

AT A GLANCE:

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DEAR MEMBERS OF THE EADI SOCIAL
PROTECTION WORKING GROUP,

This is the **8th edition** of our Social Protection Brief. On the left-hand side you can find a short list of the sections included.

Best regards,

Markus

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

[Save the Children seminar on “Child-Sensitive Social Protection in South Asia”](#)

5 April 2016 at 12.30 London time at the IDS in Brighton, UK

During this seminar, Keetie Roelen from CSP at IDS and Disa Sjöblom from Save the Children Finland will discuss work on child-sensitive social protection in South Asia, including a study on the child-sensitivity of government-implemented social protection programmes in Nepal and experiences with Save the Children’s Child-Sensitive Social Protection (CSSP) programming in Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

*** The content of this Brief lies within the responsibility of the working group members**

[IDS 50th Anniversary Conference on “States, Markets and Society”](#)

5–6 July 2016 at the IDS in Brighton, UK

The Centre for Social Protection (CSP) will host a panel discussion ‘Social protection: whose responsibility?’, exploring the polarised discourse around social protection provision, as governments in ‘developing’ countries are being supported by ‘developed’ countries to set up national social protection systems, while at the same time these ‘developed’ country governments are shifting responsibility for securing livelihoods from the public sphere onto citizens – into the private sector and ‘third sector’ actors. Who is responsible for social protection – states, markets or society? – is a question that has global resonance, and this topic offers a rare opportunity to debate social policy and development policy trajectories on a common platform.

[Call for papers for the International symposium on: “Social protection systems – tying the knots”](#)

5–6 September 2016 in Bonn, Germany

The department of Social Security Studies from the Bonn–Rhein–Sieg University of Applied Sciences, together with the Friedrich–Ebert–Foundation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the German Development Institute, and the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance, are convening an international symposium. Entitled “Social protection systems – tying the knots” the event will take place on September 5–6, 2016 in Bonn, Germany. The symposium is meant to provide a platform for practitioners, academics, policy-makers and experts from public and private entities, who have a special interest in (i) designing and reforming social protection systems, (ii) getting an update about best practices and the latest research findings, and (iii) having an opportunity to network and discuss their own experiences.

The deadline for submitting abstracts on the research themes of system variation, system creation and system analysis is May 31, 2016. For any questions, please refer to [HRS website](#) or contact: info@ma-socialprotection.de

[Call for papers for the third international MENA social policy conference on: "A new social contract for MENA \(Middle East and North Africa\) countries: Experiences from Development and Social Policies"](#)

5–6 December 2016 in Bonn, Germany

The German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE) will hold the third IPR–MENA social policy conference on "A new social contract for MENA (Middle East and North Africa) countries: Experiences from Development and Social Policies" in partnership with the University of Bath Institute for Policy Research (IPR) in Bonn, Germany, 05–06 December 2016.

Confirmed keynote speakers are:

- [Shanta Devarajan](#), Chief Economist, Middle East and North Africa Region, World Bank, Washington DC
- [Steven Heydemann](#), Professor for Middle East Studies, Smith College, Northampton, Ma
- [Nidal Katamine](#), Minister of Labour, Amman, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- [Arthur van Diesen](#), Regional Social Policy Adviser for the Middle East and North Africa at UNICEF

The deadline for abstract submission is: 01 May 2016.

Please send paper and symposia abstracts to Ms. Ina Klemke (ina.klemke@die-gdi.de) clearly indicating your name, institutional affiliation and contact details.

Individual paper abstracts should be between 500 and 800 words. Symposia abstracts should include a 500 word rationale for the session and full details of the authors with individual abstracts of 500–800 words.

