

SOCIAL PROTECTION WEEK

ADB

**THE FUTURE OF SOCIAL PROTECTION
IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

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OVERVIEW: 5 major trends

- ❑ Social protection systems in the region will progressively improve their coverage of vulnerable groups, adopting more universal approaches.
- ❑ These systems will link with social and infrastructure services, both improving access and integrating into more comprehensive programs that strengthen developmental outcomes.
- ❑ In the face of climate risks, social protection systems in Asia and the Pacific will play a strategic role in supporting the social dimension of the transition to a green and sustainable economy and society.
- ❑ These systems will support and rely on the development of inclusive digital technologies.
- ❑ Policy makers will increasingly rely on high-quality evidence to drive good practices, growing the demand for initiatives for improved data collection and monitoring.

FUTURE DIRECTION 1:

Improving coverage for vulnerable groups

- Universal shocks and the adoption of inclusive life cycle approaches
- Progressive innovation and expansion of coverage
 - Social pensions
 - Disability grants
 - Child benefits
- A result of COVID-19 lessons
- Building resilience to future shocks (likely to accelerate due to climate change)

FUTURE DIRECTION 2:

Social protection and infrastructure

Social protection systems will link with social and infrastructure services, both improving access and integrating into more comprehensive programs that strengthen developmental outcomes

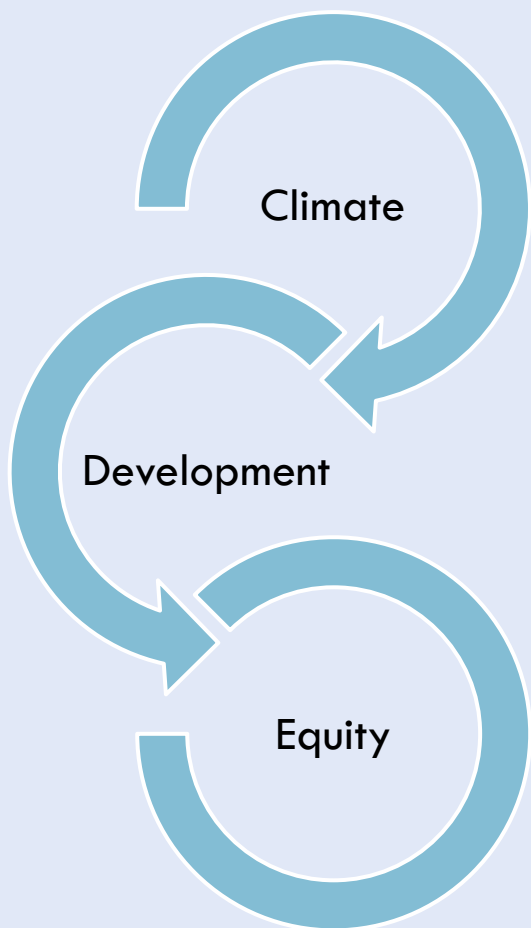
For example, the Davao Public Transit Modernization Project

– Growing importance of integration of hardware and software

- Infrastructure is the hardware of economic growth
- Social protection supports the complementary software driving labor productivity



FUTURE DIRECTION 3: Supporting comprehensive and integrated national strategies to optimize climate and development goals: the social dimension of the transition to a green and sustainable economy and society.



- Climate change mitigation is disruptive
- COVID-19 has demonstrated how policy responses can accelerate social and economic consequences
- The transition to a green and sustainable society will require industrial, labor, technology and other costly adjustments
 - Developmental social protection will complement the optimal mix of climate and development strategies

