

Subregional Conference



GENDER EQUALITY &  
SOCIAL INCLUSION

## Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in South Asia: Reflections and Way Forward for ADB

ADB

Paro, Bhutan | 04-07 October, 2022

ADB

## Session 4: Social Identity, Income Poor, and People in Difficult Geographic Locations – Issues and Responses

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# Poverty and Intersecting Inequalities in South Asia

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# Overall Message & Presentation Outline

## Overall Message:

Poverty and inequality have been gripping the South Asian region historically. The gains in the socio-economic development in the region have been affected in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and the vulnerabilities of climate change and geo-political disturbances. We need to see what opportunities these time present for bringing transformative change for the most vulnerable experiencing intersectional deprivation.

# Contents

01

EY  
Introduction



02

Poverty and  
Multidimensi  
onal Poverty  
in South Asia

03

Why  
Exclusion

04

Addressing  
exclusion

05

Annexures

# 1

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## EY Introduction

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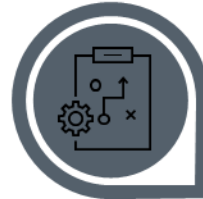


# EY Government and Public Sector (GPS) South Asia Overview

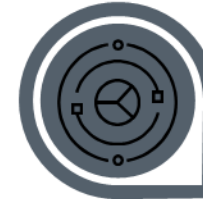
We are engaged in transformative and inclusive solutions through 31 offices across the South Asia region in the domains of . .



- ▶ Strategy
- ▶ Policy
- ▶ Reforms



- ▶ Solution Design
- ▶ Program Management



- ▶ Deep Implementation

..through our sector..



Urban Infrastructure



Transport & Mobility



Skilling & Education



Social Development and Inclusion



Health



Power & Utilities

..and solutions portfolio



Public Finance Management



Economic Development



Enterprise Transformation



Analytics & Enablement



Cyber & Risk Assurance



Financing & Fund Raising

Consulting

Strategy & Transactions

Tax

Assurance



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# EY brings in strong experience in Gender transformation and Gender inclusion

## Thematic Highlights

Gender Equality and Women empowerment

Gender Equality, Women empowerment and Child Rights

Monitoring and Evaluation of Anti-Human Trafficking

Gender Study' in Skills Training and Labour

Needs-based assessment

Awareness generation for prevention of sexual harassment at workplace



## Thematic Highlights

Social Mobilization and Institution Building

Incubation support for promoting entrepreneurship

Training and Capacity Building

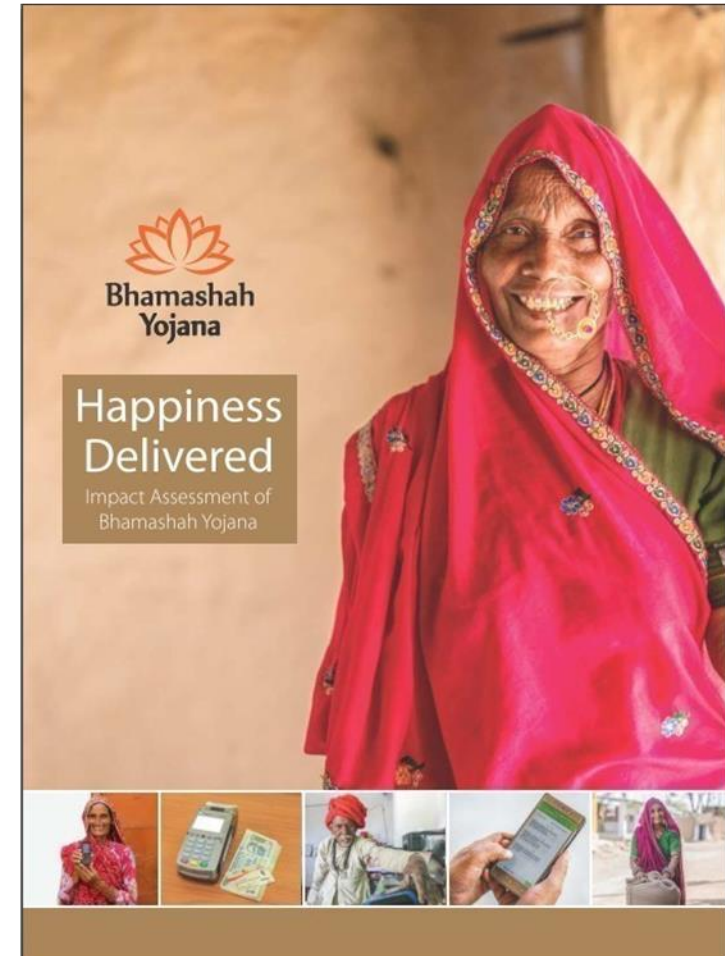
Promoting franchisee-based entrepreneurship

Livelihood based skill development

Livelihood Financing/Rural Financing



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Publication Capturing *Human Interest Stories* for Government of Rajasthan as part of the Impact Assessment of social security entitlements scheme Bhamashah Yojana)

