ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Regional Commissions
New York Office
ECA • ECLAC • ESCAP • ESCWA • UNECE

INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

on the Work of the

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

on Social Development

30 April 2024

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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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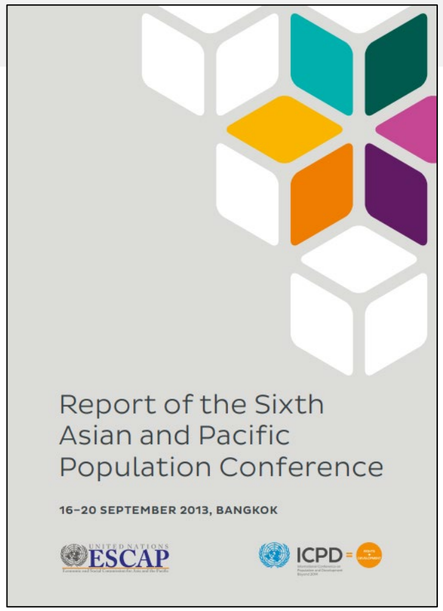
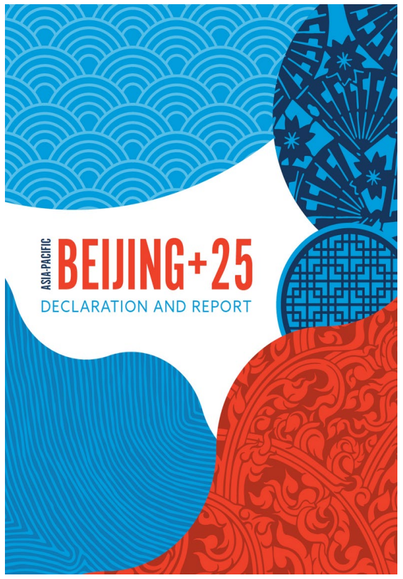
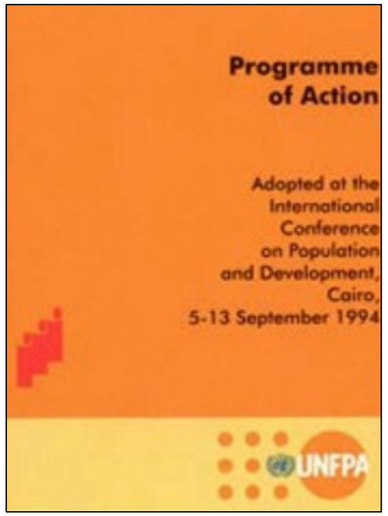
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Relevant Mandates to SDDs Work