Please find further details on the call and a draft programme of the conference at:

<http://www.die-gdi.de/veranstaltungen/a-new-social-contract-for-mena/>

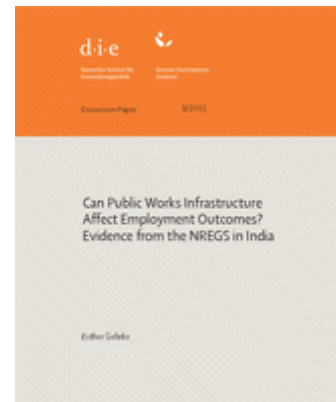
PUBLICATIONS

[Can public works infrastructure affect employment outcomes? Evidence from the NREGS in India](#)

by Esther Gehrke, DIE Discussion Paper 9/2015

Esther Gehrke analyses the effects of India's National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) on employment outcomes through all potential causal mechanisms: increases in productive investments, the demand for labour among NREGS beneficiaries, an increase in wages in the implementing villages and an increase in economic activity due to the infrastructure created with the NREGS.

She finds little evidence that village employment levels are affected by increased investments of the NREGS beneficiaries or by wage changes due to the NREGS. However, she shows that the creation of productive infrastructure through the NREGS can indeed positively affect employment outcomes in targeted villages. Which infrastructure projects are most promising depends on the sector in which employment is to be created and on the social group that is to benefit. Effects on total employment are largest when infrastructure is targeted towards land development.



[How can public works programmes create sustainable employment?](#)

by Esther Gehrke and Renate Hartwig,
DIE Discussion Paper 11/2015

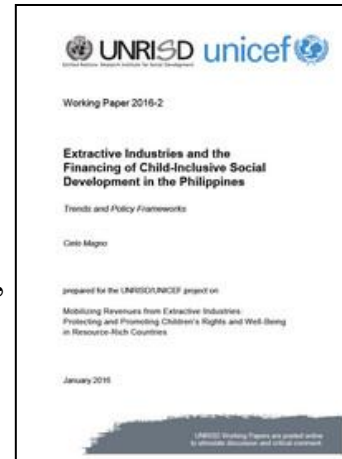
The paper reviews the experience of 16 public works programmes throughout the developing world. It concludes that these programmes, in order to create as much employment as possible, should (i) be reliable in terms of their eligibility criteria, (ii) deliver complementary services in the form of credit rather than aiming at skills development, (iii) offer jobs mainly during the agricultural lean season (iv) set wages in such a way to promote that those most in need self-select into the programme and (v) enable the target group to participate in the selection of projects in order to guarantee ownership, use and sustainability of the infrastructure generated.



[Extractive Industries and the Financing of Child-Inclusive Social Development in the Philippines](#)

by Cielo Magno, UNRISD Working Paper 2016-3

This paper, which contributes to the “Mobilizing Revenues from Extractive Industries: Protecting and Promoting Children’s Rights and Well-Being in Resource-Rich Countries” project undertaken jointly by UNRISD and UNICEF-EAPRO, seeks to assess whether the extraction of mineral resource of the country provides the best opportunities for children’s welfare. It examines the effectiveness of different government policies in translating the revenues from mining to social and economic programmes that may benefit children. It also describes the macroeconomic contribution of metallic mining and summarizes the existing literature on the environmental and social impacts of mining in the country.



[The Political Economy of Financing Children's Rights through Extractive Industries in the Philippines](#)

by Jewellord Nem Singh, Jean Grugel and Pascale Hatcher, UNRISD Working Paper 2016-2

This paper provides a detailed analysis of two key aspects of mining governance in the Philippines: the political challenges in realizing a more positive role for extractive industries (EI) in social development, particularly in promoting children’s rights and children’s welfare; and the political economy dynamics that might underpin the creation of a welfare regime able to sustain social investments for children. The findings suggest that in the Philippine context, where the expansion of the EI sector is contested in the public domain, the link between mining governance and the promotion and protection of children’s rights is not necessarily straightforward. Yet the resurgence of high prices and the continuing foreign investment in EI means that there is now a political opportunity for relevant stakeholders to make a compelling argument for the need to ring-fence mineral rents for social investments in children and young people.



