

Social protection gaps in Asia and the Pacific



*First Meeting of the Group of Experts
Bangkok, 25 June 2019*



61%

of people in Asia and Pacific

unprotected



42%

of people **lack health coverage**



66%

of mothers with newborns

do not have maternity protection

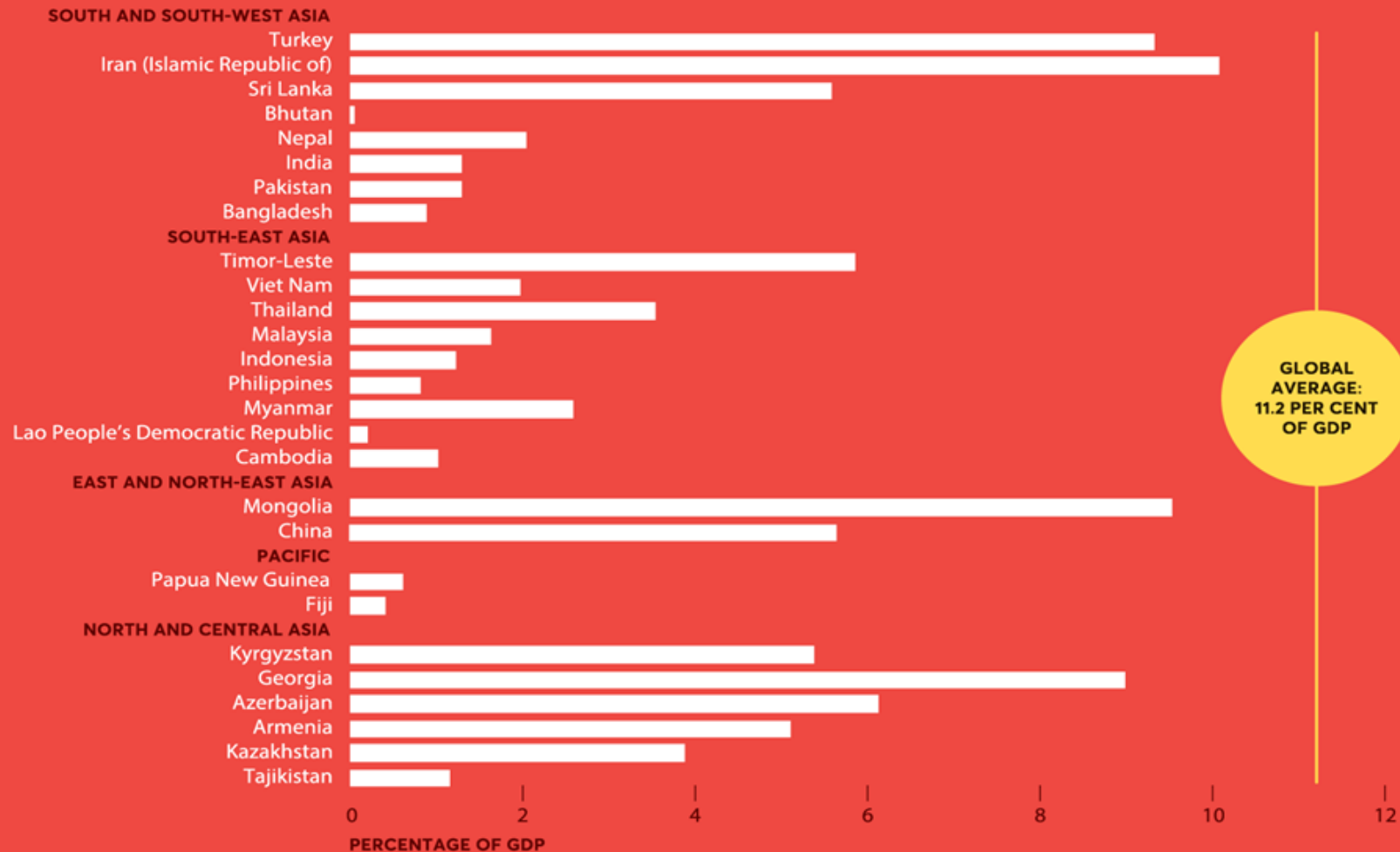


45%
of older persons
**do not receive a
pension**



The region is not investing enough in social protection

Public spending on social protection as share of GDP



Significant challenges

- Lack of trust in public institutions
- High level of workers vulnerability (classic and new non standards form of employment)
- Fragmentation and lack of coordination within tax funded but also between tax funded and contributory schemes



Some positive developments

- Slowly growing political conscience regarding the importance of SP
- Some countries are launching new schemes and expanding existing schemes
- Several ongoing national reforms (national SP Policy frameworks and pension reforms)



Social Protection in Asia and the Pacific

- **Late starters**
- **Fast runners**



Possible action areas

- Strengthen policy development and implementation
- Increase investments
- Set national targets
- Promote peer learning & knowledge



What can be done to improve regional collaboration?

- What are the key gaps in your country?
- How can the modality help close these gaps?

