

ADB



ASIA-PACIFIC
SOCIAL PROTECTION WEEK 2023
Social Protection in a Changing World

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4C. Making social protection more conflict sensitive and displacement inclusive

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The logo of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), consisting of the letters 'ADB' in white serif font on a dark blue square background.

ADB

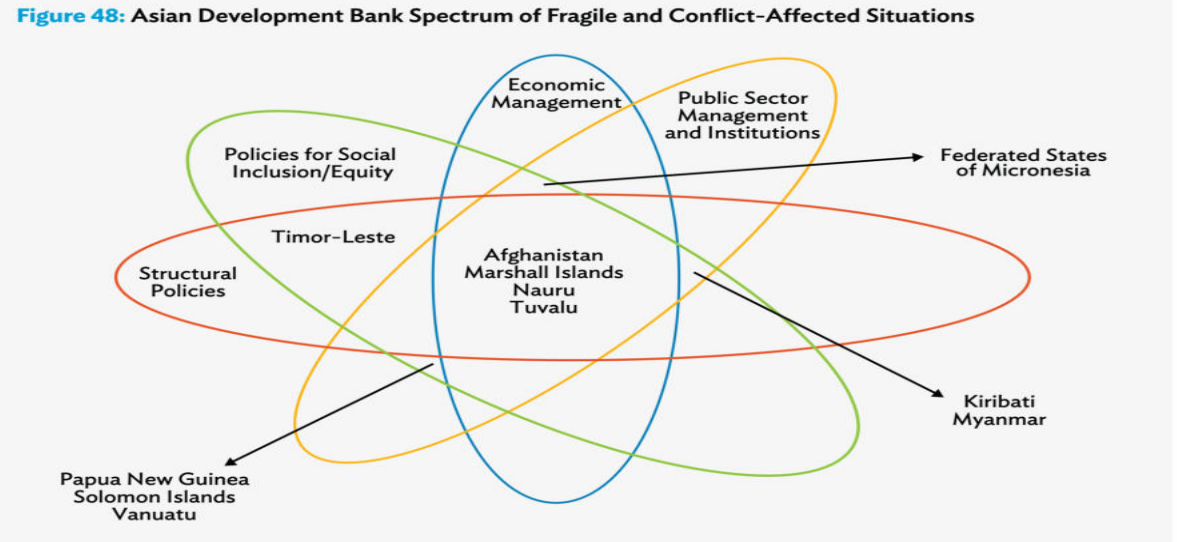
Outline

- **Asia Pacific's landscape of conflict and displacement: context and challenges**
- **Four questions about conflict-sensitive and displacement-inclusive social protection**
- **Perspectives, experiences and new ideas from our panel of experts**
- **Q&A**



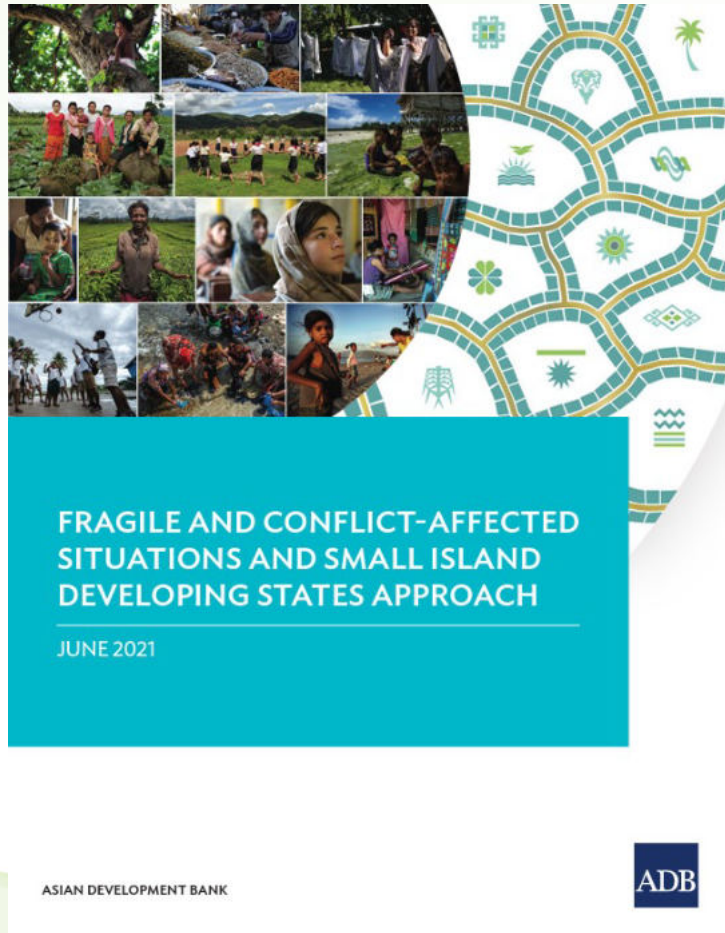
Context – Asia and the Pacific are conflict-affected

