

# 1

## NO POVERTY



### END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

## I. SUMMARY

The concept of poverty evolved over time. It encompasses not only low income and consumption but also low achievement in various non-income dimensions including education, health, nutrition, and other areas of human development. The preparation of profile of SDG1 – No Poverty – is an attempt to briefly assess the progress on poverty eradication, and look into how poverty can be eradicated so that no one is left behind – the pledge of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The profile is organised into four sections. Following this, Section two presents current status of income and multidimensional poverty as well as other targets and indicators of SDG1. This provides a basis for outlining the areas where good progress is made, and the areas which require further attention. The section is complemented with the much-needed information and analysis on integration of human rights and gender considerations. Section three is a brief account of few promising interventions in the region. The profile ends with a proposal of some priority actions necessary for achieving the Goal in Section four. These actions range from income generating activities to investment in building capabilities and resilience as well as enhancing climate and disaster risks reduction, to protecting human rights, fostering women's participation and building the capacity of developing countries in the areas of disaggregated data collection and analysis.

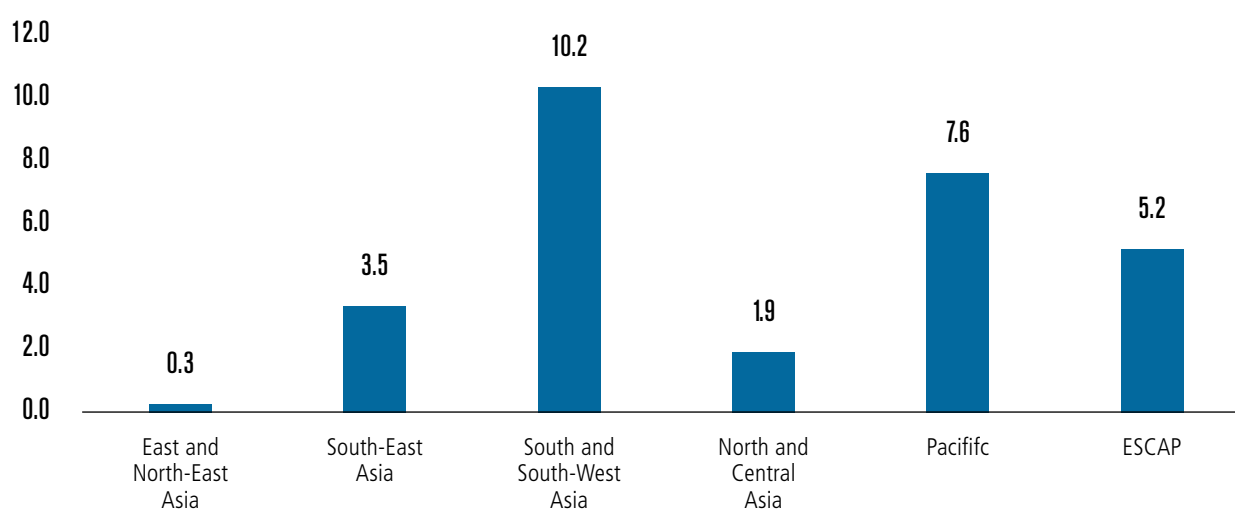


## II. CURRENT STATUS

### Income Poverty

Asia and the Pacific made significant progress on poverty reduction. Total number of extreme poor (PPP\$1.9 a day poverty) in the world reduced by 1.2 billion from 1.9 billion to just a little over 689 million during 1990 – 2017.<sup>1</sup> The rapid decrease in the global extreme poverty was driven mainly by the fast poverty reduction in China. The progress in poverty reduction varies widely across the sub-regions. The poverty incidence was highest in South and South West Asia (10.2%), followed by Pacific (7.6%) in 2018 (Figure 1).<sup>2</sup> Apart from spatial variation, extreme poverty also varies by other attributes including gender (presented in section C).

**Figure 1:** Proportion of population in extreme poverty, 2018



Source: ESCAP estimates based on the World Bank PovcalNet data

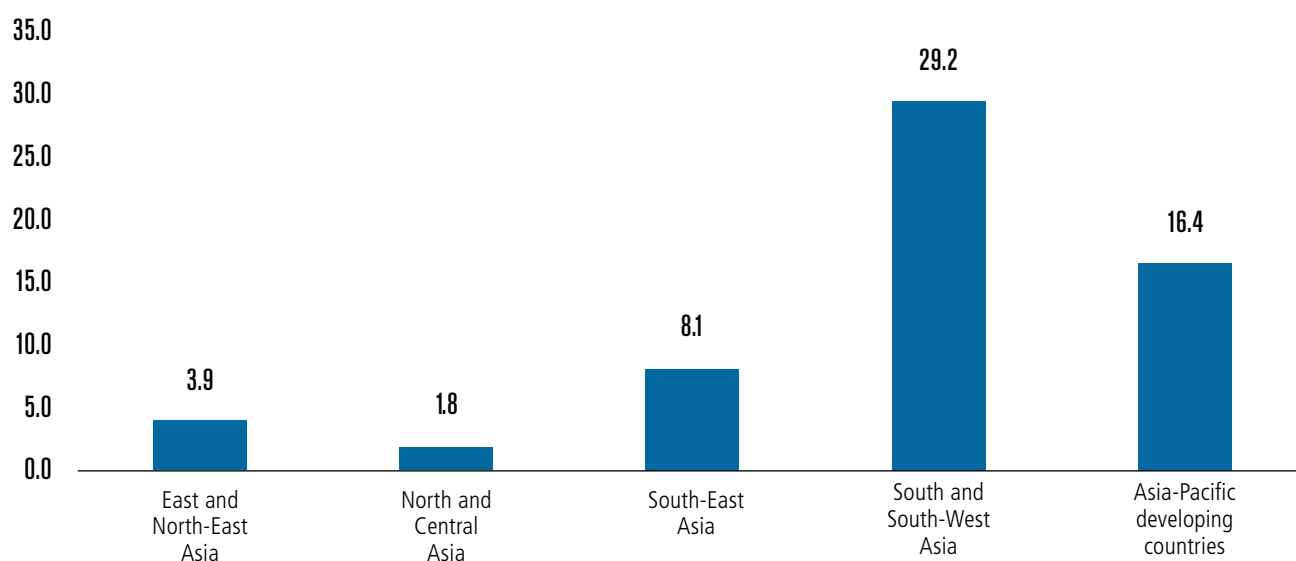
### Multidimensional Poverty

The number of multidimensional poor is 1.3 billion, almost two times of the income poor in the world.<sup>3</sup> Half of multidimensionally poor people (644 million) are children under age 18. One in three children is poor compared with one in six adults.<sup>4</sup> Asia and the Pacific region still holds about half of the world's multidimensional poor. However, wide variations persist in the proportion of multidimensional poor across regions and sub-regions, highest in Sub-Saharan Africa (55%), followed by South Asia (29.2%).<sup>5</sup>

