

AT A GLANCE

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DEAR MEMBERS OF THE EADI SOCIAL
PROTECTION WORKING GROUP,

This is the **31th edition** of our Social
Protection Brief. On the left-hand side you
can find a short list of the sections included.

*Best regards,
Callistus Agbaam*

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

[Informal Worker Access to Formal Social Protection in Sub-Saharan Africa: Evidence from Kenya and Tanzania](#) by Nina Torm. In *Journal of Development Studies* (2023).

Based on a combination of detailed survey data and in-depth interviews with informal workers in the construction, micro-trade, and transport sectors in urban areas of Kenya and Tanzania, this article explores the extent to which informal worker associations facilitate member access to formal social insurance schemes. The article provides unique insight into what characterises informal workers, and the circumstances under which associations may ensure social protection for their members. The analysis shows that members of informal worker associations are significantly more likely to participate in formal insurance schemes compared with non-members, albeit with some variation across location, sector, and worker types. These divergences relate partly to sector-specific and institutional constellations, as well as the ways in which informal worker associations

function. Moreover, the article shows that informal worker associations often play a dual role by providing both direct short-term social cushioning and enabling enrolment in formal social insurance schemes. Their part in ensuring the achievement of universal social protection must therefore not be underestimated.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS/POLICY PAPERS/ REPORTS

[Sustainable and inclusive social protection systems: civil society's role in their design, implementation, and upscaling; Key Insights and Knowledge Gaps](#) by Elena Briones Alonso and Jan Van Ongevalle In *HIVA Global Development* (03/2023).

This policy paper draws upon insights from recent literature regarding social protection and aims to provide support for the development of more effective, inclusive, and sustainable social protection systems. Specifically, the paper focuses on the role of civil society in social protection governance. Drawing from Huyse's (2021) tripolar governance model, which proposes an institutionalized inclusion of civil society, the state, and the private sector in governance processes, the authors apply this framework to social protection governance and examine how civil society can help to address five critical governance gaps. Furthermore, the paper explores the different roles that civil society organizations (CSOs) can play in all stages of the social protection policy cycle.

[Scoping Study on Enhancing Food Security and Nutrition and Managing Risks and Shocks in Asia and the Pacific Through Support to Social Protection Systems – Regional Synthesis and Countries Studies](#) by World Food programme and University of Wolverhampton.

This synthesis report presents an updated analysis of the social protection landscape in Asia and the Pacific and identifies priorities for enhancing both food security and nutrition and improving responses to risks and shocks. It draws on scoping studies commissioned by WFP exploring social protection in eight countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Tajikistan). Links below:

1. **Regional synthesis report:** <https://www.wfp.org/publications/scoping-study-enhancing-food-security-and-nutrition-and-managing-risks-and-shocks-asia>
2. **Cambodia:** <https://www.wfp.org/publications/scoping-study-enhancing-food-security-and-nutrition-and-managing-risks-and-shocks-0>

3. **Sri Lanka:** <https://www.wfp.org/publications/scoping-study-enhancing-food-security-and-nutrition-and-managing-risks-and-shocks-1>
4. **Samoa:** <https://www.wfp.org/publications/scoping-study-enhancing-food-security-and-nutrition-and-managing-risks-and-shocks-2>
5. **Pakistan:** <https://www.wfp.org/publications/scoping-study-enhancing-food-security-and-nutrition-and-managing-risks-and-shocks-3>
6. **Philippines:** <https://www.wfp.org/publications/social-protection-and-world-food-programme-philippines-scoping-study>

[Global Study on New Eco-Social Contracts](#) by United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (2023).

The different contributions in this global study aim to catalyse debates and knowledge exchange. They explore examples of twenty-first-century eco-social contracts and the processes driving them; draw on pluralistic approaches; produce context-specific solutions and give renewed visibility to local value systems and communitarian imaginaries; and suggest pathways to harmonize our relationships with nature and future generations. They identify what must be done to ground social contracts in democratic and participatory processes that provide necessary legitimacy and buy-in. This compilation contains short articles, issue briefs and blogs written by members of the Global Research and Action Network for a New Eco-Social Contract, visiting fellows, and UNRISD staff and collaborating researchers.

[Investments in Childcare for Gender Equality in Asia and the Pacific](#) New report by Asian Development Bank, the International Labour Organization, United Nations Development Programme, and United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (2023).

