

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EXPERTS

Terms of reference for on-site activities and missions

Action code and partner country: SOCIEUX 2022-21 AZERBAIJAN

Action title: Best practices and strategy for collection of voluntary contributions to non-state pension funds

Partner institution: State Social Protection Fund

Activity 1: EU good practices in collecting voluntary contributions to non-state pension funds

Activity 2: Creation of a strategy to attract, incite and increase contributions to non-state pension funds

Date of implementation of activities:

Activity 1: 17 October 2022 until 25 November 2022 (on site 31 October until 11 November 2022)

Activity 2: 2 January 2023 until 10 February 2023 (on site 16-27 January 2023)

Expert positions and responsibilities (by activity):

Activity 1 & 2 : Expert 1 (*principal*) – Pension Schemes, Governance, transparency & accountability, P&S making and development

Activity 1 & 2 : Expert 2 – Pensions Schemes, L&R implementation and enforcement, P&S making and development

Workload:

Activity 1 & 2 - Expert 1 : 19 + 19 days

Activity 1 & 2 - Expert 2 : 18 + 18 days

Call for experts' reference: 22-21/AZE/1-2

Version - #: ____

☒ Draft

☐ Final

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SOCIEUX+ is implemented by

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1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Country overview

Azerbaijan is situated in southwestern Asia. Its capital is Baku, and official language Azerbaijani. It is bordered by the Caspian Sea in east, Iran in the south, Armenia in the west and Georgia and Russia in the north. In 2021, the population of the country was estimated at 10, 197, 000.

It is a unitary multiparty republic with a single legislative house. It's president is Ilham Aliyev, assisted by a Prime Minister, Ali Asadov.

Azerbaijan was an independent nation from 1918 to 1920 but was then incorporated into the Soviet Union. The country declared sovereignty on September 1989 and independence on August 1991.

Azerbaijan is a developed industrial and agrarian country with two traditional industries: petroleum and natural gas. Engineering, light industry and food production are also of growing importance. The country's agriculture developed considerably in the latter part of the 20th century. Almost half of the country's total area is suitable for agriculture. The country's industrial base is varied: power, manufacturing, chemical production, mineral fertilizers, gasoline, kerosene, herbicides, industrial oils, synthetic rubber, and plastics. Light industrial manufactures include cotton and wool textiles, knitwear, footwear. Azerbaijan exports chemicals, machinery, food (grapes and other fruits and vegetables) beverages, petroleum and natural gas, iron and steel, nonferrous metals. The country's primary trading partners are Russia, Turkey, China and Italy. There are also links to Georgia, Belarus, Britain, Israel, and Central Asian republics¹.

The country's economy grew by 2.2% in 2019, it's best performance since 2014. Non-energy GDP grew at a solid 3.5% with agriculture and services driving the expansion. Official national poverty rate is low, standing at 5.1% in 2018. Inflation remained low in 2019 and early 2020, annual consumer prices edged up to 2.8% year on year in February 2020².

The country has a high HDI value, 0.756 (in 2019), ranking at 88 in the index, and the World Bank classifies the country as belonging to the upper middle income group.

1.2 Sector situation

The improvement of the pension provision system is one of the main socio-economic policy targets of the government. There have been systematic amendments to the legislation and implementation of public policies and reforms since the beginning of the 21st century.

In the beginning of 2000, Azerbaijan initiated a reform of the social protection system inherited from the Soviet Union. The Pension Reform Concept (2001-2005) led up to major changes in social protection system, stressing the separation of the pension insurance and social assistance systems and at the same time establish a pension system based on insurance principles. The government adopted a 2-tier state pension system reform concept, including a mandatory insurance part, and second, voluntary funded scheme.

The State Programme on the Development of the Insurance-Pension System in the Republic of Azerbaijan (2009-2015) aimed at the solvency of the current pension system and activation of the voluntary funded component of the pension.

A Concept of the Pension Provision Reform in Azerbaijan in 2014-2020 (approved by Presidential Decree in November 2014) aimed at ensuring long-term financial sustainability of the current pension system by adapting the pension provision to modern requirements. The Concept focused on the main items for establishing a pension system:

- strengthening insurance principles and establishing balancing mechanisms between the obtained pension rights and paid contributions;
- ensuring commensurate of assigned pension amounts with paid contributions in pension provision system;
- establishing mechanisms based on actuarial analyses for the long-term development of pension provision system;

¹ [Azerbaijan - People | Britannica](#)

² [Azerbaijan Overview: Development news, research, data | World Bank](#)

- improving regulatory mechanisms for non-contributory payment, as well as differentiating state obligations;
- implementing voluntary funded component of labour pensions as well as establishing and developing non-state pension institutions.

The Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 initiated by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population once again underlined the government's attention to the improvement of the pension provision system. The first pillar of the system is well established and works well, and it is now the Government's plan to develop the second pillar, based on savings, as well as private pension fund schemes. This action's intent will be to tackle the issue of attractiveness of voluntary scheme and contributing to funds. The SSPF has indicated the need to improve voluntary social insurance system in Azerbaijan, by focusing on the citizens' rights to benefiting from a non-state pension in addition to the labour pension assigned by the state.

The "Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for socio-economic development" approved by the Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan (2 February 2021) also stresses the importance of developing a fair social security system for the country's development: *"the country must achieve a decent minimum level of pensions, benefits, allowances and other social benefits. For the long-term development of the pension system, its financial stability must be strengthened and the proportion of the amount of pensions to insurance premiums paid must be increased"*.

Demographic trends in Azerbaijan will inevitably put pressure on the current mandatory state social insurance system. It will be paramount to create and implement voluntary funded non-state pension institutions, to diversify financial resources of the pension system and insure its sustainability.

It is worthy to note the existence of the DOST Agency³ (Agency for Sustainable and Operational Social Security, in Azerbaijani: *Dayanıqlı və Operativ Sosial Təminat Agentliyi*: DOST), established in 2018. This is a governmental agency created to improve governance in the areas of employment, social protection, and labour. Its goal is to be a one-stop shop for citizens to access services offered by the MLSP. Five DOST centers have been created throughout the country in the last years, and welcome on a daily basis 100 up to 800 citizens.

1.3 Role of partner institution in the sector

Azerbaijan's social protection is under the responsibility of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population (MLSP). It is the central executive body overseeing management in the fields of mandatory state social insurance and voluntary social insurance, labour pensions, social benefits, targeted state social assistance, pensions and compensations, as well as other payments.

Since 2016, the State Social Protection Fund (SSPF) is integrated in the structure of the MLSP.

Existing initiatives and international cooperation partners:

The EU-Azerbaijan partnership priorities (endorsed on both sides in 2018) focus on strengthening institutions and good governance, economic development and market opportunities, connectivity, energy efficiency, environment and climate action.

In 2014-2015, two draft laws for the introduction of a funded component and non-state pension funds were developed by a Twinning project: *"Support to the State Social Protection Fund on the introduction of funded element within the insurance-pension system, establishment of non-state pension funds and development of legal framework for regulating their activity"*. It has been impossible to implement these two laws due to inadequate financial infrastructure.

The EU funded project *"Support to introduction of funded component of labour pension and non-state pension fund scheme in Azerbaijan"* is ongoing and is planned to end in October 2022. This project focuses on two aspects: a) voluntary contribution system of the state pension system, and b) the creation of a market for private pension provision through the creation of a legal basis for non-state pension funds. The project will aim at drafting a set of legal documents necessary to make the system work in practice. Preparation of a regulatory and administrative framework for the introduction of the funded component of labour pension and the establishment of the non-state pension funds is also a key topic of the project.

³ [DOST - Agency for Sustainable and Operational Social Security](#)

2 ACTION DESCRIPTION

2.1 Overall objective

- Institutional capacities of employment, labour and social protection institutions are strengthened and reinforced

2.2 Specific objective (s) (purpose)

- To improve the collection of contributions to voluntary (non-state) pension fund

2.3 Expected results

- EU good practices in collecting voluntary contributions to non-state pension funds are shared
- A strategy to attract, create incentives, and increase contributions to non-state pension fund is drafted

2.4 Final deliverables

- Compilation of EU good practices in collecting voluntary contributions to non-state pension funds and a workshop/presentation of findings to key staff at Social State Protection Fund
- A written strategy to attract, create incentives, and increase contributions to non-state pension funds applicable to the national context and current state of play in Azerbaijan

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 General methodology (of the action)

Before the activity takes place on site, mobilized experts will gain knowledge by carrying out desk research on social protection system landscape in Azerbaijan, in particular its labour pension system.