Within Asia and the Pacific the multidimensional poverty headcount is lowest in North and Central Asia (1.8%) and highest in South and South West Asia (29.2%) in 2018 (Figure 2). Although the proportion of multidimensional poor is 29.2 percent in South and South West Asia, much less than the proportion in Sub-Saharan Africa, it hosts as many as 530 million multidimensional poor close to the number of poor in Sub-Saharan Africa (558 million), implying that eradication of all forms of poverty in the Asia-Pacific region requires a focus on South and South West Asia.



**Figure 2:** Proportion of multidimensional poor (%)



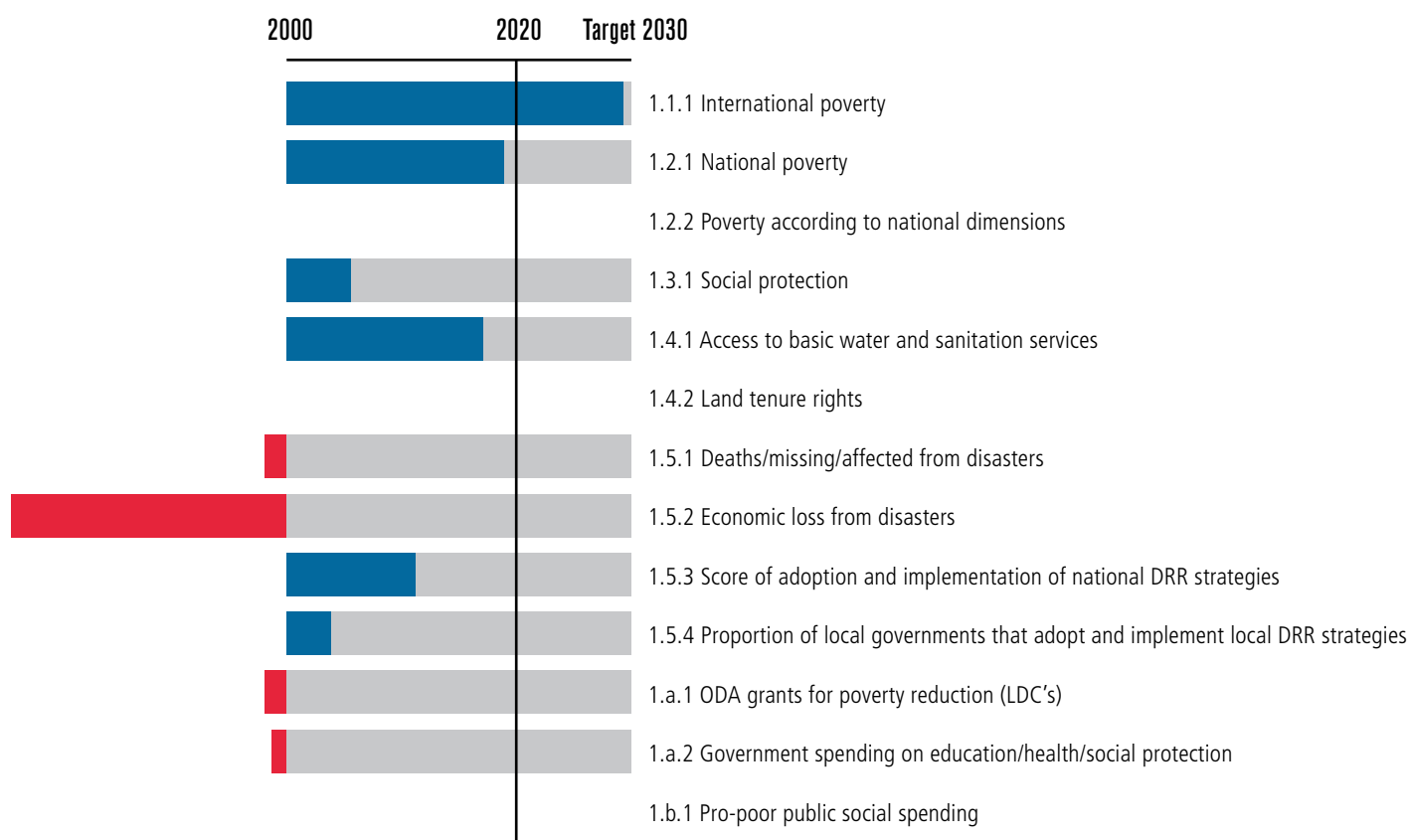
Source: UNDP (2020). Human Development Report

ESCAP SDG data gateway projects trends of 10 out of 13 indicators of SDG1, showing which indicators can be attained in the region by 2030 at the current rate of progress. In aggregate, out of the 10 indicators (for which data is available), only extreme poverty eradication (international poverty indicator – 1.1.1) remains within reach by 2030 (Figure 3). But this again seems to be slightly failing when the national poverty is considered (1.2.1). This is because the threshold of national poverty line is generally higher than PPP\$1.9 a day extreme poverty threshold in several countries.<sup>6</sup> The other indicator which has some promising result is access to water and sanitation; however, it fails to achieve its target but remains better than the coverage of social protection, or adoption and implementation of national or local disaster risks reduction (DRR) strategies.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development underscores the importance of social protection for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Target 1.3 addresses the role of social protection in ending poverty in all its forms. Specifically, it seeks the implementation of “nationally appropriate social protection measures and systems for all, including floors”. By 2030, the goal is to attain “substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable”.



