## Building inclusive and shock responsive social protection systems

Walid MEROUANI, PhD

CNESE Conference on Social Protection

20 October 2021, Algiers.

#### Plan

- Introduction
- 2 Risks and vulnerabilities assessment
- 3 Assessing the national capacities and leaving no one behind
- 4 From an approach to real implementation
- 6 Conclusion

#### Introduction and motivations

- The Covid-19 pandemic and reaffirmation of the role of social protection in reducing poverty and vulnerabilities.
- The low (45%of the population) social protection coverage worldwide (Duran-Valverde et al 2020).
- The increased demand and the limited fiscal space for social protection.
- Slow/No economic transformation without a strong social protection.
- ⇒The need for inclusive and shock responsive social protection systems in Arab countries, including Algeria .



### Reviewed approaches

- Social Risk Management (Holzmann et al. 2001, 2003)
- Transformative Social Protection (Sabates-Wheeler and Devereux, 2008)
- Lifecycle Approach and Social Protection Floor (ILO, 2012)

#### Proposed approach

Towards inclusive and shock-responsive social protection systems that are aligned with the SDGs and environmental sustainability goals.

## Reviewed approaches

- Social Risk Management (Holzmann et al. 2001, 2003)
- Transformative Social Protection (Sabates-Wheeler and Devereux, 2008)
- Lifecycle Approach and Social Protection Floor (ILO, 2012)

#### Proposed approach

Towards inclusive and shock-responsive social protection systems that are aligned with the SDGs and environmental sustainability goals.

Risks and vulnerabilities assessment

## The life cycle approach

Life stage	Risks faced	Selected Indicators for Algeria
Early childhood (0-4)	Mortality, Early childhood development	11% of population lives in households with a stunted or wasted child (MICS, 2019).
\$\$\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	School dropout rates., child labor.	Graduation rate is estimated at 94% for primary school and 69% for college school (MICS, 2019)
Young (15-29)	Unemployment, Lack of access to decent formal jobs, lack of access to training/education.	26.2% of youth (15-24) (ONS, 2019) and 42% of youth 15-29 (MICS, 2019) are NEET.
Adults (30-59/64)	Unemployment-Gender inequalities in labor market. Lack of access to decent formal jobs, Income precariousness (informal jobs and vulnerable jobs)	38% of adults do not have "Chiffa Card" and 19% are covered by households' members contributions (MICS, 2019)
Elderly (60/65 and over)	Lack of stable income and pension, Lack of access to health care. Lack of access to illiteracy and digitalization.	Low pension coverage (46%/45%) (MICS, 2019)



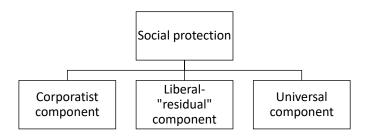
## Compounding risks and current vulnerabilities

- Multidimensional poverty: Poverty headcount ratio estimated at 4.76% following OPHI methodology and 15.76% including new indicators in the study (Merouani and Hammouda, 2021)
- Disability: low access of people with disabilities to labor and infrastructure (Humanity and Inclusion, 2021).
- Income inequalities: Gini Index 32.2% in 2018. (World Data Atlas, 2018)
- Spatial inequalities.
- Macroeconomic shocks (volatility of commodity prices)
- Gender based violence.
- Environmental, climate change and pandemic risks



# Assessing national social protection capacities and leaving no one behind

#### Mapping Social Protection systems



Source: Gosta-Esping Anderson (1990), Merouani (2021).



