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Team Leader**

**Social protection interventions as medium- and long-term responses
amid COVID-19 and beyond**

26 August 2020, 15:00-16:30 (Manila Time), via Microsoft Teams

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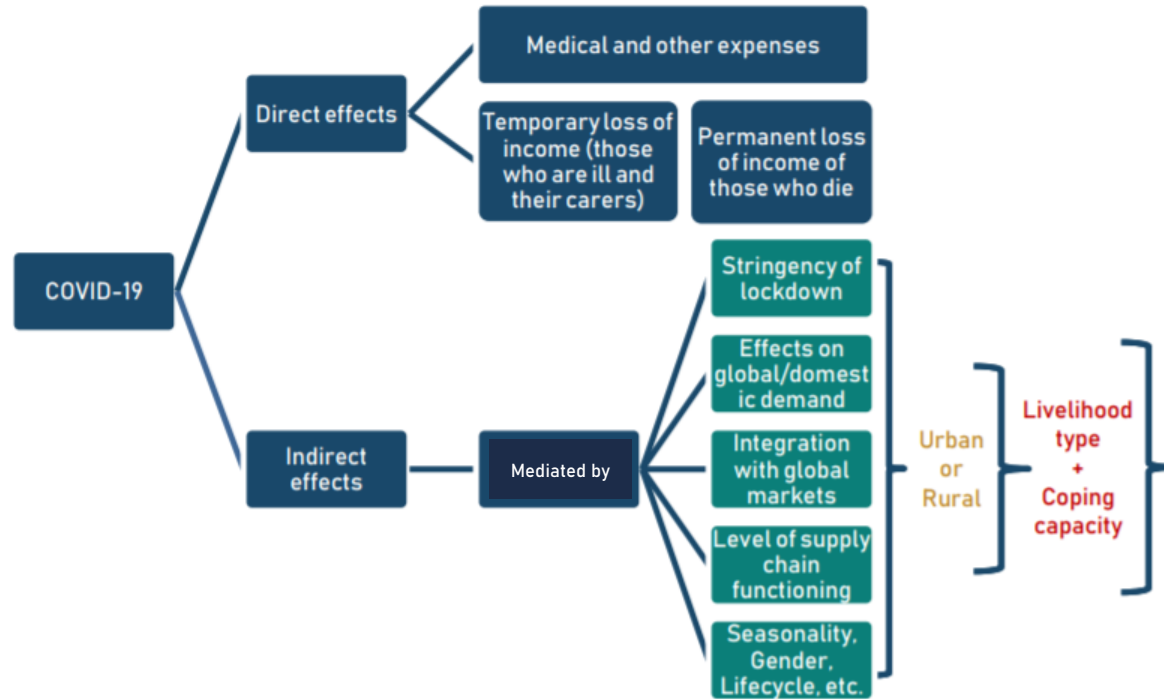
Making decisions on social protection systems in response to COVID-19 over the short- and medium-term



SPACE Social Protection Approaches to COVID-19: Expert advice helpline

a supportive space to plan, challenge, and innovate your COVID-19 response through collaboration with leading global experts

UNPRECEDENTED SPEED and SIZE



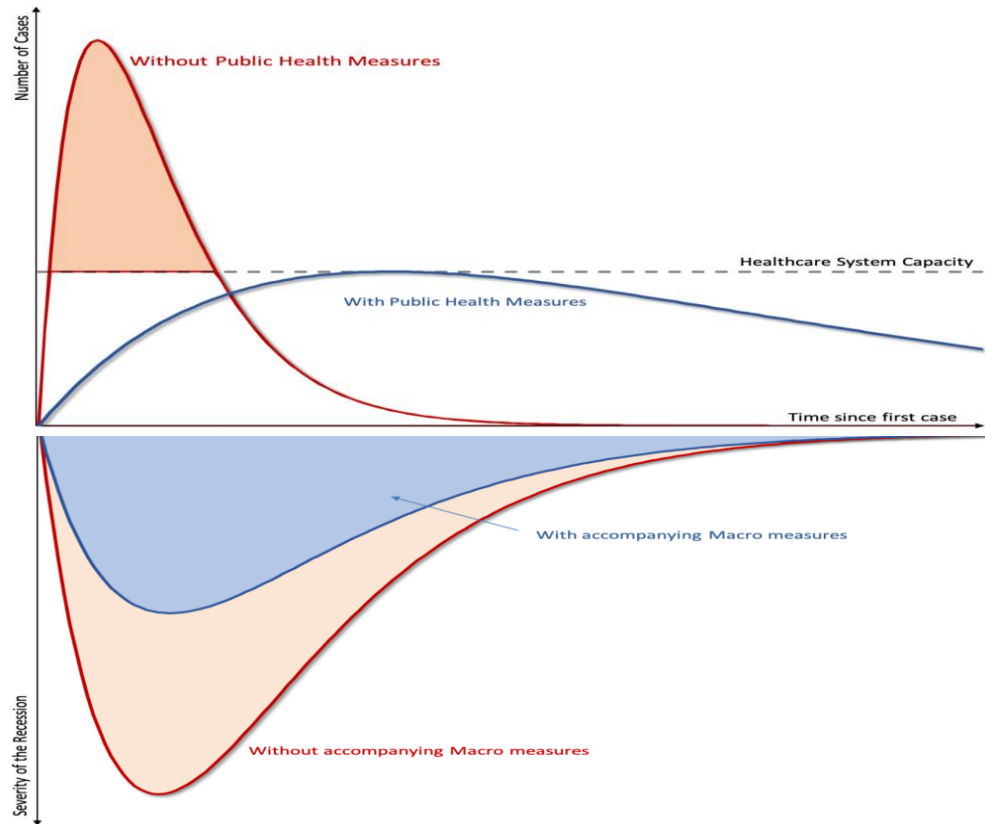
WHO MOST AFFECTED?

Not necessarily 'routine' SP recipients...

