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Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA
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SDC & Social Protection Online Learning Series

Module 1: What is Social Protection in the SDC?



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1. Introduction

Online Learning Series on Social Protection

Overview Training Series



MODULE TYPE	CONTENT	DATE
Basic Module 1:	What is Social Protection in the SDC?	23.06.2021
Basic Module 2:	Overview of Social Protection Instruments & Impacts	18.08.2021
Technical Module 3:	Agriculture, Food Security & Social Protection	22.09.2021
Technical Module 4:	Private Sector Development, Financial Services, Basic Education and Vocational Skills Development & Social Protection	17.11.2021
Technical Module 5:	Health & Social Protection	19.01.2022
Technical Module 6:	Triple Nexus & Shock-Responsive Social Protection	23.03.2022
Technical Module 7:	Governance / Systems Strengthening & Social Protection	18.05.2022
Technical Module 8:	Gender and Social Protection	22.06.2022
Technical Module 9:	Social Protection Indicators to Leave No One Behind	24.08.2022

A detailed **module description** is available on the [SDC Social Protection Shareweb](#)

Structure Module 1: What is Social Protection in the SDC?

STRUCTURE	MODULE 1	TIME
1. Introduction & Slido Survey		15 min
2. Technical Input Presentation	What is Social Protection?	30 min
→ Q&A		15 min
Break		5 min
3. Technical Input & Case Studies	What is Social Protection in the SDC?	25 min
→ Q&A		15 min
4. Closing Words		10 min
5. Evaluation		5 min



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2. What is Social Protection?

2.1 Social Protection: Characteristics, Definitions & Objectives

Social protection is about supporting people who are facing social risks and vulnerabilities

Idiosyncratic risks:

- = risks that concern individuals or household (systematic or foreseeable risks)
- i.e. risks associated with life-cycle stages: childhood, maternity, sickness, (un)employment, old age, injury or disability, death
- **Social protection/social security/welfare state/safety nets**
(long-term/institutionalized/ systems)

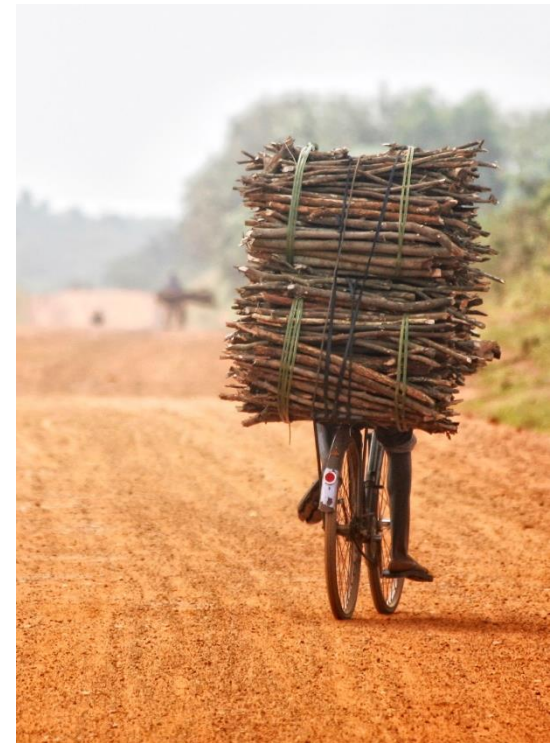
Co-variate risks:

- = large-scale risks affecting communities/regions (unsystematic or unforeseeable risks)
- i.e. to climate, conflict or other stresses and shocks (e.g. COVID-19 pandemic)
- **Emergency aid/humanitarian aid**
(short-term/transient/programme character)



Social protection is not about poverty reduction alone, but about vulnerability & risk

- **Everybody** at one stage in his/her life **needs social protection** – no matter how rich or poor one is
- Poor **people** are more exposed to social and economic vulnerabilities than others
- In **low-income countries** degree of poverty is very high, **social protection measures** predominantly **targeted at the poor & the most deprived**.



SP definitions in low-income contexts are mainly about poverty

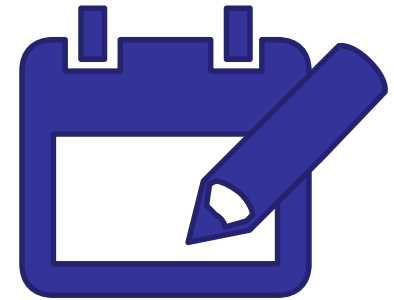


- A. “Social protection systems help individuals and families, **especially the poor and vulnerable**, cope with crises and shocks, find jobs, improve productivity, invest in the health and education of their children, and protect the aging population. Social protection programs are at the heart of boosting human capital for the world’s **most vulnerable** ([World Bank](#)).”
- B. “Social protection covers the range of policies and programmes needed to reduce the **lifelong consequences of poverty and exclusion**. Programmes like cash transfers (...) – help connect families with health care, nutritious food and quality education to give all children, no matter what circumstances they are born into, a fair chance in life ([UNICEF](#)).”
- C. “Social protection is the **set of public and private initiatives** designed to **support all people across the lifecycle**, providing protection against social and economic risks and ensuring sustainable livelihoods. (...) Social protection both **prevents people from falling into acute poverty** and enables **sustainable escape out of poverty** (SDC, 2018)”.

