaging with vulnerable, weakened and marginalised social groups, and integrating them into the social protection system, to rehabilitate their members and take advantage of their productive potential.

C. On partnership between the public and private sectors

- Providing a platform for dialogue between the two sectors that would be able to determine what would be the private sector's responsibilities within the social protection system.
- Determining and activating the main role played by the State in overseeing the public sector, particularly when it comes to the latter's commitments to its responsibilities towards the economic and social rights of individuals.
- Determining the role played by the public sector when it comes to social responsibility and sustainable spatial development programmes, and ensuring coordination with the institutions working within the social protection system.
- Building an effective partnership between the two sectors in healthcare, and having the private sector contribute to the provision of education services.

D. On social protection rooted in participatory and accountable management

- Setting the appropriate framework for an ethics law aimed at implementing social protection policies, in such a way as to ensure participation and accountability in the management of social protection systems.
- Allowing for the participation of individuals in the drafting of social protection policies, and emphasising citizenship rights, responsibility and the fight against corruption.
- Involving the participation of individuals in decision-making and policy-drafting when it comes to social protection.
- Ensuring the participation of individuals and civil society organisations with local authorities in reviewing budgets and social spending.

E. On social security institutions

- Working to unify divided institutions, and looking into restructuring them in line with emerging social needs, particularly when it comes to financial assistance in the form of one-time payments to social security beneficiaries.
- Establishing social incubators for productive projects by people with disabilities and social security beneficiaries.
- Developing mechanisms to provide support for the unemployed, as well as rehabilitation and training for new jobs.
- Assessing the investments of institutions, and developing comprehensive plans to optimise investment in them; increasing returns to address the growing needs of social security beneficiaries.
- Developing plans and mechanisms to target private sector employees and workers, as well as the self-employed, to encourage them to register in social system institutions and join their projects.
- Working to develop mechanisms to include the participation of people with disabilities and widows in productive and economic processes.

IV. Conclusion

Social protection is considered an instrument of social justice and the just distribution of wealth. It also represents a responsibility which the State must work to achieve for its citizens. That is why the State must work to resolve the challenges that face social protection systems, with the aim of ensuring societal stability and rebuilding trust between citizens and State. This can be achieved by drafting the laws and legislation needed to develop social protection systems, working to achieve a just distribution of wealth,

ensuring equality of access to employment in sovereign positions, and taking care of vulnerable social groups. In this context, the role of the private sector and of civil society organisations must be revitalised, so as to develop the social protection network and provide citizens with safety and a decent life. This can be done by providing direct monetary support, such as in the form of compensation, or in-kind support, such as in the form of education and healthcare services, as well as job opportunities.

List of Publications Issued by the Libya Project

Document Number	Title	العنوان
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2020/TP.3	An Introductory Study on the Status, Challenges and Prospects of the Libyan Economy Part I of a Baseline Study for the Libya Socioeconomic Dialogue Project	دراسة تمهيدية عن الاقتصاد في ليبيا: الواقع والتحديات والآفاق الجزء الأول من دراسة أولية لمشروع الحوار الاجتماعي والاقتصادي الليبي
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2020/TP.2	An Introductory Study on the Status, Challenges and Prospects of the Libyan Society Part II of a Baseline Study for the Libya Socioeconomic Dialogue Project	دراسة تمهيدية عن المجتمع في ليبيا: الواقع والتحديات والآفاق الجزء الثاني من دراسة أولية لمشروع الحوار الاجتماعي والاقتصادي الليبي
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2020/TP.1	An Introductory Study on the Status, Challenges and Prospects of Governance and Institutions in Libya Part III of a Baseline Study for the Libya Socioeconomic Dialogue Project	دراسة تمهيدية عن الحوكمة والمؤسسات في ليبيا: الواقع والتحديات والآفاق الجزء الثالث من دراسة أولية لمشروع الحوار الاجتماعي والاقتصادي الليبي
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2020/TP.8	The economic cost of the Libyan conflict	الكلفة الاقتصادية للصراع في ليبيا
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2020/TP.5	Economic cost of the Libyan conflict Executive Summary	الكلفة الاقتصادية للصراع في ليبيا ملخص تنفيذي
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2020/2	Benefits of Peace in Libya :Neighbouring Countries and Beyond	السلام في ليبيا: فوائد للبلدان المجاورة والعالم
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2020/2/ SUMMARY	Benefits of Peace in Libya :Neighbouring Countries and Beyond Executive Summary	السلام في ليبيا: فوائد للبلدان المجاورة والعالم ملخص تنفيذي
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2021/TP.1	Vision for Libya: towards prosperity, justice and strong State institutions	رؤية لليبيا: نحو دولة الازدهار والعدالة والمؤسسات
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2021/ POLICY BRIEF.1	Towards an inclusive national identity in light of a just citizenship State	نحو هوية وطنية جامعة في ظل دولة العدالة المواطنة
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2021/ POLICY BRIEF.2	Social protection system	منظومة الحماية الاجتماعية
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2021/ POLICY BRIEF.3	Human capital, youth and women empowerment, and the integration of militant forces	رأس المال البشري وتمكين الشباب والمرأة ودمج المسلحين
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2021/ POLICY BRIEF.4	The role of the State in sustainable economic development and the strategic positioning of Libya in the global economy	دور الدولة في التنمية الاقتصادية المستدامة والتموضع الاستراتيجي لليبيا في الاقتصاد العالمي
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2021/ POLICY BRIEF.5	Strengthening the State authority and the rule of law through a fair and independent justice system, and human security based on human rights and the principles of comprehensive justice	تعزيز سلطة الدولة وسيادة القانون في ليبيا: دور مبادئ حقوق الإنسان والعدالة الشاملة في إرساء منظومة مجتمعية عادلة، وقضاء نزيه ومستقل، وأمن إنساني مستدام
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2021/ POLICY BRIEF.6	Restoring trust and reconciliations to establish a national charter	ترميم الثقة والمصالحات: الطريق نحو تأسيس ميثاق وطني ليبي
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2021/ POLICY BRIEF.7	Building a State of institutions, regional integration and international cooperation	بناء دولة المؤسسات والتكامل الإقليمي والتعاون الدولي
E/ESCWA/CL6.GCP/2021/ POLICY BRIEF.8	Mechanisms for economic reform and recovery	آليات الإصلاح والتعافي الاقتصادي

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