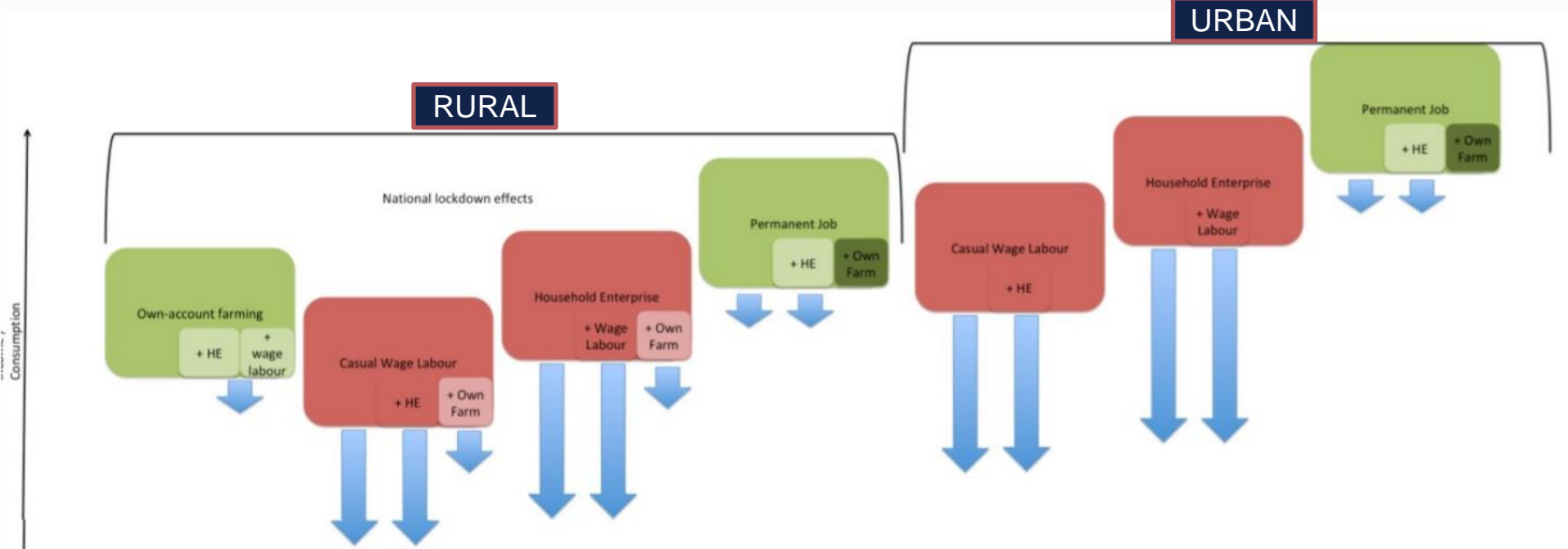
Consequences on SP delivery too

Source: SPACE, 2020 “

L SHAPE NOT V/U SHAPE CURVE...

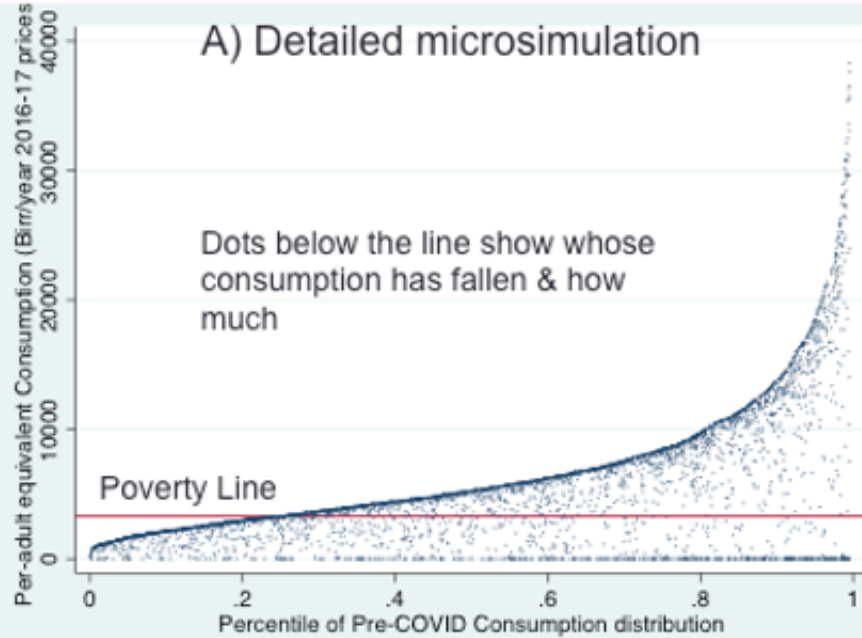


Source: Gourinchas, 2020 "Flattening the Pandemic and Recession Curve, ECONFIP Policy Brief #23 here