Based on examination of the provision of childcare across 48 countries in the region, this report highlights why and how investing in childcare could have positive impacts on gender equality, decent work and sustainable development in the region. It calls for greater investments in quality, accessible, affordable childcare, paired with ensuring decent work for care workers. The report furthermore provides policymakers, development partners, researchers, civil society and other care stakeholders with helpful analysis and recommendations for childcare policy and institutional frameworks for children aged 0–6

years old. It also includes more in-depth country case studies from Georgia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines and Sri Lanka that reflect the voices of parents, childcare providers and childcare workers.

[Informal Workers and Just Transitions: Toward a New Eco-Social Contract](#) by United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (2023).

A transition to a more equitable and sustainable economy must address the needs and concerns of informal workers, especially women, minorities and migrants who have been historically marginalized and excluded from previous social contracts. This issue brief looks at how the universality and indivisibility of human rights can provide a framework for including all workers equitably in a new eco-social contract for a more just and sustainable post-Covid-19 world.

BLOGS/PODCAST

- [Reflecting on UNRISD's 60 Years of Research for Social Change](#) by Azita Berar Awad (Chair of the Board- UNRISD)

Anniversaries are not only a time for celebration and recognition, but an opportunity for reflection; looking into the past as a way of building a better future for all. On UNRISD's 60th anniversary, Azita Berar, UNRISD Board Chair reflects on how the Institute has spent the last six decades developing a unique model of partnership and collaboration while underscoring alternative and innovative research and thinking on social policy.

- [Putting Food Justice at the Centre of an Eco-Social Contract](#) by Kiah Smith (Former Collaborating Researcher- UNRISD)

This think piece describes how a new eco-social contract can be extended through the principles and practices of food justice. Drawing on findings from the "Fair Food Futures" project, an Australian Research Council-funded study that explores how Australian civic food networks envision and work towards food justice, the author argues that it is often interconnected social and economic inequalities—around food insecurity, hunger, poverty, gender and health—that underpin the complex sustainability challenges associated with food system transformations. To shift unequal power relations requires addressing rights, resilience, intersectionality and "food as commons" concepts.

- [Principles for Change: Envisioning a New Eco-Social Contract](#) by UNRISD

In this thought-provoking podcast series, we examine how a new eco-social contract can break the cycle of inequality and crises. Each episode focuses on one of UNRISD's seven principles for a new eco-social contract. Featuring insights from experts, scholars, activists, policymakers and others working towards a more just, fair, and sustainable future, the series sparks new ways to #ImagineEquality.

OTHER NEWS

Project update: “Rectifying the Effects of COVID-19 on Vulnerable populations in West Africa: a Research action” (RECOVER) by John Nathaniel Boateng .

As part of the project “Rectifying the Effects of COVID-19 on Vulnerable populations in West Africa: a Research action” (RECOVER) John Nathaniel Boateng has conducted a rapid situational assessment on the collateral effects of covid-19 on vulnerable groups in Ghana. He is currently working on the deep dive case study on Ghana which seeks to explore the gender transformative interventions by the Government of Ghana which supported vulnerable population during the COVID-19 pandemic. To read more about the about, follow this link: <https://www.internationalhealthpolicies.org/featured-article/recover-a-deep-dive-into-a-comprehensive-response-to-covid-19-and-future-epidemics-in-west-africa/>

Upcoming Events

10th - 20th October, 2023: The UNRISD has invited artists worldwide to participate in the international exhibition, “The Art of Equality: A Journey to Justice”, that will be hosted at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 10 to 20 October 2023. The event aims to create a unique and immersive experience to raise awareness and inspire action on equality and social justice through the lens of visual art and the Institute's 60 years of research for social change.

12th October, 2023: The UNRISD in close collaboration with MIDEQ international partners: ILO, IOM, OECD, OHCHR and UNU-CPR is organizing a Policy Symposium on Migration and Inequality in the Global South- Room III, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland on 12 October 2023 9:00–18:00 CET. The symposium will bring together the Geneva UN and policy communities and key Migration for Development and Equality Hub (MIDEQ) researchers to discuss findings from MIDEQ research and the implications for migration policy and governance. More info and programme coming soon

*****The End*****

EADI SOCIAL PROTECTION WORKING GROUP

The working group aims at exchanging information and discussing ongoing research related to social protection. Researchers dealing with social protection and interested in an international exchange are also welcome to join. For More information please contact the Convenors:

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