Social Development in the Context of the 2030 Agenda

Emerging and frontier technologies

Demographic Trends

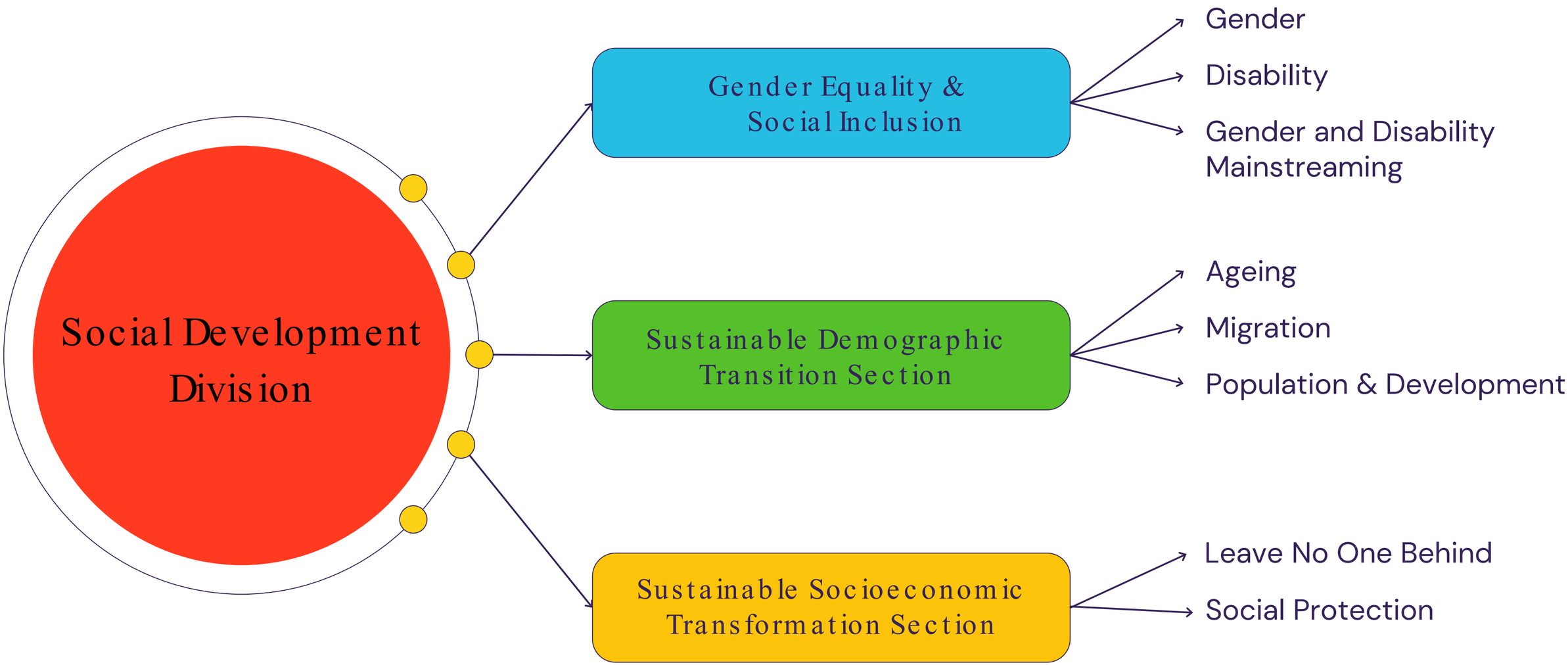
Urbanization

Inequalities

Climate change and environmental degradation

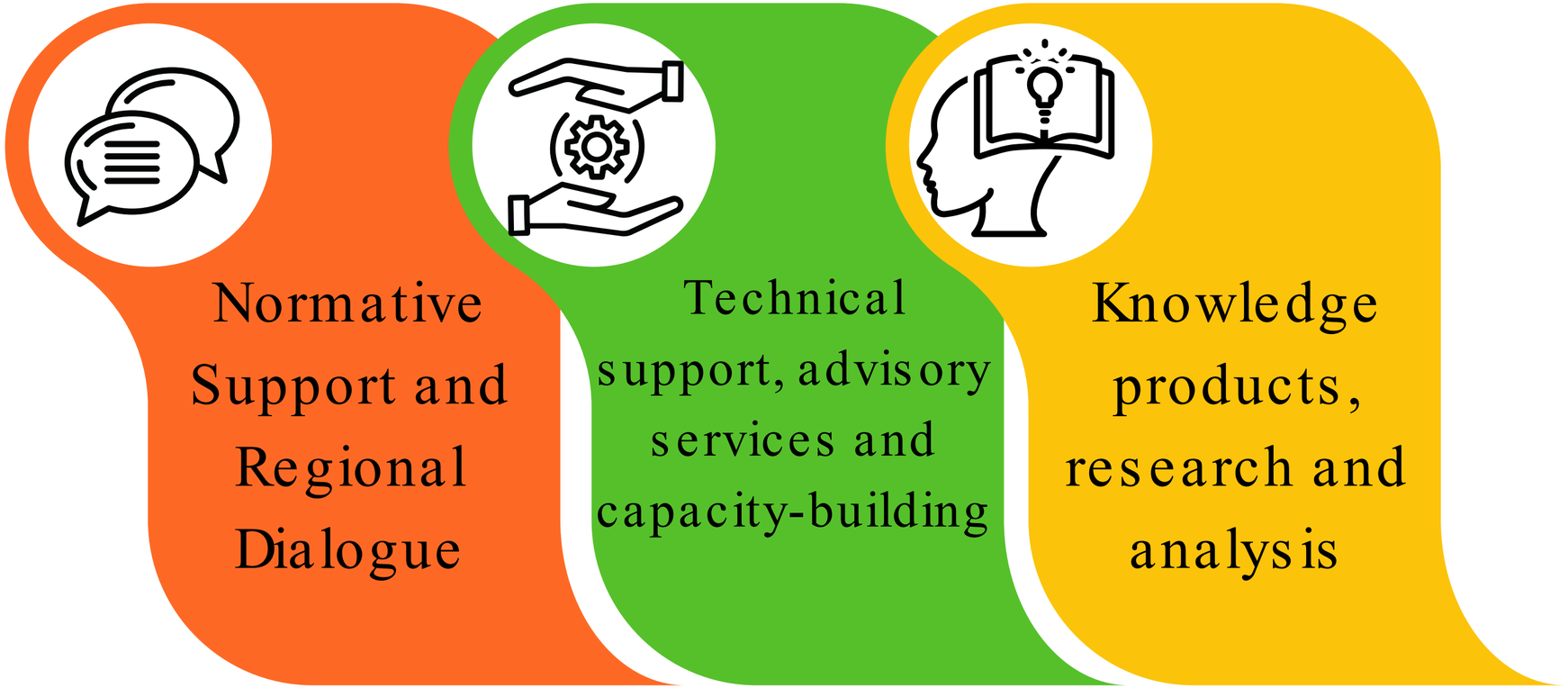
Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2020). Report of the UN Economist Network for the UN 75th Anniversary Shaping the Trends of Our Time.

How does ESCAP work on social development?



* Youth is mainstreamed in the work of the Division

How does ESCAP work on social development?



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Who do we collaborate with?