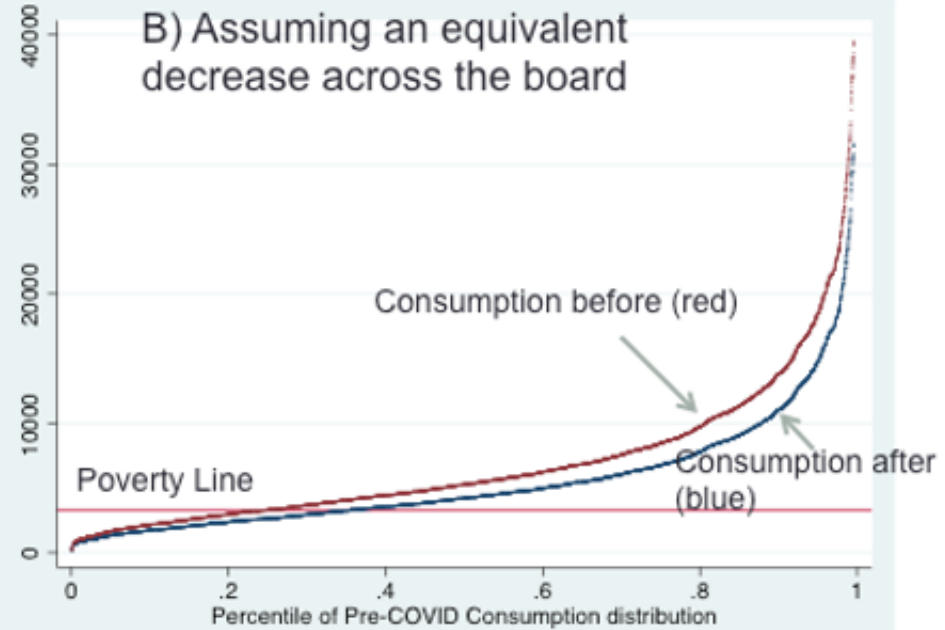


**A LOT OF HETEROGENEITY DEPENDING
ON LIVELIHOODS...**

A) Detailed microsimulation



B) Assuming an equivalent decrease across the board



**A LOT OF HETEROGENEITY DEPENDING
ON LIVELIHOODS...**



THE **ROLE** OF SOCIAL PROTECTION RESPONSES TO DATE

SOCIAL PROTECTION **HAS** PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE...

SOCIAL PROTECTION COMPONENTS AND INSTRUMENTS

(Note: it is not an exhaustive list of instruments)

Social Insurance - Contributory

- Unemployment benefits
- Sickness/injury leave and pay
- Pensions (old age, survivors, disability)
- Severance payments (if contributory)
- Health insurance
- Maternity leave
- Child/family benefits
- Etc

Social Assistance - Non-Contributory

Cash transfers

- Poverty targeted cash transfers
- Old age and disability pensions/grants
- Family and child allowances
- Housing/utility allowance
- Public works/workfare
- Cash for emergency
- Etc.

In-kind transfers

- School feeding
- Food stamps and vouchers
- Food distribution programmes
- Nutritional programmes
- Fee waivers (e.g. edu.; health)
- Food for work/emergency
- Etc.

Social care services

- Day care services
- Foster care
- Basic and specialised social care
- Domestic Violence victim care
- Residence care services (PWD, elderly)
- Homeless shelter
- Etc.

Labour market policies/interventions

- Employment incentives (e.g. tax and social security exemption; credit to finance wage bill)
- Wage subsidies
- Labour intermediation
- Training
- Unemployment benefits/severance payments
- Etc.

Source: CODI, TRANSFORM

...UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE (not just linked to labour)

TWO KEY FEATURES OF SHOCK-RESPONSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS:



SYSTEM / PROGRAMME 'RESILIENCE'

I.

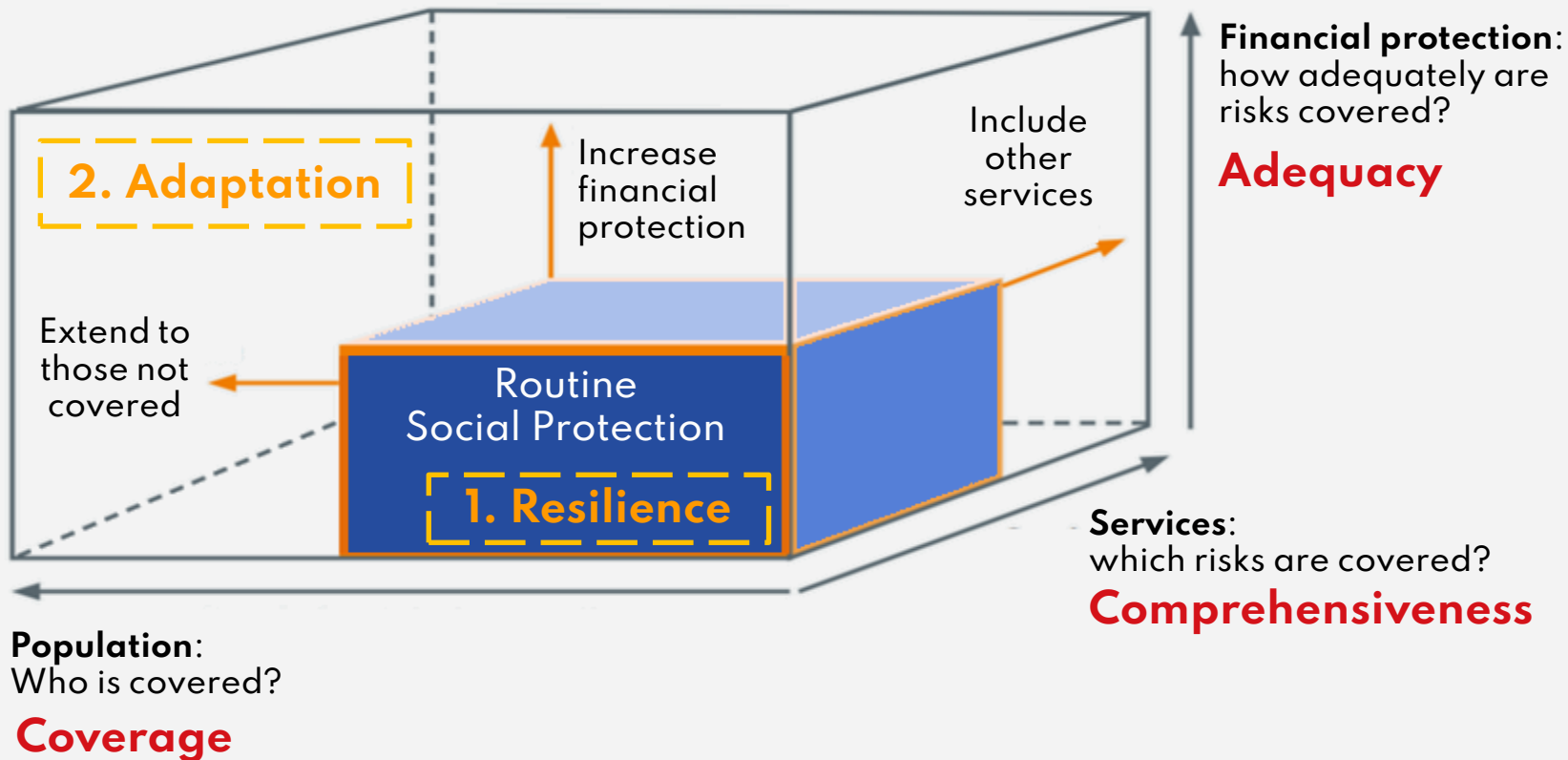
Withstand the shock to maintain routine delivery (*not collapse*)
This will require some changes to routine design & implementation.

