

An illustration of a diverse group of people in blue and orange silhouettes standing under a large orange umbrella. The group includes a person in a wheelchair, a pregnant woman, a child, a man, a woman, a person with a cane, and a person pushing a stroller. The umbrella is held by a person in an orange silhouette.

**ASIA-PACIFIC** 

**SOCIAL PROTECTION WEEK 2023**

**Social Protection in a Changing World**

26–28 September • ADB headquarters, Manila, Philippines



# High-level panel discussion Inclusive Social Protection

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**ASIA-PACIFIC**  
**SOCIAL PROTECTION WEEK 2023**

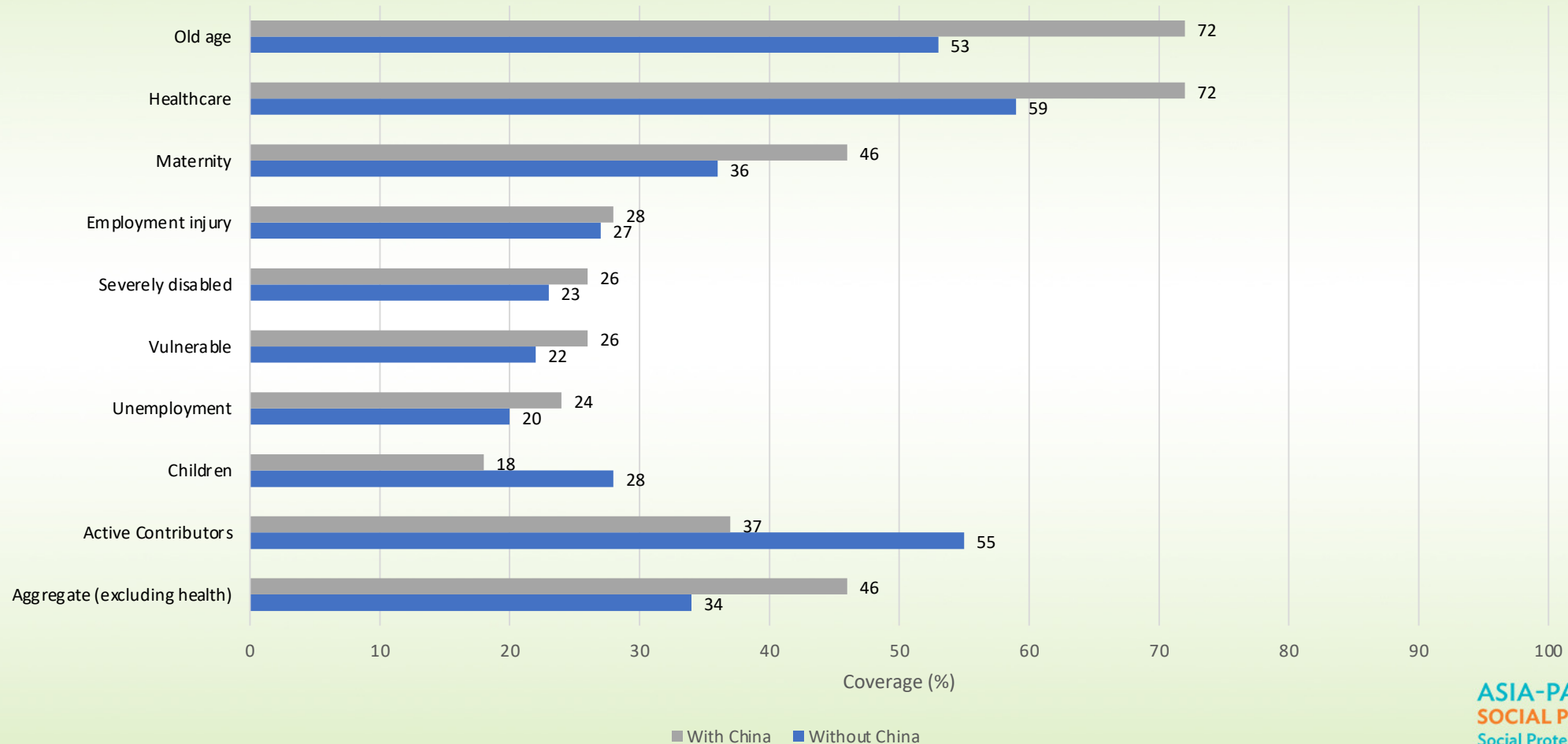
**Social Protection in a Changing World**