# 2

## Poverty and Multi- dimensional Poverty in South Asia

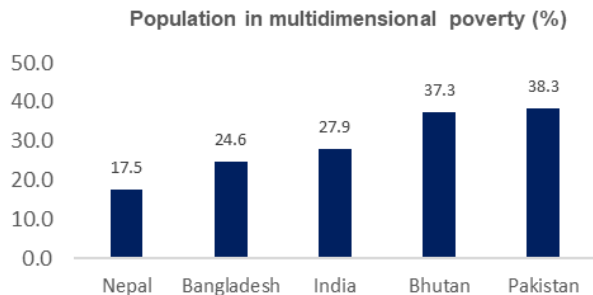


# COVID-19, economic crisis, compounded by the effects of armed conflict and climate change, are reversing hard-won gains in poverty reduction and shared prosperity



**19%** | Global Income Poor  
**29%** | Multidimensional Poor

The highest numbers of poor at both the US\$3.20 and US\$5.50 poverty lines, live in South Asia



- 4 out of 5 extreme poor in the South Asia region resided in India
- Bhutan and Sri Lanka are considered development success stories where extreme poverty has become rare, however, multidimensional poverty persists (World Bank, 2018)

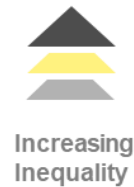
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**Growing inequalities in South Asia** – Gini coefficient approaching 0.4

### Gini Index

- 37.4** | Bhutan
- 35.7** | India
- 32.8** | Nepal
- 32.4** | Bangladesh



**Regional food prices have risen steeply**, food inflation in South Asia in July 2022 was **11.2%**, as compared to **5%** in December 2020

(ADB estimates, 2022)



### Nutrition

Although hunger declined between 2001 and 2019, the **COVID-19 pandemic led to an increase in developing Asia's undernourished population**



**58%** | Women in India are anaemic, higher than South Asia's average of 48%



**38%** | Children Under-5 in Pakistan are stunted, higher than the South Asia's average of 30.7%

**28%** | Infants in Bangladesh have low birthweight, slightly higher than the South Asia's average of 26.4%

As per Global Nutrition report (2021), globally, we are off course to meet 5 out of 6 global maternal, infant and young children nutrition (MIYCN) targets



### Labour Force Participation



**48%** | Total Labour Force Participation in South Asia (2021), lower than global average of 59%



**72%** | Male Labour Force Participation in South Asia (2021), equal to global average of 72%



**22%** | Female Labour Force Participation in South Asia (2021), lower than global average of 46%

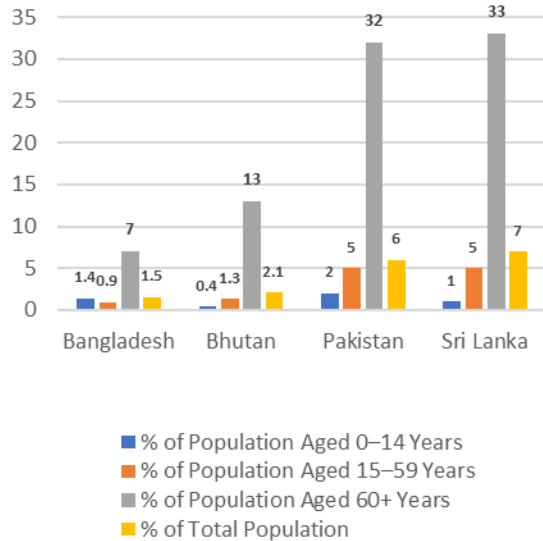
(modelled ILO estimate)



# COVID-19, economic crisis, compounded by the effects of armed conflict and climate change, are reversing hard-won gains in poverty reduction and shared prosperity *Contd.*

## Disability

Prevalence Rates of People with Disabilities among Different Age Groups (%)



In Asia and the Pacific, 15 per cent of the population, or 690 million people, live with a disability. Of them, 472 million are of working age (ILO 2022)

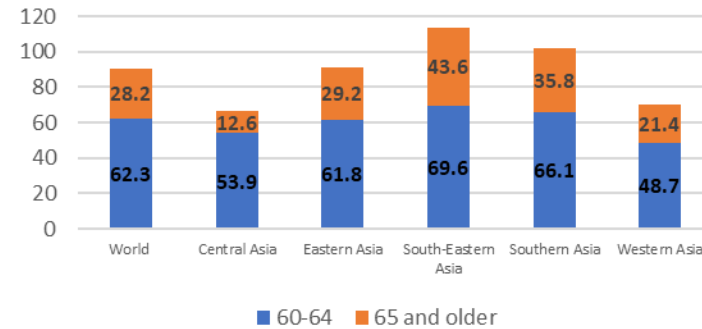


## Ageing

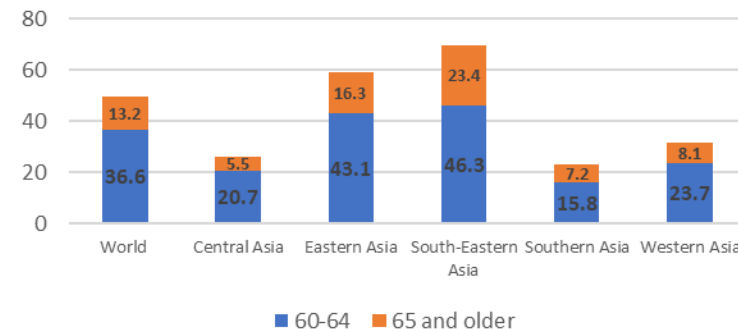
**80%** | of the world's older population will live in less developed countries in 2050

**1.3 bn** | Older persons will live in Asia by 2050

Labour Force Participation by age for Asia Region, Male (%)



Labour Force Participation by age for Asia Region, Female (%)



## Climate Change

**750+ million** | people in the 8 countries were affected by one or more climate-related disasters in the last two decades

**800 million** | People in the region are vulnerable to experience sharply decline of living conditions

**\$160 billion** | Is the estimated average losses in the region by 2050 due to climate change

**80%** | of major South Asian cities are exposed to floods, and sea level rise and resulting coastal inundation pose significant storm surge risks for low-lying, densely populated coastal areas.

