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DEAR MEMBERS OF THE EADI SOCIAL  
PROTECTION WORKING GROUP,

This is the **13<sup>th</sup> edition** of our Social Protection Brief. On the left-hand side you can find a short list of the sections included.

Best Regards,  
Christian

## PUBLICATIONS

[Understanding multiple trajectories of extending social protection to the poor: An analysis of institutional change in Kenya](#) by Katja Bender, Barbara Rohregger, Bethuel Kinuthia, Grace Ikuu, Nicky Pouw, Esther Schüring

Political economic analyses of recent social protection reforms in Asian, African or Latin American countries have increased throughout the last few years. Yet, most contributions focus on one social protection mechanism only and do not provide a comparative approach across policy areas. In addition, most studies are empirical studies, with no or very limited theoretical linkages. The paper aims to explain multiple trajectories of social protection reform processes looking at cash transfers and social health protection policies in Kenya. It develops a taxonomy and suggest a conceptual framework to assess and explain reform dynamics across different social protection pillars. In order to allow for a more differentiated typology and enable us to understand different reform dynamics, the article uses the approach on gradual institutional change. While existing approaches to institutional change

mostly focus on institutional change prompted by exogenous shocks or environmental shifts, this approach takes account of both, exogenous and endogenous sources of change.

[Overcoming Extreme Poverty by Social Protection Floors – Approaches to Closing the Right to Social Security Gap](#) by Markus Kaltenborn

If we look for legal answers to the global challenge of extreme poverty, then social protection law – and in particular the human right to social security – deserves special attention. Based on the research framework which has been presented by Haglund and Stryker in their book "Closing the Rights Gap. From Human Rights to Social Transformation" (2015) this article analyzes which role the legal systems in the Global South will play in implementing SDG 1.3 at the national level and in closing the "right to social security-gap".

Haglund and Stryker describe, inter alia, two models for social rights realization which represent alternative approaches to the MDG/SDG concept: (a) the so-called multistage spiral model whose main focus lies on the different phases which new norms have to go through when they are implemented in a state's society, and (b) the "policy legalization model" which highlights the role of litigation in ensuring social rights compliance. Furthermore the article deals with the responsibility of the international community in this area of development policy.

[Shame, Poverty and Social Protection](#), IDS Working Paper 489, June 2017, by Keetie Roelen

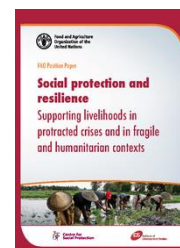
Despite long-standing conceptual considerations of shame in understanding poverty and debates about its moral, social and emotional qualities, the role of shame in poverty reduction policies remains largely unexplored. Notions of shame or mechanisms leading to shame – such as stigma or lack of dignity or respect – feature in many studies and policy evaluations, yet few studies have considered the interaction between shame, poverty and policy as its core focus.

A recent blog post also discusses the issues of shame and shaming: ['Is there such a good thing as 'good shame' or 'positive shaming'?'](#)

[How to Make 'Cash Plus' work: Linking Cash Transfers to Services and Sectors](#), UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti Working Paper WP-2017-10, 2017, K. Roelen, S. Devereux, A-G. Abdulai, B. Martorano, T. Palermo; L. G. Ragno

This paper aims to identify key factors for successful implementation of increasingly popular 'cash plus' programmes, based on (i) a review of the emerging evidence base of 'cash plus' interventions and (ii) an examination of three case studies, namely, Chile Solidario in Chile, IN-SCT in Ethiopia and LEAP in Ghana.

[Social Protection and resilience building: Supporting Livelihoods in Protracted Crises, Fragile and Humanitarian Contexts](#), FAO Position paper, 2017, N. Winder Rossi, F. Spano, R. Sabates-Wheeler, S. Kohnstamm and P. Harvey



This paper discusses the role social protection can play in saving livelihoods while also enhancing the capacity of households to respond, cope and withstand threats and crises. It focuses on social protection's role in protracted crises and fragile and humanitarian contexts, as well as discusses the importance of shock-response systems, even in stable contexts.