- Member States (53 members and 9 associate members)
- United Nations Entities
- Civil Society Organizations
- Private Sector
- Youth
- Academia

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Section:

Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

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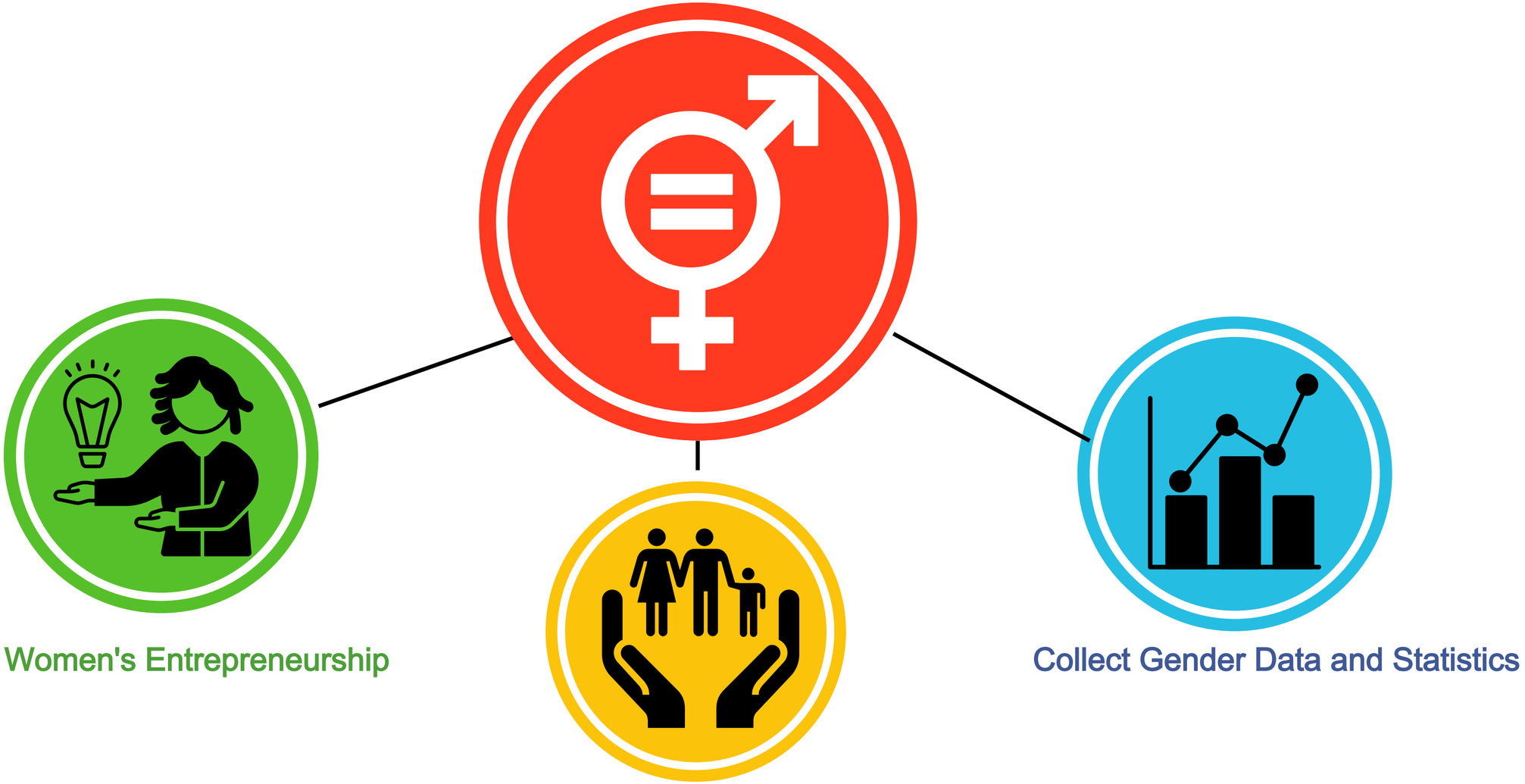
Our Response



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Our Work: Valuing and investing in unpaid care and domestic work

Supporting the Framework for Action in Cambodia

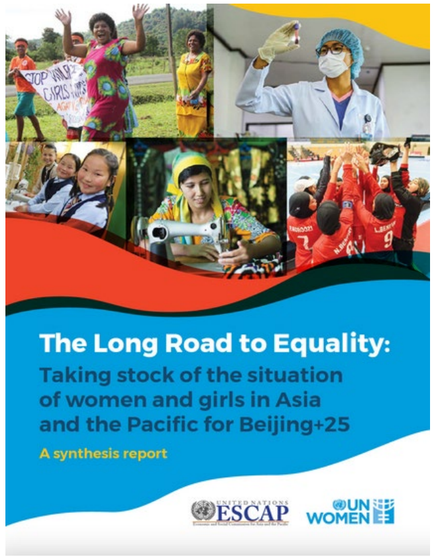
Collaborating with Oxfam on advocacy and capacity building in the Philippines

Developing policy advice in China regarding the care economy in the context of declining fertility and population ageing.

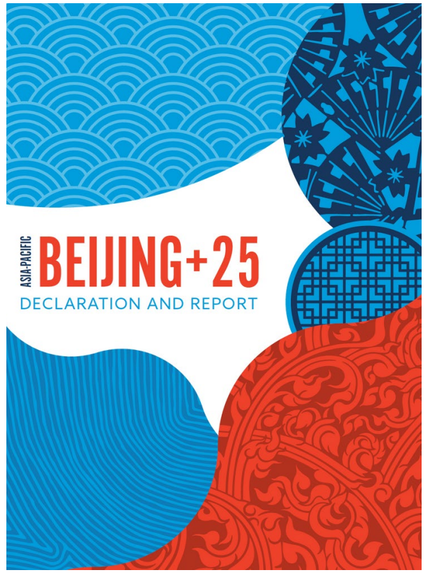
Research and knowledge products, country case studies evaluating the progression on care economy agenda