**Figure 3:** Progress in achieving SDG1 – no poverty – in Asia and the Pacific region



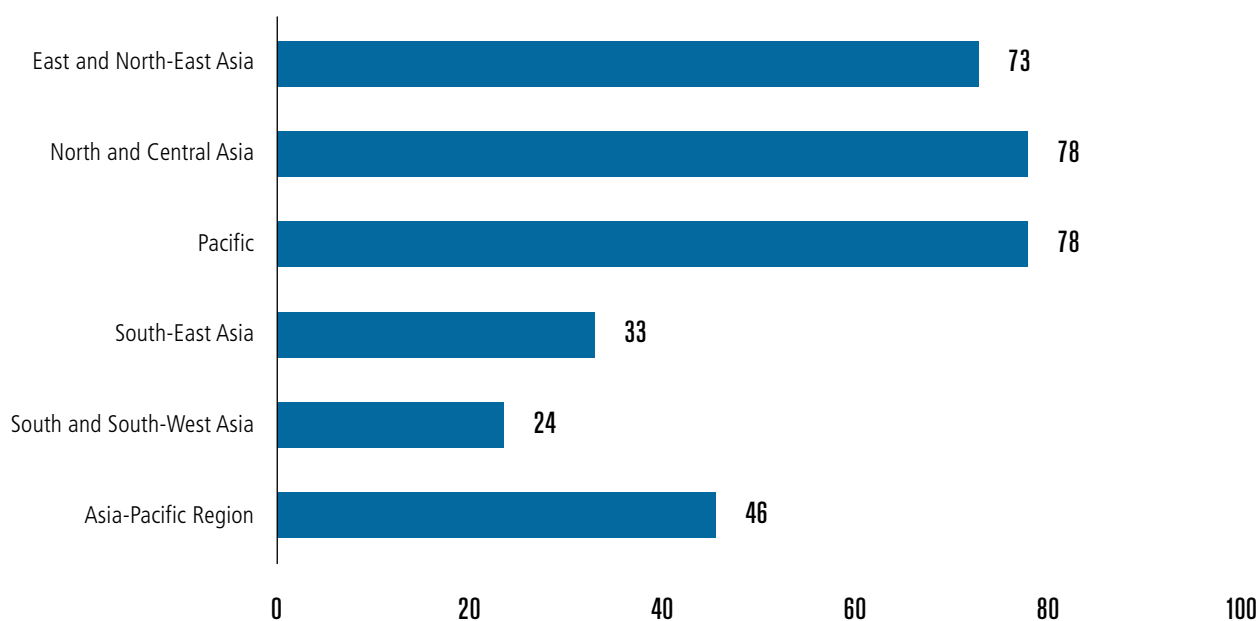
Source: ESCAP SDG data gateway

The proportion of population in Asia-Pacific with at least one social protection scheme is about 46 percent. The proportion varies widely across sub-regions from 24 percent in South and South-West Asia to 78 percent in North and Central Asia. The coverage is lowest in South Asia and South-West Asia (Figure 4).

In summary, of the 10 indicators of the SDG1, the highest progress has been attained for the extreme poverty indicator (1.1.1). The least progress has been made towards adoption and implementation of local DRR strategies (1.5.4), which in fact significantly lags behind the 2020 coverage target (Figure 3). Moreover, the projection shows that eradication of extreme poverty (1.1.1) varies extensively across the Asia-Pacific sub-regions. Out of the five sub-regions only North and Central Asia seems to achieve fully the target, the other three East and North East Asia, South East Asia, and South and South West Asia are very close to attain the target by 2030. On the other hand, there is reversal in the Pacific with an increase in poverty in the recent past.<sup>7</sup> Similarly, the coverage of social protection also diverge widely. South-East Asia and South and South-West Asia will be significantly trailing behind by 2030.



**Figure 4:** Proportion of population at least with one social protection scheme (%)



Source: UNESCAP and ILO (2020). The Protection We Want: Social Outlook for Asia and the Pacific

At the regional level, four of the 10 indicators are regressing. The economic loss from disaster (1.5.2) and population affected from disaster (1.5.1) are increasing. Moreover, trends of ODA grant for poverty reduction in the LDCs (1.a.1), and government spending on education and health (1.a.2) are also falling behind. The threat from disasters of undermining progress towards eradication of poverty is all the more concerning.<sup>8</sup>

EM-DAT recorded a loss of US\$ 2.97 trillion from disasters between 2000 and 2019. Out of this loss, Asia accounted for 1.6 trillion (43%) and Oceania 82 billion (3%).<sup>9</sup> Since 2015 at least 22 Asia-Pacific countries have reported data (through the Sendai Framework Monitoring) on direct economic losses from disasters on agriculture, housing, productive sectors, critical infrastructures, or cultural heritage amounting to US\$ 46.5 billion.<sup>10</sup>

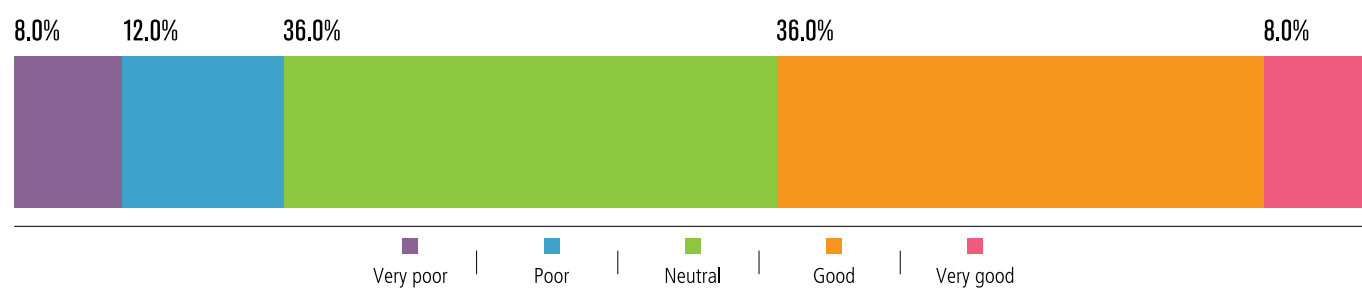
Economic losses from disaster also vary significantly by subregions. They are increasing in all the subregions except East and North East Asia, and North and Central Asia which show a falling trend but fail to achieve the target. Moreover, government's spending on education and health or social protection is regressing in the Pacific and South and South West Asia. The other three sub-regions have a rising trend but trailing behind significantly.<sup>11</sup>

An online survey was conducted by ESCAP on the SDGs progress in order to inform the SDG profiles. Twenty nine participants responded that they would like to prioritize the Goal 1 as to the query on which goal they would like to focus on. More than three-fourth of them (76%) were male and about 42% were from 35- 44 years age group.