- International
- Non-international
- Post-conflict
- Regional impacts



“ Afghan refugees are the third-largest displaced population in the world after Syrian and Ukrainian refugees. In 2023, there were at least 8.2 million Afghans hosted across 103 different countries. Many have been in the region for decades and a vast majority are living in Pakistan and Iran. Over 70 percent of those in need of support are women and children. ”
(UNHCR July 2023)

What's the challenge?



- ❖ Most social protection policies and programmes pay limited attention to conflict until circumstances force them to do so.
- ❖ Policies and programming are often
 - conflict-blind not conflict-sensitive
 - tackle displacement outside existing social protection systems
- ❖ Limited interactions between actors working on social protection AND peace and security AND disaster risk management.
- ❖ Commitments to state-building, national ownership and building national systems lack sustained attention on
 - dilemmas inherent in supporting states that are parties to ongoing conflicts
 - political (not just the technical) challenges involved

Q1

How can non-state actors support social protection in situations where cooperation and coordination with government is constrained?

- Route through support to vulnerable groups through humanitarian actors
- But Social Protection 101 tells us that if it's not government-led, then it's not social protection
- So what are the options where we can't work directly with government?



ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK MEMBER FACT SHEET

Afghanistan: 2022 Commitments (\$ million)^a

Product Type	Sovereign	Nonsovereign	Total
Grants	405.00	-	405.00
Total	405.00	-	405.00

- = nil, TA = technical assistance.

Notes:
Commitment is the financing approved by ADB's Board of Directors or Management for which the legal agreement has been signed by the borrower, recipient, or the investee company and ADB.

ADB placed its regular assistance to Afghanistan on hold effective 15 August 2021, but in 2022 supported the economic and social development of the Afghan people through a special arrangement with the United Nations to address basic human needs.

Grants and TA include ADB-administered cofinancing.

^a Numbers may not sum precisely because of rounding.

Afghanistan: Cumulative Commitments^{a, b, c, d}

Sector	No. of Projects	Total Amount (\$ million) ^e	% of Total Amount ^f
Project and Technical Assistance	195	6,939.31	100.00
Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development	61	1,555.81	22.42
Education	2	4.10	0.06
Energy	48	2,138.87	30.82
Finance	5	67.85	0.98
Health	3	96.63	1.39
Industry and Trade	5	8.81	0.13
Information and Communication Technology	-	0.26	0.00
Multisector	3	183.84	2.65
Public Sector Management	20	183.23	2.64
Transport	47	2,684.89	38.69
Water and Other Urban Infrastructure and Services	1	15.02	0.22
Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program ^g	2	0.25	0.00
Finance	1	0.13	0.00
Industry and Trade	1	0.13	0.00
Total	197	6,939.56	100.00

- = nil, 0.00 = less than 0.005%, DMC = developing member country, TA = technical assistance.

^a Grants and TA include ADB-administered cofinancing.

^b Includes loans, grants, TA, and private sector programs.

^c Using primary sector in the reporting of commitments.

^d From 2020, financing for TA projects with regional coverage is distributed to their specific DMCs where breakdown is available.

^e Numbers may not sum precisely because of rounding.

^f Short-term ADB-financed commitments from private sector programs with maturity of less than 365 days.

