



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

The logo features a stylized umbrella with a blue and orange canopy. Below the umbrella are icons representing various groups of people: a person in a wheelchair, a family of four, a person with a cane, a person with a stroller, and a person with a shopping cart.

26–28 September • ADB headquarters, Manila, Philippines

**Session 1C: Shaping Social Protection in a Post-Pandemic World: Bridging Social Assistance, Social Insurance, and Labor Market Policies**

**Moderator**



**Amir H. Jilani**

Social Sector Specialist  
Human and Social Development, Sector Office, Sectors Group  
Asian Development Bank

Amir is a social sector economist at the ADB with extensive experience working on the design, development and evaluation of social protection, human development, and women's empowerment projects. Amir leads social policy dialogue with governments in Asia and the Pacific as well as the preparation and implementation of ADB loan and technical assistance projects designed to address poverty and vulnerability, particularly in the context of climate change. His research and operational experience has focused on social assistance and cash transfers, economic inclusion (graduation) programs, basic education, and the use of digital technology solutions to improve public service delivery. Amir holds undergraduate degrees in Economics and Finance from the Australian National University and a Master of Public Policy, specializing in applied microeconomics and international development, from Georgetown University.

## Panelists



### **Cheryl Harrison**

Deputy Director, Global Cash-Based Transfers Division  
World Food Programme (WFP)

Cheryl's goal is to assist WFP to put more money into more women's hands. Specifically, she is interested in women's economic empowerment and their digital financial inclusion and the broader concepts of government-to-person (G2P) payments and the roles that WFP can play in working with governments and their systems. Before joining the Cash-Based Transfers Division in 2020, Cheryl was WFP's Deputy Country Director in Uganda and Sudan, overseeing emergency cash transfer activities, commodity swaps and mobile money initiatives. Before that, she was the Head of Innovations in Kenya when WFP won two Global Innovation Awards for introducing biometric identity checks for people receiving cash transfers and for setting up WFP's first toll-free helpline. Her first position with WFP was as a Gender Service Advisor in Rome Headquarters in 2003.

Cheryl has a Master's degree in Women's Studies from University College Dublin and a Master's degree in International Relations from the University of Kent.



### **Yasser El-Gammal**

Practice Manager, Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice  
The World Bank

Mr. Yasser El-Gammal is Practice Manager for Social Protection and Jobs, East Asia and Pacific Region at the World Bank. He has worked extensively on human development issues and led major flagship programs in social protection and labor. He served as a member of the World Bank's Social Safety Net (SSN) Global Expert Team (GET) and has worked extensively on social protection and labor issues in the last 25 years in over 25 countries. Mr. Yasser holds a M.Sc degree in National Development and Project Planning from the University of Bradford, the UK.



**Denni Puspa Purbasari**

Executive Director, Program Management Office,  
Kartu Prakerja, Indonesia

Denni Puspa Purbasari has been serving as the Executive Director of the Project Management Office for Kartu Prakerja Program under the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia since 2020. Prakerja, which was launched in April 2020, has benefited 17.6 million participants aged 18 to 64, including women, people with disabilities, and those from the bottom 40% of society. Denni holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She held the position of Economic Deputy Chief of Staff for the President from 2015 to 2020 and previously served as the Assistant to the Economic Advisor for the Vice President from 2009 to 2014.