

ADB



ASIA-PACIFIC
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Adaptive and Shock- Responsive Social Protection (ASRSP): Asia Pacific Overview

Daniel Longhurst

Social Protection and Cash Based
Transfers Adviser, WFP Regional
Bureau for Asia and the Pacific

Agenda

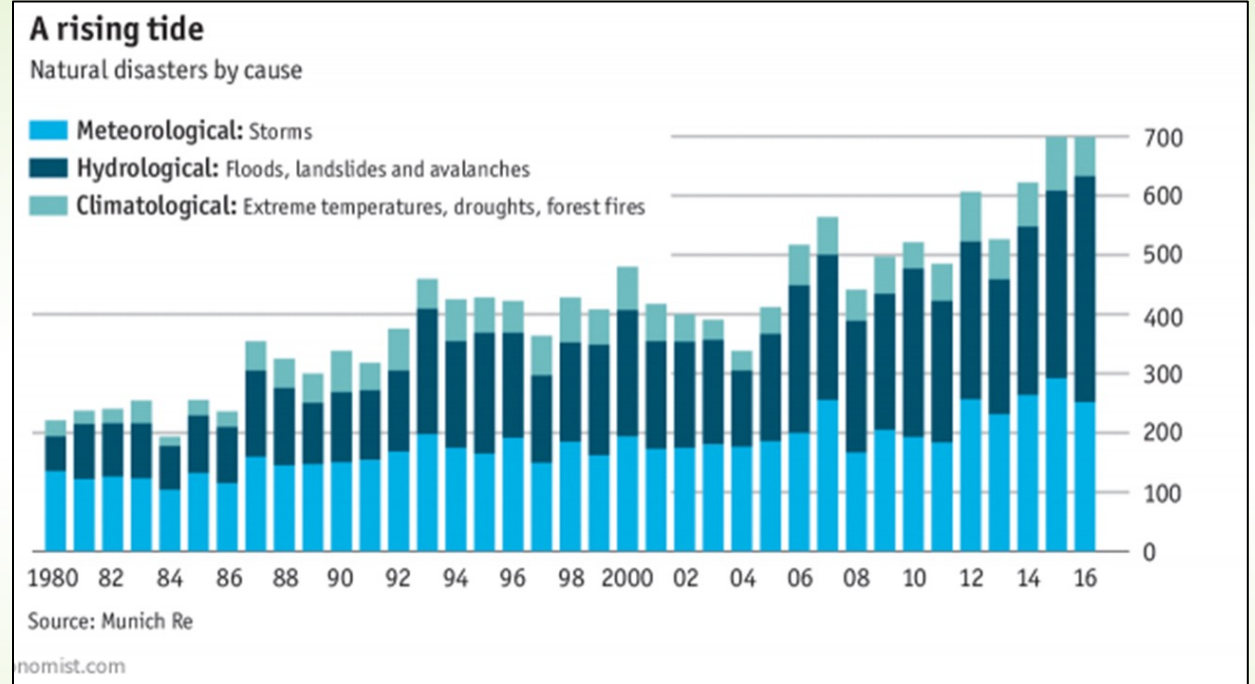
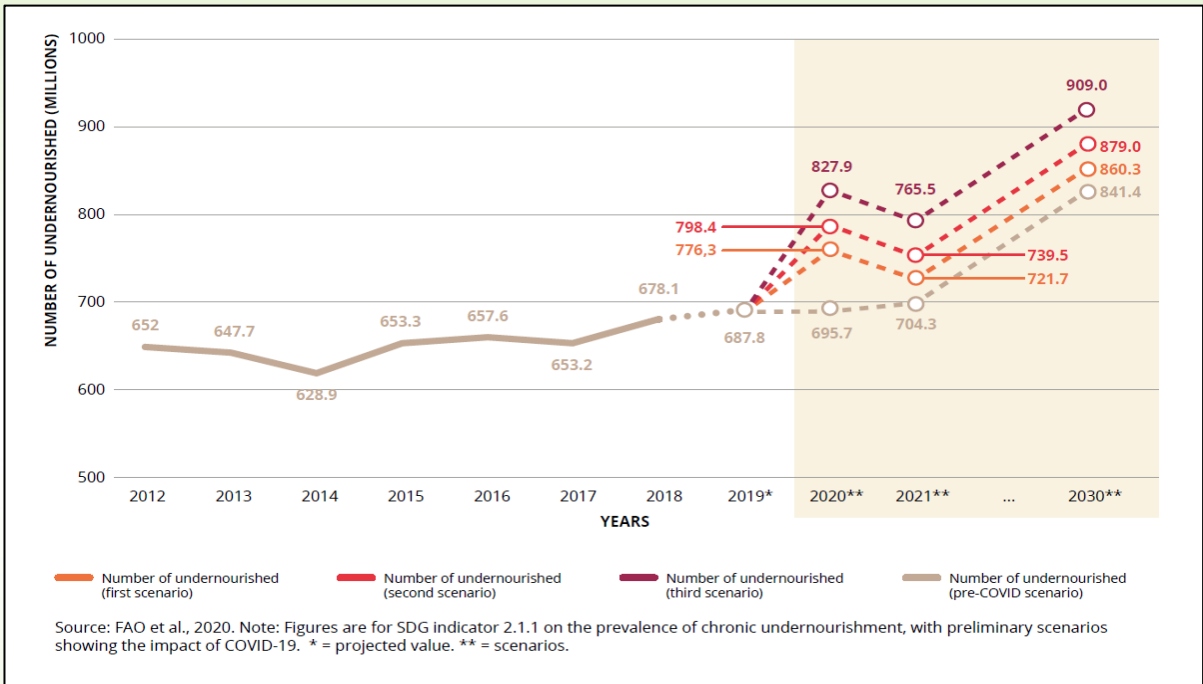


