

UN ESCAP Meeting
Session 5: Who are left
Behind?

Responses to Education and Clean Energy

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Methodological Discussion:

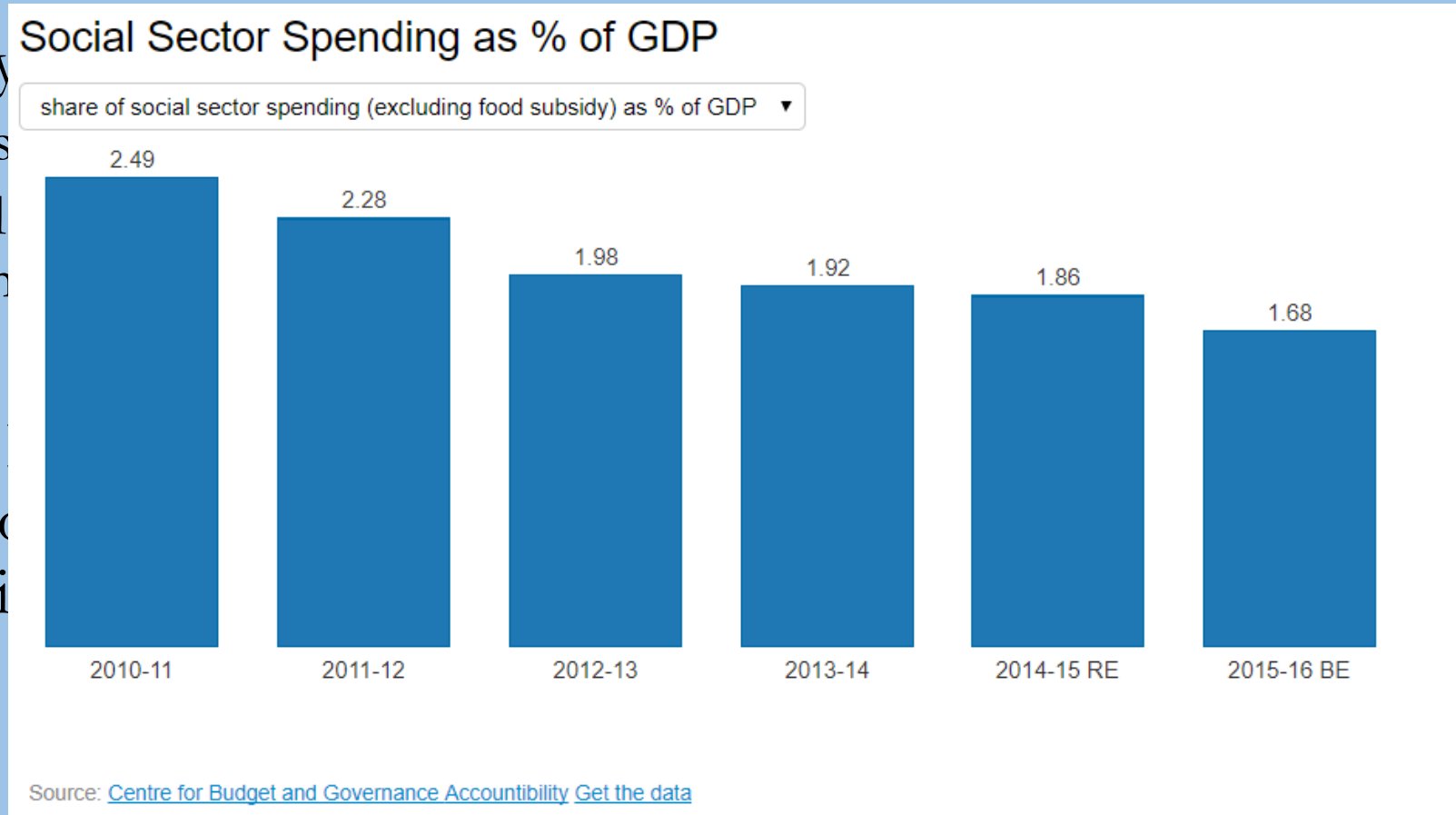
- Results validate what a lot of recent studies are showing – ODI; UNESCO, YoungLives studies
- Use of wealth - 40%:60%
 - The 60% needs to be disaggregated to get a more granular picture
 - The bottom of the wealth “rich” – In HCMC, approx. 100,000 households included in ‘poverty list’ as not income deprived but MD poor (Linh et al, UNDP blog)
 - Perhaps bottom 40% and top 40%
 - Cross-country comparability of wealth quintiles
 - Weights: How sensitive is the bottom 40% to the PCA weights
- Opportunities: children at the right age attending school

Findings and Implications

- “Rurality” is an important node of exclusion and overt-time disparities in opportunities:
 - State’s role to ensure this - Access as a first step remain important
 - Social protection/assistance - what are the implications for universal basic income? Cash transfers?
- Striking how social protection and social assistance programmes have been strong in countries that have noted impressive reductions (Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam)
 - What does that mean for social protection?

Findings and Implications

- “Rurality”
 - State’s
 - Social
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- Striking
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 - What



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Findings and Implications

- Heterogeneity in stock achievements and over-time changes:
 - Country cases are illuminating: In clean energy, countries like Bangladesh and India show a huge urban bias, whereas VN, and Maldives struggle with affordability; Adding ethnicity to Viet Nam, increases the gap for the most disadvantaged group
- Changes over time: What would be interesting is to look at countries at similar inequality contributions in t_0 and their changes over time

Larger Implications of \neq

- Data – data where the unit of analysis can be individuals
- Emphasises structural factors:
 - Take seriously “social distance” for inequality traps – gender, caste, ethnicity, migration status.
 - Need for affirmative action is far from “outlived utility”?
- Finally, I raise a point on targeting vs. universalisation
 - Inequalities \Rightarrow solidarity \Rightarrow universalisation
 - With stubborn inequalities, and countries that have made most progress have shown a strong leaning towards universal policies, do these axes of inequality serve as points of target or a call for universalization

Inequalities among the Multi-dimensionally Poor

| | Ineq MPI Poor | Rank_MPI | EOI_HighEdu | EOI_SecEdu |
|--------------|---------------|----------|-------------|------------|
| Kazakhstan | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Turkmenistan | 0.003 | 2 | 8 | 6 |
| Armenia | 0.015 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| Maldives | 0.022 | 4 | 15 | 20 |
| Thailand | 0.024 | 5 | 3 | 7 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 0.046 | 6 | 1 | 3 |
| Tajikistan | 0.064 | 7 | 7 | 5 |
| Vanuatu | 0.086 | 8 | 19 | 10 |
| Viet Nam | 0.096 | 9 | 6 | 9 |
| Indonesia | 0.1 | 10 | 10 | 8 |
| Bhutan | 0.114 | 11 | 16 | 17 |
| Philippines | 0.123 | 12 | 4 | 4 |
| Cambodia | 0.132 | 13 | 17 | 19 |
| Myanmar | 0.139 | 14 | 14 | 18 |
| India | 0.145 | 15 | 13 | 16 |
| Bangladesh | 0.156 | 16 | 12 | 13 |
| Timor-Leste | 0.213 | 17 | 17 | 11 |
| Laos | 0.217 | 18 | 18 | 15 |
| Pakistan | 0.244 | 19 | 9 | 12 |
| Afghanistan | 0.252 | 20 | 20 | 14 |
| Rank Corr | | | 0.43 | 0.61 |