There are many definitions of SP across countries, regions & organizations

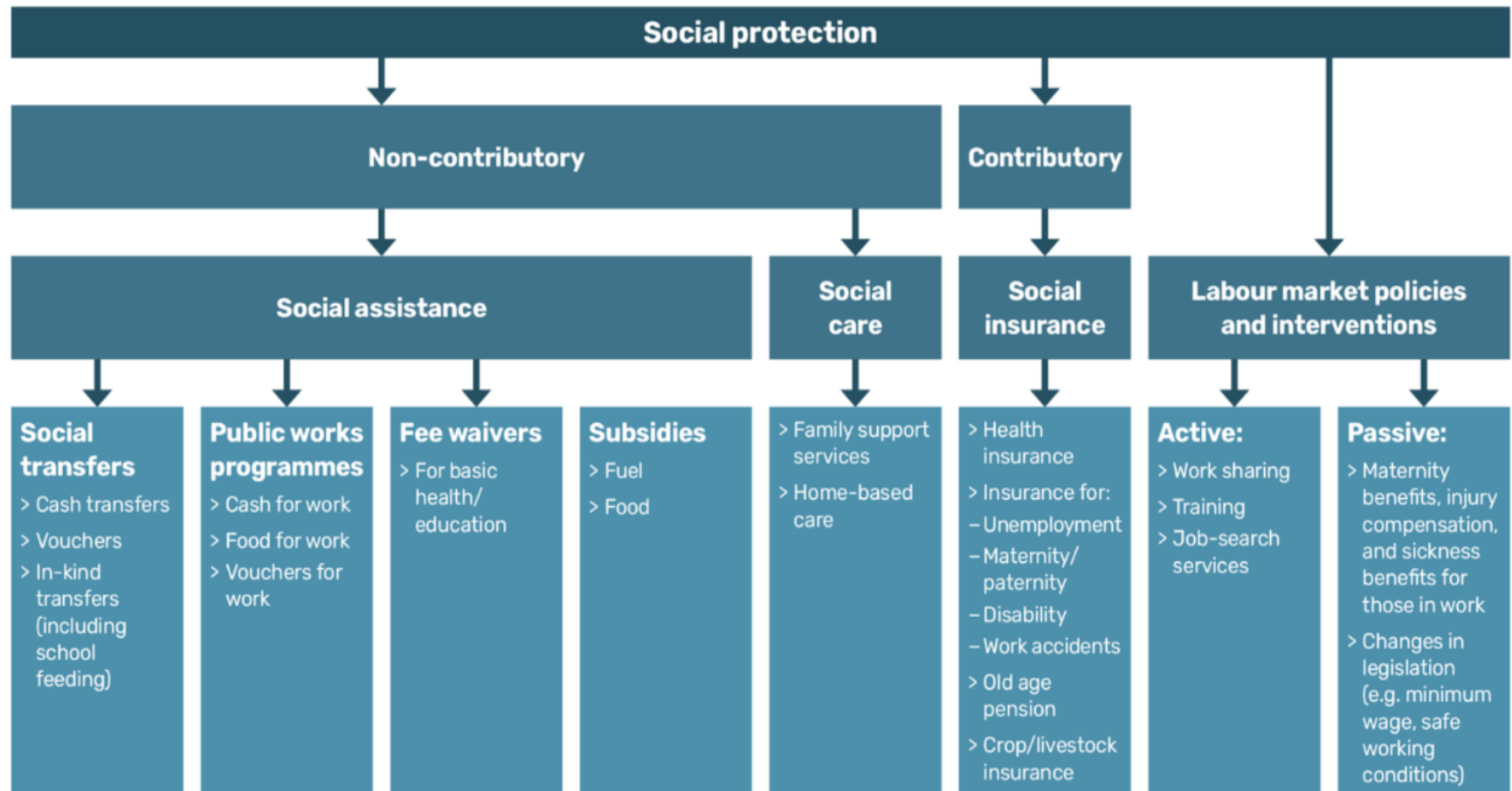
■ Definitions depend on many objectives of SP :

- Addressing risks
- Reducing poverty & vulnerability (needs),
- Building human capital,
- Empowering women & girls,
- Improving livelihoods,
- Responding to economic and other shocks,
- Supporting growth,
- Reducing inequality and increasing redistribution, etc.



- **Short-term goals:** coping with immediate shocks or smoothing consumption
- **Long-term goals:** i.e. inclusive growth, improving equity, social justice or human rights