SYSTEM / PROGRAMME 'ADAPTATION'

2.

Flex to cover changed context and needs
I.e. via existing programmes or new programmes that build on existing systems (via SP or other sectors).

WHETHER IDIOSYNCRATIC OR COVARIATE...



SOCIAL PROTECTION COMPONENTS AND INSTRUMENTS

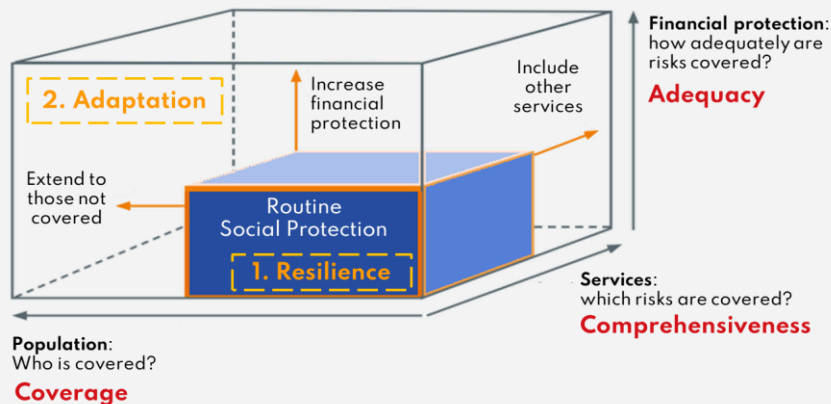
Social Insurance -
Contributory

Social Assistance - Non-Contributory

Labour market
policies/interventions

Some examples in-act for COVID 19:

- Paid sick leave
- Unemployment benefits
- Employment-retention
- Wage subsidies and furlough schemes
- Pensions



SOCIAL PROTECTION COMPONENTS AND INSTRUMENTS

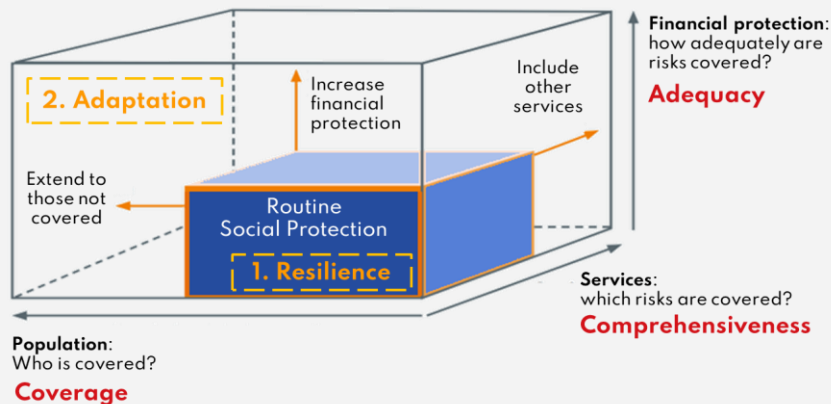
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Some examples in-act for
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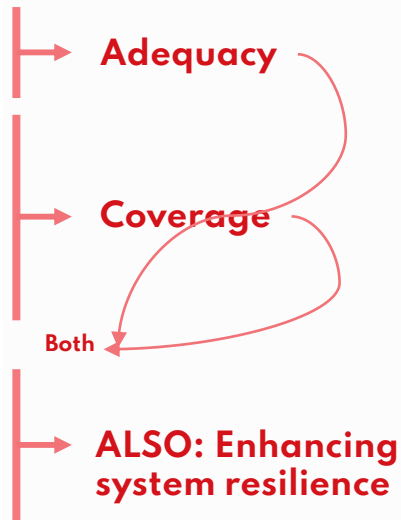
- Poverty targeted cash transfers
- Old age/disability/social pensions/grants
- Family and child allowances
- Public works/workfare
- In-kind transfers/stamps/vouchers
- School feeding
- Etc, etc....