Also before the activity, experts will have at least 1 virtual meeting with the focal point at the State Social Protection Fund.

This first activity will aim at providing the SSPF with an overview of EU best practices on the effective collection of additional voluntary contributions, which strategies work best and which do not, and how they are communicated to the beneficiaries. Experts will work alongside and collaborate with the SSPF in creating this collection of good practices.

Upon the final collection of various models and strategies, at the end of the mission, the SSPF will agree with the experts on conclusions as to what steps to take, and which models are more appropriate for the national context.

This second activity's goal is to create in partnership with the SSPF a strategy to incite and increase contributions to non-state pension funds. Experts will identify the best strategies such as public awareness, sensibilisation to contributing, online simulations or forecasting, fiscal advantages to contributing, segments of the population targeted.

The main technical deliverable of this second activity will be a strategy elaborated to raise public awareness concerning the benefits of funding private pension funds. There should be a link to the conclusions taken after activity 1 and which strategies are ideal and most appropriate for the national context.

3.2 Planned activities (work plan of the action)

The following activities are currently planned for the action:

- Activity 1 – EU good practices in collecting voluntary contributions to non-state pension funds

- Activity 2 – Creation of a strategy to attract, incite and increase contributions to non-state pension funds

The present terms of reference cover the services expected for activities of the above work plan:

- Activities 1 & 2

3.3 Inclusion of cross-cutting issues

SOCIEUX+ recognises the importance to include cross-cutting issues in social protection, labour and employment policies and systems. The following cross-cutting issues are duly taken into account:

- Gender equality;
- Good governance;
- Human rights (including rights of children, people living with disabilities, vulnerable groups and minorities); and,
- Social and economic inclusion of vulnerable groups.

4 ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION

4.1 Tasks (activities 1 & 2)

The principal expert will lead the on-site mission. He/she will be responsible for the delivery of all deliverables of the activity (see below Section **Error! No se encuentra el origen de la referencia.**). He/she will be responsible for the preparation, coordination, implementation and reporting of the overall activity towards SOCIEUX+. The SSPF staff will be involved in the preparation of the activity, by mobilizing relevant key staff and stakeholders, to carry out a peer to peer collaboration. The SSPF shall also participate actively in the finalization of deliverables, providing feedback and inputs to all stages of the drafting of final technical deliverables.

The main tasks of the mission team include:

Minimum tasks expected from the experts shall include:

- Ahead of the action to get substantial knowledge of the local context, norms, social protection system in Azerbaijan, role of the State Social Protection Fund in the social protection landscape;
- Preliminary contacts with the Partner in view of the preparation of the mission's methodology and agenda, to be transmitted ahead of the mission to the SOCIEUX+ team for approval;
- Taking part to the pre-mission briefing with SOCIEUX+ team (around 1 week before the start of the action);
- To make themselves available for a meeting with the focal point at the EU Delegation in Baku (SOCIEUX+ will introduce the experts to the focal point within the EU Delegation);
- During the mission, to conduct consultations with relevant staff of the SSPF, and other stakeholders including government authorities deemed necessary to meet for the purpose of this activity (ex: Ministry of Finance, DOST centers, experts responsible for the implementation of EU project: *"Support to introduction of funded component of labour pension and non-state pension fund scheme in Azerbaijan"*). The partner institution shall facilitate and arrange the meetings in Baku;
- To present the outcomes of the mission to the partner in order to discuss and take into account comments on the contents of the deliverables before their finalization;
- At the end of the mission, timely submission to SOCIEUX+ of the final deliverables (10 working days after the mission), and availability to go through an eventual round of comments and adjustments in interaction with SOCIEUX+ and the Partner;
- To channel to SOCIEUX+ Communication officer any material that can be useful to inform the public about the activity (pictures, interviews, brief notes or articles);
- To use the different templates and evaluation forms provided by the SOCIEUX+ team.

4.2 Deliverables (for each activity 1 and 2)

4.2.1 Pre-mission deliverables

- P1: A methodological note, detailing the working approach, tools and methods to employ, a risks analysis, etc. The Methodological Note shall not exceed 3 pages (excluding cover page and annexes).
- P2: A activity/mission agenda, detailing the meetings and working sessions to be held, persons to meet, etc. The Activity/mission Agenda shall not exceed 2 pages.

