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Lou Tessier, Health Protection Specialist, ILO Universal Social Protection Department, Geneva





Introduction

- Recent crises have underscored the urgent need for UNIVERSAL and ADAPTIVE social protection
- As a precondition for developing in an inclusive and sustainable manner, social protection systems contribute to **greater health equity** through
 - Reduction in socio-economic inequalities
 - Greater individual and societal resilience to shocks
- ► **HOW** can countries build such systems?
 - ▶ One size does not fit all, but not everything goes
 - Using international social security and human rights standards as guidelines
 - Developing social protection systems alongside other social, health and economic policies



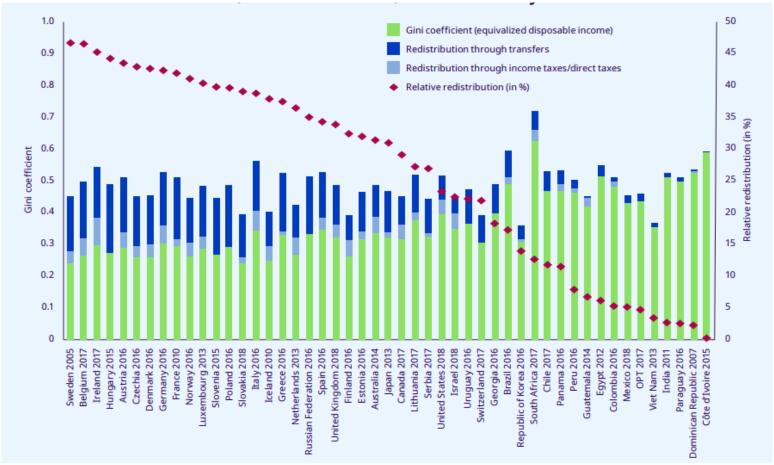


Inequality reduction

At its core, social protection is a <u>redistribution</u> tool based on <u>solidarity</u> in financing.

Universal social protection systems contribute to social cohesion and the "glue" that keeps us together as societies.

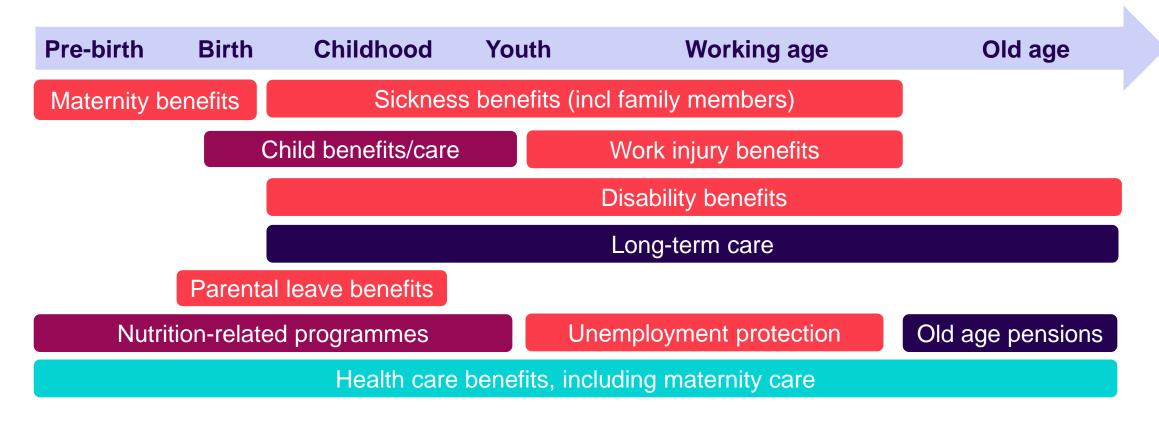
Reduction of inequality (Gini coefficient) through social security transfers and taxes, selected countries, latest available year



Source: World Social Protection Report 2020-22; ILO calculations based on Luxembourg Income Study (LIS) database (http://www.lisdatacenter.org), multiple countries, 2005–18. Link: https://wspr.social-protection.org



Income security and the interconnection between SDG 1 and SDG 3 throughout the life cycle





Key messages of the world social protection report

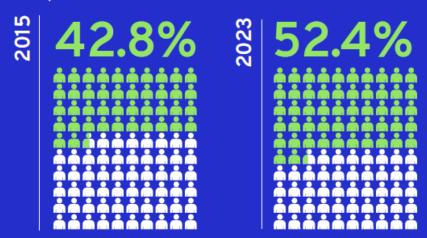
- ▶ A milestone surpassed: over half the world's population (52.4 per cent) is now covered
- ► Heartening progress yes, but still too little and too slow. 3.8 billion people still have no protection
- Protection in countries on the climate crisis frontline is woefully low
- Containing that crisis requires an integrated policy approach: social protection is a powerful tool
- ▶ Universal social protection systems can help realize climate ambitions and facilitate a just transition which takes into account the need to reduce inequalities and to support the wellbeing of people and the planet



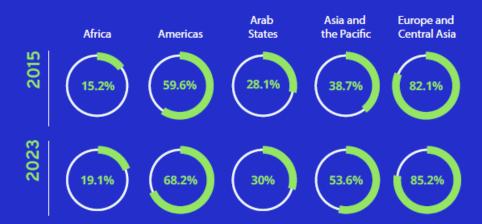


Trends in global effective coverage rates 2015 and 2023

Share of the global population with at least one social protection benefit 2015 and 2023