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# The Majority of Asia-Pacific's People are Unprotected



Effective Coverage as per SDG 1.3.1 and health care (population weighted), Asia and the Pacific, latest available year



# Key Progress and Trends

## Governments are making progress towards more inclusive social protection systems

See some examples of:

- Extension of coverage
- Some expansion of contributory schemes
- Innovations to identify and enroll furthest behind groups
- Digital social protection systems and payment systems expanding reach to groups in vulnerable situations

## Critical barriers and challenges persist

- Both for contributory and non-contributory schemes
- Effective coverage lags behind legal coverage
  - Weak enforcement and implementation of policies
  - Lack of coordination and fragmentation
  - Insufficient financing – low levels of social protection expenditure
- Exclusionary patterns persist
  - Gender
  - Persons with disability
  - Migrant workers

# Intergovernmental and Regional Commitments

Key international and regional frameworks have recognized the importance of social protection as a core building block to build resilience of persons in vulnerable situations.



**The ESCAP Action Plan to Strengthen Regional Cooperation on Social Protection in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP Action Plan)** serves as a shared vision, strategy and platform for promoting partnership and peer learning for developing integrated and comprehensive social protection systems across the region.



**The Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2023–2032)** calls on governments to “extend both mainstream and disability-specific social protection schemes to cover young children, adolescents, women and older persons with disabilities”.



The “**Fourth Regional Review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing**” (2022) emphasizes dignity and autonomy of older persons and need to develop an inclusive, adaptive and rights-based approach to social protection systems as well as access to health services.



The “**Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**” (2021) highlights the need to provide adequate support to migrants through social protection and apply the principle of equality of treatment (between nationals and migrants).



**The Asia-Pacific Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment: Beijing+30** is likely to place greater emphasis on the care-sensitive **policy framework** that emphasizes the need for care-related social protection, care services, and employment-related care policies. This focus on care work will also need to be central to developing more gender-responsive social protection systems.

# Thank you

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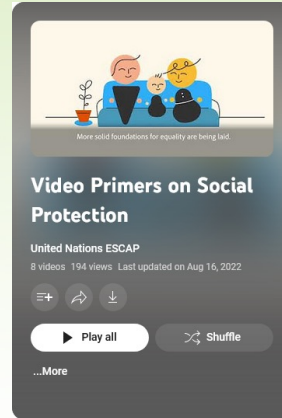
# ESCAP Work on Social Protection



Primers



Policy Papers



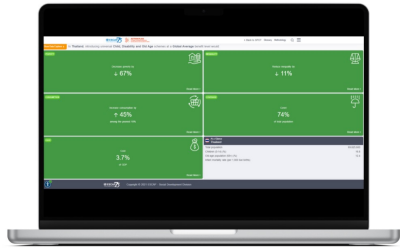
Primer Videos

## Flagship reports

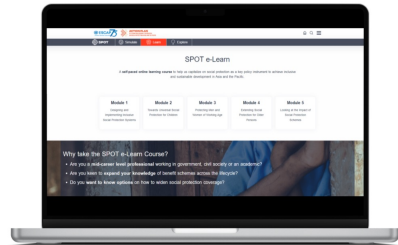
The Social Outlook for Asia and the Pacific Series is a biennial flagship publication that highlights social protection and other key social developments trends in the Asia-Pacific region. It analyses how these trends need to be addressed and proposes policy recommendations to realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



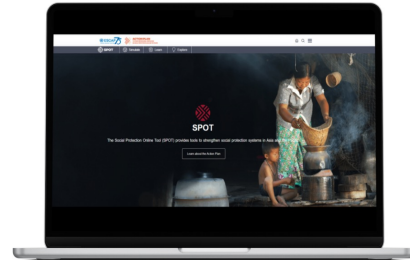
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