

Agenda 2. Social Protection and Income Support Schemes: A Focus on Definitions and Related Parameters



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Background



- ☐ Asia and the Pacific has showed **remarkable achievements**.
- ✓ The world's fastest-growing region
- ✓ The # of people living on less than \$1.25 a day fell from 1.5 billion to 974 million b/w 1990 and 2008.
- □ Nevertheless, around 641 million people are still suffering under extreme poverty.
- ☐ Income inequality within countries has been consolidated in many of this region.

Background (Cont')



- ☐ Newly emerged challenges in Asia & the Pacific
- ✓ Recurrent economic crises
- ✓ Natural disasters (e.g.: floods, cyclones, tsunami)
- ✓ Dramatic increases in food and energy prices
- ☐ The convergence of such crises has generated **unprecedented**threats to daily life of people, especially the poor and vulnerable.
- ☐ Social protection has assumed greater importance
- ✓ As a tool to mitigate the impact of shocks and to help accelerate the recovery of people.

Background (Cont')



- □ Among other social protection measures, the income support schemes (hereafter, ISSs) have particular attention.
- ✓ Meet the needs of the poor and vulnerable by providing direct support and protection.
- ✓ Building blocks for more comprehensive social protection by expanding coverage to those who had been excluded from existing social protection system.

Objectives



- ☐ In response to abovementioned risks, this project aims:
- ✓ To **strengthen social protection**, especially for the poor and vulnerable
- ✓ To provide a platform for researchers and policy makers to exchange views, experience, and knowledge on social protection and ISSs

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