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## **Social Policy in a Globalizing World : Developing a North-South Dialogue**

Contribution to a comparative framework of social protection systems in developing countries

### **Proposal**

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Debates have been taking place among researchers and scholars about the relevance of comparative schemes and typologies of social protection systems or regimes based on Western / developed countries for the understanding of structures of social protection in developing countries, their efficiency and potential for expansion. Some projects exist that attempt to construct different frameworks based on a variety of parameters, that could offer both an academic analytical approach and a basis for policy orientations.

Along with another researcher, I have been engaged in building the foundations for a typology of social protection systems in developing countries, based on various country case studies and existing documents<sup>1</sup>. In this presentation I will 1) discuss the perspective and methodology we use and the middle range categories we rely on, in relation with other comparative works; and 2) present the typology we ended up building, along with its heuristic value and limits.

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<sup>1</sup> The country cases are : Tunisia, Columbia, Mexico, Kuwait, Philippines, Cambodia, Mali, South Africa. This research work is still in progress. So far we produced one intermediary report : Bandine Destremau et Bruno Lautier, « Analyse et comparaison des systèmes de protection sociale du monde en développement. Eléments de typologie et de méthode », étude réalisée pour le réseau IMPACT, Paris, mai 2006.