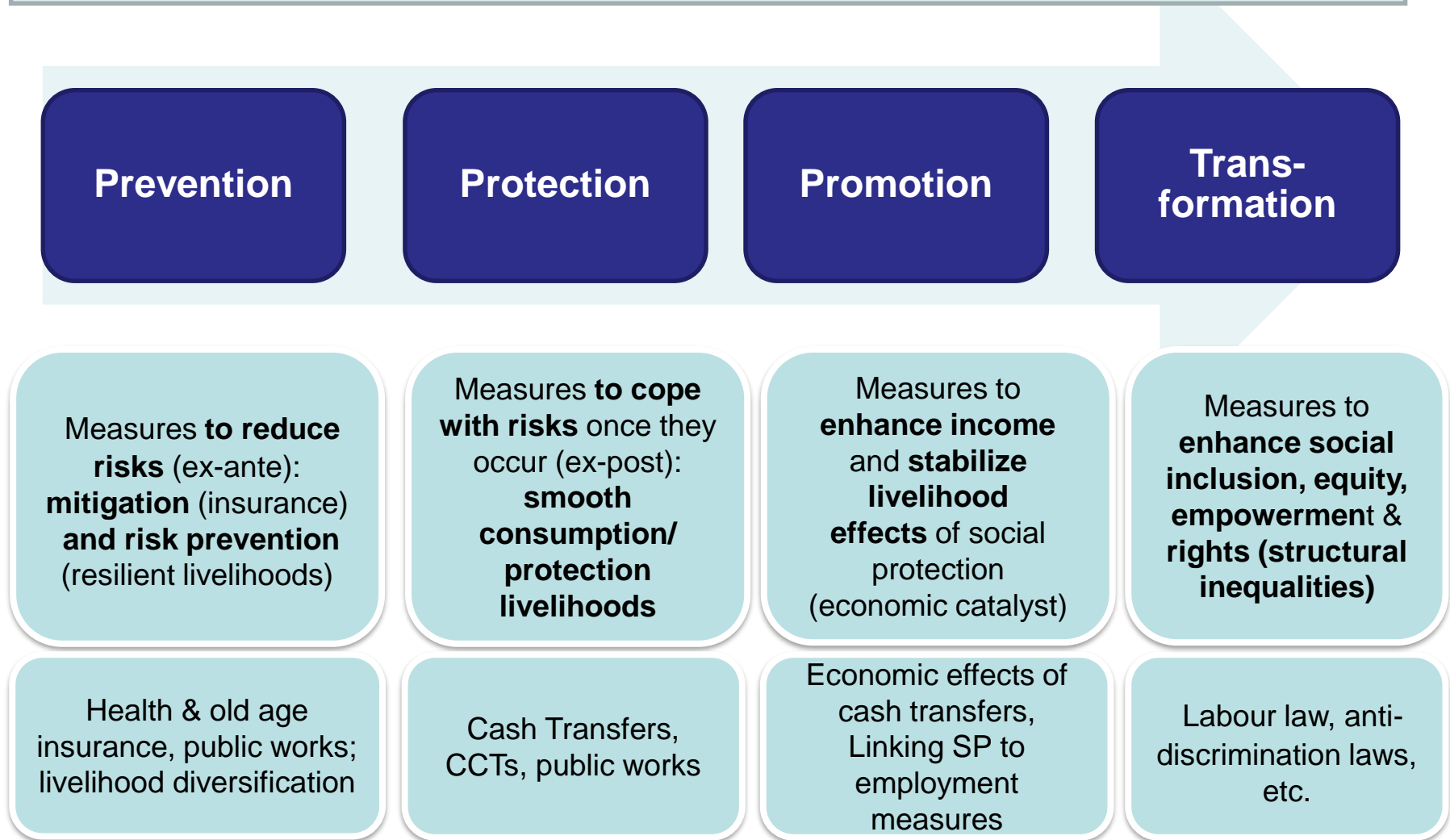
Social Protection Tool Box



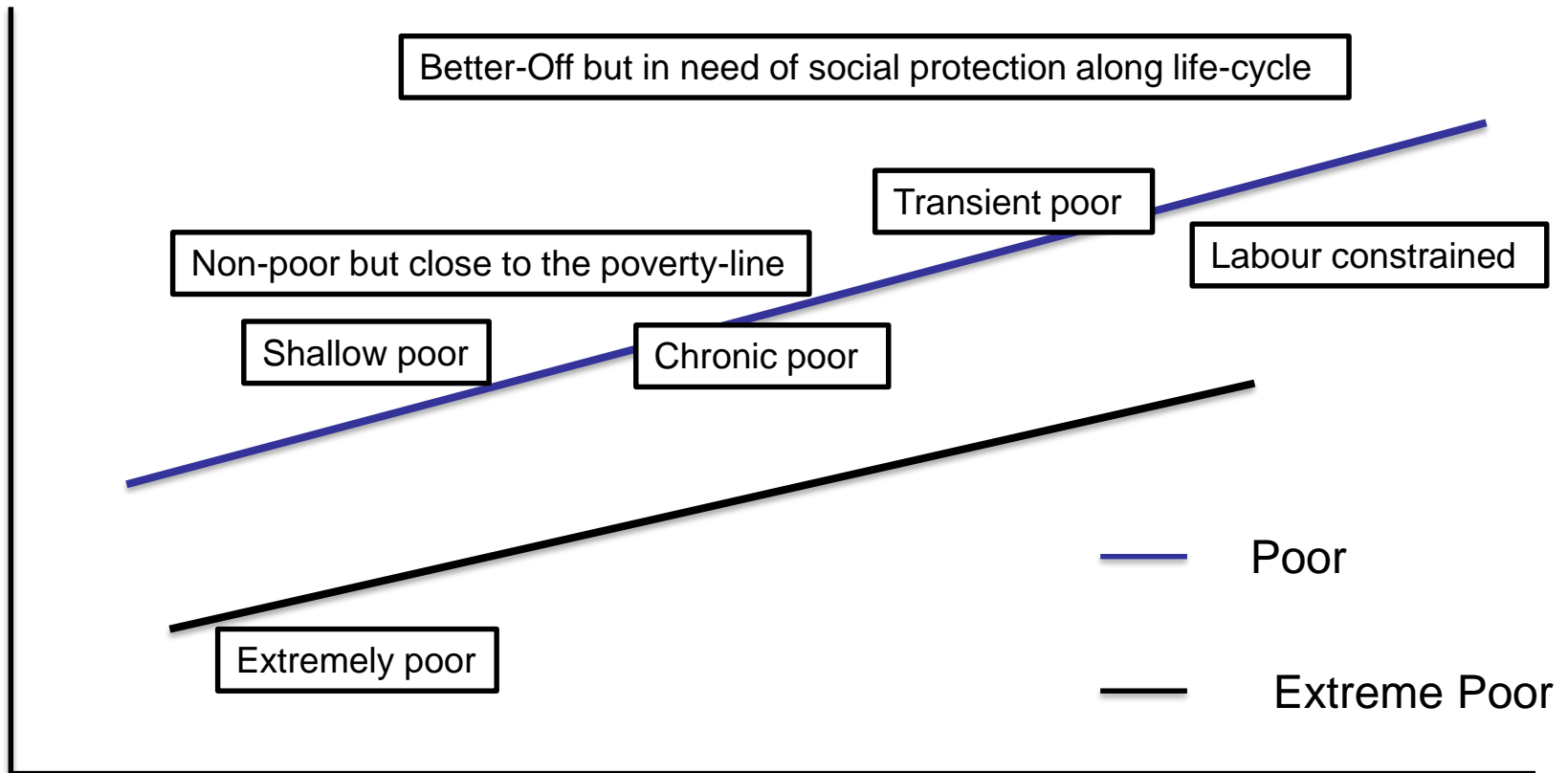
Source: [UKAID K4D Social Protection Topic Guide 2019](#), adapted from [O'Brien et al.](#) (2018: 6).