25 out of the 29 participants responded to the question about how they rate the progress on the SDG1 poverty goal. Of the 25 respondents, 44% said the progress is 'good' or 'very good' and another 36% remains neutral. One-fifth of the respondents seem to view that progress on poverty reduction is either poor or very poor (Figure 5). Their perception seems to corroborate the mixed progress on SDG1 as presented earlier in this section.



**Figure 5:** Perception of progress made on the SDG1 - No Poverty



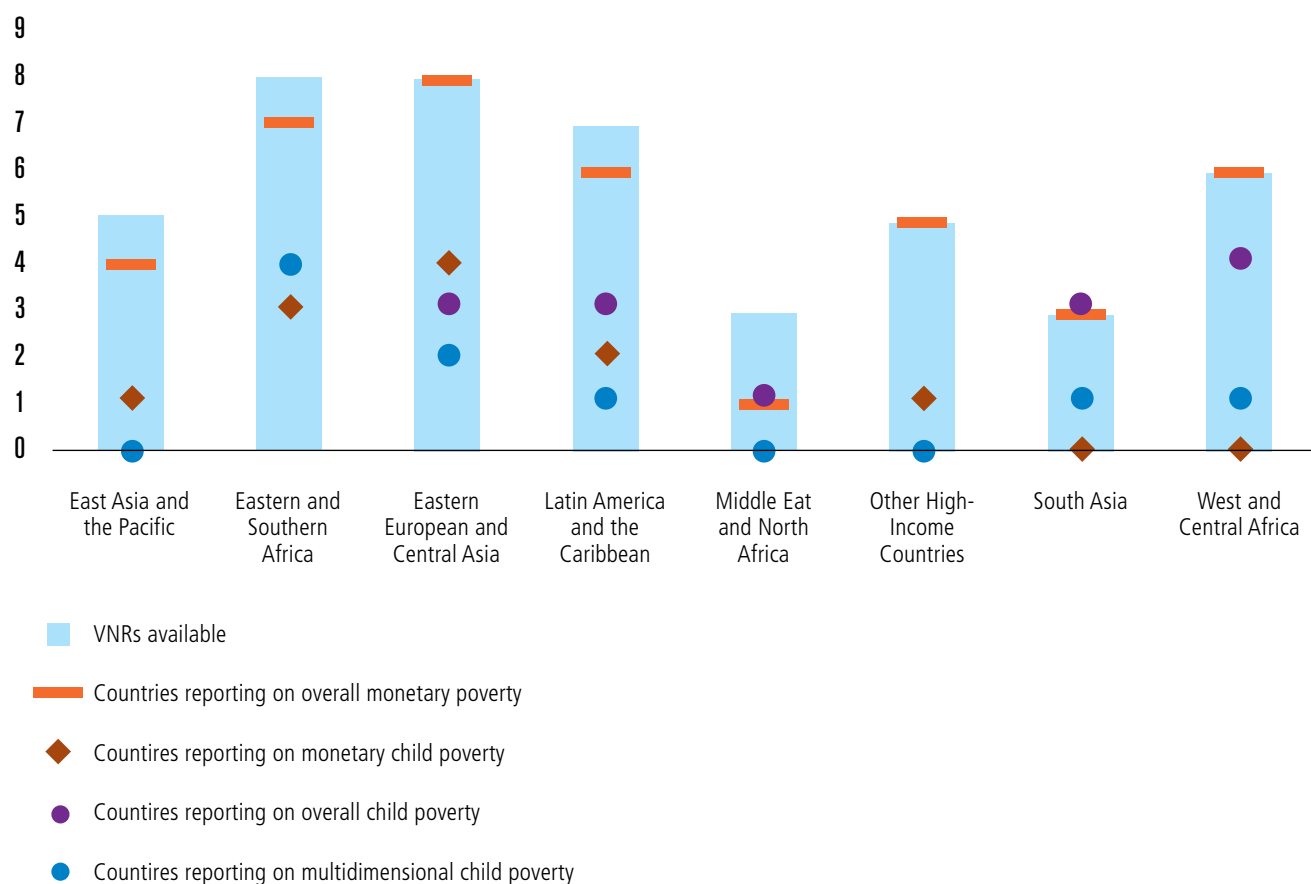
Source: ESCAP Online survey 2020

Both the income and multidimensional poverty incidence data presented in this section depicts a pre-COVID-19 situation. Various agencies, including the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, have projected that COVID-19 will increase both income poverty and multidimensional poverty. The projections, however, vary by organization and over time. The World Bank projections conducted in January 2021 show that between 119 (baseline scenario) and 124 (downside scenario) million people would be pushed back into extreme poverty. Asia and the Pacific region will experience a greater impact of COVID-19 on poverty than any other region of the world, with 60 per cent of the projected new poor being in South Asia. Therefore, poverty incidence seems to be increasing against the backdrop of COVID-19 impact in 2020 and after.<sup>12</sup> Andy Sumner et. al (2020) estimates additional 85 million extreme poor with a 5 percent contraction in consumption but a much higher number of poor with 20 percent contraction (419 million).<sup>13</sup>

After more than 30 year of continuous decrease, child poverty is estimated to increase in 2020. As a result of the COVID -19, UNICEF estimates that there will be more than 35 million additional income poor children in the region (22 million in East Asia and Pacific, 13 million in South Asia).<sup>14</sup>



**Figure 6:** Countries reporting monetary and multidimensional poverty in their VNRs



Source: UNICEF. End Child Poverty

An increase is estimated on multidimensional poverty particularly in the areas of education, healthcare, nutrition and childcare. Substantial impacts on multidimensional poverty are expected through two MPI indicators that are being severely affected by the pandemic—nutrition and children’s school attendance.