- **The Rationale** – Why do we need it?
- **Definitions and Aims** – What is it?
- **Progress to date** - How is this playing out in real life?
- **Future investment areas** – Where could we do more?



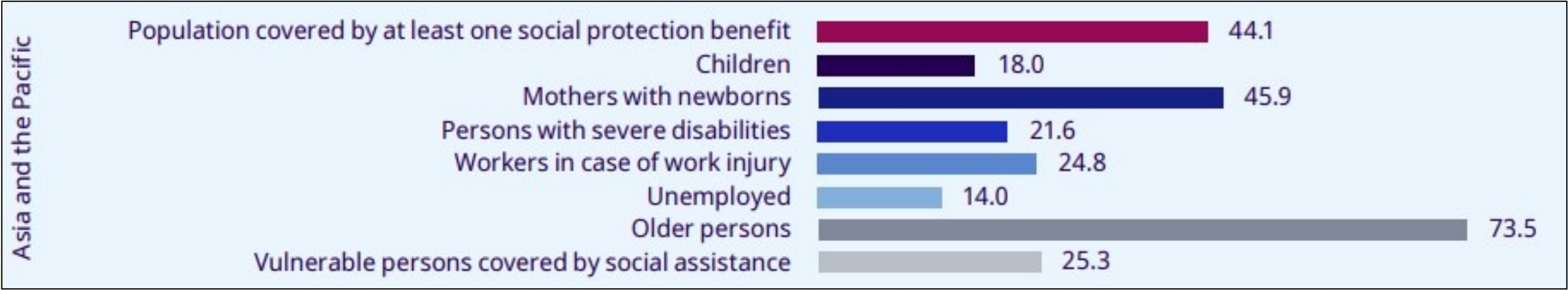
ASRSP: The Rationale

Poverty, undernourishment, and shocks on the rise – compound crises increase risk and cost



Shocks drives social protection expansion, but we have a coverage problem which affects ASRSP planning

Covariate shocks have historically driven large scale social protection expansion and can help scale up climate action – However, social protection isn't a magic bullet, investment is low and capacity and coverage is uneven globally and in Asia Pacific.