2.1 Characteristics, Definitions & Objectives

Framing Social Protection: Objectives & Functions



Framing Social Protection: The Target Group



Source: [Include knowledge platform for inclusive development policies](#)

The poor & vulnerable have heterogeneous characteristics that need to be understood in order to design good social protection policies

2.2 Stakeholders & Approaches to Social Protection

Other Stakeholders



➤ Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board – SPIAC-B

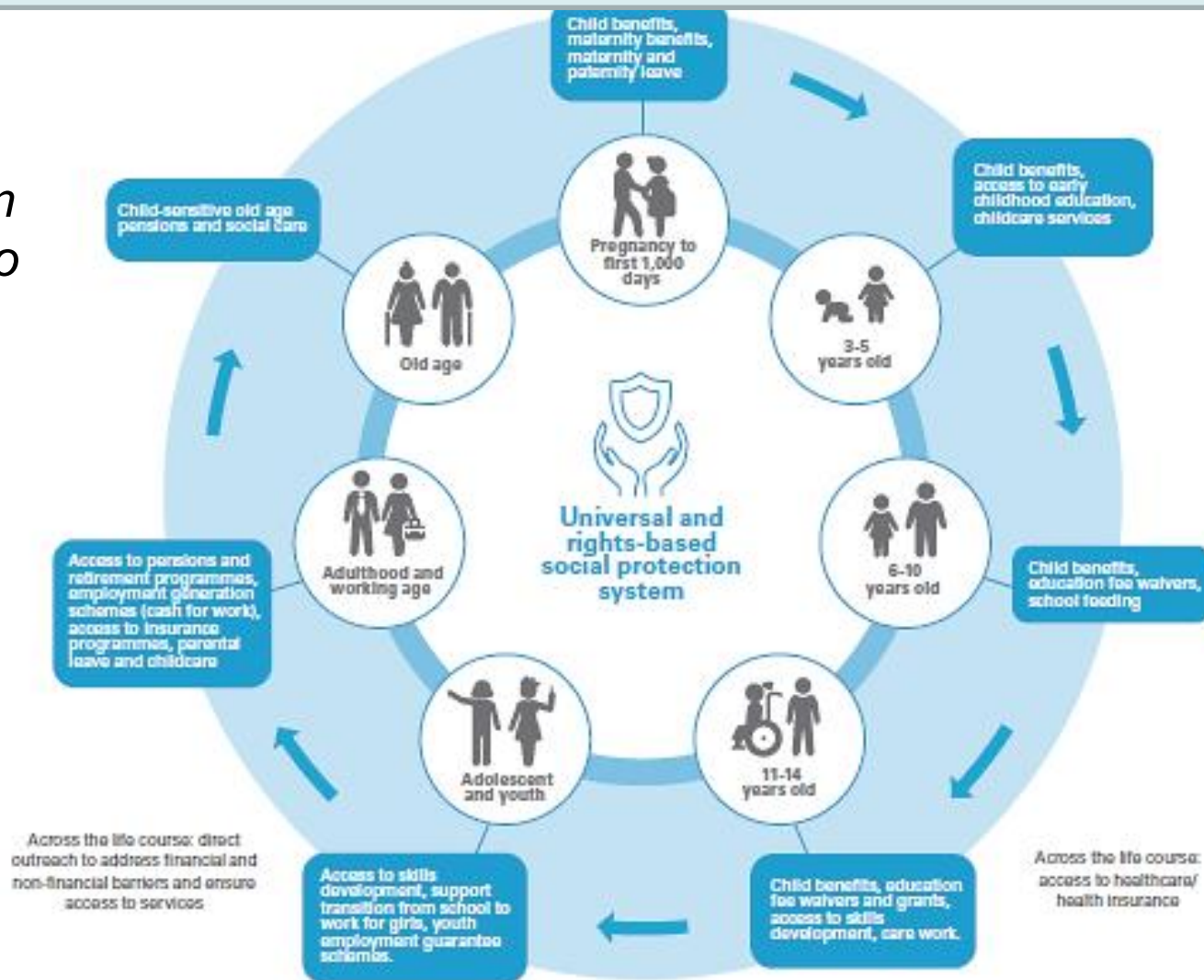
2.2 Stakeholders & Approaches

Main Approaches to Social Protection

- **Life-cycle Approach** (UNICEF)
- **Social Protection & Labour Strategy** (World Bank)
- **Social Protection Floor** (ILO)
- **Rights-based Approach**