Advocacy, regional and subregional forums on strengthening the care economy

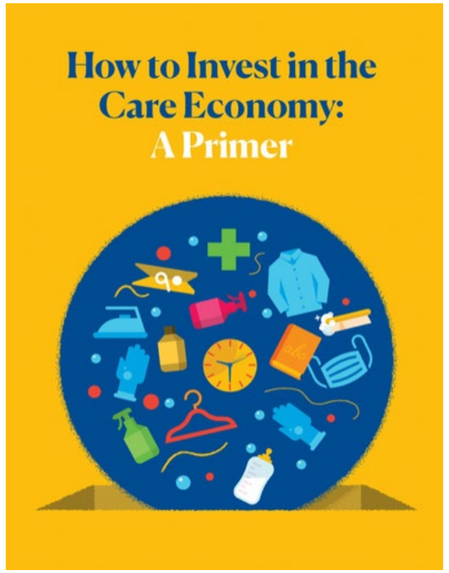
Knowledge Products



The long road to equality: taking stock of the situation of women and girls in Asia and the Pacific for Beijing+25 (2020)



Asia-Pacific Beijing+25 declaration and report (2020)



How to invest in the care economy: a primer (2022)

Strengthening women's entrepreneurship in national micro, small and medium enterprise policies and action plans : toolkit for policymakers (2022)

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Section:

Disability Inclusive Development

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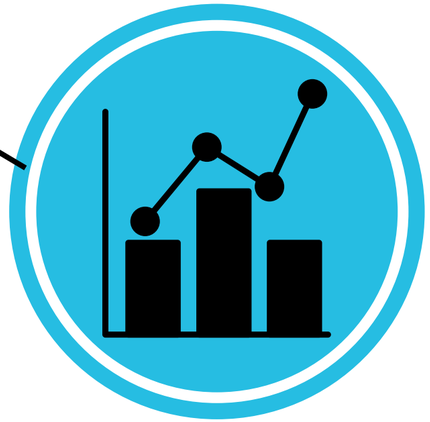
Our Response

Promote regional dialogue and cooperation in support of the Incheon Strategy and Beijing Action Plan

Enhance capacity through technical cooperation



Disability mainstreaming, including the system-wide efforts of the United Nations

Example of our Work: Regional Dialogue

High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022

The meeting culminated in the adoption of the Jakarta Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023-2032

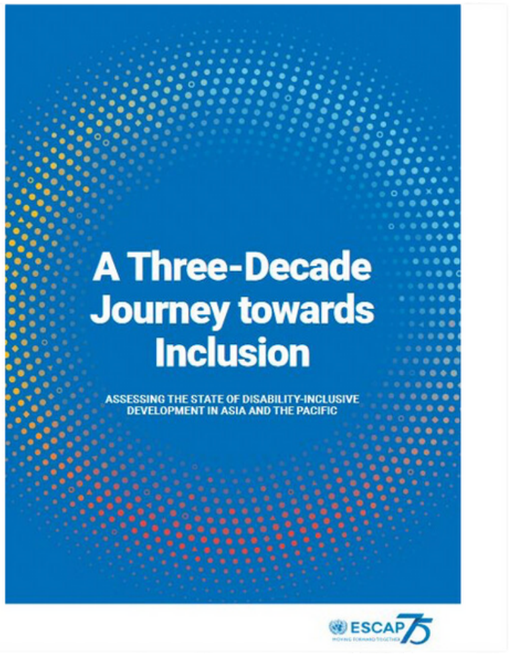
Knowledge products

28 April 2023

Sign Language. What is it? An ESCAP Guide towards Legal Recognition of Sign Languages in Asia and the Pacific

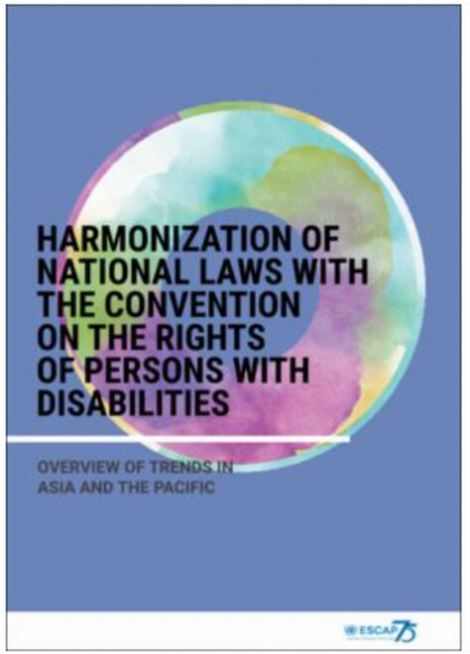
01 December 2021

The Shaping of Disability-Inclusive Employment in Asia and the Pacific



07 December 2022

A three-decade journey towards inclusion: assessing the state of disability-inclusive development in Asia and the Pacific



17 October 2022

Harmonizing of national laws with the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities overview of trends in Asia and the Pacific

Sustainable Demographic Transition Section:

Population and Development

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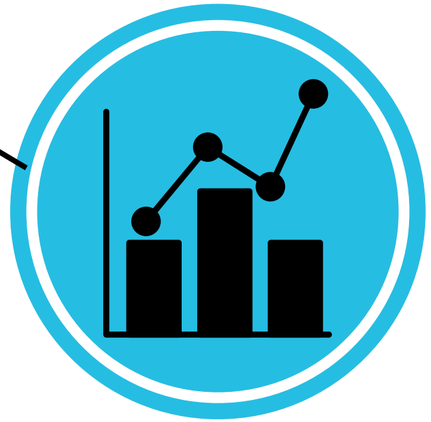
Our Response

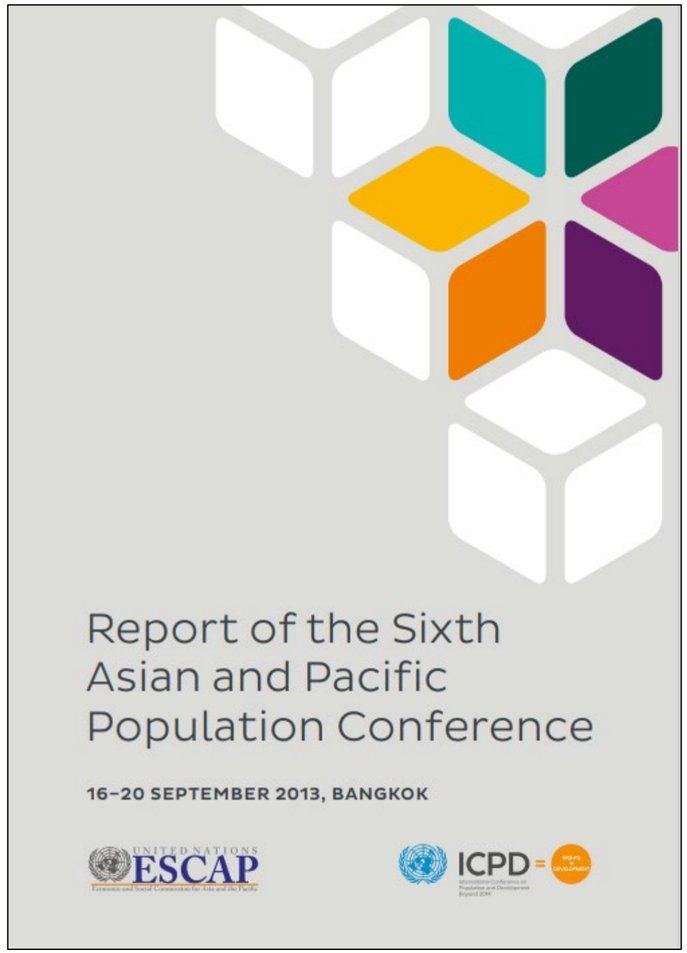
Promote regional dialogue in support of regional and global mandates

Support capacity building in the area of population and development



Promote evidence-based policymaking

Example of our Work: The Asian and Pacific Population Conference (APPC)



1st Asian Population Conference, New Delhi, 10-20 December 1963

Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference
BANGKOK, 15–17 NOVEMBER 2023

- Asian Population Conference, New Delhi, 10-20 December 1963
- **Second** Asian Population Conference, Tokyo, Japan, 1972
- **Third** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 20-29 September 1982
- **Fourth** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bali, Indonesia, 19-27 August 1992
- **Fifth** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 16-17 December 2002
- **Sixth** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 16-20 September 2013
- **Seventh** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 15-17 November 2023

