

THE EVALUATION OF UNDP SUPPORT TO SOCIAL PROTECTION

SOCIAL PROTECTION IS

national policies, instruments, and systems that provide and facilitate access to goods and services for everyone



it protects people from deprivation and social and economic exclusion



it empowers people by increasing productive capacities and enhancing capabilities

THE FACTS IN NUMBERS



53%

(4.1 billion people) of the global population receive no income security at all from their national social protection system



1.6 BILLION

people make their living in the global informal economy with little or no social protection

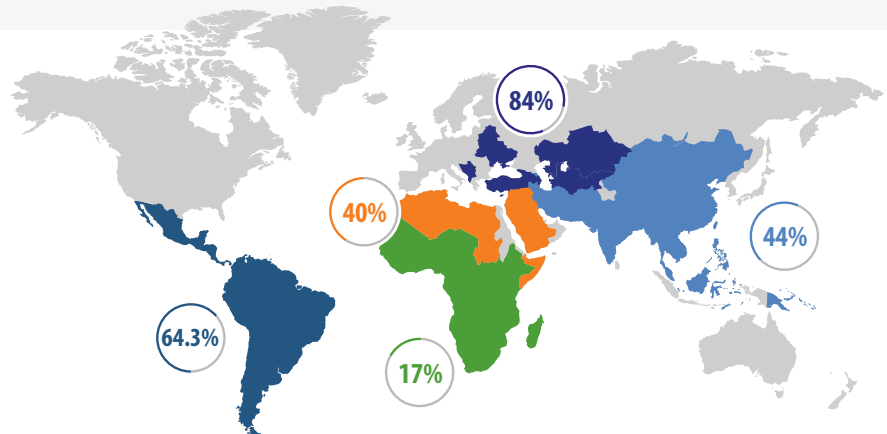


29%

of people from marginalized groups receive social assistance globally

AVERAGE COVERAGE RATES PER REGION:

- Europe and Central Asia
- The Americas
- Asia and the Pacific
- Arab States
- Africa



FINANCING GAP TO ENSURE MINIMUM LEVEL OF SOCIAL PROTECTION HAS INCREASED BY 30%

*with additional investment per year



US\$77.9 billion*

low-income countries



\$362.9 billion*

lower-middle income countries

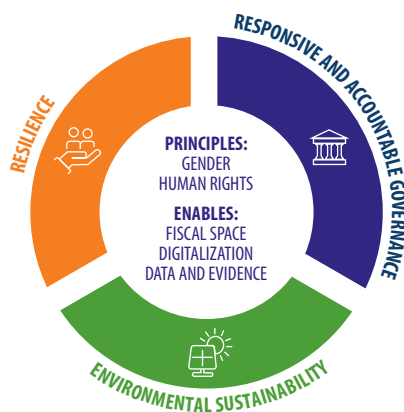


US\$750.8 billion*

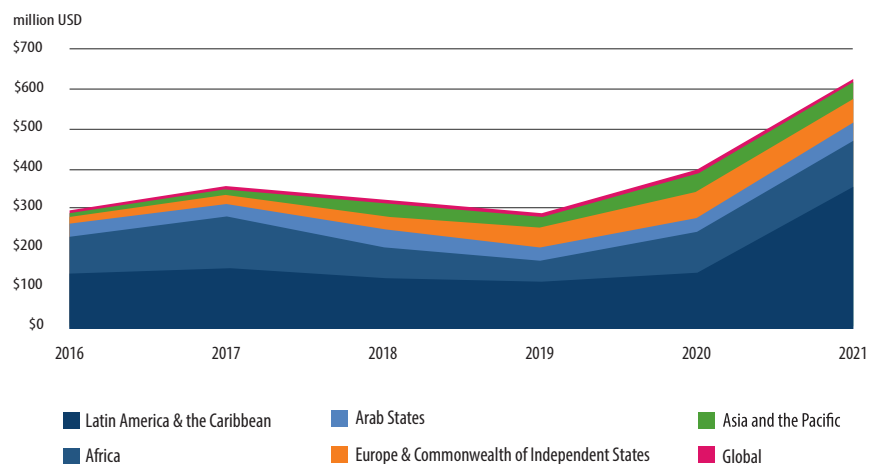
upper-middle income countries

WHAT DOES UNDP DO?

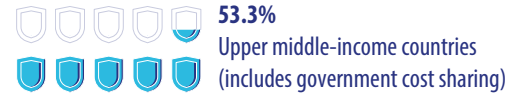
UNDP Social Protection Offer



UNDP Social Protection expenditures by region by year



UNDP SOCIAL PROTECTION EXPENDITURE



CONCLUSIONS:



UNDP **responds to some key social protection gaps but has yet to leverage its current inclusive growth portfolio** to enable concrete solutions in the areas of social care, labor markets and the informal sector.



Cash-based interventions yield positive results. Strengthening links between short-term support and longer-term social protection processes would make mechanisms more sustainable.



Contributions to gender-inclusive social protection systems is too limited in scale to drive transformative practices and processes ensuring adequate social protection for women.



Digital tools and knowledge products strengthen social protection processes and have enabled faster and better targeting of social protection measures.



Social protection programming at the country level **remains fragmented and small scale despite the comprehensive vision of UNDP for advancing social protection.**



While UNDP **recognizes the emerging global challenges** that impact the demand for effective national social protection systems, it has **yet to adjust its programmatic guidance.**



UNDP **provides more support to social protection in middle- and upper-middle income countries than low-income and least developed countries.**

WHERE CAN UNDP IMPROVE? Seven recommendations from our evaluation.



UNDP should **strengthen its contribution to gender-responsive social protection**, particularly through its support to social care and informal sector workers



Boost partnerships to allow a more holistic and integrated approach to systems. **Engage the private sector** in delivery financing of social protection services



Strengthen links between short- and long-term support to bridge the humanitarian-development gap



Work towards a **more detailed programmatic approach** that includes practical guidance for different country contexts and **stronger support to low-income and least developed countries**



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Strengthen national systems with increased support to digitalization, and to closing the digital divide



Connect social protection schemes with a green and just transition

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