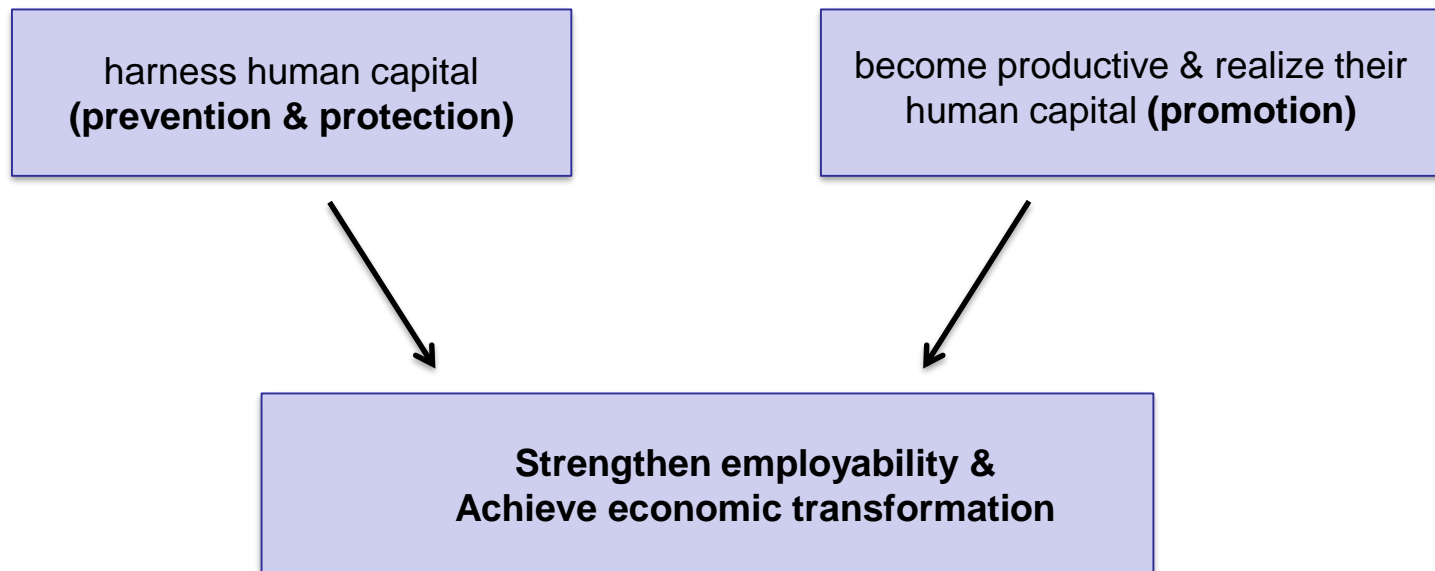
UNICEF: Life-cycle Approach

“Social protection from the cradle to the grave...”

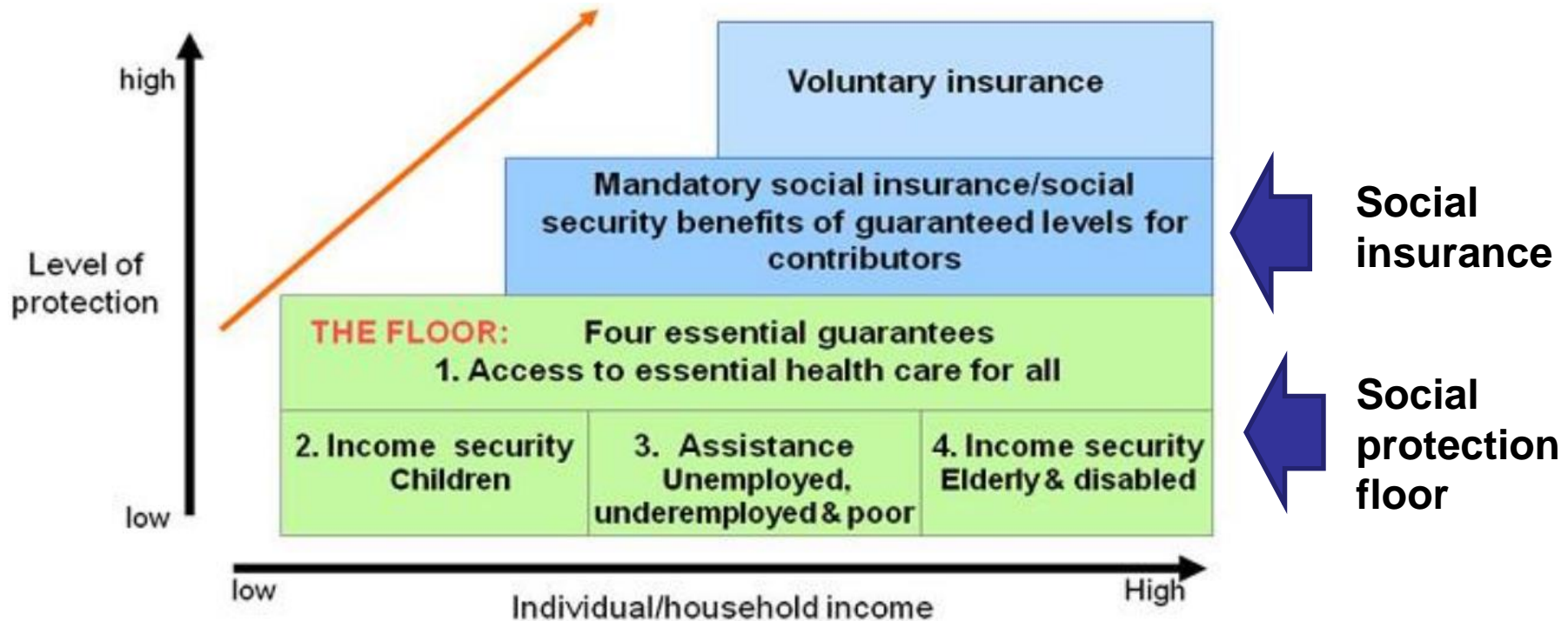


World Bank: Social Protection & Labour Strategy (2012-2022)

- SP is **human capital formation (promotion of productivity)**
 - **Directly** through provision of cash or food
 - **Indirectly** through promotion of opportunities: cash enables households to invest in human capital development



ILO/UN: Social Protection Floor Initiative



Principle of Universality: for everyone across the life-cycle

Source: [Social Protection Floor Initiative](#)

Universal Social Protection 2030: Combined approach

*“Universal social protection refers to a nationally defined system of policies and programmes that **provide equitable access to all people** and protect them throughout their lives against poverty and risks to their livelihoods and well-being. (...)”*

(ILO, World Bank, UNICEF, GIZ, FCDO, FAO & other like-minded donors & UN-organisations, 2016)

Other principles:

- Nationally led & tailored to the populations' needs
- Capacity for adjustment & expansion



Source: [USP 2030](#)

Social Protection Promotes & Protects Human Rights

- **Social Security** is a human right
 - [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) 1948
 - [International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#) 1966

*“Everyone has the **right to a standard of living adequate for the health & well-being** of himself & of his family, including food, clothing, housing & medical care & necessary social services, and the **right to security** in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control ([Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) 1948)”*

- **Human rights-based approach:**
 - underpins most approaches
 - forms basis for dev’t of SP systems in many countries, incl. low- & middle-income countries

Social Protection in the 2030 Agenda

16 SP can foster **cohesive societies** and strengthen the social contract

16
PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



1
NO
POVERTY



1.3 Implement nationally appropriate **social protection systems** & measures for all, incl. floors, & by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor & the vulnerable.

10.4 SP policies can be redistributive and address structural causes and is therefore a tool to reduce **inequalities**

10
REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



8.5 protect against **shocks and crises**; promote **employment**; set the policy/legal framework to ensure **decent work conditions** for all

8
DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



5.4 transformative effect on **gender** roles (valuing unpaid care/domestic work; encouraging women's participation in the labour market)

5
GENDER
EQUALITY



Social
Protection
in the 2030
Agenda

2
ZERO
HUNGER



2 ending **hunger** through regular and reliable social transfers

3
GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



3.8 ensure that **health** services are available and affordable; protect people from loss of income

4
QUALITY
EDUCATION



4 provide families with the necessary additional income and absorb the costs of **education**

13
CLIMATE
ACTION



13.1 Strengthen **resilience** and adaptive capacity to climate related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Nexus: Social Protection & Humanitarian Aid

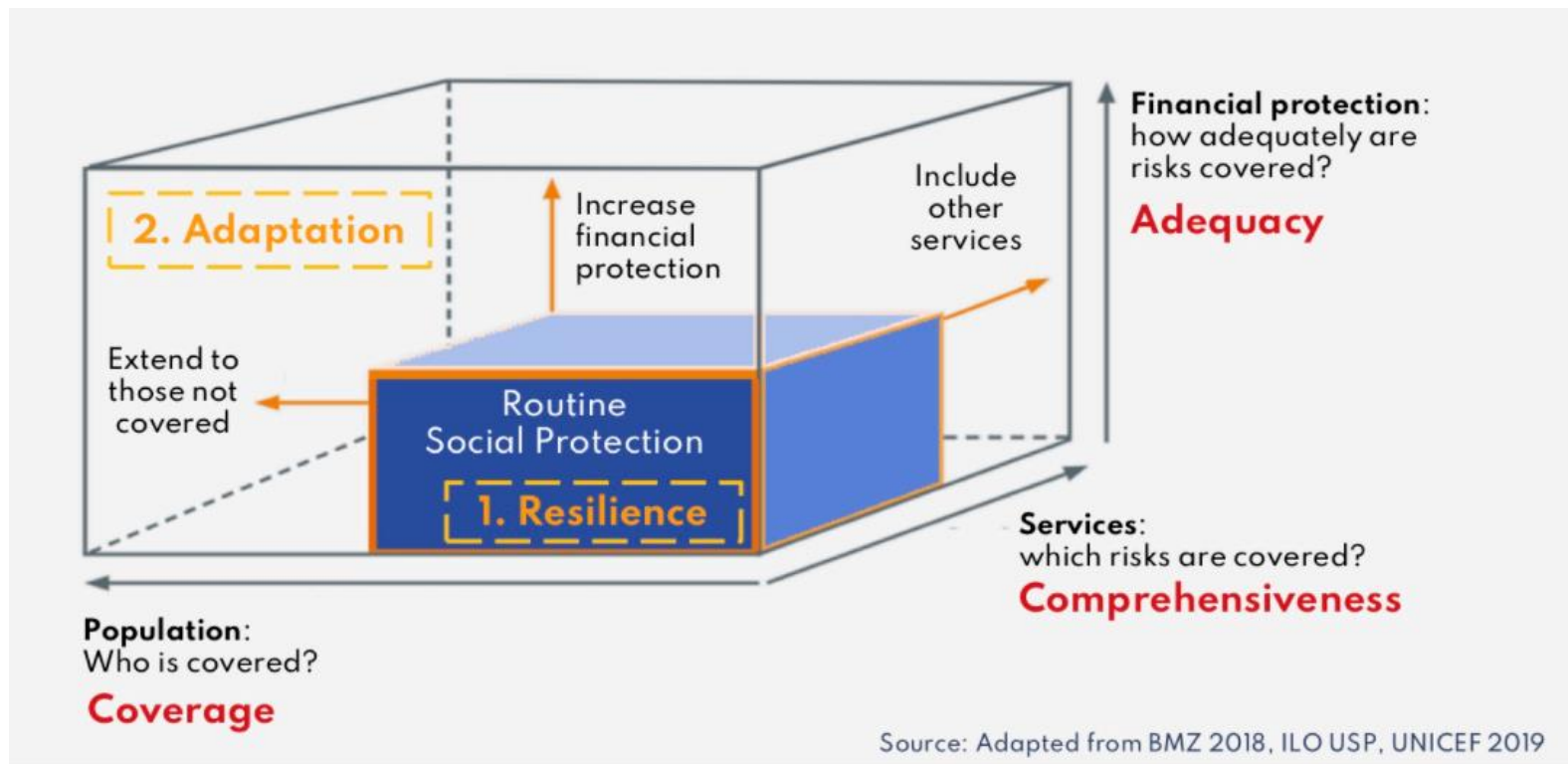
Nexus: address structural causes of shocks in order to prevent & mitigate the impact of future shocks