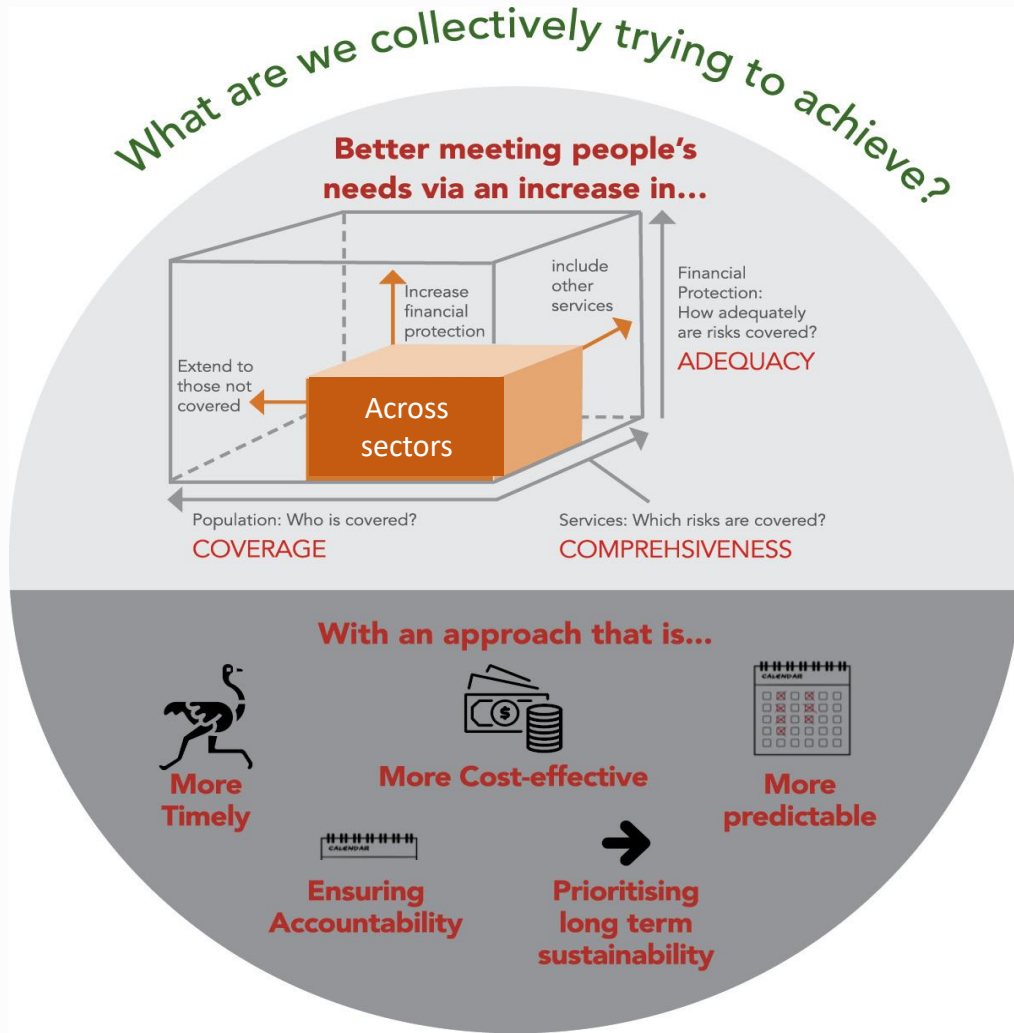
WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN THE COVID RESPONSE?

Table 2. Adaptation	N. of programs	N. of countries
Increase in existing benefits	68	46
Vertical expansion	48	
Additional payment	20	
Scale up coverage	413	159
Horizontal expansion of existing programs	22	
New programs	391	153
one-off (targeted)	67	
one-of (Universal)	5	
UBI	1	
new/ad hoc	318	
Both vertical and horizontal expansion	13	10
Administration	65	42
Admin simplification	53	
Advanced payment	10	
shared delivery systems	2	
Total	559	168

Source:



HOW DID WE PERFORM?

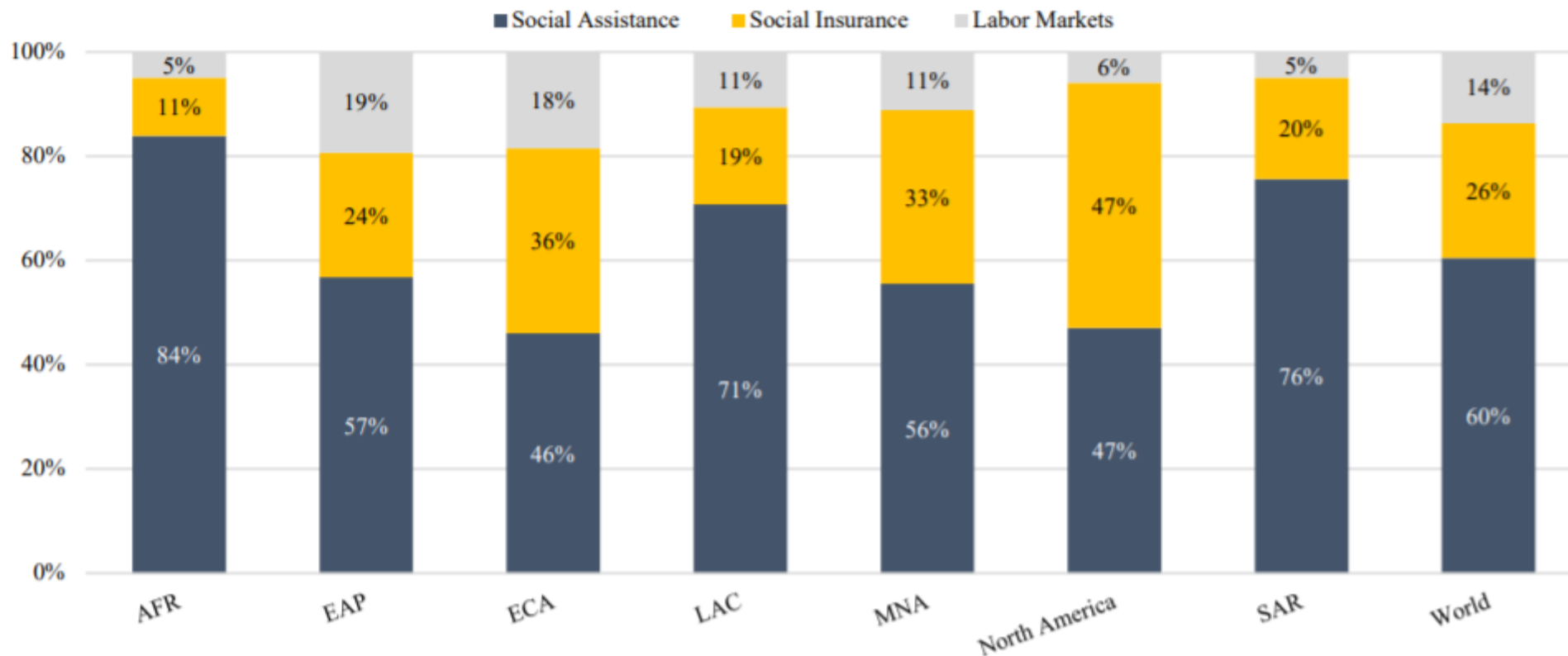


TYPE OF INSTRUMENT, JULY 2020 DATA (GENTILINI ET AL)