4.2.2 Final deliverables

- D1: An individual Expert Mission Report (ExMR) in SOCIEUX+ format (template provided). This report is a confidential product intended solely for and use by SOCIEUX+. The expert team may also submit a single-joint ExMR report if they prefer to do so (see instructions on the template).
- D2: An individual completed Expert Feedback Form (ExF) completed online (see instructions and link on the ExMR template).
- D3: A collective Activity Report (AcR) in SOCIEUX+ format (template provided). This AcR is to be produced jointly by the mission team. It is intended for the Partner Institution, and will be shared, most probably, with key stakeholders of the action. The report will reflect the tasks conducted in during the activity. It shall provide a meaningful contribution towards the final deliverables of the action.
- Technical deliverable for activity 1:
 - 1: A report compiling EU good practices in collecting voluntary contributions to non-state pension funds.
 - 2: A final note (created jointly between the experts and SSPF) in which the choice of best strategy or model will be taken. This will allow for a clear intent to the second activity.
- Technical deliverable for activity 2:
 - 1: A strategy (in the form of a written report and perhaps a final presentation to the SSPF during the on-site mission) to attract and increase contributions to non-state pension funds. There should be a clear link between the decisions taken after activity 1.

5 REPORTING AND SUBMISSION OF DELIVERABLES

5.1 Formats

All deliverables and products of the activity (notes, reports, presentations, etc) shall comply with the formats and templates provided by the SOCIEUX+ Team.

All deliverables are to be submitted in electronic in electronic editable versions [Microsoft Word 97-2003 [doc], PowerPoint 97-2003 [ppt] and Excel 97-2003 [xls]; or in equivalent OpenDocument format). Non-editable electronic document such as in Portable Document Format (PDF) shall not be accepted.

Templates for electronic presentations during the activity/mission are provided by the SOCIEUX+ Team. These templates are in Microsoft PowerPoint format and comply with the SOCIEUX+ Corporate Image standards. These templates are to be used as a sole format by all members of the expert mission team. They are to be used for all presentations by the experts during and for the activity/mission. The use by the experts of their own, or their organisation(s), templates or formats are not allowed unless otherwise instructed in written [by email] to the experts by the SOCIEUX+ Team.

All versions of deliverables or other products used or produced during activity/mission by the experts shall include the following disclaimer:

"Disclaimer:

The responsibility of this publication sole lies with its authors. The European Union, the European Commission, the implementation partners of SOCIEUX+ and the SOCIEUX+ Staff are not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein."

Please refer to the expert information package for further guidance on communication and templates.

All deliverables are to be provided in English.

5.2 Submission and approval

All deliverables versions (drafts, final or other) shall be submitted directly and only to SOCIEUX+ Team, unless otherwise instructed in written [by email] to the experts by the SOCIEUX+ Team.

5.2.1 Pre-mission deliverables

- Pre-mission deliverables shall be submitted no later than 5 working days before the start of activity or departure of the mission of the experts, whichever is the earliest.
- Pre-mission deliverables will be shared and reviewed by the SOCIEUX+ and the Partner Institution. Feedback on the deliverables should be provided to the Principal Expert at latest 2 days before the start of activity or departure of the mission of the experts, whichever is the earliest. Comments and recommendation of this feedback shall be taken into account for the implementation of the activity/mission by the experts. Only the mission agenda shall be resubmitted with revision if requested by the SOCIEUX+ Team.

5.2.2 Final deliverables

- The first draft versions of the final deliverables are to be submitted no later than 10 working days upon completion of the activity or return of the experts.
- Feedback to the first draft version of the report should be provided 10 working days after its submission.
- Inclusion of the feedback on drafts versions is expected 5 working days upon reception of the comments by the principal expert. (In general, no more than one round of feedback and revision is required, unless the quality of the deliverables is considered unsatisfactory by the SOCIEUX+ Team or/and the Partner Institution.)
- Final versions of the deliverables should be approved or rejected no later than 10 working days upon their submission to the SOCIEUX+ Team.
- Final payments and reimbursement of travel costs to experts can only be authorised upon approval of the final version of the deliverables by SOCIEUX+.