## BRIEFS

[Policy Brief – Protected Against Climate Damage? – The Opportunities and Limitations of Climate Risk Insurance for the Protection of Vulnerable Populations](#) by Bread for the World

Climate change will specifically affect the poorest populations in the countries that are most at risk from climate change. Extreme weather events such as tropical storms, droughts and floods threaten people's harvests, income and livelihoods. Climate risk insurance can help to reduce their vulnerability. In the event of a disaster, insurance can quickly provide funds to help the injured parties deal with their situation as well as to bolster emergency responses and strengthen social protection systems. However, if climate risk insurance is to protect the poorest and most vulnerable populations, it has to focus on people's needs, be easily accessible and, above all, affordable. The issue of affordability is closely linked to questions of climate justice: who should be viewed as liable for the costs – those responsible for climate change or the people who suffer most from it?

[Social Protection: A Key Instrument for Social, Economic and Political Development](#) by Markus Loewe

Social protection schemes help households manage risk and poverty, but they also encourage them to take new risks related to investment. Thereby, they promote pro-poor economic growth and stabilise society and polity. However, only a minority of the world population has access to reliable social protection instruments. Most people globally rely on mutual support networks and informal protection mechanisms. Tax-financed social protection schemes tend to be better able to reach out to poor and informal sector households than contributory schemes just like universal transfers are better able to contribute to economic and political development than targeted transfers.

## [Policy Brief — Transformative Policies for Sustainable Development: What Does it Take?](#)



Titled “Transforming our World”, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development commits UN Member States and the international development community to taking “the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world on to a sustainable and resilient path”. But what exactly does transformation mean in the context of the 2030 Agenda and, equally importantly, how can it be achieved?

This Brief presents four key characteristics of innovations that have driven transformative change: a universal and human rights-based approach; a new take on policy integration; social and environmental objectives put ahead of economic ones; and the empowered participation of all social actors in decision-making processes.

## [Issue Brief — Sanitation and Social Protection: A Human Rights-Based Approach](#) by Juliet Willetts

This Issue Brief introduces readers to the human rights-based approach to sanitation. Access to sanitation may reduce vulnerability, a key focus of social protection. This briefing paper makes the case for an increased focus on sanitation as a human right, explores current approaches to address this right, and provides ideas on the key directions needed to turn the tide on this critical issue.

## [Project Brief — Shaping Social Development from Overseas? New Directions in Social Policy in Indonesia](#)

The history of international development cooperation has often been tarnished by the unintended negative consequences of aid agencies’ policies. But Indonesia’s social policy reform, in which many donors have been involved, represents a departure from this trend. This brief explores Indonesia’s successes in social policy reform.

## [Event Brief — Leading a Transformation? New Trends in Social Policy from and for the Global South](#) by Ilcheong Yi and Kelly Stetter



Realizing the ambitious transformative vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires an equally transformative means of implementation. Innovative social policies that promote social and economic inclusion can provide such a means, and some of the most interesting developments in these areas today are coming out of the Global South. But innovative social policies do not always lead to transformation. Only when political structures and institutions are aligned with the goals of inclusive social policy can these reforms be sustainable in the long term.

## BLOGS

[Blog — Education for All”: A Hollow Pledge for International Migrant Children and Youth in the Global South?](#) by Aida Lizbeth Becerra Garza

Governments have recently affirmed the right and commitment to quality and inclusive Education for All in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. This think piece argues that it is now urgent to focus on the educational access and inclusion of millions of child and youth migrants in developing countries, concurrently with the efforts already under way in these countries to expand and improve education systems.

[Development Pathways’ blogs](#) on social pensions, a rights-based approach to social protection and UBI, as well as linkages between social protection and child protection:

The [blog - Social protection in fragile contexts: the unique role of pensions](#) stresses the importance of long-term, nationally-owned social protection systems in these contexts, and the role of pensions in building such systems. The [blog - Under threat: social protection that includes everybody in their old age?](#) highlights some of the benefits of social pensions around the world, and some worrying trends in the case of external pressure on Namibia’s social pension.

In addition, two blogs on the debates around a rights-based approach to social protection and universal basic income stress the importance of recognizing the right to social security, highlight the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, and quote the UN Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights on these debates. The [blog on Lost in translation in social protection](#) argues that the challenge of the human rights and international development worlds working more collaboratively needs to be risen to if we are to get more effective social protection. Furthermore, Development Pathways’ other piece considers that universal lifecycle social protection programmes can be seen as [Pathways to a universal basic income in low- and middle-income countries](#).