- **1. Resilience:** Routine SP programmes that are carried out complementary or in sequence to humanitarian aid in the mid- & long-term in order to
 - Build resilience to future shocks (prevention)
 - Providing communities with the necessary coping mechanisms
 - Improve access to basic services

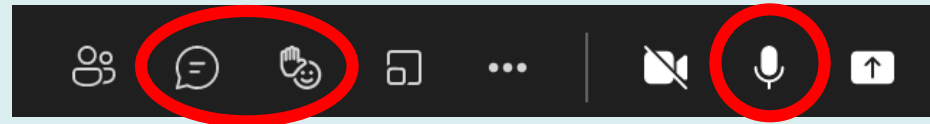
- **2. Adaptation:** Shock-responsive or shock-sensitive SP
 - Develop '**scalable**' **social protection** mechanisms,
 - which temporarily increase coverage to existing or additional beneficiaries,
 - to deal with exceptional periods of acute need (unanticipated shocks)

Social Protection, COVID-19 & Shock-Responsiveness

Adaptive, **shock-responsive or shock-sensitive** social protection:
re-current predictable risks and small-scale shocks



Q&A
Thank you!



5 min Break



- Get some water/coffee?



- Stretch?
- Open the window?



Afterwards, we will continue with:



- What is social protection within SDC?



- Final remarks & take away messages



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3 What is Social Protection in the SDC?

Summary of Results: Evaluation 2013 - 2017

■ Four core areas:

- 1) Social assistance,
- 2) Insurance (social and micro-insurance)
- 3) Labour market policies
- 4) System strengthening



■ Part of a comprehensive development approach:

- Addresses **multi-dimensional** poverty
- Perceived as an investment to **strengthen and promote** sustainable, inclusive economic and social development as well as LNOB
- Not as major component of outputs, outcomes, impacts, but implicit by-product with **non-specified results** (exception: health insurance & micro-insurance)

3.2 Case Studies from the SDC

1 System Strengthening: Mongolia (2012-2015)

- **Programme:** ***Governance*** & decentralisation programme with the aim to foster the development of subnational governments that respond to citizens' needs.
- **Intervention:** One-Stop-Shops (OSS): OSS allows **accessing public services, incl. social protection & employment counselling services** at provincial & district levels in ONE PLACE (single-window)
- **Aim:** reducing social and spatial inequalities in service provision (create equitable access)
- **Target group:** socially & spatially marginalized population at local level (rural/urban)
- **SP moment:** strengthening governance to improve equitable access to SP



2 Social Health Insurance: Tanzania (since 2010)

- Developing & testing a reformed **Community Health Insurance Fund** model (CHF)
- **Aim:** remove financial barriers for accessing health care through voluntary health insurance scheme – achieve universal health coverage - UHC
- **Target:** informal rural sector
- **Programme:** health promotion & health system strengthening
- **SP moment:** increase financial health protection

Complementary programme:

Insurance Management Information System (IMIS) for transparent & accountable management of CHF insurance scheme (enrolment of CHF members, validity status of members & processing of insurance claims)



3 Micro-Insurance: Bolivia (PROSEDER) (2012 – 2015)

- **Programme:** Promotion of micro-insurance for agricultural production (e+i)
- **Intervention:** dev't & piloting of agricultural micro-insurance products in 3 departments & 21 municipalities, in cooperation with municipalities
- **Aim:** address natural hazards induced by climate change
- **Target Group:** small-scale farmers in Bolivia
- **SP moment:**
improve protection mechanisms against agricultural risks for small-scale farmers



4 Social Assistance: Zimbabwe (since 2012)

- Child Protection Fund (CPF) - multi-donor trust fund managed by UNICEF
- **Three-pronged approach to child protection:**
 - a) improving access to child protection services,
 - b) activities towards bolstering community economic resilience,
 - c) cash transfers to reduce extreme poverty of most vulnerable households
 - Harmonised Social Cash Transfer programme (HSCT):
regular & reliable bi-monthly cash payments
- **Aim:**
 - addressing multi-dimensional child vulnerabilities simultaneously
 - addressing household poverty, gender disparities, disability, HIV & risk of violence, exploitation & abuse
- **Target:** vulnerable & poor children & their parents/carers
- **Programme:** protection of orphans & vulnerable children
- **SP moment:** long-term cash transfer programme plus complementary services (cash plus)



