



REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

13 – 14 MARCH 2024 | HYBRID EVENT | GENEVA & ONLINE

SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

Event title

Are Climate Policies Recognizing the Role of Social Protection for Achieving Climate Action in Europe and Central Asia? *Gaps and Opportunities*

Background and Rationale

Governments worldwide are required to submit their commitments to supporting climate action through a series of climate policies documents, such as the National Determined Contributions (NDCs)¹. These documents set a clear intention of Governments outlining their priorities, which inform subsequent climate finance and investments.

Social protection, including the use of cash transfers, has a key role to play in tackling poverty and inequality, and a sustainable and resilient way to prepare children and their families to cope with and adapt to a context of growing risk and a future shaped by climate change.

This side event will discuss whether climate policies are recognizing the role of Social Protection for achieving climate action in Europe and Central Asia, in support of SDG 1 and SDG 13. Key global and regional analysis will be presented, ahead of an interactive discussion to discuss the gaps and opportunities for this work, especially ahead of COP 29 which is taking place in the region in 2024.

Session objectives and expected outcomes

Objective: To build an understanding of the gaps and opportunities for recognising the role of social protection for achieving climate action in Europe and Central Asia.

Outcomes:

1. *To recognise the role of social protection for achieving equitable climate action*
2. *To disseminate recent analysis looking globally, as well as regionally, at the linkages between social protection and climate policies.*
3. *To discuss and identify gaps and opportunities to strengthen this work going forward, including ahead of COP 29.*

¹ Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are the commitments made by the countries that signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Paris Agreement. Each country sets the actions that it will take to meet the Paris Agreement goals, with a particular focus on reducing carbon emissions. NDCs are reviewed and updated every five years.



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Organizers

Lead organizers: UNICEF (Europe and Central Asia Regional Office)

Contributors: LSE (School of Public Policy)

Agenda and Structure

Timing based on Geneva local time (CET):

Time	Item	Who
3.00-3.05	Welcome and Introduction to the Board	Diana King
3.05-3.10	Framing Climate Change and Social Protection: what is the link?	Diana King
3.10-3.25	UNICEF's global analysis on NDCs for every child	Sean Storr
3.25-3.50	Presentation on regional research: Do Climate Policies in Europe and Central Asia recognize the role of Social Protection for achieving equitable Climate Action?	LSE Team
3.50-4.25	Interactive session outlining gaps and opportunities alongside a Q&A	Diana King
4.25-4.30	Closing	Diana King

List of Panellists

Moderator/ Introduction: Diana King, Social Policy Specialist, UNICEF

Presenters:

- Sean Storr, CEED Consultant, UNICEF
- Aditi Pandey, LSE
- Kshitij Pathak, LSE
- Maitreyi Mehndiratta, LSE
- Priyal Sharma, LSE
- Zixuan (Elan) Wang, LSE

Sign-up / Registration Link

Link: [Webinar registration](#) | [Microsoft Teams](#)