

# ASIA-PACIFIC STATINGS SOCIAL PROTECTION WEEK 2023 Social Protection in a Changing World

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## AFD's experience in adaptive and shock responsive social protection

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#### AFD's areas of intervention in Health and Social Protection



Common goods for health

Human resources for health

Social protection systems



## Thanks to projects funded in 2022

€422 million Committed to health And social protection 

 Target 1.3
 1 NO POWERTY

 Image: 1.3
 2.2 million people will benefit from better social protection



supported to strengthen their capacity for early warning and management of health risks



**C58 M** to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights



C48 M to address nutrition issues

#### AFD and ASP

#### In response to the Covid 19 crisis, AFD quickened and increased the financing of ASP projects:

- During the state of health emergency in Togo, AFD co-financed through a 3 M€ subsidy the roll out of a new digital cash transfer program for 600,000 beneficiaries;
- In Bolivia, AFD co-financed through a 100 M€ loan two safety nets programs aimed at households with schooled children and at people with disabilities and pregnant women;
- AFD also financed in Mauritius a technical assistance to prepare the installment of a new national social register.

Protecting people against the acceleration and amplification of external shocks is both an absolute necessity and a considerable challenge:

Covid-19 crisis
 food price crisis
 Climate shocks and natural disasters





## AFD and ASP (1)

- Overall, ASP is a key pillar of AFD's strategy in Social Protection
  - Focus on strengthening national institutions and tools for regular social protection including their capacity to be adaptive to chocks (including expand social registries to better include climate vulnerabilities criteria and reinforce local human resources in the sector);
  - Support and/or contribute to appropriate financing mechanisms allowing coordinated and anticipated financing from both Governments and external contributors to respond to crisis;
  - Explore and leverage partnerships to mobilize more resources to finance both social protection systems and ASP programs to cover not only the poor, but all people vulnerable to shocks and contribute to the climate adaptation agenda (ADB; Sahel Adaptive Social Protection with WB and bilateral donors BMZ, FCDO, Denmark; Finance in Common, etc.).



## AFD and ASP (2)

- AFD also pays specific attention to :
  - Accompanying measures of national cash transfers programs such as educational and productive inclusion measures in order to contribute to households' resilience in the long run;
  - National ASP programs responding to food and nutrition insecurity (i.e. CT for lean season) => "systems for health";
  - Better link cash transfers beneficiaries to health insurance schemes;
  - Strong governments' ownership of ASP programs.





In Burkina Faso, AFD finances for 10 000 beneficiaries cash transfers within the national safety nets program. The same beneficiaries, all women, receive health, nutrition and gender measures financed by the Gates Foundation,



#### **SAFETY NETS PROGRAMS / CASH TRANSFERS**

#### With built in accompanying measures

#### **PRODUCTIVE MEASURES:**

 Income generating activities
 Financial training
 Access to agricultural inputs
 Village savings and loan association
 Productive subsidies
 Business trainings

In Burkina Faso, AFD is working towards the co-financing of the productive measures associated with the new national empowerment program of poor and vulnerable households

#### Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASSP),

AFD is co-financing since 2018 the national program of cash transfers reactive to shocks to support vulnerable households during the lean season. Cash transfers are given in priority to women within the households.

In 2022, AFD pledged 12 MEUR for three years to the **national fund to respond to food and nutritional crisis in the country**.

Building the main mechanism to anticipate financing to respond to food insecurity in the country. This fund represents a major step in the institutionalization of the adaptive social protection in the country.



#### **Food Stamp Program**

Preparing a national food stamp program to be launched in 2024, AFD is co-financing in 2023 with **ADB** and **Japan** the design and execution of a **pilot project**. Implemented by the Government (**DSWD**) and **WFP**, the pilot will target **3000 food-poor households vulnerable to climate change including pregnant and lactating women**, and with a **focus on local food systems** through local retailers and cooperatives.

#### **The Philippines**



In 2020 AFD supported the modernization of the national social protection system and the emergency answer to the Covid 19 crisis, allowing the continuation of existing cash transfers programs and the creation of a contingent emergency response.

In 2021 and 2022, AFD supported the Government 's response to the health crisis and helped provision **quality healthcare** through **investments** in infrastructure and **human resources training** as well as achieving **universal health coverage** and financial risk protection through the **extension of non-contributory insurance** 

#### Bangladesh

## **ASP** and the road further ahead

- Strengthen existing social protection institutions and their ability to implement autonomous policies
- Extend ASP programs in more countries to cover not only the poor, but all people who are vulnerable to shocks.
- Expand social registries, including climate vulnerabilities criteria, to deliver emergency programs when needed,
- Mobilize more resources to finance both social protection systems and ASP programs
- Develop built in exit strategies within ASP programs
- Link cash transfers beneficiaries to health insurance schemes
- Implement cash transfers where food and nutritional insecurity are rising

## Thank you for your attention

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