



Mutual Learning Services

Mutual Learning on Access to social protection for workers and the self-employed

1st Workshop: Extending formal coverage

Brussels (Belgium), 29-30 October 2019

Agenda

Venue: DG Employment & Social Affairs, Rue de Spa 3, 1049 Brussels, Brussels, Belgium

Day 1: Key question	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to extend formal coverage to non-standard workers and the self-employed? What are the key options (in terms of design)? • What are the pros and cons of a voluntary approach versus a mandatory approach to formal coverage? • How can gaps in formal coverage be remedied in specific branches (e.g. work accidents, sickness / unemployment benefits)? 	
08.30 – 09.00	Arrival of participants and welcome coffee: Registration
09.00 – 09.45	<p>Opening & welcome</p> <p>Welcome to participants by the European Commission</p> <p>Setting the scene: aims, objectives, key questions and format for the 1.5 days</p> <p>Video Testimonial of non-standard workers & self-employed</p>
09.45 – 10.30	<p>Thematic Paper Presentation</p> <p><i>This session will provide a European overview of gaps in formal coverage and discuss pros and cons of different design options.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Prof. Paul Schoukens, KU Leuven, Thematic Expert <p><i>Questions and interventions from participants.</i></p>
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 - 11.05	Video Testimonial of non-standard workers & self-employed
11.05 – 12.45	<p>Country case presentations on extending social protection for workers and the self-employed</p> <p><i>This session will give Member States and national Social Partners the possibility to present examples of reforms, policies and practice at national level.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denmark: Louise Sørensen, Permanent Representation of Denmark to the EU • Spain: Francisco Borja Suarez Corujo, Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security • The Netherlands: Henk van der Velden, Head of economic policy, Netherlands



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	Trade Union Confederation (FNV) <i>Questions and interventions from participants.</i>
12.45 – 13.45	Lunch
13:45 – 15:15	<p>Working group discussion focusing on the design of social protection schemes: Pros and Cons of the voluntary and the mandatory approach</p> <p><i>Discussion in two moderated groups, providing opportunities for each of the participants to contribute their views, comments and any additional information they would like to provide. Possible questions to frame the discussions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the pros and cons of a voluntary approach versus a mandatory approach to formal coverage? • What is an acceptable cost for incentivising voluntary coverage? • Which design options (opt-in/opt-out) can help provide good coverage under a voluntary approach?
15:15 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 – 17:00	<p>Working group discussion on specific branches</p> <p><i>Discussion in two or more moderated groups, providing opportunities for each of the participants to contribute their views, comments and any additional information they would like to provide. Possible questions to frame the discussions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can gaps in formal coverage be remedied in specific branches (e.g. work accidents, sickness / unemployment benefits)?
19:00	Networking Dinner at Kamilou, 36 rue Joseph II, 1000 Brussels



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Day 2: Key question	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to prepare and carry out the reforms (process)? 	
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival of participants and welcome coffee: Registration
09:00 – 09:15	Spring Board into Day 2 <i>Short session bringing everyone together to take stock of the key outcomes and outstanding items from Day 1 as a springboard into Day 2 (MLS team)</i>
09.15 – 10.00	Country case presentations on reform process <i>This session will give Member States the possibility to present examples of reforms, policies and practice at national level.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ireland: Lorcan Hanly, Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection • Belgium: Julie Delforge, Belgian Federal Public Service Social Security <i>Questions and interventions from participants.</i>
10:00 – 10:05	Video Testimonial of non-standard workers & self-employed
10:05 – 11:30	Working group discussion on the reform and consultation process <i>Discussion in two moderated groups, providing opportunities for each of the participants to contribute their views, comments and any additional information they would like to provide. Possible questions to frame the discussions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can non-standard workers and self-employed be best implicated in extending formal coverage? • What are the necessary steps in the reform process?
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 12:45	Overall conclusions and key learnings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of key learning points (MLS team) • Overall conclusions and final words by the European Commission
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch