



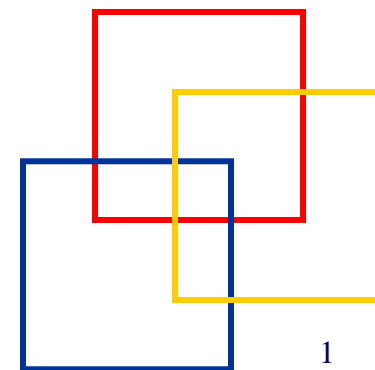
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# **The UN CEB Social Protection Floor Initiative**

## **Expert Panel Emerging Issues: Social Protection**

Commission for Social Development  
49<sup>th</sup> session

Michael Cichon  
Social Security Department, ILO  
New York, 14 February 2011

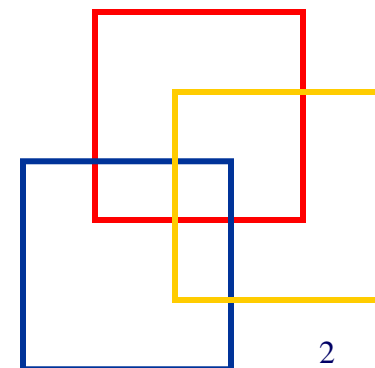




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## Structure

- **Point One:** Conceptual briefing: what is the SPF and what is it not...
- **Point Two:** Country activities - Getting real...
- **Point Three:** What has been done and what needs to be done...

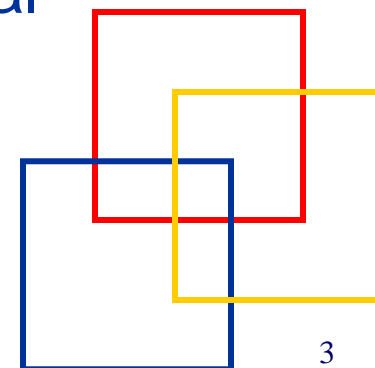




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## The Rationale of the UN Social Protection Floor Initiative

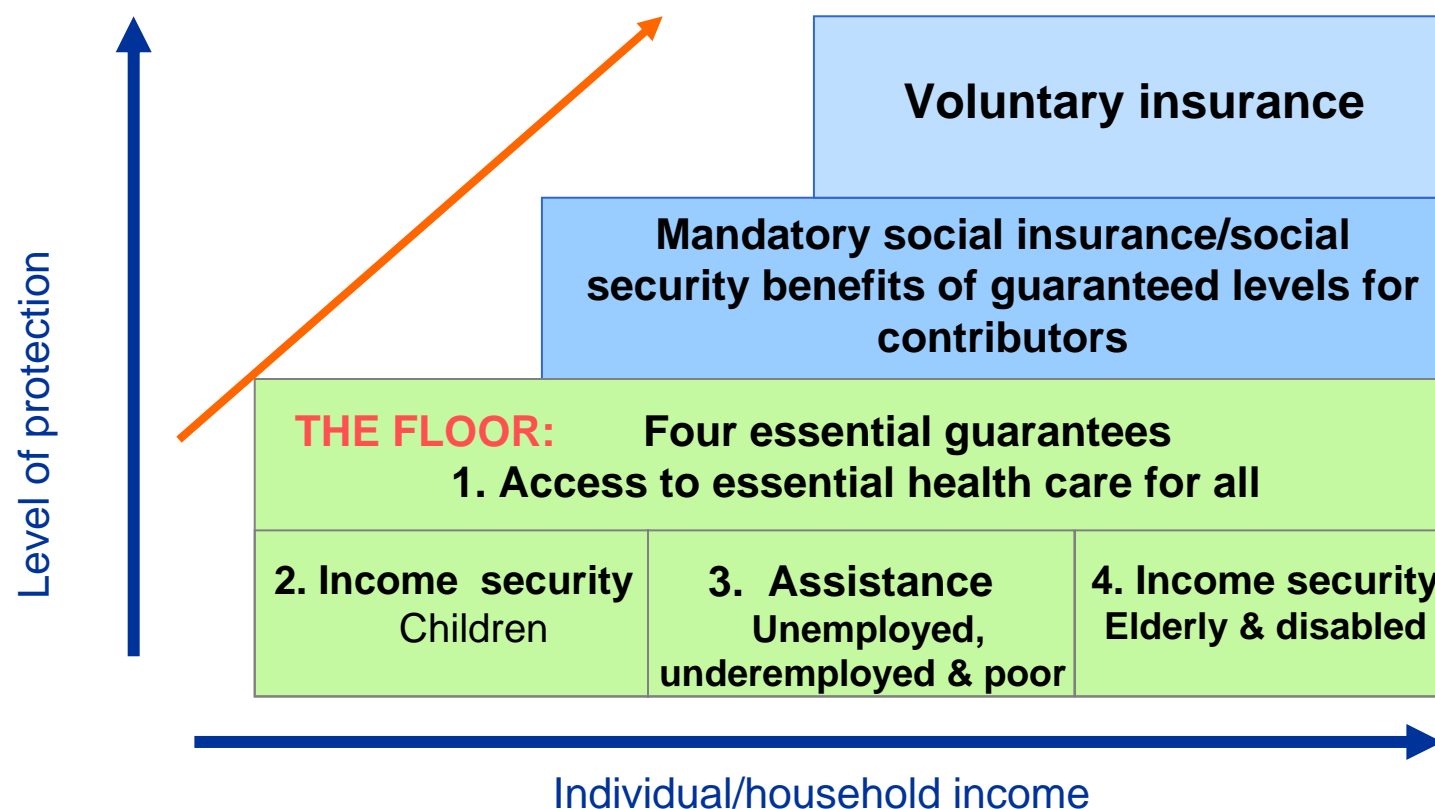
- With an investment of about 4% of GDP for basic social transfers, we can reduce the “food poverty” rate in low income countries by about 40%, a major contribution to achieve the MDG targets ...
- With an investment in essential health care for all, we can probably reduce “food poverty rates” by another 20% ...
- If and ONLY if national governments, national stakeholders, the UN, major donors, and NGOs act together, this potential can be exploited ...





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## The Social Protection Floor\* in the overall national Social Protection Architecture



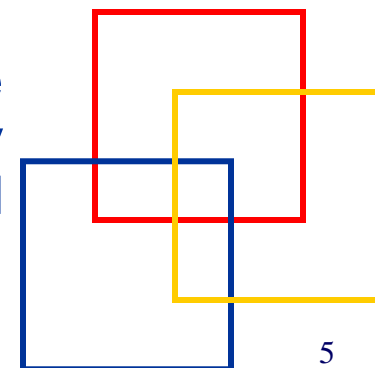
\*Focus on financial protection, not services components of the floor



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## The social protection floor that consists of four essential social security guarantees:

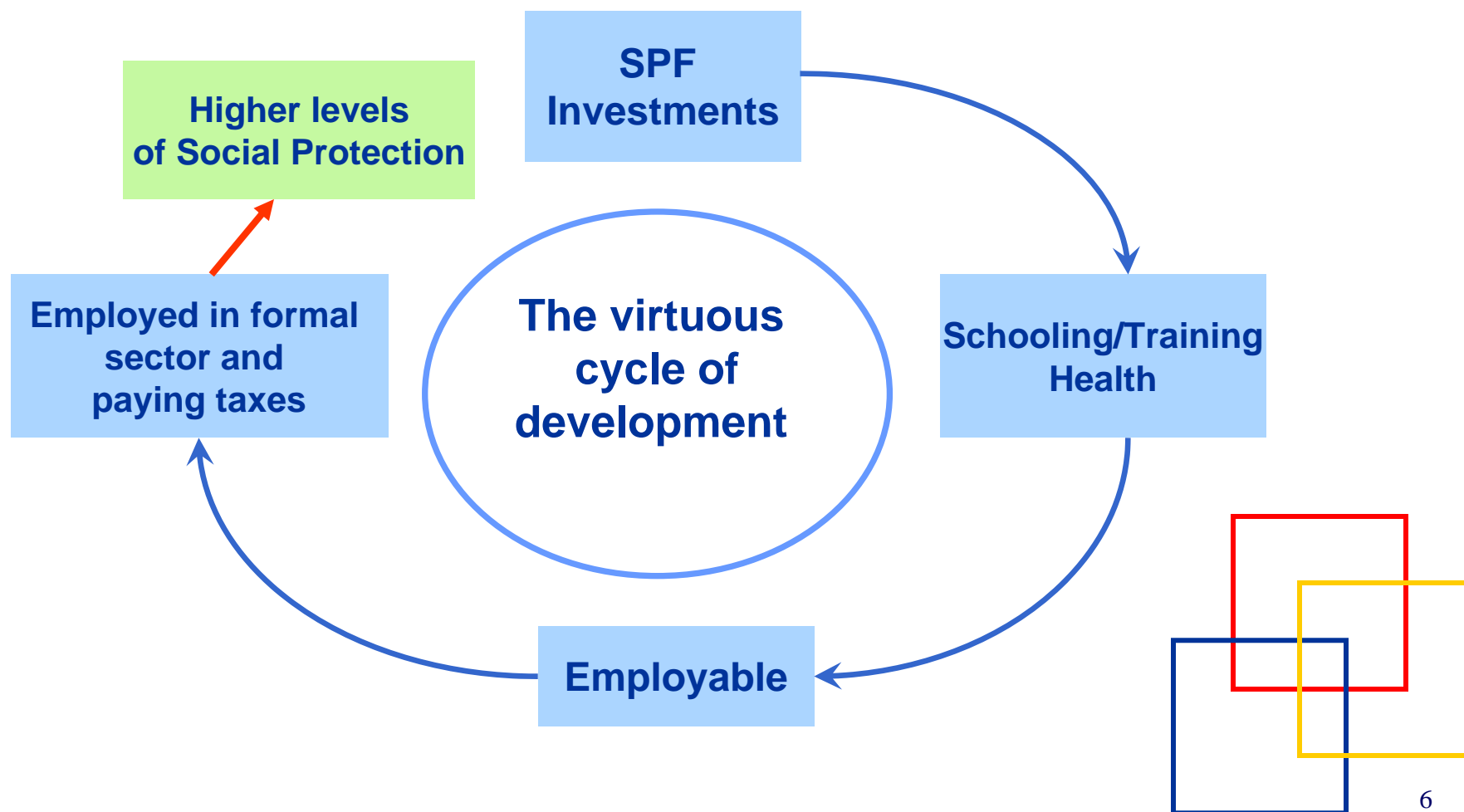
- all residents have access to a nationally defined set of essential health care services;
- all children have income security, at least at the level of the nationally defined poverty line level, through transfers in cash or kind aiming at facilitating access to essential goods and services, such as nutrition, education and care;
- all those in active age groups who are unable to earn sufficient income on the labour markets should enjoy a minimum income security through social assistance transfers aiming to achieve access of essential goods and services ...
- all residents in old age and with disabilities have income security at least at the level of the nationally defined poverty line through pensions/transfers in kind that guarantee access to essential goods and services