6 REQUIRED EXPERTISE

6.1 Expertise profile (for both activities 1 & 2)

Principal expert (Expert 1):

Area(s) of expertise: Pension Schemes

Specific skill(s) of expertise: Governance, transparency & accountability, P&S making and development

Requirements (essential/required):

- Education: university level public administration, social security or other relevant discipline (Masters or PhD relating to the subject are considered a plus);
- At least 15 years of professional experience within EU public administrations or, international organisations, academia, social partners, civil society organizations, international thematic organizations;
- Knowledge of EU pension legislation and policies;
- Deep knowledge in the field of contributory pensions, current EU Directives and Regulations in the field of contributory pensions;

- Experience providing practical expertise and technical advice for public administrations;
- Experience working with Post-Soviet states;
- Fluent in English, written and oral;
- Acute sense of diplomacy and institutional relations

Expert 2:**Area(s) of expertise:** *Pensions Schemes***Specific skill(s) of expertise:** *L&R implementation and enforcement, P&S making and development***Requirements (essential/required):**

- Education: university level (Masters or PhD relating to the subject are considered a plus);
- At least 10 years of professional experience within EU public administrations or, international organisations, academia, social partners, civil society organizations, international thematic organizations;
- Deep knowledge in policy making the field of contributory pensions, current EU Directives and Regulations in the field of contributory pensions;
- Experience working with Post-Soviet states;
- Fluent in English, written and oral;
- Acute sense of diplomacy and institutional relations

6.2 Estimated workload

Activity 1

	Preparation	On-site work	Travel	Reporting & deliverables	Total Working days
Principal expert (#1)	4	10	2	3	19
Expert (#2)	3	10	2	3	18
Total	7	20	4	6	37

Activity 2

	Preparation	On-site work	Travel	Reporting & deliverables	Total Working days
Principal expert (#1)	4	10	2	3	19
Expert (#2)	3	10	2	3	18
Total	7	20	4	6	37

7 APPLICATIONS

7.1 Call for experts

All calls for experts for SOCIEUX+ activities are published online on the SOCIEUX+ website. Interested experts should submit their application on the SOCIEUX+ on-line expert database: <https://pmt.socieux.eu> (currently only available in English). The application process is:

1. If they have not already, experts create their SOCIEUX+ account by clicking on "Create an account" using an email address.

2. Login details for their account will be sent to experts by email, experts should create and submit their profile for review by⁴:
 - a. Providing contact details
 - b. Providing information on the competences, skills and working history of the expert. Experts are required to provide only limited information through fields marked with an asterisk. However, *experts are encouraged to complete in most detail de sections on skills and competences as the SOCIEUX+ Team also regularly reviews profiles in the roster to identify and contact potential experts for future missions.*
 - c. Uploading of a curriculum vitae, preferably in Europass format⁵.
3. Once their profile is approved by the SOCIEUX+ Team, they can apply to any available calls for experts accessible under the tab “Call for experts” and click on “Apply.”

If more information is needed, please contact SOCIEUX+ by email at experts@socieux.eu with the reference number of the application.

Collaborative or interested institutions wishing to make expertise available for a specific call for application may directly contact the team of SOCIEUX+ at experts@socieux.eu.

7.2 Selection of experts

In principle, SOCIEUX+ mobilises experts from the public administrations and mandated bodies of EU member states, and practitioners working for social partners, including:

- Practitioners, civil servants and employees from publicly mandated bodies;
- Collaborators and employees of social partner institutions, such as trade unions and employer associations; and,
- Academic and research institutions.

Active public experts from collaborative institutions are given priority in the selection. Private consultants may also apply. Their application will be considered in case an appropriate public expert cannot be identified.

Only short-listed applicants may be contacted. The selection process may include interviews by phone or other communication means.

Interested candidates may download the **Guide for Experts and Collaborative Institutions** with detailed information on contracting with SOCIEUX+ at www.socieux.eu

7.3 Contracting of public experts

Public experts can be in active duty or retired. Retired employees from international specialised agencies or cooperation agencies can also be mobilised, without regard to their former employer's collaborating with SOCIEUX+ on a specific action. Retired experts are considered as public experts for all purposes, benefits, and financial compensation provided by SOCIEUX+.

Short-listed candidates may be required to provide the contact of employer or proof of their ability to be directly contracted under their status as civil servant or public employee.

7.4 Financial compensations

Contract officials or active-duty or retired employees are entitled to standard fixed allowances of 350 euros per working day worked. The fees of private consultants are negotiated according to their number of years of relevant expertise and the standard scale of SOCIEUX+.

Retired experts are assimilated to public employees for all intents and purposes, benefits and financial compensation provided by SOCIEUX+.

⁴ SOCIEUX+ expert database and other management tools comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) -Regulation (EU) 2016/679.

⁵ Europass templates for CVs are available here:
<http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions>

National regulations on remuneration and compensation of public employees and civil servants applies, and may limit the payment of allowances by SOCIEUX+. The responsibility for compliance and verification lies with individual experts and their institutions of origin. The payment of income or other taxes is the sole responsibility of the mobilised experts and/or their organisations.

7.5 Travel costs

All travel expenses for the mobilised experts (public, private or international institutions) are covered by SOCIEUX in accordance with the **Guide for Experts and Collaborative institutions** with detailed information on contracting with SOCIEUX+ (version as on date of signature of the contract).

8 COMMUNICATION & VISIBILITY

SOCIEUX + can use its communication channels, such as the web, newsletter and other media, to share information about the implementation and results of the activities. For this, contributions of the experts mobilised are expected. The experts may be requested to provide such contributions in the field of communication as photographs, provide short texts, and interviews.

Short briefings, before and after the mission, with the Communication Officer of SOCIEUX+. This briefings will provide the opportunity to identify communication opportunities and strategies.

For specific activities, visibility products, such as brochures, USB sticks, notebooks and pens, can be made available to experts for on-site distribution.

9 CODE OF CONDUCT

The experts mobilised by SOCIEUX+ will provide technical assistance from the preparatory stages of each activity to the delivery of products. The SOCIEUX+ Team will assist experts to fulfil their assignments by supporting and advising on the preparation of background materials before meetings. The SOCIEUX+ team will collect feedback from partner institutions and relevant stakeholders to ensure that mission reports and recommendations are delivered to national authorities, the EU Delegations in the partner countries and EuropeAid.

The experts mobilised are not representing SOCIEUX+ or the EU. Technical opinions and recommendations expressed are their own. They shall not express negative opinions on the implementation of actions supported by SOCIEUX+ to third-parties. Nevertheless, they shall be aware of SOCIEUX+'s objectives and functioning, and promote its services at the best of their knowledge, whenever possible and feasible.

The experts shall perform their duties in the Partner Country in a way that is fully compliant with and respectful of the local institutions, policies and cultural behaviours. They shall particularly adopt a culturally-sensitive behaviour in their way to deal with the local counterparts.

10 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

If applicable

...Text...

11 ANNEXES

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ABOUT SOCIEUX+

The European Union (EU) promotes and maintains dialogue on social protection and inclusive employment policies with an increasing number of partner countries. This effort has been confirmed by the European Commission (EC) Communication COM (2016) 740 final - "Proposal for a new European Consensus on Development, entitled *Our world, our dignity, our future*. A significant number of cooperation initiatives in these fields are funded by geographic or thematic instruments of the EU in different countries. Those initiatives are highly structured and address the medium- to long-term needs of partner countries. However, short-term measures and peer-to-peer cooperation to promote the development of social protection systems are needed to complement the EU's cooperation with third countries. SOCIEUX+ - EU Expert Facility on Employment, Labour and Social Protection responds to this need.

The SOCIEUX+ facility was setup by the EU through co-funding from France, Spain and Belgium and the resources managed by the European Commission's Directorate for Development and Cooperation (EuropeAid). The facility is implemented by a partnership composed of development cooperation agencies from Member States: Expertise France (the partnership lead), Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas (FIIAPP) from Spain, Belgian International Cooperation on Social Protection (BELINCOSOC), and the Belgian Development Agency (Enabel).

The general objective of the Facility is to expand and improve access to better employment opportunities and inclusive social protection systems in partner countries. Its specific objective is to enhance the capacities of partner countries to better design, manage and monitor inclusive, effective, and sustainable employment strategies and social protection systems through short-term, peer-to-peer technical assistance and knowledge development.

SOCIEUX+ recognises the impact of social protection and employment in reducing poverty and vulnerability. It supports the efforts of partner governments in promoting inclusive and sustainable social protection and employment systems. SOCIEUX+ also complements the efforts made through other European Union initiatives.

The Facility is an expansion of SOCIEUX Social Protection EU Expertise in Development Cooperation, established in 2013.



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