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# Structural Model for Sustainable Development (SMSD)

*A smarter way to design and evaluate  
sustainable, inclusive, and future-proof policies  
and investments*

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# What is the SMSD?

The Structural Model for Sustainable Development (SMSD) is a cutting-edge, economy-wide quantitative simulation tool developed by the International Labour Organization (ILO). It helps governments, development banks, UN agencies, and partners see the full picture—from GDP growth to household incomes—before making big policy and investment decisions.

By running policy scenarios, the SMSD reveals how interventions—such as infrastructure projects, social protection reforms, or climate transition measures—play out across the economy, labour markets, and households.

It's already playing a key role in the **UN Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions**, guiding pathfinder countries in shaping and monitoring their national roadmaps.

## What do we offer?

- **Impact Assessments Beyond Economic Indicators:** Go past growth figures to measure how policies affect inequality, poverty, and vulnerability, connecting economic outcomes with real social impacts.
- **Scenario Planning:** Compare “what if” options to choose the most effective and sustainable policies.
- **Custom Country Models:** Tailored to each nation's structure, data, and policy priorities.
- **Capacity Building:** Training national teams to run the model and integrate results into ongoing policy planning through national social dialogue.



# Why choose the SMSD?

- **Holistic:** Links macro, sectoral, and household dimensions for a complete picture.
- **Socially Focused:** Measures impacts on poverty, inequality, and vulnerability alongside economic performance.
- **Flexible:** Adapts to country realities and evolving policy priorities.
- **Rigorous:** Based on sound economic theory, robust data, and ILO expertise.
- **Collaborative:** Developed with national stakeholders to ensure ownership and policy relevance and social dialogue.



## Real-world questions we answer

- How many jobs will a major public investment create, what kind and in which sectors?
- Which financing options of social protection and employment programs best support growth and equality without risking fiscal stability?
- How will expanding social protection coverage affect poverty, inequality, and employment?
- What complementary policies are needed to make economic transitions just and inclusive?

# Timelines

## Rapid Assessment (3–4 months)

- ILO Specialist
- Data and Microsimulation Consultancy

## Full Assessment (9–12 months)

- ILO Specialist
- Data and Microsimulation Consultancy
- Two Missions

## Countries already applying SMSD:

- Malawi, Namibia, Senegal

## Countries considering SMSD application:

- Philippines

## Interested in the SMSD?

Get in touch with us:

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