[The Family in a New Social Contract: The Case of Russia, Kazakhstan and Mongolia](#)

by Esuna Dugarova, UNRISD Research Paper 2016-1

This paper examines the evolution of the family in both conceptual and empirical terms, as well as family support policies, in Russia, Kazakhstan and Mongolia after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. It argues that family support is a central element of a transition to a new social contract in these countries. It uses the systematic analysis of parental leave policies, childcare services, and family allowances and child benefits to understand the nature of the emerging welfare model in the three cases more deeply.



[Changing Demands, Emerging Providers: New Directions in Social Policy in China](#)

UNRISD Project Brief 14, February 2016

China is experiencing dual demographic shifts—high levels of internal migration combined with a rapidly aging population—which are weakening traditional family-based social support systems. To meet the growing demand for social services, community-based approaches to service delivery led by social organizations have emerged. This case study, part of the UNRISD project *New Directions in Social Policy: Alternatives from and for the Global South*, investigates China's new approach to social service delivery, with a focus on its governance and outcomes.

[New Alliances for Social Development: Mobilizing Resources in Nicaragua](#)

UNRISD Project Brief 13, December 2015

In the face of dwindling development assistance from traditional donors, Nicaragua has turned to new partnerships with the governments of Venezuela, Brazil and China to finance the adoption of much-needed social programmes. But these relationships can be fragile, and despite frequent tax reforms the Nicaraguan government has not managed to provide a stable domestic resource base to underpin its social contract. So how can sustainable financing for social policies be ensured?

[Civil Society Steps Up: New Directions in Social Policy in the Russian Federation](#)

UNRISD Project Brief 12, December 2015

New legislation in Russia has opened up a space for civil society organizations (CSOs) to work in partnership with the state. Does this mean that CSOs will emerge as a new force in Russian social policy design and implementation? Might it help overcome obstacles that have hindered Russian social policy performance? This case study, part of the UNRISD research project *New Directions in Social Policy: Alternatives from and for the Global South*, explores the current social policy shift in the Russian Federation.

[Leaving No One Behind: Social protection for children from ethnic and linguistic minorities](#)

by Elena Gaia, UNRISD Expert Commentaries, March 2016

In this expert commentary, Elena Gaia explains how the design, implementation and monitoring of social protection systems should incorporate specific measures to make sure that children from ethnic and/or linguistic minorities are included.

[Inter-sectoral Coordination, Social Protection and Human Rights: A virtuous circle](#)

by Alexandra Barrantes, UNRISD Expert Commentaries, March 2016

Social protection has become an ever more important policy discussion in the social development agenda. Significant advances have been made in the social protection field in the Americas and normative and institutional frameworks have been established within the countries to further strengthen social protection policies. Nevertheless, challenges still remain in developing and consolidating integrated and universal social protection systems in the region. Alexandra Barrantes from OAS discusses the importance of an integrated approach to social protection.

[Eliminating Unacceptable Forms of Work: A global challenge](#)

by Deirdre McCann, UNRISD Expert Commentaries, February 2016

An increasing proportion of the world's labour force is working in conditions of insecurity, low pay and inadequate social protection. In the wake of the global economic crisis, precarious jobs have proliferated in advanced industrialized countries. In settings where informal work has long been widespread, many jobs are of very low quality and there are signs that formal jobs are increasingly being casualized.

In this expert commentary, Deirdre McCann from Durham Law School, the University of Durham (UK), discusses social protection's role in eliminating unacceptable forms of work.

NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS

[Social Protection, Food Security and Rural Development](#)

German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für
Entwicklungspolitik (DIE),
with financial support by the German Federal Ministry of Economic
Cooperation and Development (BMZ), 2015–2017



As part of a larger research agenda on food security, this research project studies the role of social protection for food security and rural development. It investigates and compares the effects of different kinds of social protection programmes such as social cash transfers, insurance, public works and school meal programmes on nutrition/food security. Furthermore, the project examines impacts of the interaction between social protection programmes and interventions that focus on agricultural productivity or nutritional education (multi-sectoral approaches). The project team employs randomized controlled trials and other quantitative methods that are combined with qualitative research.