UNDP and OPHI simulations indicate that in aggregate global MPI across 70 countries could increase as high as 60 percent in 2020, reaching the same value as around 2011. It means that increase in deprivations because of COVID-19 may set poverty levels back by 9.1 years, with an additional 490 million people falling into multidimensional poverty across the 70 countries.<sup>15</sup> More and more countries are reporting on child poverty (monetary and multidimensional) in their VNRs, even if still the proportion of child poverty is low in the Asia-Pacific region compared with other regions in the world (Figure 6).<sup>16</sup>

As Asia and the Pacific region is still home of almost half of the world’s poor, the impact of COVID-19 in the region seems to loom large. The economic loss due to disaster is increasing, whereas spending on the building human capability and resilience is decreasing. COVID-19 has also put a challenge on achieving the SDGs including the poverty goal. In the ESCAP online survey, out of the 25 respondents, 28 percent viewed achieving SDGs has been impacted by COVID-19, and another 24 percent were indifferent. Majority of them pointed out increasing unemployment and vulnerability and/or falling back to poverty are the key emerging challenges.<sup>17</sup>



## A. AREAS WHERE GOOD PROGRESS IS MADE

As mentioned in the preceding section, the indicators showing progress represent the following areas:

- **Reduction in extreme poverty**
- **Access to water and sanitation**

At the aggregate level, Asia and the Pacific region can achieve the target of extreme poverty reduction. But the progress varies by sub-regions. Some sub-regions like Pacific, South and South-West Asia and Southeast Asia may not achieve the target of 'no extreme poverty' at the current rate of progress. East and Northeast Asia, and North and Central Asia are in much better position compared to other sub-regions but they also need to make significant efforts given the depressing impact of COVID-19 on economic growth in 2020.

Following to extreme poverty reduction, access to water and sanitation is another area where some modest progress is made, however, none of the sub-regions seem to attain the target by 2030, at the current rate of progress. Asia and the Pacific is not on track to achieve any of the targets for clean water and sanitation. The biggest constraint for the region is water stress, where the situation has significantly worsened since 2000 and is likely to continue to regress unless significant actions are taken.

## B. AREAS REQUIRING SPECIFIC ATTENTION AND ASSOCIATED KEY CHALLENGES

Areas requiring special focus to achieve SDG1 include, among others, the following:

- **Increasing the coverage of social protection**
- **Reducing the economic loss from disasters**
- **Increasing the investment on building human capabilities – education and health**

The role of social protection has been further extended with the COVID -19. It has been embedded in the UN Secretary General five-pillar national socioeconomic response framework for recovery from COVID-19. This however provides an opportunity to the countries for investing more on social protection. Therefore, it is likely that the coverage can accelerate in near future.

COVID-19 and compounding disaster events have been hitting the region, widening multidimensional poverty and inequalities and exacerbating the underlying vulnerabilities to climate and disasters.

As demonstrated by the Shock Waves World Bank report,<sup>18</sup> climate change is a threat to poverty eradication. Beyond a disaster risk multiplier, climate change is involved in most of the shocks that keep or push people to poverty. For example, climate-induced health shocks result into increased health expenditures and lost labor income; sea-level rise impacts on soils and water, or crop disease and crop loss. Long term climate change impacts on ecosystems can make some low-lying coastal areas completely inhabitable, leading to displacement with significant impacts on multidimensional poverty.

Despite remarkable progress on eradicating poverty since 2000, the 2030 predictions show that progress is insufficient on all targets of Goal 1 apart from SDG 1.1 on international poverty. To achieve the SDG targets on Goal 1, the Asia-Pacific region needs to accelerate progress on public spending on education and health, resilience against disasters, social protection, national poverty, and fulfilling official development assistance commitments for poverty reduction in LDCs. Such increased investment in people is also in line with States' commitments under international human rights international law, to take deliberate, concrete and targeted steps and to use maximum available resources and, towards the full realization of the economic, social and cultural rights that are preconditions for reducing poverty and reaching SDG 1.



In fact, all the above three areas where accelerated progress is warranted, are interrelated. Social protection can serve as a policy tool to build the capabilities as well as help build the resilience of the poor and vulnerable. Similarly, increasing investment in education and health and in enhancing resilience is a pro-poor expenditure. Recent ESCAP analysis quantified the benefit of this approach. A CGE modelling projected that, increasing government expenditure in social protection over 2016 to 2030 to be in line with global average spending as a proportion of GDP (11%), would reduce the number of people living in extreme poverty by 2030 from 119 million to 53 million.<sup>19</sup> Comparable results were also found for investments in education, health and infrastructure. While the model contains numerous assumptions and was created before the COVID-19 pandemic, it provides clear evidence that governments need to increase their investment in these areas in order to realize the pledge of 2030 Agenda – Leave no one behind.