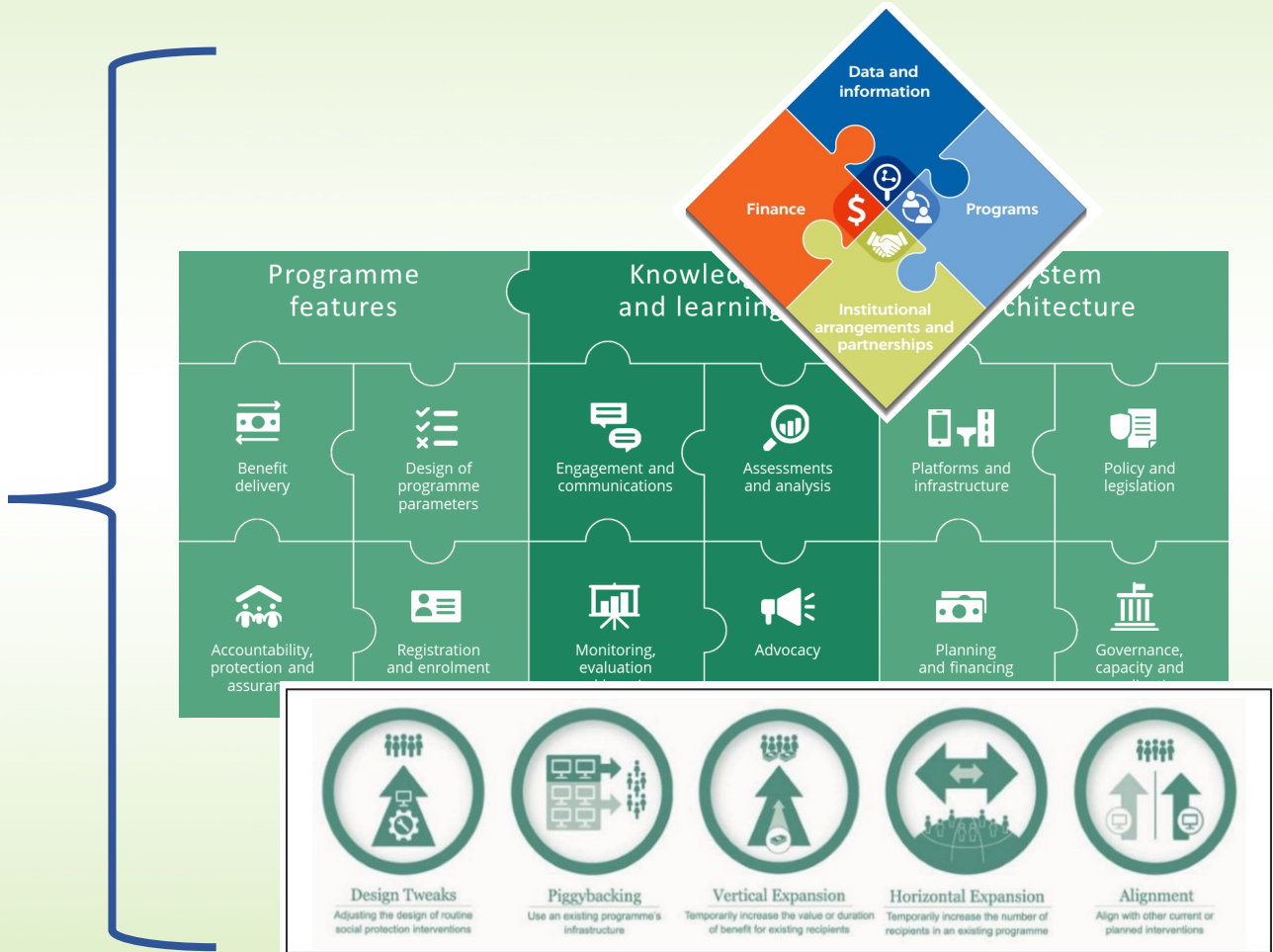