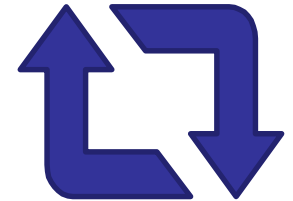
5 Employment Fund Nepal

- **Multi Fonor Trust Fund** (incl. gov't, UK, World Bank):
 - vocational technical skills training, job-placement & business start-up support for trainees provided by the training providers
- **Aim:** economic & social inclusion of multiply disadvantaged use
- **Target:** economically poor youth with a strong focus on disadvantaged groups (gender, ethnicity, caste, or disability)
- **Programme:** Employment Fund (E+I)
- **SP moment:** labour market policies in order to improve integration in labour market for vulnerable groups



6 Nexus: Linking SP & humanitarian aid: Zimbabwe & Mali

- The development of a nexus approaches that links SP & humanitarian aid is still evolving
- **Zimbabwe - Child Protection Fund:**
 - is a follow-up to a SDC humanitarian response programme
 - **successful transition from humanitarian aid to dev't cooperation**
 - addresses **structural causes of hunger**
- **Mali - PARME 2017-2018:**
 - Programme improved **food & nutrition security**
 - Aim: strengthen more sustainable solutions for food security through development of national **cash transfer scheme Jigisemejiri** (piggy-backing, shadow alignment, testing)



3.3 How Does Social Protection Relate to SDC's Core Concepts?

How does SP fit into SDC's core concepts?

- **LNOB:** Focus on **vulnerable groups**, **multi-dimensional poverty** & focus on **transformative change**
- **Social Inclusion:** “*The process of improving the **ability, opportunity & dignity** of people **disadvantaged on the basis of identity** to take part in society.*”
- **Decent Work:**
 - **More jobs, better jobs & more productive jobs**
 - **Establishing decent working conditions** through application of a human rights-based approach to decent work (social protection)
 - Examples: improved legislative frameworks for social protection, incl. informal workers, portability for migrants

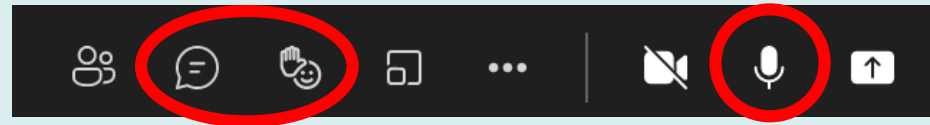


How does SP relate to different core-concepts?

- Social protection is one entry point amongst others to address & implement these core concepts
- In practice, SP is used to implement these core-concepts
- However:
 - There is room to better anchor SP in these concepts (depth & breath) to increase projects' impact where it makes sense.
 - This also implies measuring!



Q&A
Thank you!





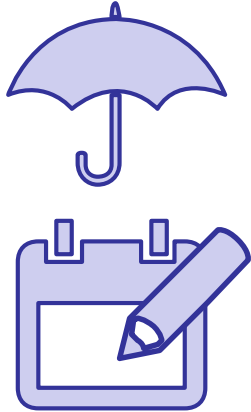
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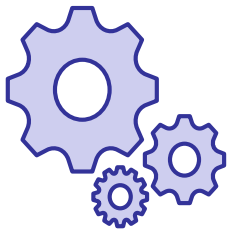


4. Final remarks

Main Take Away Messages



- **There are many definitions & approaches** of SP, depend on objectives/goals in the short- and long-term
- **SP may serve different purposes:** prevention, protection, promotion and transformation (3 Ps & one T)
- **SP may benefit everyone**, not only the poor (all people facing risks and vulnerabilities)

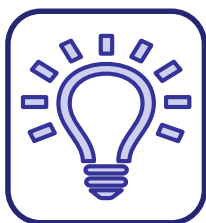


- **Main SDC SP projects** cover:
 - 1) social assistance,
 - 2) insurance,
 - 3) labour market policies &
 - 4) systems strengthening

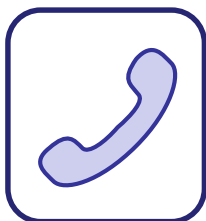


- **SP fits well to SDCs core concepts** (like LNOB, social inclusion, decent work) & could **increase impacts**, but this needs to be better capitalized on & made more explicit (incl. realizing & measuring its value)

Reflection Questions & Food for Thoughts



- *What is already happening in my **country context or policy field** with regards to social protection that could be of relevance to me?*
- *Where would it make sense in my programme to **engage in social protection** to improve outcomes?*
- *Who are the most vulnerable or those who would profit most from social protection in my interventions (**target groups**)? What social & economic risks are they facing that would need social protection intervention?*



- If you have any further questions or need for clarification, please feel free to contact us:
 - Barbara Rohregger: b.rohregger@socialprotection.at
 - Franziska Denz: franziska.denz@gopa.de



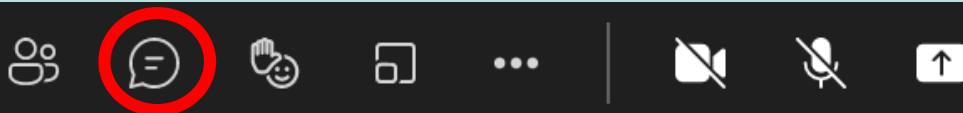
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5. Evaluation

- Please find the link for a 2 min evaluation in the chat
- Thank you for your participation!





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Next Learning Module on 18.08.2021



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Module 2: Overview of Social Protection Instruments & Impacts



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