However, South Asia is pioneering many climate-smart solutions, including innovative community approaches to coastal resilience, scaling up renewable energy, and regenerative forestry (World Bank)

# 3



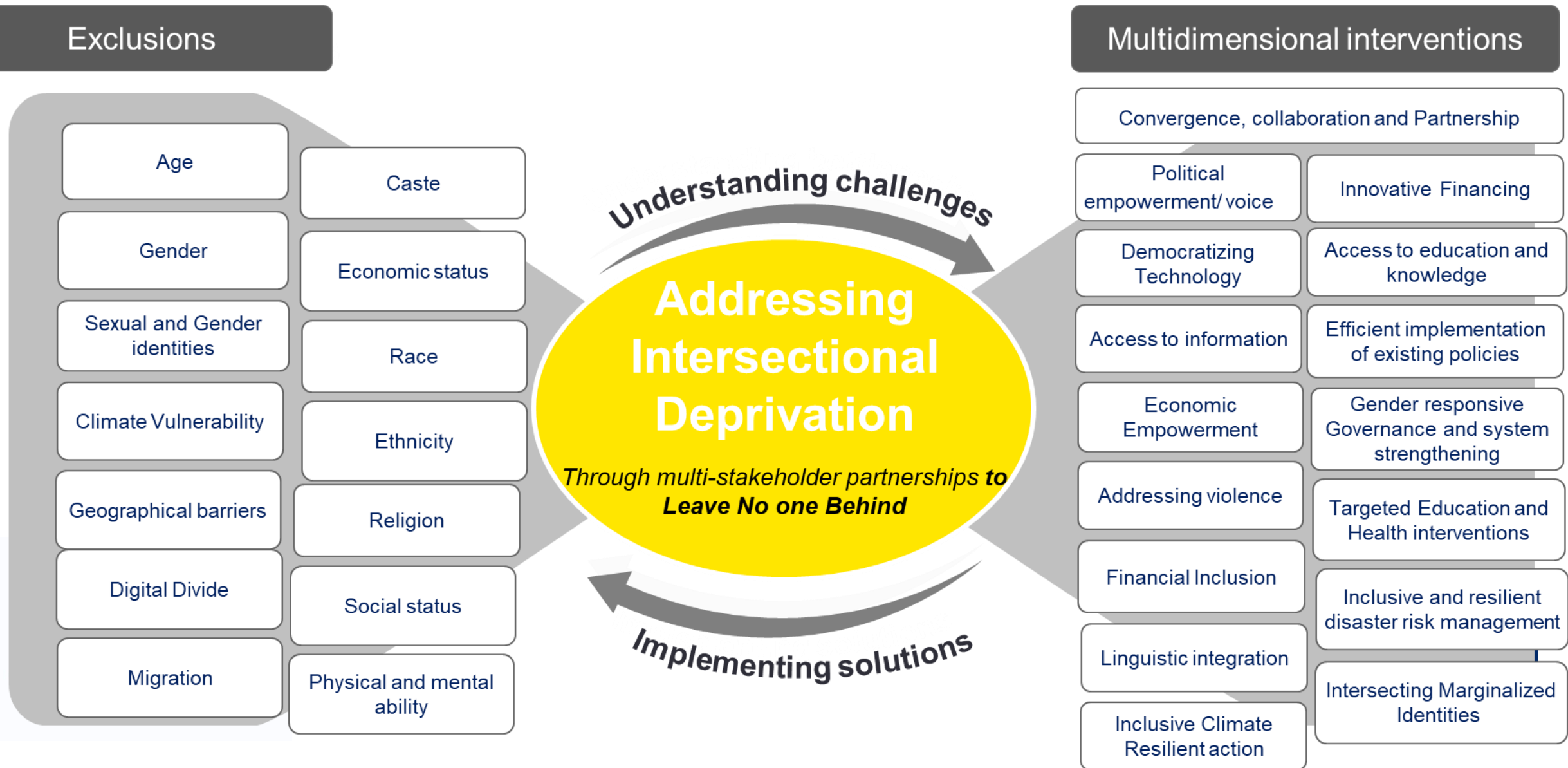
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## Why Exclusion?

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# The multidimension approach to addressing exclusions . .