## EXPERT COMMENTARY

[Expert Commentary — The Human Rights-Based Approach to Social Protection for Migrants: tensions and contradictions in practice](#) by Emma Carmel and Bozena Sojka

This expert commentary explores portability and migrants’ access to social protection in the EEA.

## WORKING GROUP MEMBER NEWS

The EADI General Assembly has appointed Professor Dr. Katja Bender as the [new vice president of the European Association for Development Research and Training Institutes](#). As part of her new function, Katja Bender plans to set up a task force for dialogue between research and practice.

## PAST EVENTS

### July 2017

[Webinar: Lessons for the Universalization of Health Care in Emerging Economies](#) (27 July)

This webinar, drawing on the recently published UNRISD volume [Towards Universal Health Care in Emerging Economies: Opportunities and Challenges](#), focused on the diverse outcomes seen in selected emerging economies that have pursued universal health care in recent years. It provided an overview of these experiences and a framework for understanding why outcomes differed across countries, taking political, economic and institutional factors into account. The webinar looked closely at the cases of Brazil and China, and discussed the experiences of Thailand, Russia, South Africa, India, Indonesia and Venezuela.

### August 2017

[EADI Nordic Conference 2017: Globalisation at the Crossroads](#)

Panel Session (organized by the [SHPIG project team](#)): Advances in Studying Interaction between Social Policy Instruments

A panel discussion on the advances in studying the interaction effects between various social policy instruments in African economies took place during this year's EADI-conference in Norway in August 2017. The panel, which was organised by the research project "Social and Health Policies for Inclusive Growth" financed by INCLUDE saw the participation of researchers and practitioners implementing social policies in low- and middle-income countries who were discussing their experiences and latest research results.

Research in this area shows mixed results so far. Although intuitively one would assume that more social policy interventions would also produce more social protection and, as a consequence, inclusive development, evidence suggests that this relationship is much more complex. Positive interaction effects largely depend on the design that allows complementarities to happen. Efficient implementation appears to be another important contributing factor towards increasing interaction effects. Where implementation is weak, social interventions tend to substitute rather than complement each other, cushioning implementation shortcomings, such as lack of drugs, irregular disbursement or under-table payments.

Measuring interaction effects is a challenge, as impact evaluations account for specific social protection interventions only without considering possible interaction effects with other interventions, for example cash transfers and health insurance or public works. In addition, measuring interaction effects requires a broad mix of reliable data and research methods in order to get the full picture.

The panel also discussed possible policy approaches towards better integrating and aligning different social protection instruments as a means to increase interaction. The politics of cross-sectorial interaction is a huge challenge due to a strong 'silo' mentality across different policy sectors. This concerns both the policy formulation as well as the implementation level.

#### Sessions EADI Working Group Social Protection

Katja Bender and Markus Loewe of our Working Group organized three sessions on "Social Protection and the Sustainable Development Goals" during the EADI Nordic Conference.

The first session was chaired by Katja Bender. Three papers were presented, covering social protection and health systems interventions and related assessments for Ethiopia and Ghana. A lively debate arose about the opportunities/potentials of combining different social protection approaches like e.g. cash-for-work and health-insurance schemes with each other. Also it was pointed out how meaningful it is/can be, if social protection schemes are financed through financial cooperation.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> session, chaired by Markus Loewe, the focus was on social protection measures in East Africa, Indonesia, and Latin America and three papers were presented accordingly.

Case studies from Malawi, India, Iran and the Philippines and covering the aspects: Social protection reforms for sustainable development, the support social protection schemes could offer for bonded labor, the unintended effects of the implementation of universal social protection policies, and the changing family dynamics related with conditional cash transfer programs were presented in the 3<sup>rd</sup> session, chaired by Christian Böber. In upper middle income countries social transfers sometimes can be quite generous and universal in the coverage (e.g. Iran).

#### **September 2017**

[Overcoming Refugee and Migrant Precarity: What Role for Social and Solidarity Economy?](#)  
(20 September)

This Side Event explored the role of social and solidarity economy in:

- promoting the human rights of migrant and refugee populations

- fostering the social inclusion and sustainable livelihoods of migrant and refugee populations
- supporting the developmental and human rights-related aspects of the Global Compact for Migration

Speakers include experts from international organizations, governments and civil society.

The event also introduced [Social and Solidarity Economy, Urban Communities and the Protection of Vulnerable Groups](#), a new UNRISD project in collaboration with the University of Geneva (funded by Swiss Network for International Studies).