## **C. INTEGRATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY CONSIDERATIONS**

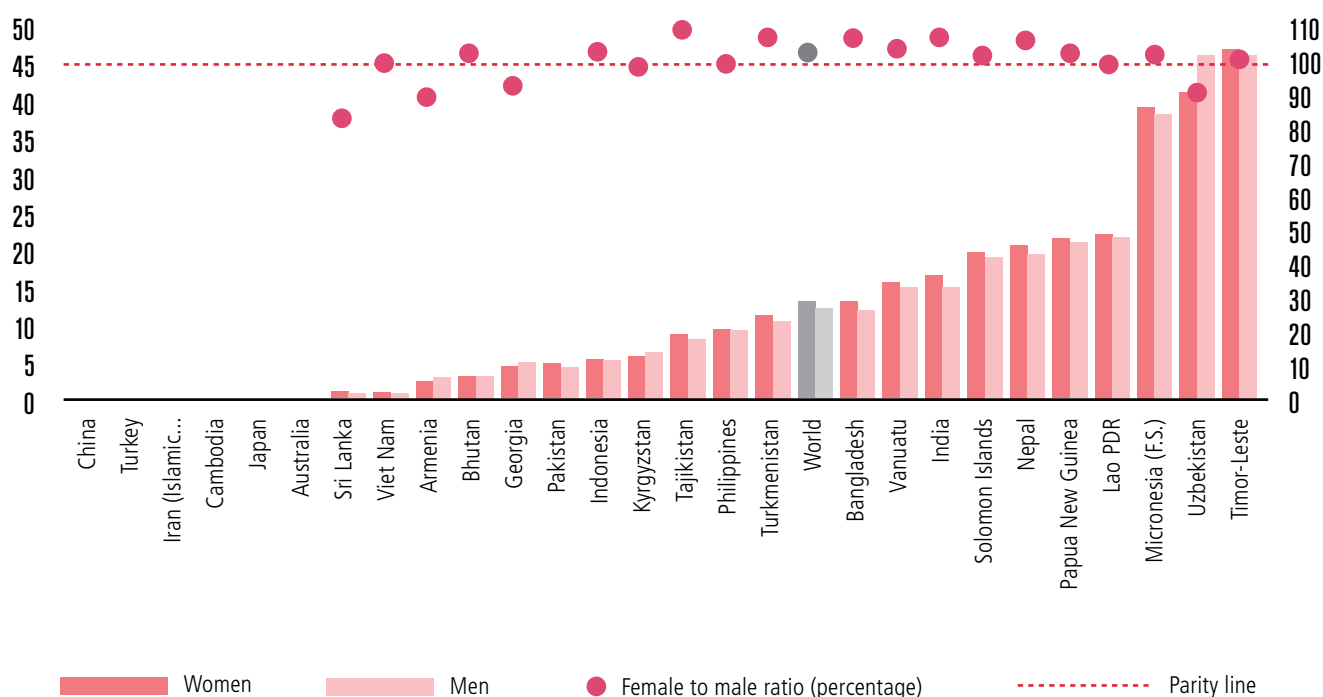
Poverty is not only deprivation of economic resources but also a violation of human dignity. Multidimensional poverty links in particular to the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to social security and the enjoyment of other economic, social and cultural rights in conditions of dignity. As it relates to capabilities, choices, security and power it also links to civil and political rights that enable a person to participate in society. Discrimination and exclusion are both causes and consequences of poverty, and persons living in poverty often experience disadvantage and discrimination based on race, gender, age, ethnicity, religion, language or other status. Women are overrepresented among the extreme poor.

A human rights-based approach to poverty eradication is based on the recognition of persons living in poverty as rightsholders and agents of change. It respects the dignity and autonomy of persons living in poverty and empowers them to meaningfully and effectively participate in public life, including in the design of public policy, and in holding governments accountable.

As COVID-19 decelerates poverty gains, women's economic empowerment is a key to achieve SDG 1. Asia-Pacific has seen rapid decline in extreme poverty since 2000, but in most countries, women remain overrepresented among the extreme poor (Figure 7). For every 100 men living in extreme poverty, 105 women live below the international poverty line in Central and South Asia and 103 in Oceania,<sup>20</sup> compared to the global average of 102 women for every 100 men. As the COVID-19 crisis decelerates poverty, this is likely to increase female poverty<sup>21</sup> (Target 1.1).



**Figure 7:** Proportion of population living in extreme poverty



Source: Source: From Insight to Action: Gender Equality in the wake of COVID-19. Available from <https://data.unwomen.org/publications/insights-action-gender-equality-wake-covid-19>

Note: Poverty estimates for women and men have been rounded off to two decimal places. In some cases, this may explain why the female to male ratio appears different. Additionally, gender poverty ratios are not shown for countries with extreme poverty rates below 1%. This is because in any country with low levels of poverty, any difference in poverty rates by sex will appear larger, due to the small base values and is hence likely to not be statistically significant

The provision of social protection plays a crucial role in promoting economic empowerment. The right to social security requires States to use their maximum available resources to ensure all individuals enjoy basic income security throughout their lives.

Existing measures fail to adequately meet women's needs in most countries across the region (Target 1.3). For instance, maternity cash benefits reach less than half the mothers in the bulk of Asia-Pacific countries, only in three countries did all mothers receive these benefits. The lack of social security can compel some women to continue working late into their pregnancies, thus exposing them to health risks.<sup>22</sup> The unemployed population in some Asia-Pacific countries is also less likely to receive social security benefits, compared to the global average (22%).

The coverage of pension schemes, similarly, is lower than the global average in some countries, while gender gaps prevail in others. In Asia-Pacific, the coverage of social protection schemes for individuals with severe disabilities<sup>23</sup> ranks the lowest in the world, at 9 per cent.<sup>24</sup> Women with severe disabilities are disproportionately left behind. In all countries with available data, except for Australia, less than 3 per cent of women with severe disabilities received disability cash benefits – and women fared worse than their men counterparts consistently.



### III. PROMISING INNOVATIONS AND BEST PRACTICES

Eradicating all forms of poverty requires a multi-pronged approach given that poverty is a broader concept including not only income but also several non-income dimensions. The governments of the region have made several good efforts to eradicate poverty. A couple of them are briefly outlined here.

#### Microenterprise Development Programme

Poverty reduction requires a programme which is owned and internalized by Government, and which builds human capital and skill such as UNDP-implemented Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MEDEP) in Nepal that started in 1998. It has evolved as one of the most successful poverty reduction initiatives directly working with the poor and building their entrepreneurial skills. It has succeeded to establish a Micro Enterprise Development Model and helped the Government of Nepal (GoN) to build structures and environment for the sustainable micro enterprise development. The GoN internalized the programme in 2013 and received capacity building support of Government agencies and private sector organizations for a period of five years. The programme is now being considered for providing employment to the returning Nepalese labourers from abroad due to COVID-19 shock.

#### Shock-responsive social protection in ASEAN

With the growing risks, the existing social protection system should be made shock-responsive. In October 2020, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) launched the ASEAN Guidelines on Disaster responsive social protection to increase resilience. The integrated approach adopted through these guidelines promotes strengthening, adaptation and expansion of existing social protection systems in order to anticipate and meet the needs of vulnerable groups and mitigate the impact of potential crisis.