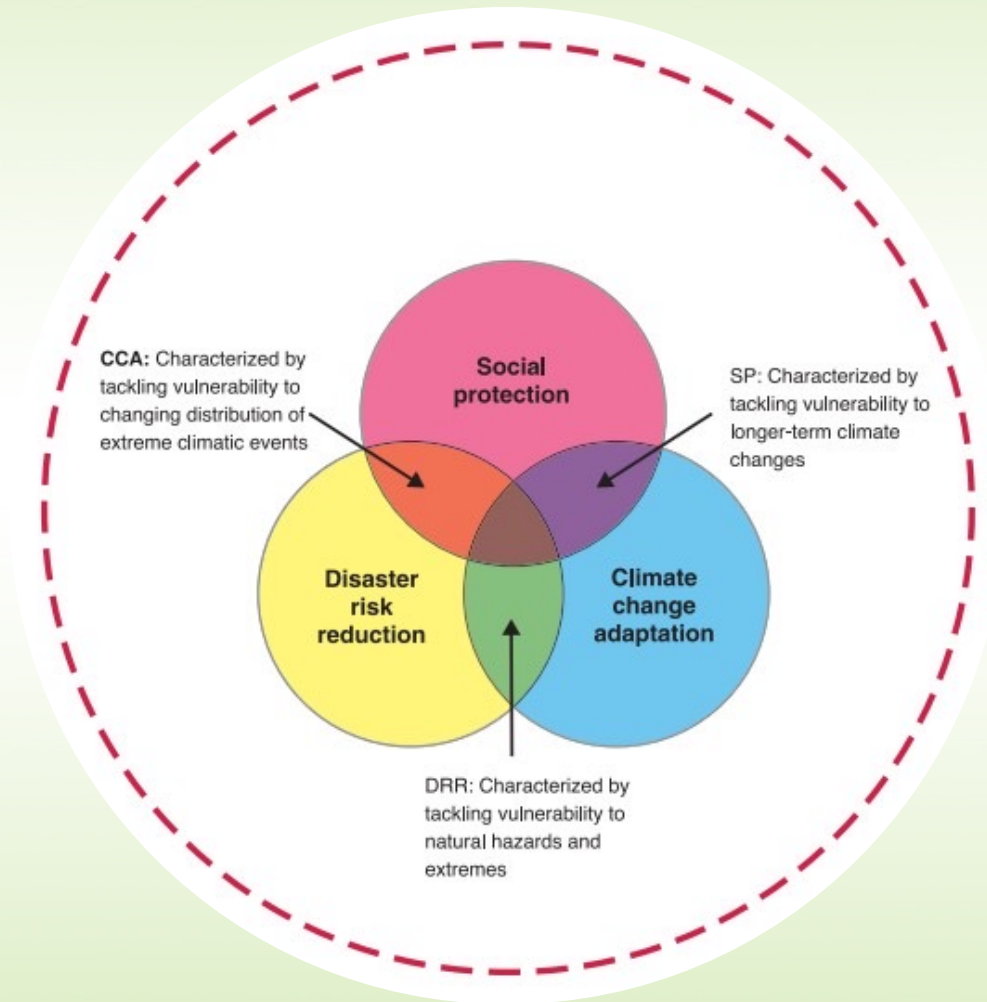