# Key Takeaways



## Addressing poverty and Inequalities in times of change

COVID 19 Pandemic



Climate disasters

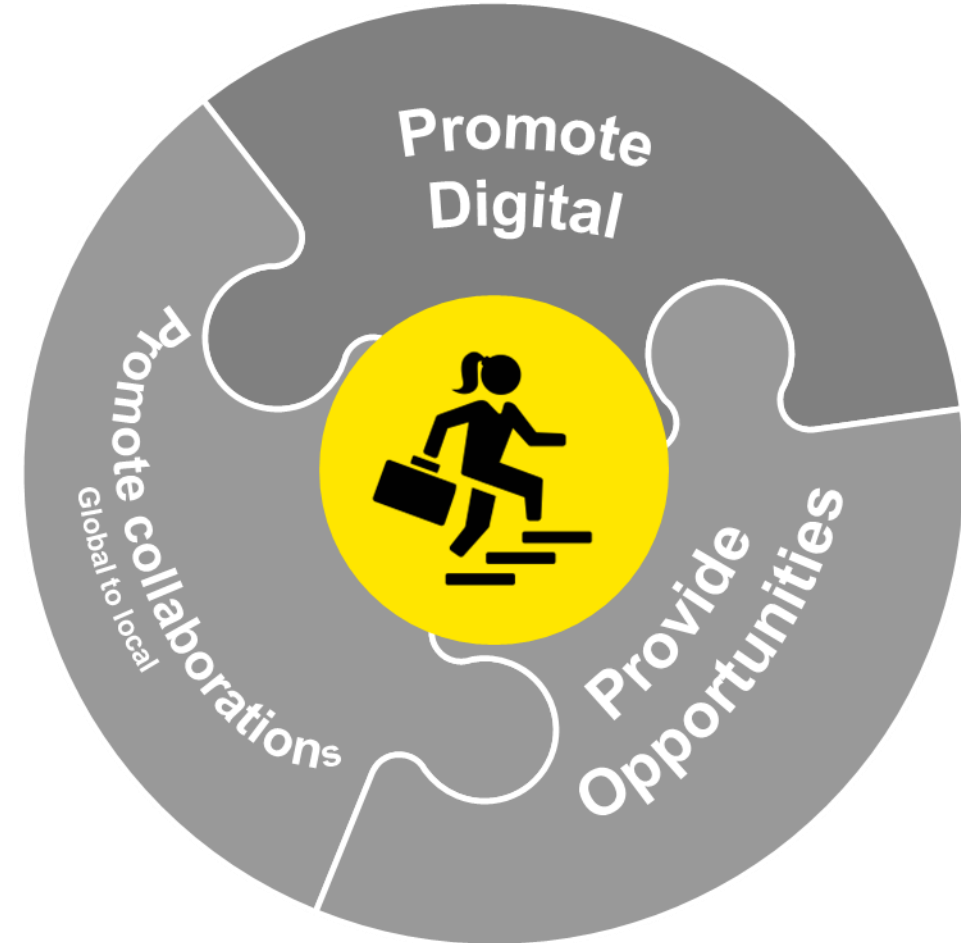
Geopolitical upheavals



Global spiral up in costs of food and fuel



## Are there opportunities for transformative change



# 4

## Addressing Exclusion



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# Addressing Exclusion In this Decade of Action

## Humans @center



Strategies that put humans at the centre to usher in transformative change, resilient to climate and conflicts reaching out to most vulnerable communities and groups

## Technology @speed



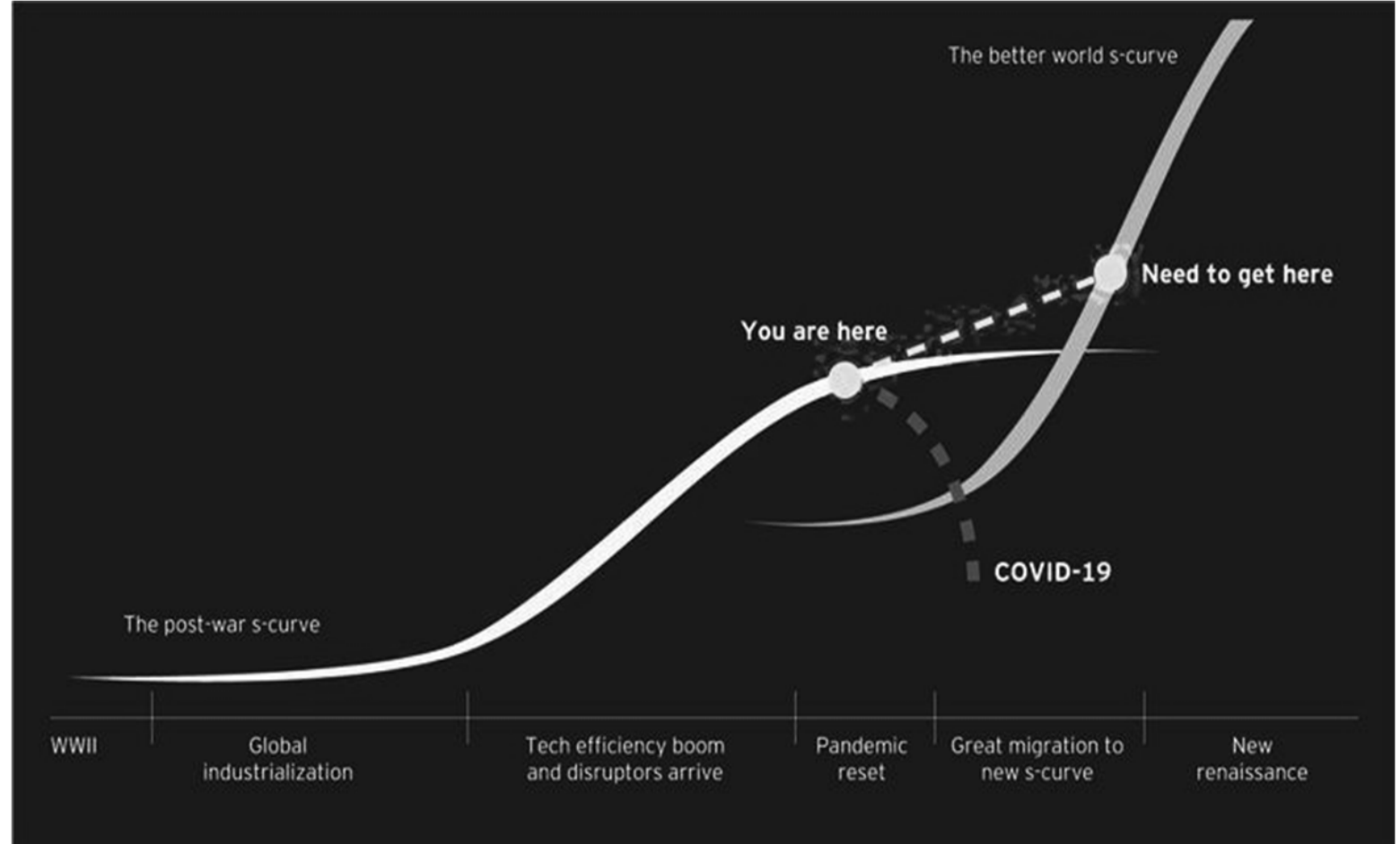
Technologies that can be deployed quickly to help transformation by harnessing data to establish flexible, resilient systems and networks responsive to global and local needs