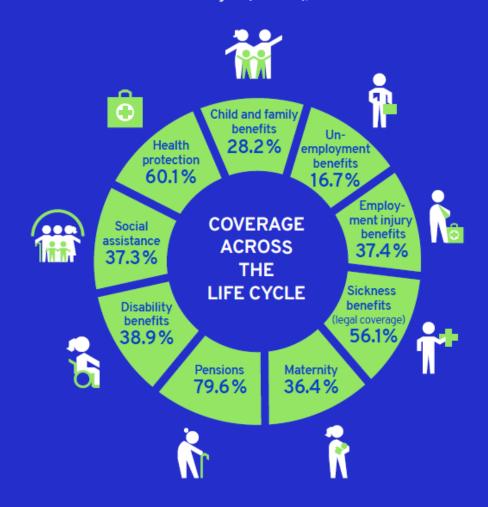


Population covered by at least one social protection benefit (SDG 1.3) by region – 2015 and 2023



Coverage rates vary by life-cycle risk

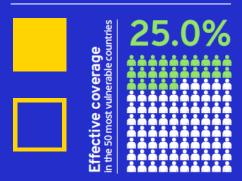
Social protection coverage across the life cycle (SDG 1.3), 2023





Uneven progress of social protection coverage: Implications for a world riven by the climate crisis

Effective coverage in the 50 most vulnerable countries



Effective coverage in the 20 most vulnerable countries

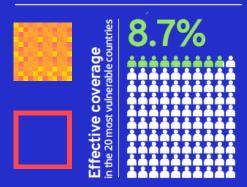
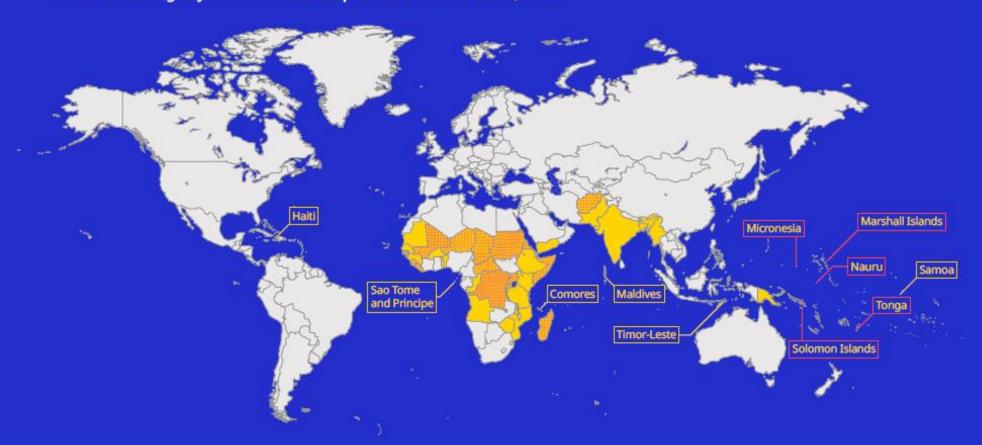


Figure 2.3b The 20 and 50 countries most vulnerable to climate change and their weighted average effective coverage by at least one social protection cash benefit, 2023









Social protection and health – mutually reinforcing policies

If social protection cash benefits are spent on health services they cannot guarantee income security

- Integral part of a comprehensive approach to income security.
- Access to services without hardship + income replacement/support in case of sickness/maternity necessary to avoid negative coping strategies.

Access to health services without hardship: an objective of both USP and UHC

Income security along the life cycle: directly impacts health and well-being outcomes

- •Poverty and inequality along the life cycle (childhood, adulthood, older ages) are determinants of health.
- •Income insecurity is linked to other social determinants (access to sanitation, housing, nutrition, etc.).

i.e. pulling children out of school into work to cover medical bills, sell assets, etc

- Workforce capacity to contribute to social insurance contributions.
- •Capacity to consume and pay taxes of the general population.
- •Cost of preventable disases and poor health.

Population health and wellbeing has macro-economic impacts which in turn affects social protection systems

Health status
impacts capacity to
learn, work and
generate income
now and in the
future as well as
workforce
productivity levels



UN collaboration on social protection – Priority 6 Strengthening the integration of universal social protection and universal health coverage policies



"Initiatives for coordinated action within the UN system to strengthen the coordination and integration of USP and UHC policies are urgently needed."

- At country, regional and global levels bridging gaps between working groups on social protection and health systems,
- Jointly producing evidence that will speak to audiences in the different sectors concerned (health, social affairs, labour, finance),
- Supporting research that caters to all concerned sectors & measure the impacts on health and well-being of social protection programmes,
- Informing the adequate design of social protection schemes to maximizing their impact on the social determinants of health.



Coordinating advocacy efforts across health and social protection sectors

- ✓ Key advocacy messages cross-fertilized the World Report on the SDH and the World Social Protection Report 2024-26.
- ✓ Link between social protection, health outcomes and well-being.
- ✓ Joint advocacy for systems building and investments in well-being and social justice.
- ✓ Mobilization of the social protection and health sectors for joint advocacy and fiscal space mobilization.



Thank you www.social-protection.org