Source: ILO (2021). [Executive summary: World Social Protection Report 2020-22: Social protection at the crossroads – in pursuit of a better future](#)

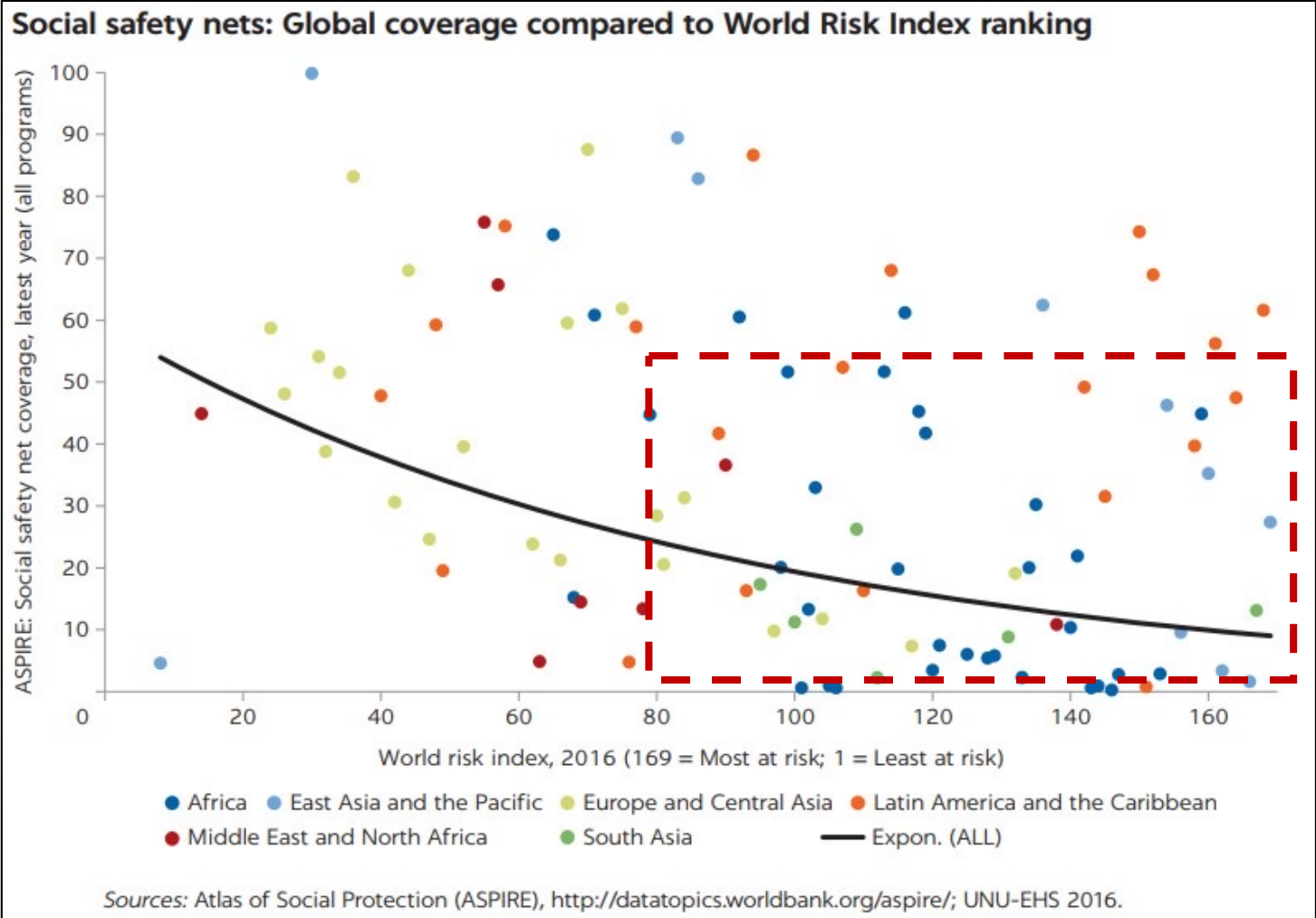
A woman wearing a red and yellow sari is walking barefoot through a lush green field, leading a black and white cow. She is holding a rope attached to the cow's harness. The background features a dense forest and a large tree on the right. A semi-transparent dark banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "ASRSP: Definitions and Aims".