## Innovating@scale



Strategies that enable us to address disruptions by innovating in a life cycle approach

## EY's Transformation Realized framework



*Towards ensuring inclusion: GESI is the idea that we could bet upon . .*

**Focus on Transformation**

**Implementation priority**

GESI framework is the opportunity that can be instrumental in going beyond mainstreaming to bring in **Transformative change . . Ideas that may work . .**



# Case: Skill action plan to assist alternate livelihood models for vulnerable population affected by fuel transition from coal to renewable energy in India

'Glasgow Climate Pact' (COP26) - India agreed for a phase down of unabated coal power while recognising the need for support towards just transitions

While the demand of coal continues to grow, to maintain the viability margins the Government has directed for closure of non – profitable and unsustainable mines

However, coal transition can impact over 13 million people's livelihood in India, employed in coal mining, transport, power, sponge iron, steel, and bricks sectors

( National Foundation of India, 2021)

**Research 2: Estimating the impact of coal phase down**

## Findings

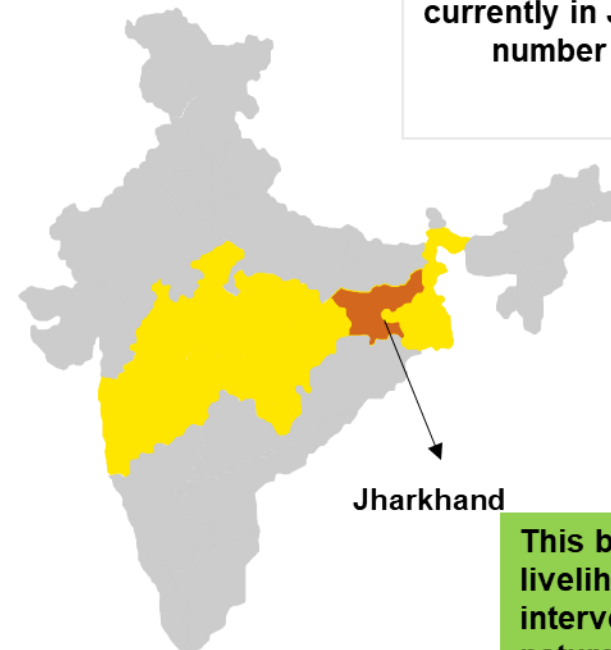
Over **0.1 million persons** are at a **risk of disruption of livelihood in five key states** if the underground mine closures are realised  
*(based on the sample size of the study in 5 Indian States)*

This will create **economic vulnerabilities and push this population towards poverty**

Within this population the **majority are tribal, women and other members of excluded groups**

Further to the study, research is underway currently in Jharkhand- the state with highest number of coal mines in the country, focussing on:

understanding the implications of a just transition from coal to renewable energy on ensuring alternate livelihoods for impacted vulnerable communities



Jharkhand

This bottom-up analysis for alternate livelihoods resulting in targeted interventions, will be transformative in nature