Sustainable Demographic Transition Section: Ageing

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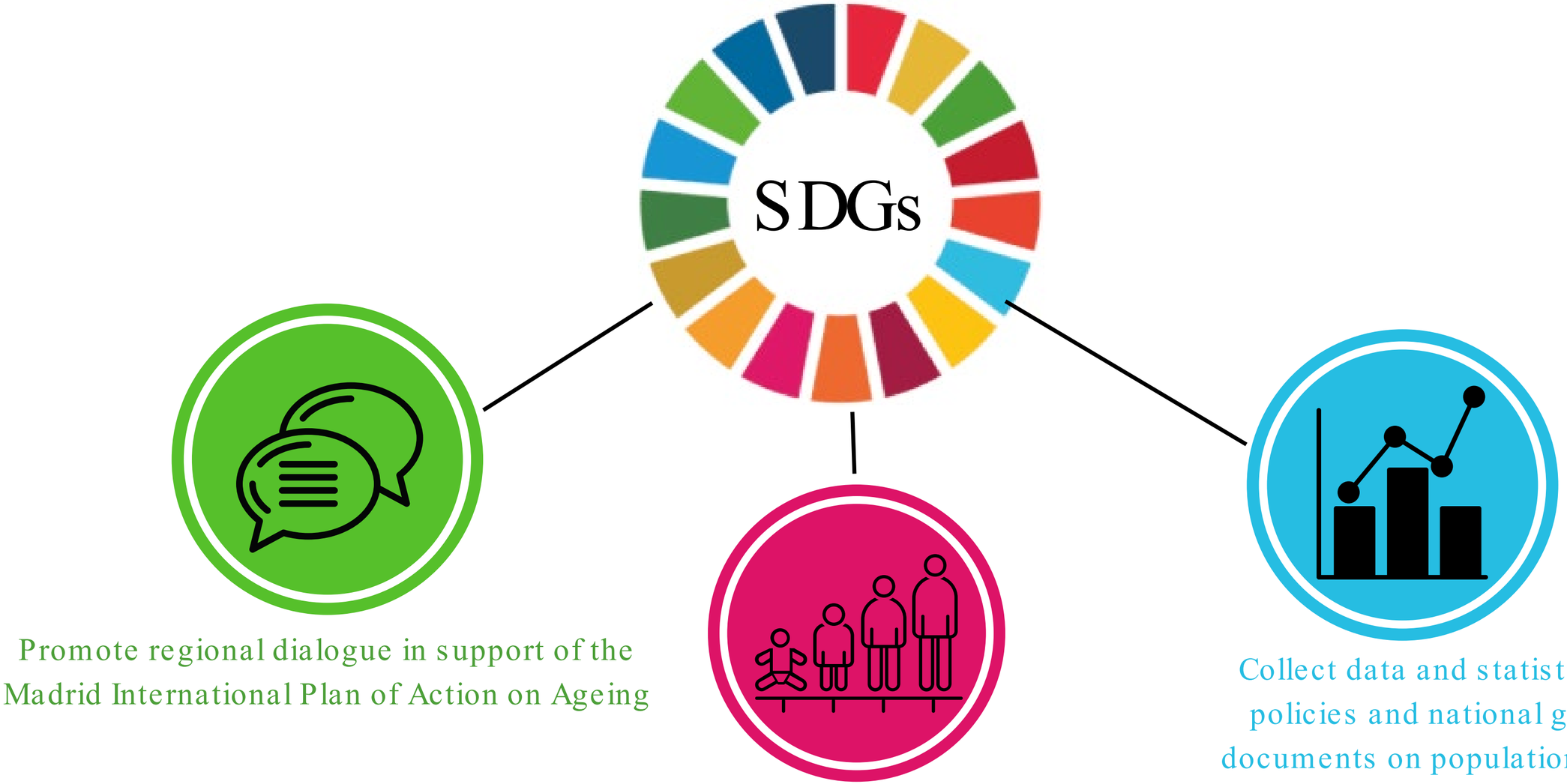
Our Response

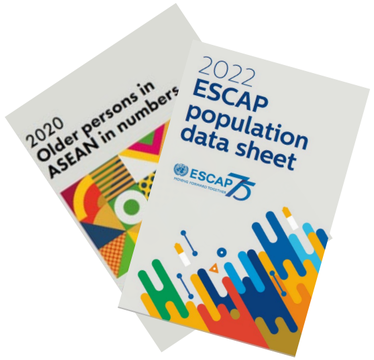


Promote regional dialogue in support of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing

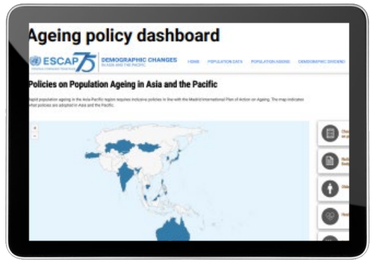
Collect data and statistics and policies and national guiding documents on population ageing

Support governments and CSOs in building capacity on population ageing policies

Our Work: Data Collection



- Datasheets on Older persons in ASEAN in numbers provide up-to-date information on population ageing and older persons.



- Ageing policy dashboard: Interactive dashboard presenting policies on population ageing in Asia and the Pacific

- e-learning course on 'Designing inclusive policies on population ageing using a bottom-up approach'

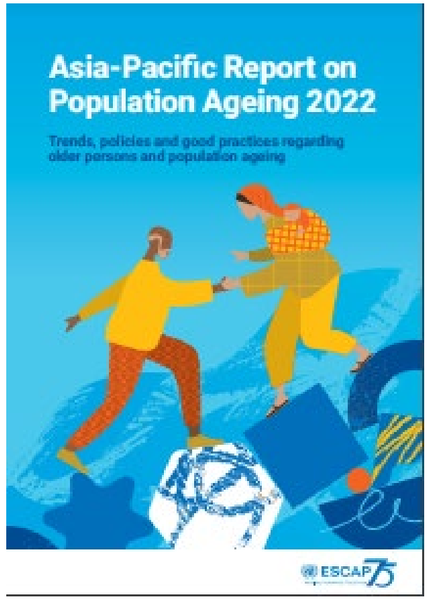
Knowledge Products

25 April 2023

A practical guide : developing and revising policy documents on older persons in Asia and the Pacific

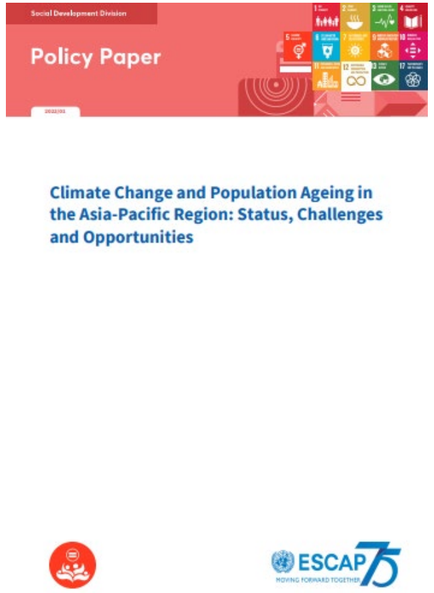
16 December 2022

Promoting decent work opportunities for older persons in the Asia-Pacific region in the context of the fourth industrial revolution