## The corporatist component

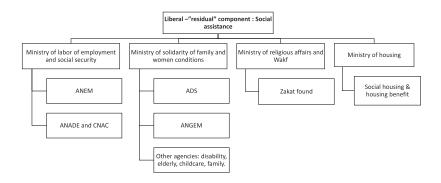
Table 1: architecture of corporatiste component

Social risk	Sickness Maternity Work Injury and accident at work Disability Old age pension Death		Unemployment	Bad weather and paid leave
Economically active population	Salaried workers of both private and public sector	Self employed	Salaried workers with permanent contract	Workers of construction sector
Insurance founds	CNAS and CNR	CASNOS	CNAC	CACOBATH

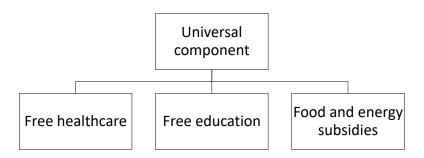
Source: author's elaboration.

Contribution rate: 34,5% for salaried workers (employees support 9%) and 15% for self employed.

#### The liberal-"residual" component



#### The universal component



Filling the coverage gap: horizontal and vertical expansion of social protection

## Filling the coverage gap

#### Corporatist component

- 1 Low coverage (58%) of workers (ONS, 2019).
- 2 Disputable quality of benefit, especially for self employed, when it comes to health care.
- Outdated and limited coverage for child care and family policies.
- 4 Limited list of diseases and medications covered.

#### Liberal-residual component

- Traditional methods of targeting, worsen by high informality, causing inclusion and exclusion errors (ADS, 2016)
- 2 Low level of benefits does not allow building resilience.
- 3 Lack/no of quality training for ALMP beneficiaries.
- 4 High cost of housing policy but low coverage.



## Filling the coverage gap

#### Corporatist component

- 1 Low coverage (58%) of workers (ONS, 2019).
- 2 Disputable quality of benefit, especially for self employed, when it comes to health care.
- Outdated and limited coverage for child care and family policies.
- 4 Limited list of diseases and medications covered.

#### Liberal-residual component

- 1 Traditional methods of targeting, worsen by high informality, causing inclusion and exclusion errors (ADS, 2016)
- 2 Low level of benefits does not allow building resilience.
- 3 Lack/no of quality training for ALMP beneficiaries.
- 4 High cost of housing policy but low coverage.



## Filling the coverage gap

#### Universal component

- 1 Spatial inequalities, in both education and health, still exist.
- 2 Low delivery of specialised healthcare in public institutions and the private hospitals are not covered by social security.
- 3 Disputable efficiency of education system and skills mismatch with labor market.
- 4 Limited access to infrastructure (water, sanitation, internet and digitalization) increasing multidimensional poverty.

## From an approach to an effective implementation

## Expand fiscal space for social protection

- 1 Reassessing public expenditures.
- 2 Improve government revenue collection (for instance:fees, charges, health tax on sugar and alcoholic beverages)
- 3 Expanding social security coverage to all contributory revenues (including informal sector).
- 4 Eliminating illicit financial flows.
- 6 Adopting a more countercyclical macroeconomic framework according to economic context.
- 6 Rethinking the generosity of survivor pension.
- 7 Involving the private sector in financing social insurance



## Governance of social protection

- 1 A strong institutional and legal framework.
- 2 Macro policy that balances between social protection needs and national financial resources.
- Institutional arrangements that provide opportunities to contributors and beneficiaries to participate in decision making
- 4 Minimal cost for administrative operations.
- **5** Ensure that the contributors and beneficiaries are aware of their rights and obligations (Robust grievance mechanism)
- 6 Activities of the vested authorities are accountable, transparent, predictable, participative, and dynamic.

#### What can UNDP do?

- Support the development of national social protection strategies and provide technical assistance to build inclusive, shock responsive social protection systems
- Training for social protection practitioners (TRANSFORM MENA programme)
- 3 Undertake multidimensional poverty and vulnerability assessments to inform policy evaluation.
- Support the digitalization of social protection and the development of social registries
- 6 Provide assistance to expand noncontributory programs and expand social security to informal workers
- 6 Provide innovative methods/options for financing social protection; conduct DFAs and develop INFFs that focus on social protection, among other areas (e.g. Egypt)

Thanks for your attention!