ASRSP: Definitions and Aims

ASRSP – What is it? Different Frameworks, same message - CONVERGENCE



Beware: Countries with lowest coverage have highest risk

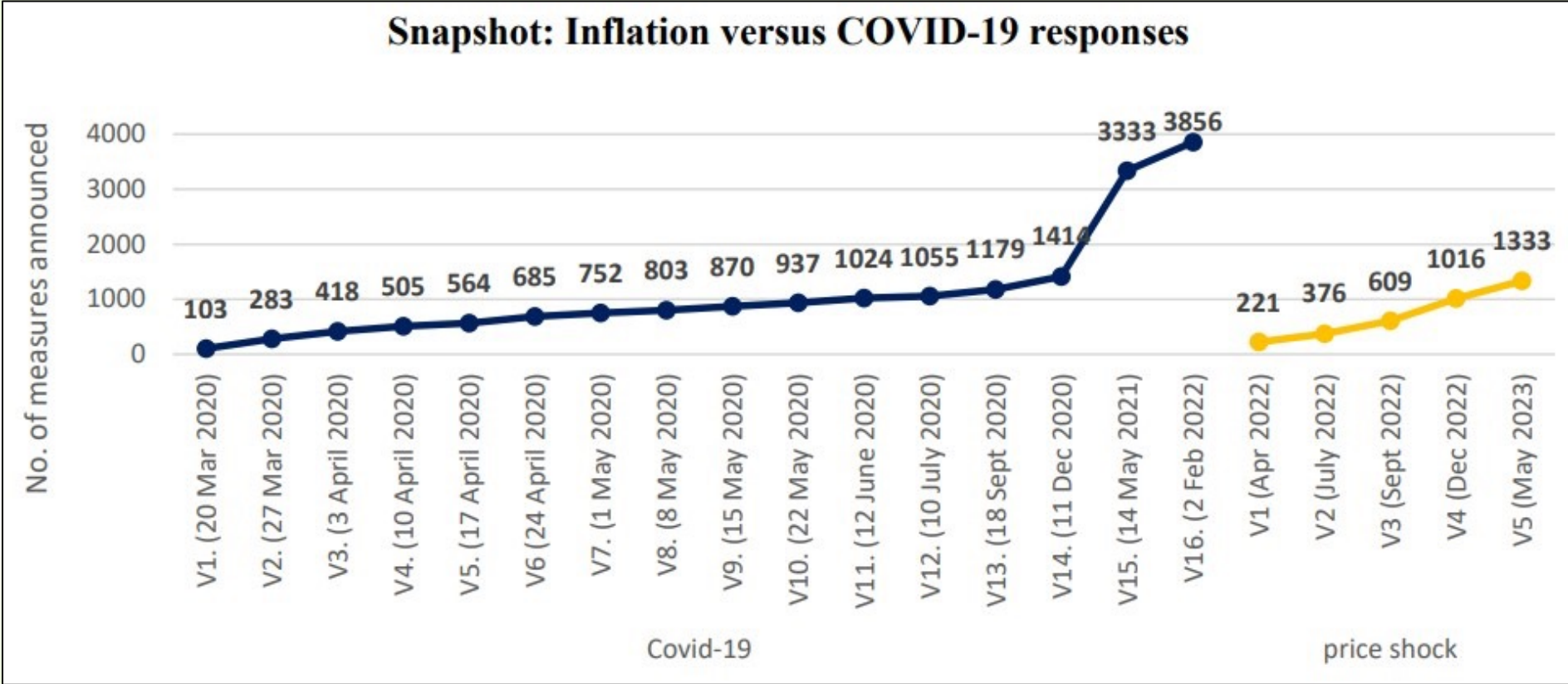


At least a dozen South Asian, East Asian and Pacific countries fall in the most worrying quadrant (lowest coverage, highest risk)



Adaptive and Shock-Responsive Social Protection: Progress in Asia Pacific

COVID-19 and Inflation crises – Social Protection investment huge when risk was high



INFLATION versus COVID-19 responses

Source – [World Bank 2023](#)

Source – [World Bank 2022](#)



Progress – What are we doing well?

System Architecture and Knowledge Management

- SRSP moving from projects to strategies to policy → e.g. ASEAN, Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines
- System assessments and testing → Cambodia (Stress Test tool), SRSP cash transfer simulations (Philippines)
- DRF policies, instruments, initiatives → Indonesia, Pakistan, Cambodia, Fiji, Philippines
- Some evidence developing - Nepal anticipatory action impact assessments, social protection costing analysis, Disaster risk finance scoping studies
- Operational guidance more readily available, often sector or programme specific

Progress – What are we doing well?

Programme Design Features

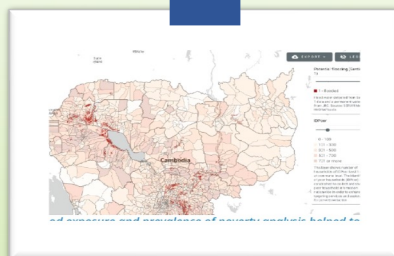
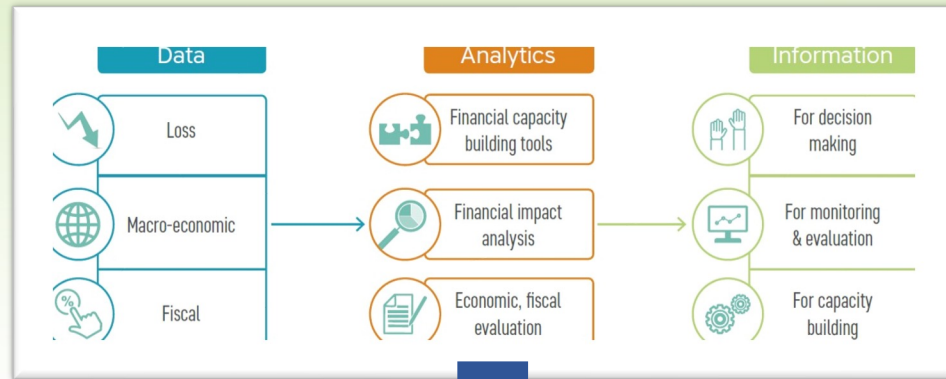