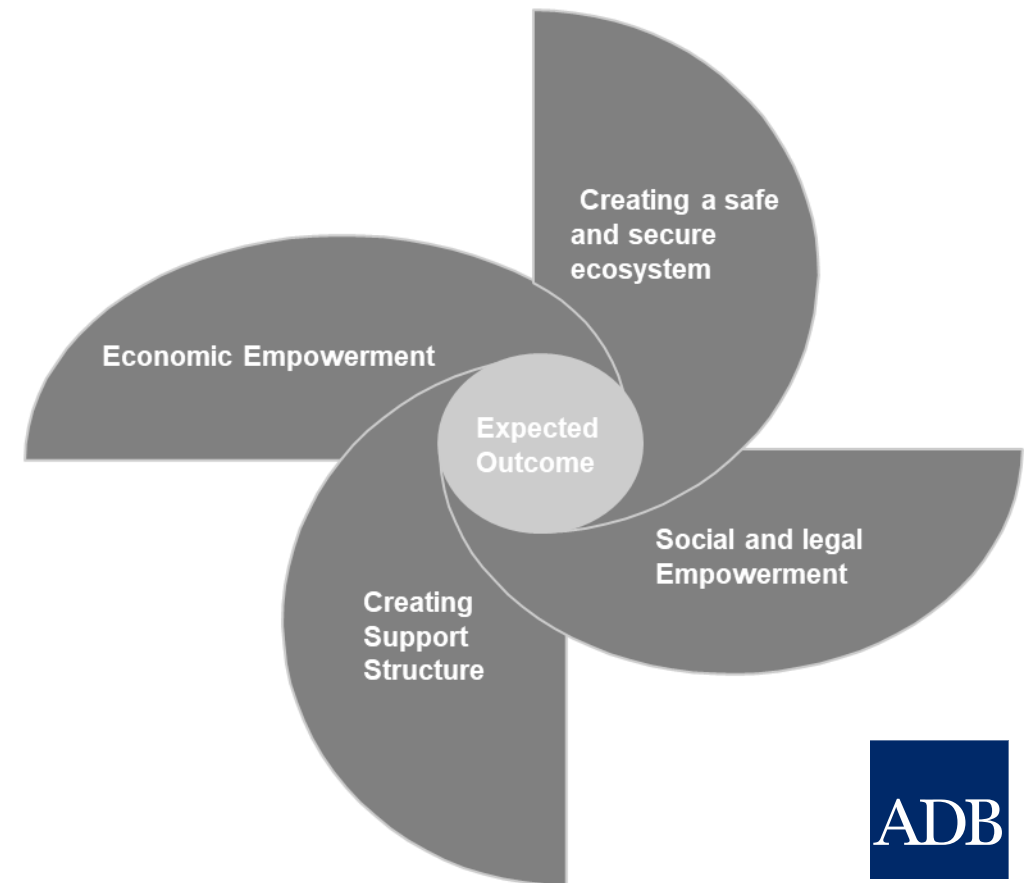




# Case: Initiative for Transgenders, Elderly and Persons with Disability: Social Justice and Disabled Persons Welfare Department, Madhya Pradesh

Initiatives addressing the challenges faced by transgender communities, persons with disability and elderly in the State, target to benefit:

- An elderly population that has risen from 1.48 million in 2001 to 7.19 million in 2021. The growth rate in the decade from 2021-to 2031 is expected to be 11.5%
- 1.55 million persons with disability
- 7,400 transgenders



# Case: Strengthening inclusion in countering Gender-Based Violence (GBV) with focus on the most vulnerable in Uttar Pradesh with special impetus on Cybersecurity measures

**'UP112' project mission is** to address GBV leveraging technology through a contact centre to enable **easy communication** from all persons in the state of UP, **deploy adequate police response** vehicles, and operate an efficient emergency management system for a real time basis response to reported instances of GBV