	SOCIAL ASSISTANCE				SOCIAL INSURANCE				LABOR MARKETS			
Countries	Cash-based transfers *	Public Works	In-kind (in-kind/school feeding)	Utility and financial support	Paid leave/unemployment	Health insurance support	Pensions and disability benefits	Social security contributions (waiver/subsidy)	Wage subsidy	Activation (training)	Labor regulation adjustment	Reduced work time subsidy
China	✓							✓	✓	✓		
Cambodia	✓		✓					✓	✓			
Indonesia	✓		✓			✓		✓		✓		
Lao PDR	✓											
Malaysia	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Myanmar	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓				
Timor-Leste	✓								✓			
Vietnam	✓			✓	✓			✓				

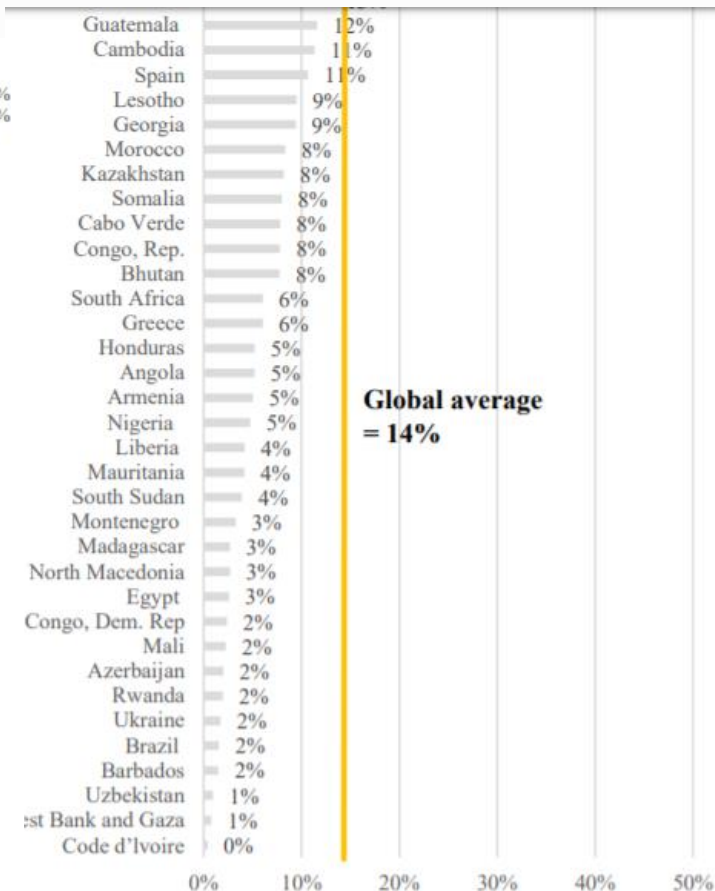
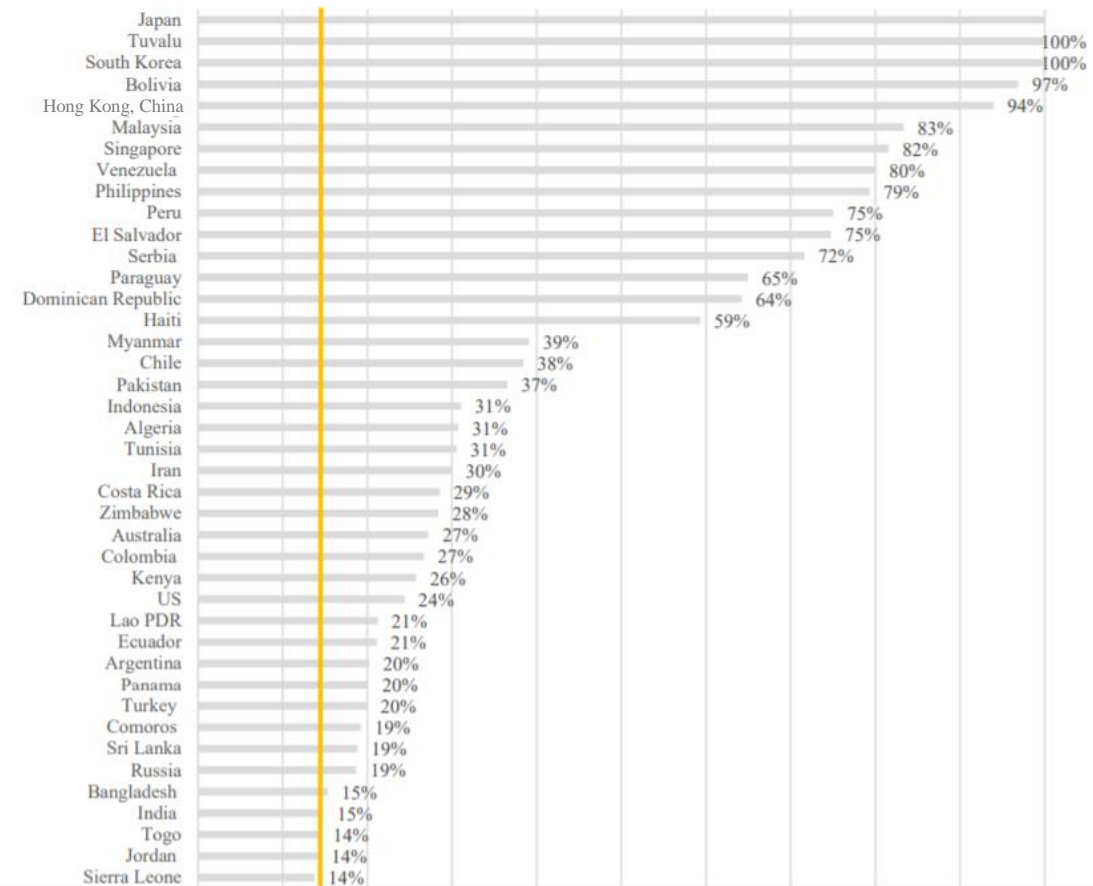
TYPE OF INSTRUMENT, JULY 2020 DATA (GENTILINI ET AL)

Figure 7. Social protection in Covid response composition by region





COVERAGE CASH TRANSFERS (% POPULATION, JULY 2020 DATA GENTILINI ET AL)