- Shock responsive social assistance being utilized → Cambodia, Philippines, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Lao PDR, Sri Lanka, Fiji, Kyrgyzstan. Parallel programming in Afghanistan and Myanmar
- Linking forecasting, climate vulnerability and hazard mapping to scalable CTs, including through anticipatory action → Philippines, Bangladesh, Nepal, etc.
- Improving on demand registration for dynamic social registry updating – Thailand, Indonesia, Pakistan
- Some joint ASP programming → Pakistan, Cambodia, Indonesia



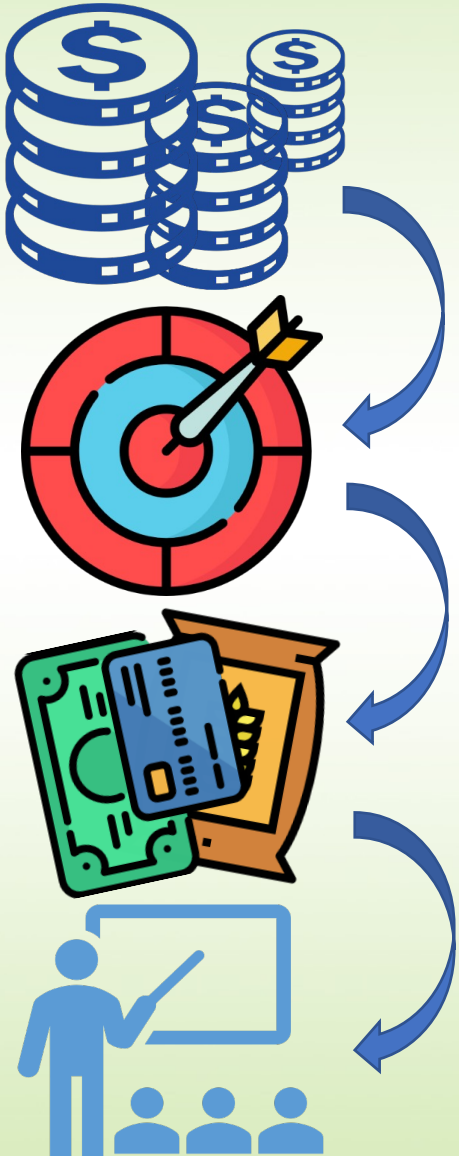
**Where do we need greater investment?
Data, Delivery Chain, Dollars (Regular and Risk Finance)**