30 September 2022

Asia-Pacific report on population ageing 2022 : trends, policies and good practices regarding older persons and population ageing



01 June 2022

Climate change and population ageing in Asia-Pacific region : status, challenges and opportunities

Sustainable Demographic Transition Section:

Migration

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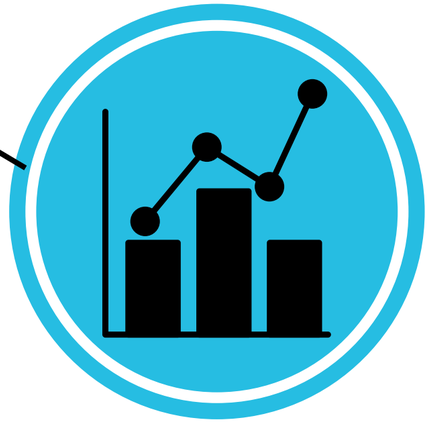
Our Response

Promote regional and sub-regional dialogue and cooperation in support of the Global Compact on Migration

Enhance capacity through technical cooperation



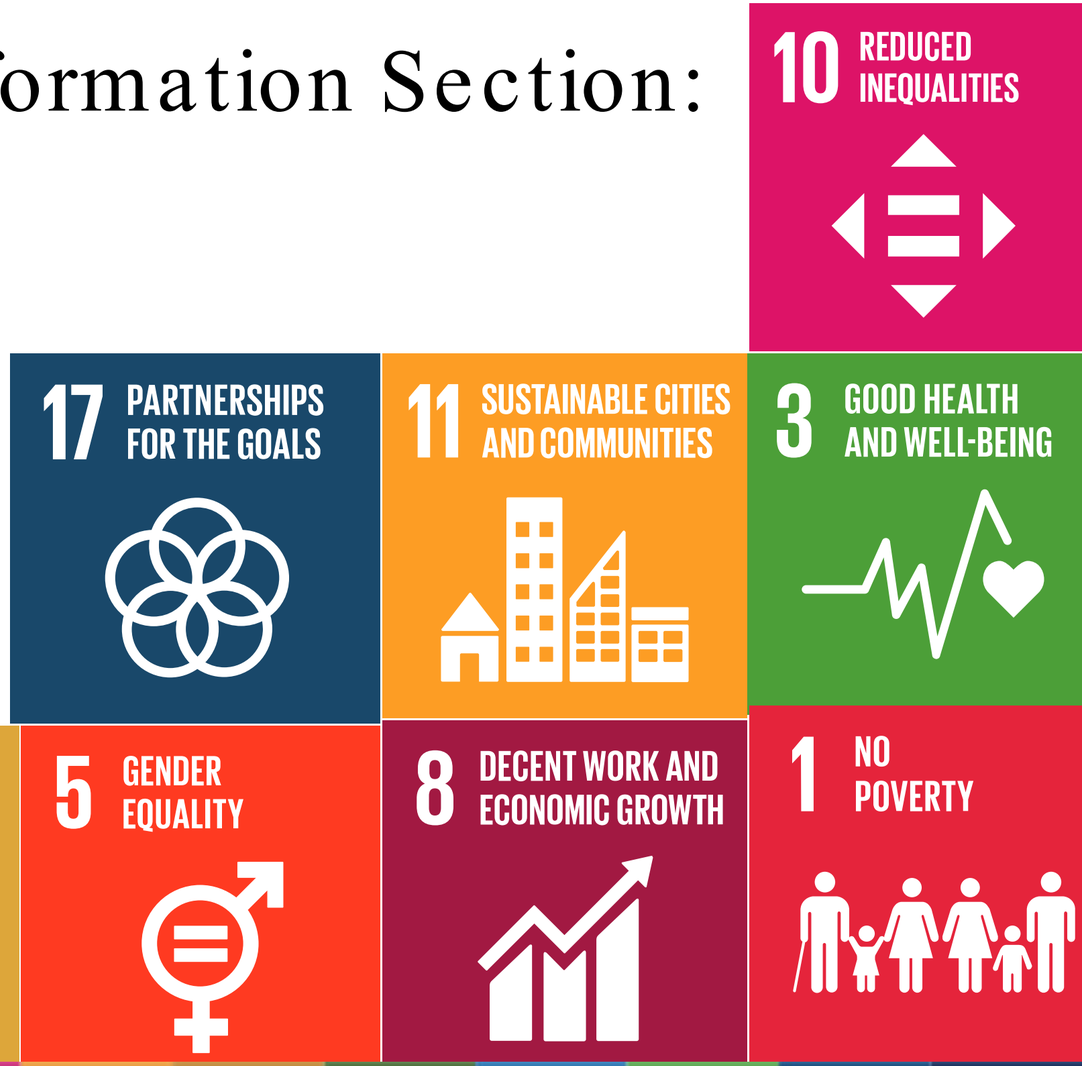
Support data collection and produce research and evidence-based policy analysis

Example of our Work: Migration

- Research studies on GCM priorities.
- Issue reports and papers on international migration in the region
- Maintain a database on annual migrant worker outflows

Sustainable Socioeconomic Transformation Section:

Leave No One Behind



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Current Situation

The promise of UN Member States to **Leave No One Behind** lies at the heart of the 2030 Agenda and is fundamental to ensuring that the benefits of sustainable development are experienced by all.