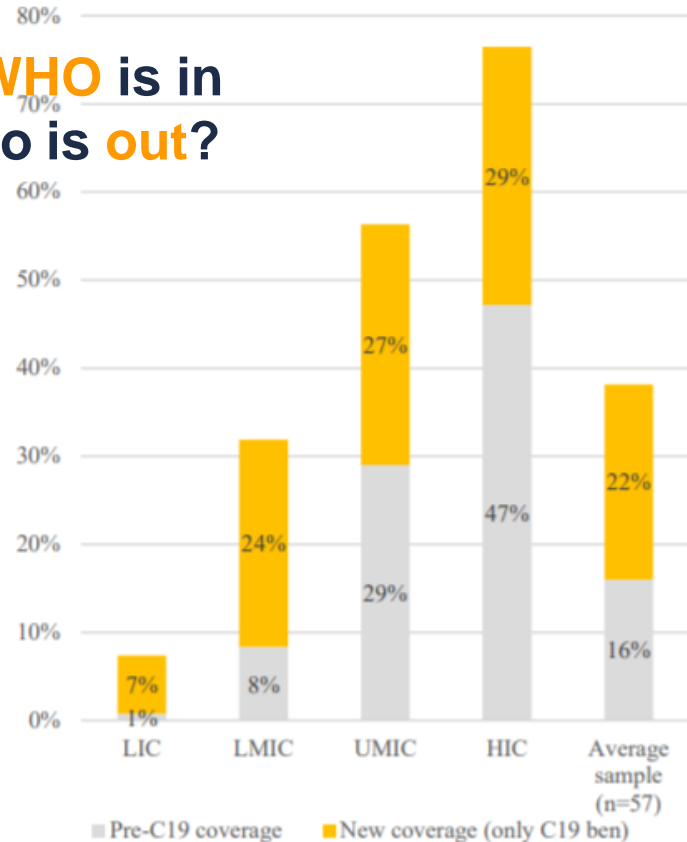


COVERAGE CASH TRANSFERS (JULY 2020 DATA GENTILINI ET AL)

Figure 6. Coverage of cash transfers as % of the population, pre and post-Covid rates (n= 57)



- But... **WHO** is in and who is **out**?





ADEQUACY? STILL TOUGH TO ASSESS

- What to look at?
 - **Duration**: one-off? How long?
 - **Amount**: % increase from pre-COVID levels, % compared to GDP per capita and other relevant indicators (including humanitarian MEB)
 - **% GDP invested...**
- Are they being extended? Will routine transfer sizes increase?

Too little?





COMPREHENSIVENESS

- Even harder to assess...
- What do well performing countries have in common? **Sequenced, layered approach**



TIMELINESS?



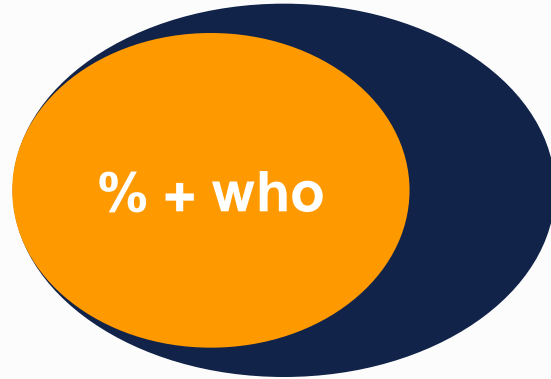
- Not only FIRST payments.. Also **LAST** and hardest to reach

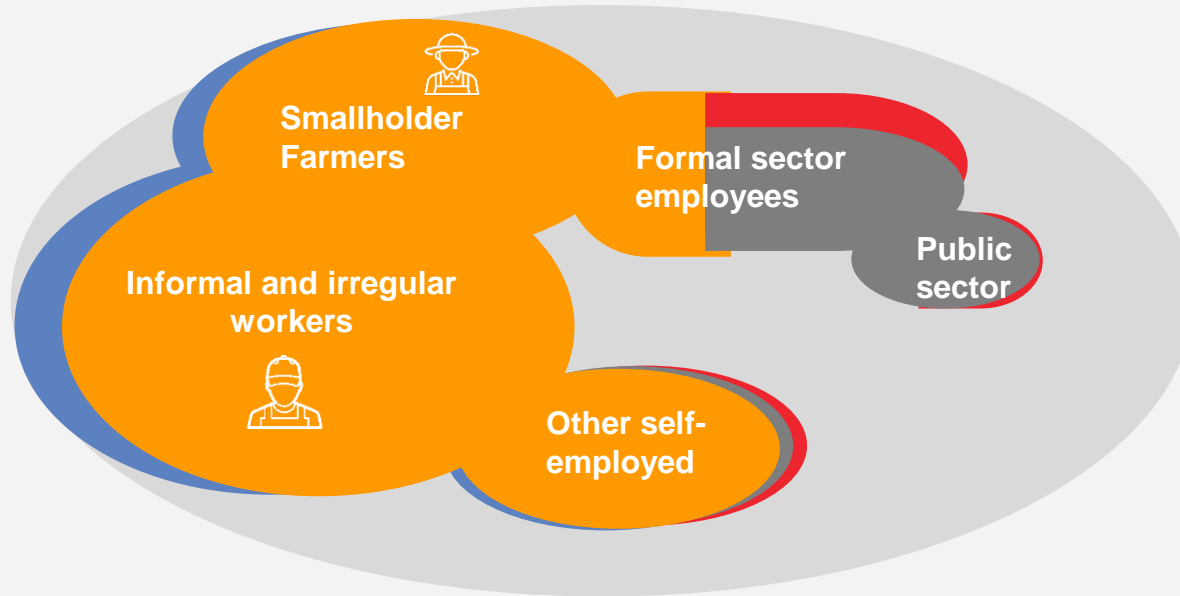


SUSTAINABILITY?