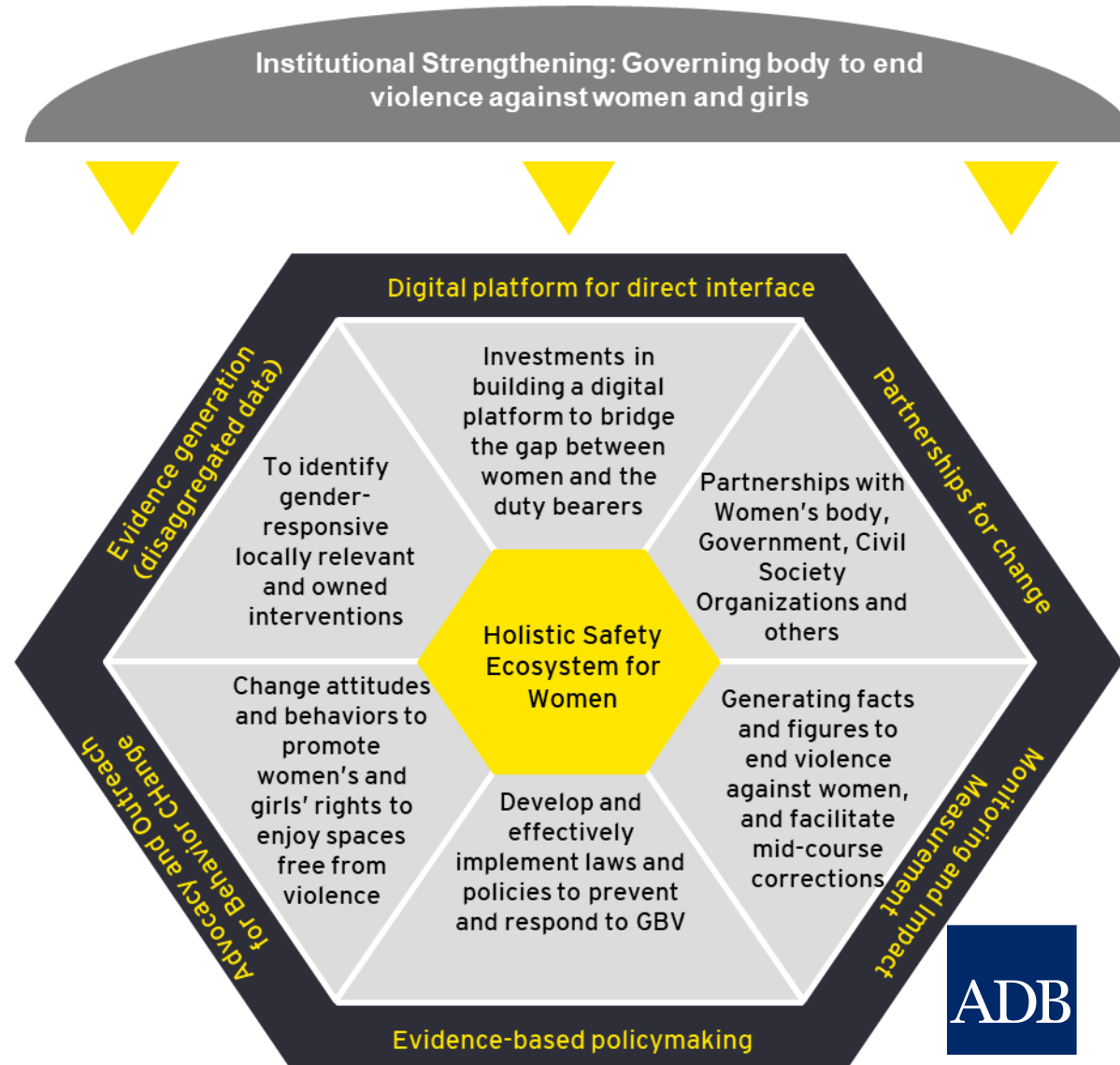
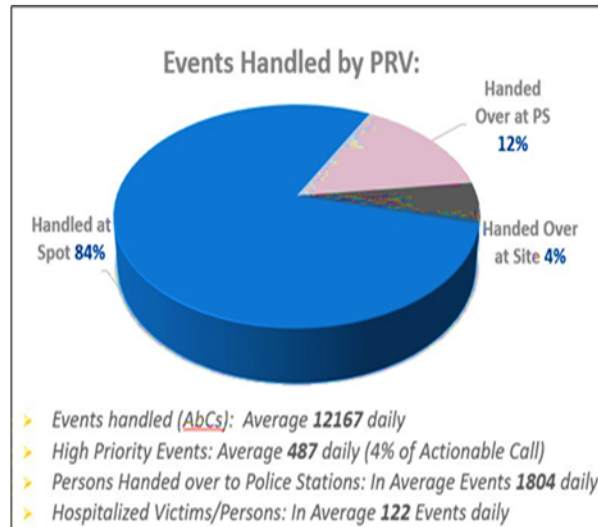
**Highlights:** An integrated emergency response system for public safety and security for citizens of Uttar Pradesh.

### Key Focus areas:

- Safety and security of women and children
- Making police service delivery more accountable and transparent
- Identifying hotspots/ vulnerable areas as a proactive measure
- Making the service delivery inclusive especially for Persons with Disability
- Creating database and regular analysis of women-related crimes

### Impact

- Police assistance was rendered to **30.06 million** cases.