Investment area one: Data and information systems



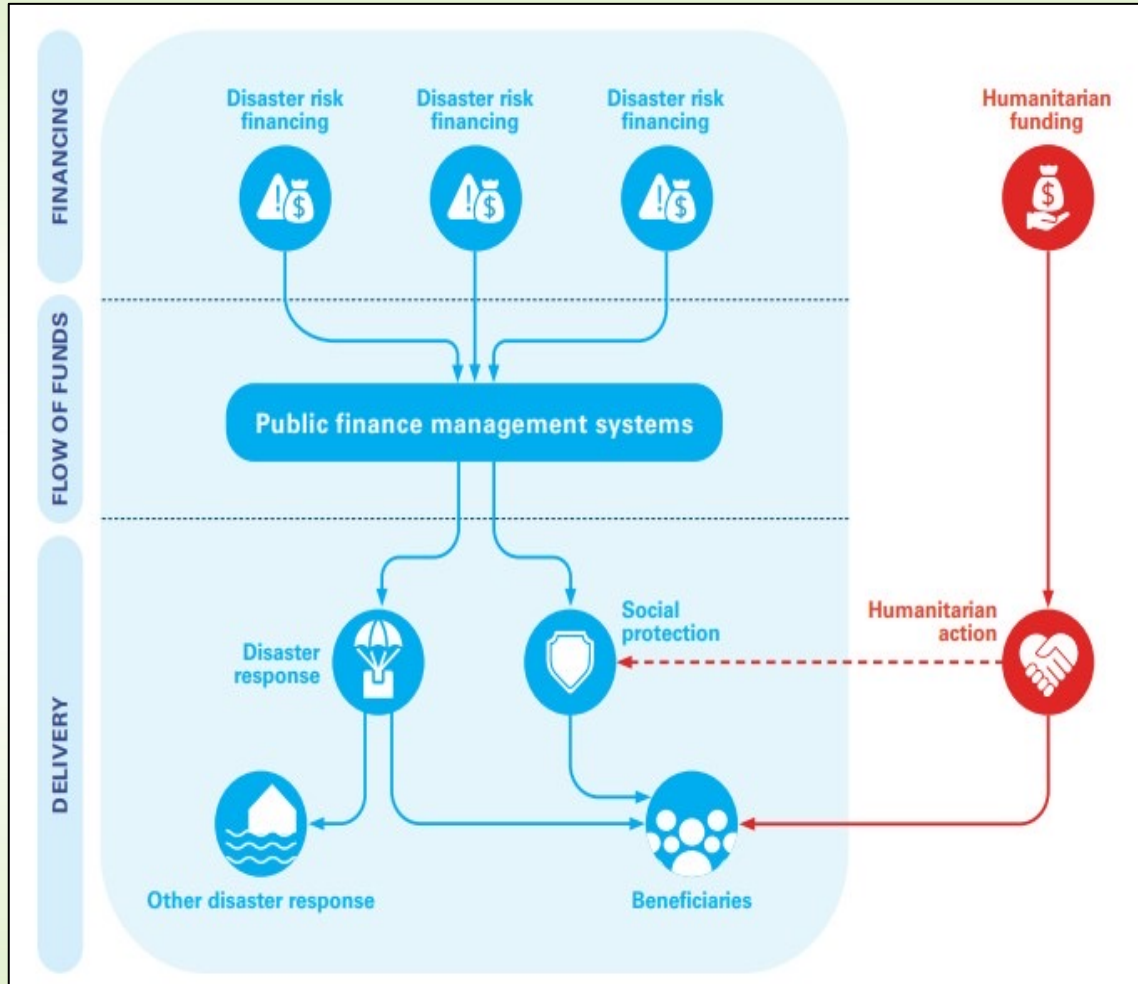
- **Improved data collection and analytics** – data on expenditure, losses, community feedback. Analysis of multi-dimensional vulnerability, impact-based modelling and forecasting, delivery cost modelling, public expenditure reviews, Return on Investment
- **Drive digitalisation - Integrated information systems and data-driven decision making** – building integrated and inter-operable information systems, linking to payment and monitoring solutions to single and social registries. Increase access to digital accounts, services and ID, esp. for women.

Investment area two: Delivery chain(s)



- **Understand the problem: Design programmes to specific shocks, don't retrofit shocks to programmes** – Start with understanding the shock, then design programmes to address it. Design more joint programmes.
- **Integrate ASRSP into strategy, policy, legislation** - Include edicts that enable decentralised govt departments to work together and make decisions quickly
- **Invest in cross-ministry coordination and decentralised capacity** - Institutionalising cross-sectoral coordination with roles and responsibilities and accountability structures
- **Feed programme learning back into programme and policy design** - Invest in sub-national exchanges and South-South. Focus on people-centred design and delivery. Leave no one behind.

Investment area three: dollars (regular and risk finance)



- **Match financing solutions with programmatic solutions** – This will define the discussion for the next few years
- **Link specific and sustainable financial instruments to specific risks** – Both regular and risk financing, there is no one-size-fits-all
- **Open up the dialogue around risk and climate finance** - Significant potential for dialogue around risk and climate finance, and risk layering
- **Improve collective understanding of financial instruments and pre-requisites** - Provide proof of concept for people-centred models

Final thoughts...

- **ASRSP is inter-sectoral, and it is not the magic bullet** - SP cannot and should not do it all. Draw on the capacities and tools of different sectors to enhance coverage and improve efficiency. Invest in coordination.
- **ASRSP and SP are two sides of the same coin.** Covariate shocks drive SP expansion, they need 'future proofing' to address compound risk, and ASRSP programmes need a base to build off. How to institutionalise efforts and invest ahead of the next event?
- **The evidence to influence policy remains limited and lacks robustness** – build it, budget for it, ground-truth it.
- **There is value in 'de-risking' activities, by donors providing catalytic funding to pilot activities** - However, design with govt priorities, capacities and fiscal space in mind
- **ASP programmes have to be matched but appropriate sources of risk-informed finance** – programme solutions need financing solutions. This will be one of the defining issues of the next decade



THANK YOU!

WFP



World Food Programme

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CHANGING LIVES