ASIA-PACIFIC
SOCIAL PROTECTION WEEK 2023
Social Protection in a Changing World
26–28 September • ADB headquarters, Manila, Philippines

Session 6C: Novel Data sources for Identification and Targeting in Social Protection

Moderator

Thomas Abell
Director, Digital Technology for Development Division
ADB

Thomas Abell is Director of ADB's Digital Technology for Development Division, which promotes the effective use of digital technology across ADB programs to improve development impact. His team works with ADB member countries in supporting the transition to the digital economy and provides assistance across many areas, including eGovernment, connectivity, tech startup ecosystems, earth observation, technology policy, and industry partnerships.

Thomas has over 30 years of professional experience in digital technology, including technology policy and strategy, software development, and systems architecture. During his 10+ years of experience in international development, he has worked extensively across Asia, Africa, and Latin America, working with governments, development organizations, NGOs and corporations. He has authored many publications on technology innovation in development, focused mainly on education, financial inclusion, and agriculture. Thomas has master's degrees in engineering and management and a bachelors in engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Tim Ohlenburg
Independent consultant
Digital Social Protection

Tim Ohlenburg is a PhD candidate in the Computer Science Department of University College London, where he researches proxy means testing, and a consultant on digital social protection. Before going back to university, he worked for the International Growth Centre in Uganda, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of Sierra Leone, and at the Centre for Economics and Business Research in London. His recent projects include collaborations with GIZ, the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank novel data and digital methods in social protection

Khaled Hasan, Joint Secretary
Cabinet Division
Bangladesh

Mohammad Khaled Hasan is an accomplished civil servant in the Government of Bangladesh, specializing in social protection policy analysis. He holds multiple degrees, including an MA in International HRM from Bedfordshire University, UK, an MA in Public Policy from Meiji University, Japan, and an MA in Applied Linguistics and ELT from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. With over two decades of experience in various positions of responsibility, Hasan has a proven track record in policy analysis, formulation, and evaluation.

Hasan has made significant contributions to the field of social protection policy and has authored several publications, including "Social Capital of Community Organizations for Enhancing Social Protection: Experiences of Japan and Bangladesh," published in the Journal of Social Development in Dhaka. He has also contributed to numerous government reports and seminar papers, such as "Development Centric Model of Social Protection in Bangladesh: An Analytical Overview". Currently, Hasan serves as Joint Secretary (Civil Registration and Social Security) in the Cabinet Division of the Government of Bangladesh, where he leads efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the social protection system. Prior to his current position, he worked as a Social Protection Specialist for the Social Protection Policy Support (SPPS) Programme at UNDP Bangladesh from 2015 to 2020.

Bernadette Balamban
Chief Statistical Specialist
Philippine Statistics Authority

She is the Chief Statistical Specialist of the Poverty and Human Development Statistics Division and one of the Team Leaders of the SDG Team of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), which is responsible for the overall coordination and monitoring of the SDG indicators in the country. Their unit is also responsible for the estimation of the official poverty statistics of the Philippines and coordinator of the Technical Committee on Poverty Statistics.

She has been with the Philippine government since 1999 through the former National Statistical Coordination Board, which is now part of the PSA.