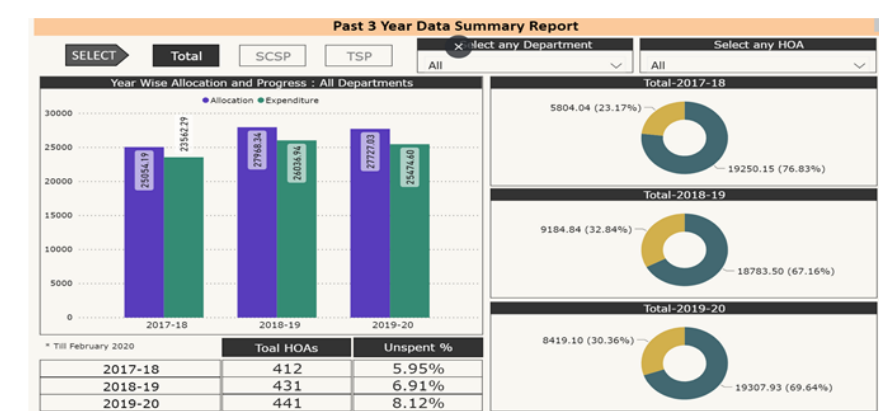
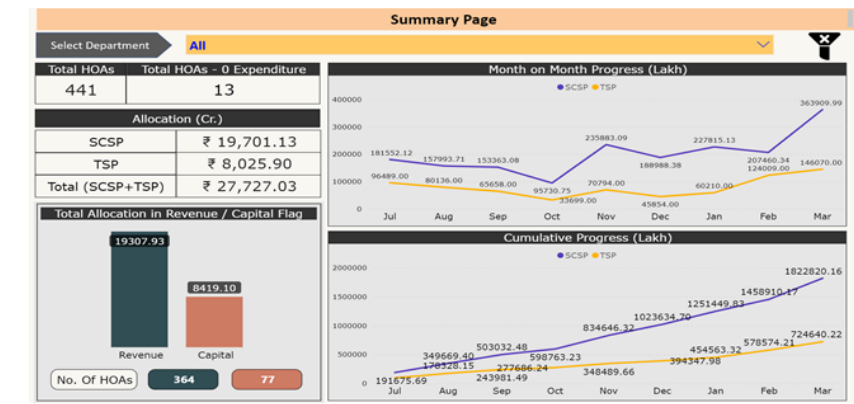
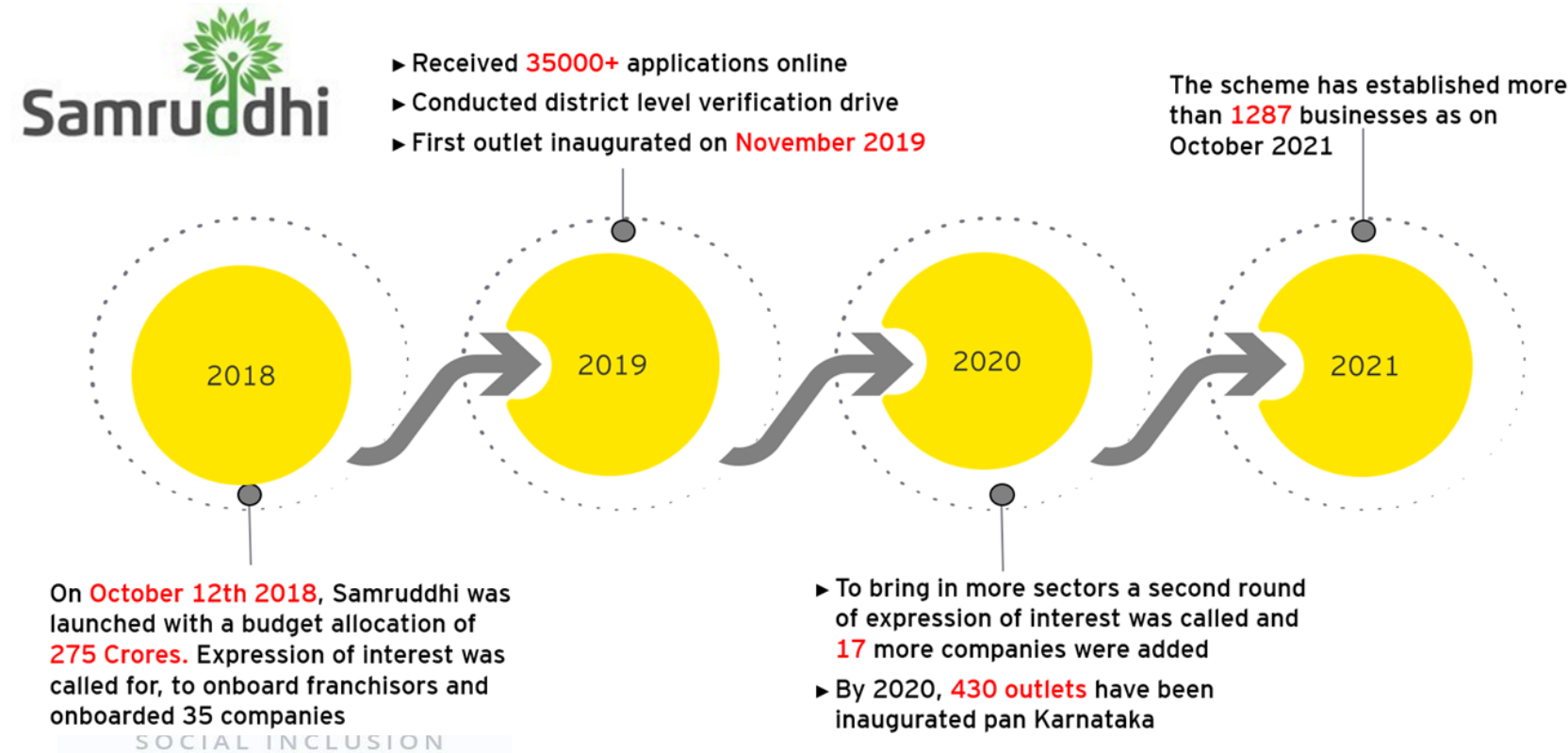


# Case 3. Initiative for entrepreneurship development and monitoring of development schemes for the most marginalised by caste, disability, gender and age in Karnataka India

Identifying the challenges in entrepreneurship ecosystem faced by marginalized communities, a new model of intervention for creating sustainable livelihoods and self employment opportunities for youth from SC-ST communities was conceptualized by EY in the Southern state of Karnataka.

Creating First Generation Entrepreneurs, SAMRUDDHI has established **2750 direct jobs** and **10,000 indirect jobs**

Digital enablement of M&E and results reporting for progress on the development of the marginalised, tracked across **38 departments**



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# Thank you

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