Countries have adapted their social protection system to be COVID-19 responsive. For example, in Cambodia the impacts of the pandemic were especially felt through global slowdown on its key sectors including garments, textile, footwear, tourism and construction, resulting into the doubling of the poverty rate to 17.6 percent. To address the impacts, the government expanded its existing social-protection system building on their information system, the ID Poor, which enabled the government to quickly roll out a pro-poor countercyclical fiscal response to support health system preparedness and boost social assistance which included an allocation of \$ 300 million for poor and vulnerable groups.<sup>25</sup> A COVID-19 cash transfer system to support vulnerable households was set up with support provided by UN partners which helped the government improve the existing social cadaster system to increase registration of those affected by job and livelihood losses. Beyond horizontal expansion, the 2.4 million individuals which were registered in the ID Poor government database prior to the pandemic were supported with additional benefits through cash grants for up to 7 months.

#### Creation of National Disaster Loss and Damage Database

Collection of disaggregated data is necessary for achieving the SDG 1 including the Target 1.5.1 - reduction of number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population. UNDP has supported several countries in Asia-Pacific region to establish national disaster loss and damage databases which record disaggregated data for these indicators at sub-national levels, together with data for several other indicators of the Sendai Framework and the national disaster risk reduction priorities. This greatly helps countries not only in reporting for indicators of the Sendai Framework but also understanding their spatial variation by provinces. Disaggregation of data (by gender, age, income, hazard, disability, geography) allows identifying vulnerable groups and areas to implement urgent actions for reducing severe disaster and climate impacts. While the data dis-aggregation is not



uniform across countries, more countries have started collecting disaggregated data. Some examples of national disaster loss and damage databases include – Cambodia’s Camdi (<http://camdi.ncdm.gov.kh>), Indonesia’s DIBI (<http://dibi.bnbp.go.id>), Myanmar’s MDLD (<http://www.mdld-rrd.gov.mm/>), and so on.<sup>26</sup>

## IV. PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

1. The outcomes of the round table on Sustainable Development Goal 1 were informed by the relevant goal profile and focused attention on the following action areas for Asia and the Pacific.
2. **Build human capabilities and empower people and government’s service providers.** Increasing investment in building peoples’ capacities before a crisis, and not only during a crisis is necessary. Countries that invested in human capabilities earlier saw a quicker recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Such investments could focus on supporting people to build their own capacities, such as through alternative livelihood opportunities, and on building skills for household financial literacy to empower people to make informed financial decisions. Governments can work with the private sector to build human capacities. Partnerships with the private sector can also help cities to reframe their thinking and build upon gaps and opportunities.
3. Widening the scope of systems for human capacity development is necessary, in particular by equipping civil servants and social service providers at different levels of governments with the capacities to deliver broad responses. Officials working on reducing poverty could be stationed directly in the field and use a whole-of-society approach to strengthen human capacities and promote leadership. A multi-tiered qualification system could be developed for social service providers in government to support a broad-based public service delivery approach that would see a shift in public trust and improve public service delivery.
4. **Promote and protect economic, social, and cultural rights, including the right to social security.** Social protection programs are currently fragmented, and coverage is low across the Asia-Pacific region. Expanding universal social protection in line with the ILO Social Protection Floors recommendation, following a life cycle approach, using the maximum available resources, in line with the right to security under international human rights treaties that all countries have ratified, and investing in people and social services, is key to reducing poverty. Social protection systems need to be enhanced through strengthening integrated, inclusive, transparent and accountable processes that are age and gender sensitive with mechanisms that allow grievances to be submitted and fairly addressed. Social protection programmes must be accompanied by other investments in good governance, such as independent and effective national human rights institutions and right to information laws. Participation and consultation are key elements of accountability in social protection programmes, and going forward, policies and programmes adopted without sufficient public participation must be avoided, as was the case in the context of COVID-19.
5. **Social protection systems need to be universal in coverage, coherent with other policies and be disaster-responsive and risk-informed.** While progress is noted in the adoption of national disaster risk reduction strategies, additional investments are required to strengthen multi-hazard disaster risk governance systems to enable multisectoral implementation of such strategies for effective reduction of risks and losses.
6. To this end, States must secure the fiscal policy space to guarantee minimum essential levels of economic and social rights and consider reallocating existing resources and “ringfencing” social spending. For equitable financing, States must also ensure that the burden does not fall disproportionately on those left behind, and adopt fair and progressive taxation, address tax



avoidance, illicit financial flows and corruption. As a lesson learned from COVID-19, we must also urgently address the underlying causes of vulnerability, marginalization and discrimination.

7. **Build the resilience of poor and at-risk and marginalized groups and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to shocks.** Expanding the coverage of social protection is necessary for building the resilience and for sustained poverty eradication. Expenditure on social protection should be viewed as an investment in capital with return. The imperative of inclusive social protection has moved beyond its traditional protective role to a promotive and transformative function - a role which helps build resilience as well as reduce vulnerability and thus sustain human progress protecting from increased frequency and intensity of shocks including health shocks such as COVID-19. Enhanced risk-informed social protection systems, factoring in scalability and adaptability of social protection schemas in existing policies would contribute to enhanced responsiveness of social protection systems in times of crisis as well as enhance their value to prevent negative coping strategies, enable recovery as well as to reduce vulnerabilities to climate and disaster risks.
8. **Enhance climate and disaster risk reduction action to protect life, livelihoods and reduce disruptions in access to infrastructures and basic services.** Management of disaster and climate risks is very much necessary to minimise the human and economic loss in Asia and the Pacific, a region which is most prone to disaster and suffers from higher loss compared to the other regions of the world. While progress is noted in the adoption of national disaster risk reduction strategies (with thirty countries in the Asia-Pacific region), additional investments are required in strengthening multi-hazard disaster risk governance systems to enable multisectoral implementation of such strategies for effective reduction of risks and losses.
9. **Foster women's participation in all facets of decision makings for nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures.** To enhance economic empowerment by providing inclusive social protection, targeted efforts are required to address women's needs. It is important to recognise the transformational impact for women of increased ownership and opportunity to access to land and resources. Investment is needed in small-and medium sized enterprises owned by women and special support for women's access to decent jobs, while also reflecting the nuance of gender identification and the impact this has on the effectiveness of response measures. Social protection programmes must be more reflective of such nuances.
10. Crafting gender-responsive fiscal stimulus packages and social protection programmes is vital to achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable. Ensuring gender-diverse perspectives and women's participation in all stages of decision making for national social protection systems is a key to a more inclusive and prosperous society. There must be adequate grievance and redress mechanisms and a focus on formal as well as informal social protection systems.
11. **Enhance the capacity for collecting disaggregated data and analysis.** It is necessary to collect high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics as mentioned in 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Disaggregated data on who and how people are left behind is required for scalable and responsive social protection. Social protection should reach those that needs it most. We need data collection and management system to collect information on marginalized groups for governments to identify these vulnerable groups, and know where they live. Data is also key to ensure economic stimulus and other policy and programme initiatives and reach those who need them most (e.g., within the private sector). Robust data, information and statistics systems are enablers to strengthen social protection systems. Governments need to know who those marginalized peoples are, where they are and how to reach them. Collecting comprehensive and disaggregated data requires building frameworks for enhancing data development and analytical skills in governments, like skills for surveying, geographic information system, and aggregation, in order to ensure quality