In Asia and the Pacific, prior the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, an estimated **233 million people** lived in extreme poverty, below the international poverty line of $1.90 a day.

Those living in extreme poverty as well as those who endure **disadvantages or deprivations** that limit their choices and opportunities relative to others in society are left behind.

- Access to key **services and opportunities** should be universal.

- Individual circumstances should **NOT** impact access.

Our Response

Provide technical advice and capacity - building support to member States

Act as a knowledge platform, producing research and evidence-based policymaking

Example of our Work: Leave No One Behind Platform

LNOB Platform is a diagnostic tool to help policy makers identify the most disadvantaged groups and to design policies that reduce inequality

- Classification and Regress Trees (CART)
- Dissimilarity index (D-index)
- National and subnational data

Sustainable Socioeconomic Transformation Section:

Social Protection

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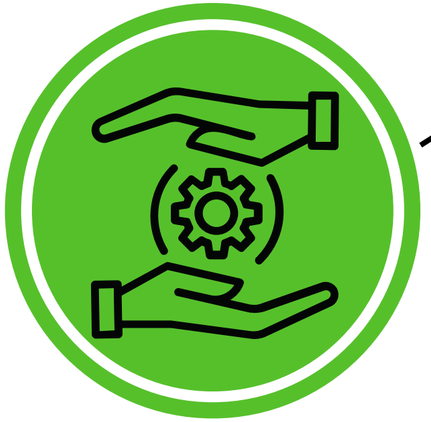
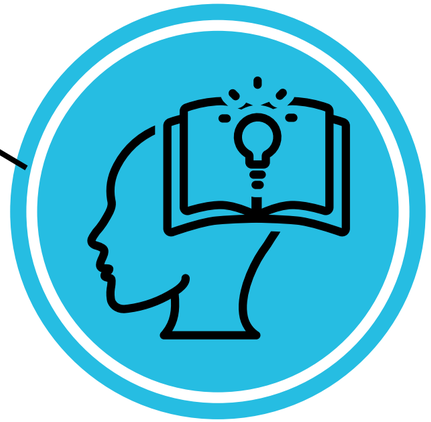
Our Response



Provide technical advice and capacity - building support to member States

Support regional dialogue through servicing committee on social development

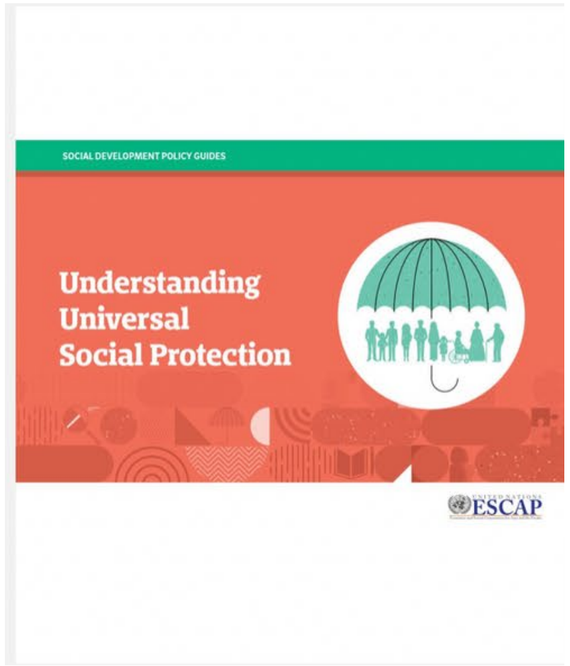


Act as a knowledge platform, producing research and evidence-based policymaking

Example of our Work: Social Protection Simulator

- The simulator estimates how social protection can reduce poverty and inequality.
- Users can explore different social protection policy options and their costs through simulating the impact of one scheme in one country.
- Users can also combine multiple schemes in one country or compare similar schemes across different countries.

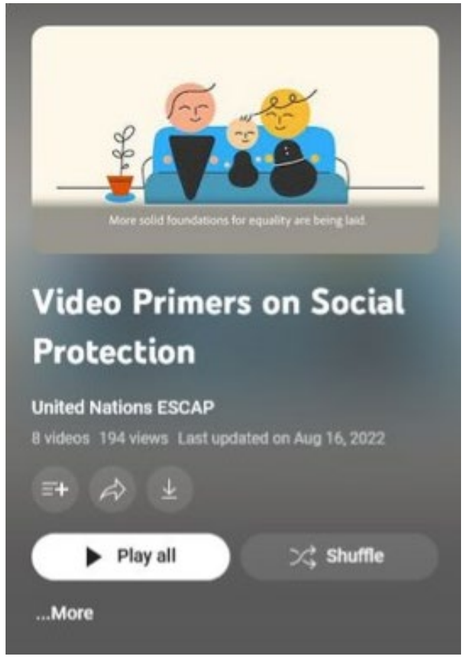
Knowledge Products



Social Protection Primers

Technical Papers

Flagship Publications



Video Primers

THANK YOU

For more information, head to
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DECADE OF ACTION

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