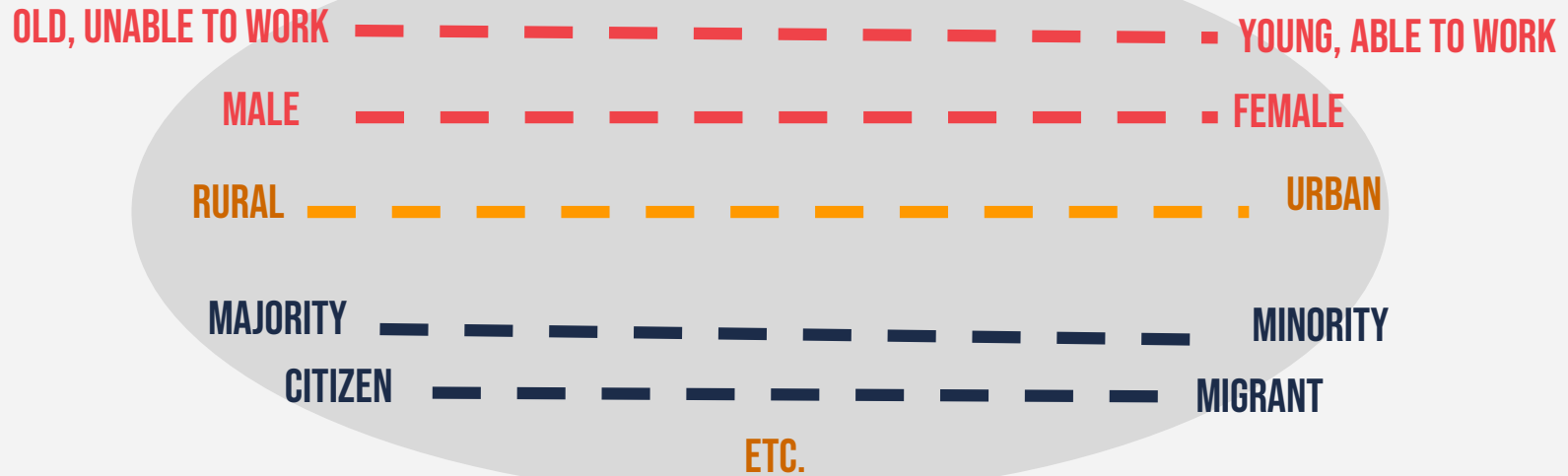
**SO WHAT GOING
FORWARDS?**





So what?

- Addressing gaps and incoherence
- Social protection as an investment and not a cost..
- Cost-effectiveness of early action and resilience building



So what?

- Inclusive, catering to all when in need...

STRENGTHENING EXISTING SYSTEMS, TO BUILD ON THOSE



Investing in preparedness is non-negotiable

CAPACITIES

Policy

-  Financing
-  Legal and policy framework
-  Governance and coordination

Programme (design)

-  Setting eligibility criteria and qualifying conditions
-  Setting transfer type, level, frequency, duration

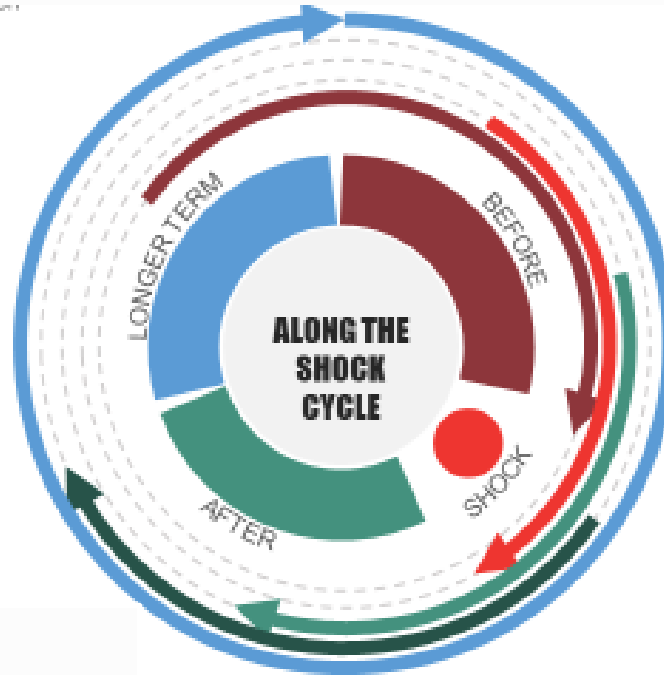
Administration

-  Outreach
-  Registration
-  Enrolment
-  Payment
-  Case management
-  Complaints and appeals
-  Protection
-  VAM/M&E
-  Information management

How to quickly register, enrol and pay, next time? With what funding?

SHORT TERM: the SHOCK CYCLE

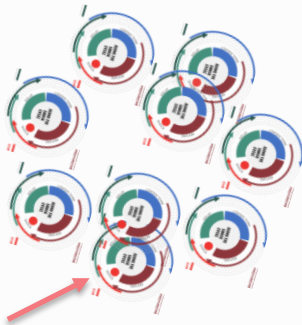
2011



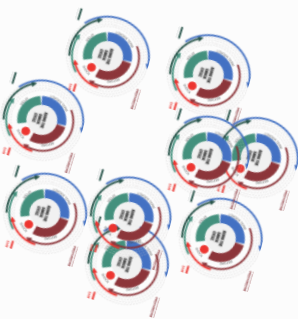
LONG TERM: The 'policy cycle'



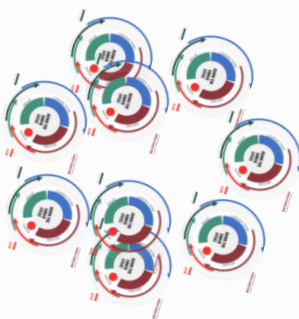
From 'fire-fighting' to 'systems-building'



Short
term



Medium
term



Long term →

A small green plant with several leaves is growing out of a vertical crack in a light-colored, textured concrete wall. The plant is positioned in the center-left of the frame. The background is a solid dark blue color on the left side, which transitions into the concrete wall.

THANK YOU