and accessible disaggregated data is collected and made available. Securing access to demographic data on marginalised and vulnerable groups is key, as well as to accurate population measuring and demography for identification of tenure security (indicator 1.4.2), but developing data collection systems that anonymize data but that are still useful for analysis comes with both technical and social acceptance issues related to data privacy. Governments should partner with civil society and the private sector to enhance their data collection capacities, in particular partnering with cities to identify their needs and options for digitalisation, and to promote city-led local initiatives.

## ANNEX

The official indicator framework for **SDG 1** proposes 13 indicators for goal 1.

Target	Indicator	Status of indicator (Tier)	Latest data available	Comments (Proxies)
<b>1.1</b> By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day	<b>1.1.1</b> Proportion of the population living below the international poverty line by sex, age, employment status and geographic location (urban/rural)	I	2018	
<b>1.2</b> By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	<b>1.2.1</b> Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age	I	Different years	
	<b>1.2.2</b> Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	II		
<b>1.3</b> Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable	<b>1.3.1</b> Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable	II		
<b>1.4</b> By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance	<b>1.4.1</b> Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services	I		
	<b>1.4.2</b> Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, (a) with legally recognized documentation, and (b) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure	II		

Continued ▼



<b>1.5</b> By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	<b>1.5.1</b> Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	I		
	<b>1.5.2</b> Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)	II		
	<b>1.5.3</b> Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030	II		
	<b>1.5.4</b> Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies	II		
<b>1.a</b> Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions	<b>1.a.1</b> Total official development assistance grants from all donors that focus on poverty reduction as a share of the recipient country's gross national income	II		
	<b>1.a.2</b> Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)	II		
<b>1.b</b> Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions	<b>1.b.1</b> Pro-poor public social spending	II		



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## ENDNOTES

1. The extreme poor are persons living on less than \$1.90 a day at 2011 international prices. World Bank. 2020. Poverty and Shared prosperity 2020: Reversals of Fortunes. Washington, DC: World Bank.
2. ESCAP estimates are based on the most recent data available on the World Bank's Povcalnet (<http://iresearch.worldbank.org/PovcalNet/povOnDemand.aspx>)
3. The multidimensional poor is identified using multidimensional poverty index (MPI) measured by Alkire-Foster Method. The MPI was launched by UNDP and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) in 2010 Human Development Report. The (global) MPI is measured using 10 indicators in three equally-weighted dimensions: health, education and standard of living. The 10 indicators include nutrition, child mortality, years of schooling, school attendance, drinking water, sanitation, cooking fuel, electricity, housing, and assets. For the details, see UNDP and OPHI. 2020. Global Multidimensional Poverty Index. Charting pathways out of multidimensional poverty: Achieving the SDGs. New York: UNDP
4. UNDP and OPHI. 2020. Global Multidimensional Poverty Index. Charting pathways out of multidimensional poverty: Achieving the SDGs. New York: UNDP
5. UNDP .2020. Human Development Report 2020. The Next Frontier: Human Development and Anthropocene. New York: United Nations Development Programme.
6. This also implies that the threshold of \$1.9 is not adequate for fulfilling the basic needs in all countries. World Bank, therefore, introduced other poverty thresholds of \$3.2 and \$5.5 a day for the lower and upper middle income countries separately.
7. ESCAP SDG Data Gateway
8. ESCAP (2019). Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2019. Please see <https://www.unescap.org/publications/asia-pacific-disaster-report-2019>; ESCAP (2020). Ready for the Dry Years. Building Resilience To Drought In South-East Asia (2nd Edition). Please see <https://www.unescap.org/publications/ready-dry-years-building-resilience-drought-south-east-asia-2nd-edition>
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14. <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/covid-19-number-children-living-household-poverty-soar-86-million-end-year>
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16. <http://www.endchildhoodpoverty.org/publications-feed/2020/10/17/briefing-paper>
17. ESCAP Online Survey
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19. ESCAP (2019). Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2019. Please see <https://www.unescap.org/publications/asia-pacific-disaster-report-2019>



20. Any mentions of Oceania in this document exclude Australia and New Zealand.
21. UN Women (2020). Please see <https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/gender-equality-in-the-wake-of-covid-19-en.pdf?la=en&vs=5142>
22. ILO (2017). [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_604882.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_604882.pdf)
23. While there is no universal definition of severe disabilities, the estimates for the social protection coverage rely on the definition adopted by the World Health Organization. Proportion of persons with disabilities receiving benefits: ratio of persons receiving disability cash benefits to persons with severe disabilities. The latter is calculated as the product of prevalence of disability ratios (published for each country group by the World Health Organization) and each country's population. For more details, please see [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_604882.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_604882.pdf)
24. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_604882.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_604882.pdf)
25. <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/project-documents/54195/54195-001-rrp-en.pdf>
26. UNDP country Offices. For example, UNDP Indonesia. Data dan Informasi Bencana Indonesia. [http://camdi.ncdm.gov.kh/DesInventar/Attached/Eng\\_CamDi\\_Analysis\\_Report\\_Final\\_LowRes.pdf](http://camdi.ncdm.gov.kh/DesInventar/Attached/Eng_CamDi_Analysis_Report_Final_LowRes.pdf)





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