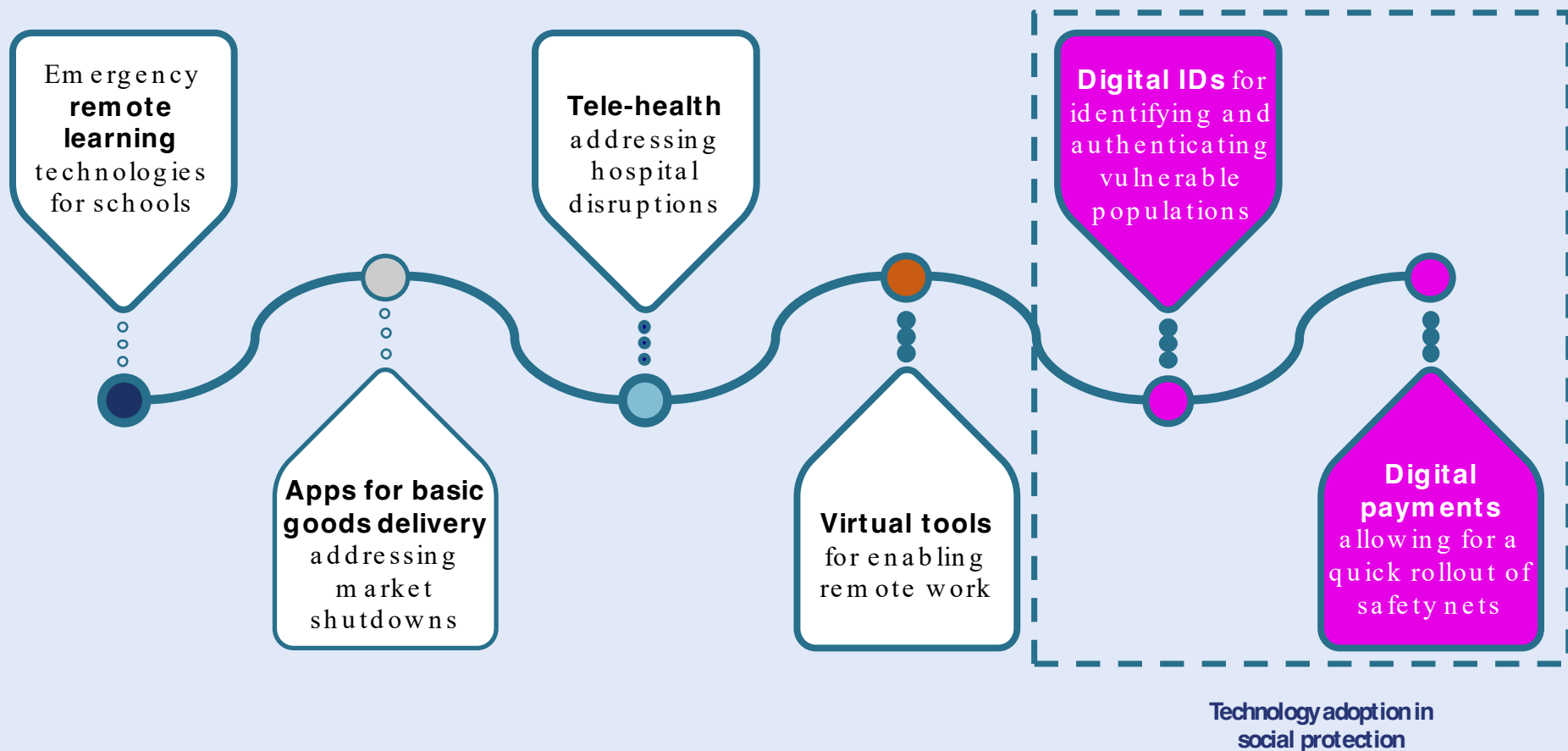


FUTURE DIRECTION 4:

Inclusive digital technologies

- Asia and the Pacific region has recognized the importance of technology
 - Digitization of social protection systems
 - Inter-operability
 - OpenMIS and other initiatives to maximize global public goods
- COVID-19 has highlighted the essential character of digital technologies in building resilience

Inclusive digital technologies build multiple dimensions of resilience



FUTURE DIRECTION 5: Evidence

- APSP 2023 demonstrates the growing appreciation of evidence
- An extensive review of government perspectives on social protection—and policy more broadly—highlights demand for evidence to inform policy.
- Growing demand for capacity building and communities of practice