ADB placed its regular assistance to Afghanistan on hold effective 15 August 2021. In 2022, ADB, through a special financing arrangement with the United Nations, provided basic human needs support to ensure food security and to sustain the delivery of essential health and education services for the Afghan people.

AFGHANISTAN

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been Afghanistan's partner in building a stronger foundation for sustainable growth, reducing poverty, and recovering from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. In 2022, ADB committed \$405 million in grants to help ensure the supply of adequate food and sustain the delivery of essential health and education services for the Afghan people with appropriate gender balance and inclusivity. Implemented by four United Nations agencies, by the end of 2022, the project had provided nutritionally balanced food to almost 1.19 million people, including 583,958 women and girls, and helped sustain production of wheat and livestock, along with livelihoods support for 201,829 rural households, benefiting 1.9 million people, including 956,704 women and girls. At the same time, 5.31 million people (62% female) received access to essential health and hospital services and about 1.9 million people (50% female) were vaccinated against COVID-19. To tackle entrenched poverty through education, the grants helped 313,334 primary and secondary students (56% girls) to continue learning by expanding community-based education and supplying learning materials for first-graders at public schools.

Afghanistan is a founding member of ADB. With its in-depth experience in delivering projects for fragile and conflict-affected situations, ADB has supported Afghanistan's development priorities focusing on agriculture, natural resources, and rural development; energy; and transport sectors along with capacity building, institutional development, and sector reforms.

Operations from 2002 to August 2021. ADB committed 147 public sector loans, grants, and technical assistance totaling \$5.6 billion to Afghanistan. Cumulative loan and grant disbursements to Afghanistan amount to \$3.21 billion. These were financed by regular and concessional ordinary capital resources, and the Asian Development Fund. ADB's ongoing sovereign portfolio in Afghanistan includes 28 grants worth \$2.85 billion.¹

¹ Sovereign portfolio consists of loans, grants, equity investment, and sovereign guarantee committed and not financially closed. Regional projects with loans/grants to multiple countries are reported separately.



Q2

What models for working with and through local government show the most promise for tackling the impacts of sub-national conflicts and creating sustainable programming solutions?

- Sub-national conflict can result in different levels and types of vulnerability and needs suggesting devolved approaches are needed
- But Social Protection 101 tells us that national programmes and systems are important
- (How) can social protection be led and delivered to meet local needs?

The screenshot displays the official website of the Ministry of Social Services and Development (MSSD) in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. The page features a navigation bar with links for 'Bangsamoro', 'Home', 'About Us', 'News & Updates', 'Programs & Services', and 'Contact Us'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled 'Programs & Services' and lists several initiatives under the 'Regular Programs, Protective Services and Welfare Division'.

On the left side, there is a 'MINISTER'S CORNER' section with a photo of the Minister, a 'DEPUTY MINISTER'S CORNER' section with a photo of a Deputy Minister, and a 'DIRECTOR GENERAL'S CORNER' section with a photo of the Director General. Below these is a 'TODAY IS:' section indicating the date: Monday, Rabi Al Awwal 10, 1445 AH, September 25, 2023.

The main grid of programs includes:

- Family and Community Welfare Program**: Assistance for socially disadvantaged families. [Learn More](#)
- Child and Youth Welfare Program**: Designed for the care, protection, participation, and rehabilitation of children and youth in difficult situations. [Learn More](#)
- Women's Welfare Program**: Aims to promote the welfare of disadvantaged women giving special attention. [Learn More](#)
- Uniad Pamilyang Bangsamoro Program**: Provides holistic social intervention to case-managed households. [Learn More](#)
- ABaKa Program**: Provide educational assistance for children from poor or low-income households. [Learn More](#)
- Bangsamoro Sagip Kabuhayan**: Provides livelihood assistance to qualified indigent beneficiaries. [Learn More](#)
- Older Persons and Persons with Disability Program**: Caters to indigent PWDs and Older Persons through the provision of assistive devices, and financial assistance. [Learn More](#)
- Kupkop Program**: Financial assistance for poor and vulnerable orphans, foundlings, abandoned and surrendered children. [Learn More](#)
- Kalinga Para Sa May Kapansanan Program**: (Image visible, text partially obscured)

