



Asia-Pacific Social Protection Week Session 15



Stop Guessing, Start Knowing: The Power of Data and Evidence

How the Punjab Socio-Economic Registry (PSER) Helped Target Social Assistance to those most in Need

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Why Punjab Needs PSER



After the 18th Constitutional Amendment, 2010, social protection (SP) is primarily a provincial responsibility.

The need for a provincial socio-economic registry had been long felt to have a customized database made in response to Punjab's specific needs and plan of action.

The present government decided to develop PSER as a decision-support system for broader development planning as well as social protection assistance.

What PSER does Differently?



Focus on nuclear families instead of traditional households



Recording of all residents of Punjab irrespective of national identity card reducing the coverage gap



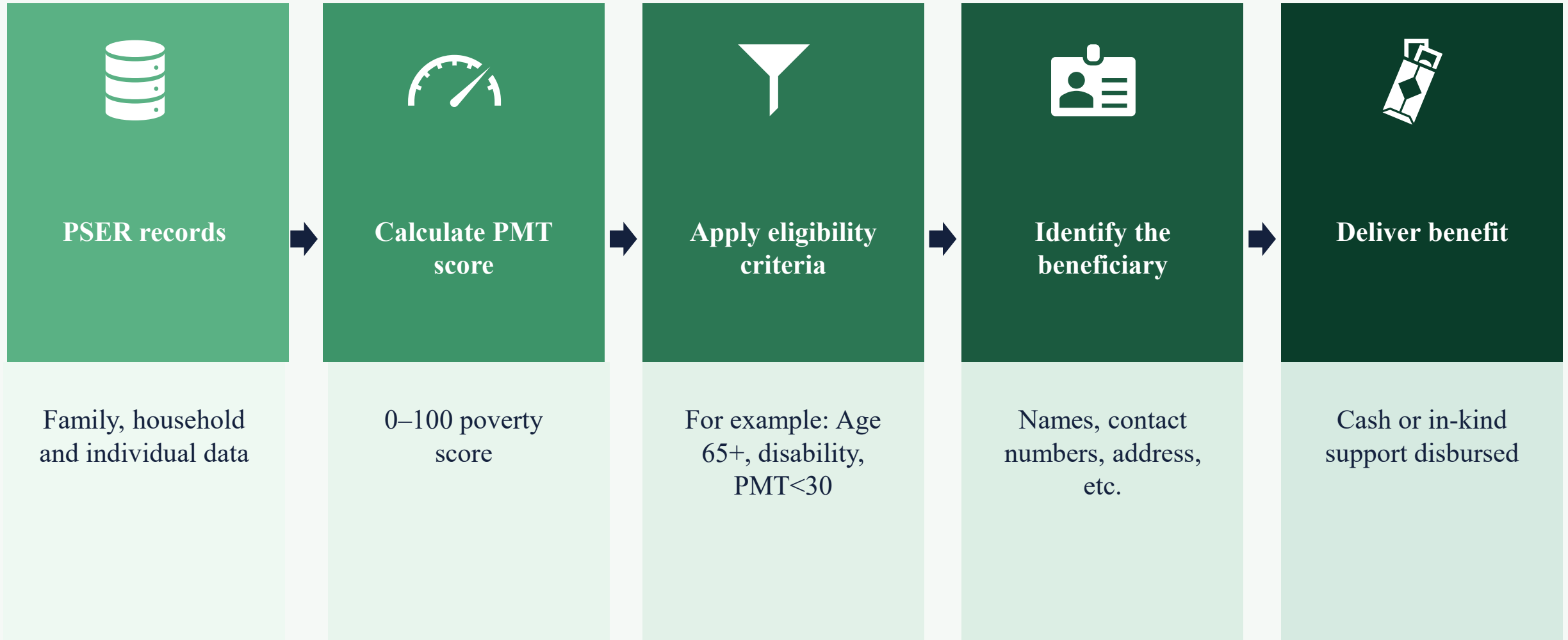
GPS coordinates of each family



Linkages with administrative data



Process of Targeting





PSER Utilization for SP Program Targeting



Program	Applicants / Beneficiaries	PMT Cut-off Used
Ramzan Nigahban Package	3 million families identified; 2.93 m cards delivered; 2.7 m families withdrew Rs. 10,000	PMT < 28
Maryam ko Batain	2.8m applications; 109,776 eligible and paid	PMT < 28
Livestock Asset Transfer	75,666 applications; 20,601 eligible	PMT <32
Chief Minister Punjab Minority Card	100,000 poor religious minority families registered	PMT <30
Apni Chhat Mehfooz Chhat	224,063 applications; 133,361 eligible	PMT < 60
Apna Khet Apna Rozgar	271,015 applications; 138,429 eligible	PMT < 32
Fuel Subsidy	238,140 applications; 219,976 eligible bikers and farmland owners	NA
Rehmat card (for Widows)	577,952 applications, 78,511 eligible	PMT < 32



PSER Utilization in Combination with Other Admin Data



Integrated with the Online Statistical System of Punjab (OSSP) and One-Map Punjab for development planning and social protection decisions.



More schools where they're needed

Out-of-school children (PSER) matched with facility gaps (admin data)



More water filtration plants

Families without piped water (PSER) matched to plant locations (admin data)



Women's hostels & daycare

High female unemployment areas (PSER) matched to facility gaps (admin data)



Sharper programme targeting

PMT (PSER) distribution of scheme beneficiaries (admin data)



Using PSER for Adaptive Social Protection

BEFORE A SHOCK



Identify families in need

Flag locations of poor and vulnerable families using PSER and overlay with hazard-mapped areas



Act on agreed triggers

Use pre-set thresholds to trigger payouts or in-kind support

AFTER A SHOCK



Reassess needs

Update family data and PMT scores



Plan longer-term recovery

Combine PSER with damage assessment data

CLIMATE RISK TARGETING

District: Rajanpur



Most climate change affected district: Rajanpur

Most affected tehsil of Rajanpur: Rojhan

- 94,962 total families
- 29% own livestock
- 175,747 acres farmland at risk
- 72,433 PMT-poor families (76% of population)



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Thank you!