On the right side, there is a vertical menu of services and links:

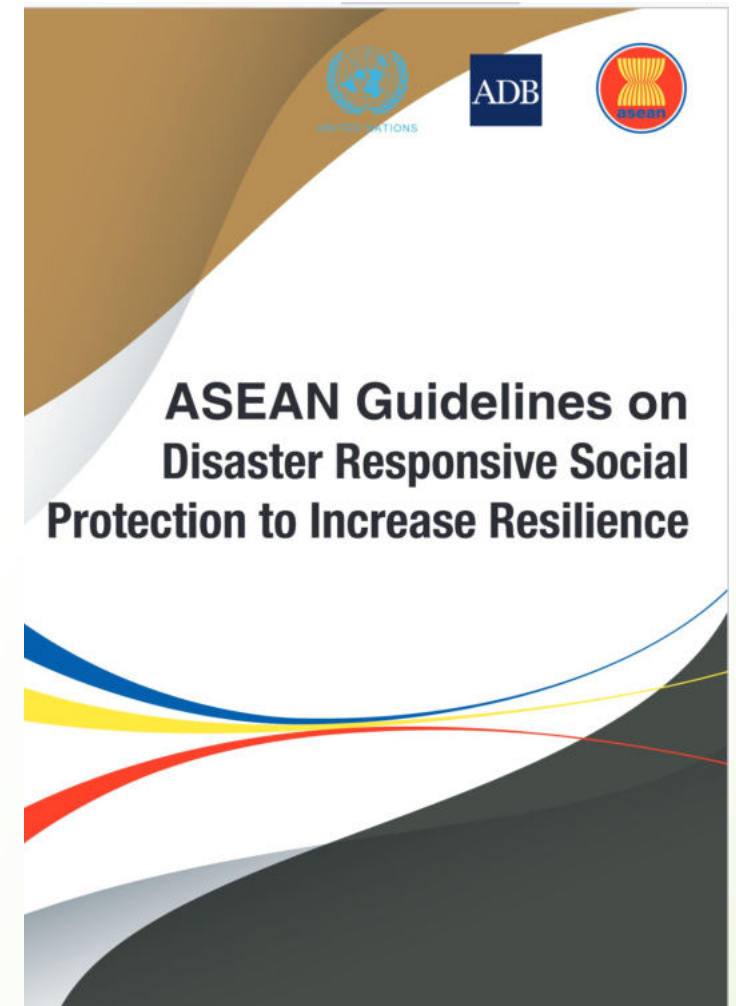
- MSSD JOB OPPORTUNITIES
- BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
- PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
- ONLINE APPLICATION PROGRAMS & SERVICES
- PRODUCTS OF BENEFICIARIES
- PHILIPPINES TRANSPARENCY SEAL
- FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LINK
- DIRECTORY OF OFFICIALS
- WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
- MSSD CITIZEN'S CHARTER

Below the menu is the 'CITIZEN'S CHARTER' section with the MSSD logo and the text 'Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Ministry of Social Services and Development'. At the bottom right, there is a 'Recent Documents' section listing several notices and bulletins, including 'NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF BID, SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF VARIOUS FOOD ITEMS FOR THE SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING PROGRAMS CY 2023', 'SUPPLEMENTAL BID BULLETIN 2023-006-1-L, Supply and Delivery of Various Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Items', '01 SUPPLEMENTAL AFP-NON CYE NO. 04_MSSD BARRAMA FY 2023', '2023 Procurement Plan', and 'ITB_FB-2023-006-1 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF VARIOUS WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH) ITEMS'.

Q3

What do compounding shocks and stresses mean for how we design social protection policies and programs to be effective in supportive shock-affected people?

“Nearly two-thirds of the 20 countries most vulnerable to climate change are also disrupted by armed conflict.”
(ICRC, 2019)



Q4

How could a regional approach to social protection and conflict contribute to supporting vulnerable groups, especially displaced persons? What actors could engage regionally, to do what?

“Building a fragile country’s resilience involves a long process that may take 20-40 years. Country leadership, participation and ownership in implementing reforms are useful”



Photo: Luis Enrique Ascui, ADB