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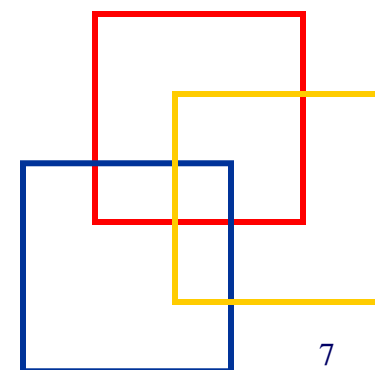
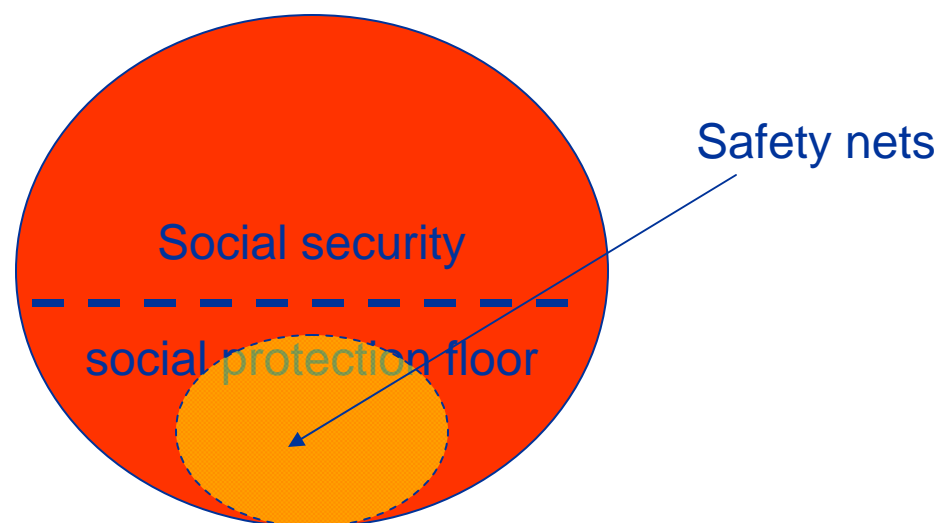
The underlying development policy paradigm:  
“Growing with equity” ...that could look as follows...





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# Safety Nets, Social Protection Floors and Social Security Systems...





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## Safety Nets and Social Protection Floors – what is the difference?

Criteria	Safety Nets	Social Protection Floor
Overall Objective	Poverty reduction/ Support of government policies that support <b>efficiency and growth</b>	Reducing poverty , inequality and vulnerability by giving effect to the Human Right to <b>Social Security</b>
Type of interventions	<b>Targeted</b> set of non-contributory transfers, depending on government priorities	Universal entitlement to protection through a comprehensive defined basic package of <b>services and transfers for all in need</b>
Benefit levels	<b>Minimum</b> consistent with adequacy, defined as “meaningful benefits”	National <b>poverty lines</b>
Role	SNs as transitory response measures/ <b>short term</b> (crisis, reforms)	<b>Rights-based, systemic “insurance” against poverty for all residents</b>



## Two: SPF – ... at country level

### Overview of key activities in the implementing process of the SPF-initiative

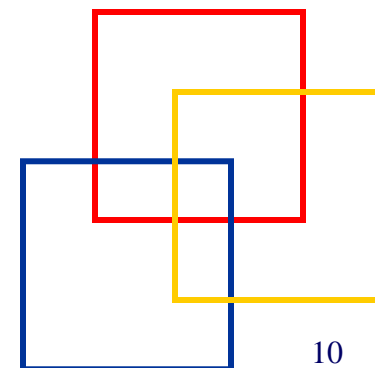
<b>Raising awareness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify key stakeholders and relevant actors at the national and international level</li></ul>
<b>National SPF Task force</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish a national SPF task force composed of key experts and decision-makers and supported by UN SPF country teams</li></ul>
<b>Social protection stocktaking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Map the actual social protection situation and compile necessary data</li></ul>
<b>Elaboration of measures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elaborate country-specific SPF policies through national dialogue</li></ul>
<b>Analysis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evaluate the cost and benefits (impacts) of policy options</li><li>• Evaluate the long-term financial and fiscal sustainability</li><li>• Reconsider measures in light of costing</li></ul>
<b>Implementation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Build national consensus on a specific SPF framework</li><li>• Build up national delivery capacities</li><li>• Support – if necessary – on a temporary basis - the national budget available for sustainable financing</li></ul>
<b>Monitoring</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implement a monitoring, evaluation and reporting mechanism</li></ul>



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## Pragmatic principles for country operations

- Country ownership, SPF response only on request
- Operating through
  - UN social protection sector groups, interministerial working groups etc.
  - Joint UN social protection floor task force, Co-ordinated by UN Country Director/UN Resident Co-ordinator
- Technical leadership by one or more agencies depending on country presence and nature of the request
- Open invitation to all participating agencies and development partners to co-operate
- Building on what already exists (taking into account structures and benefits already in place for the formal and informal sector)



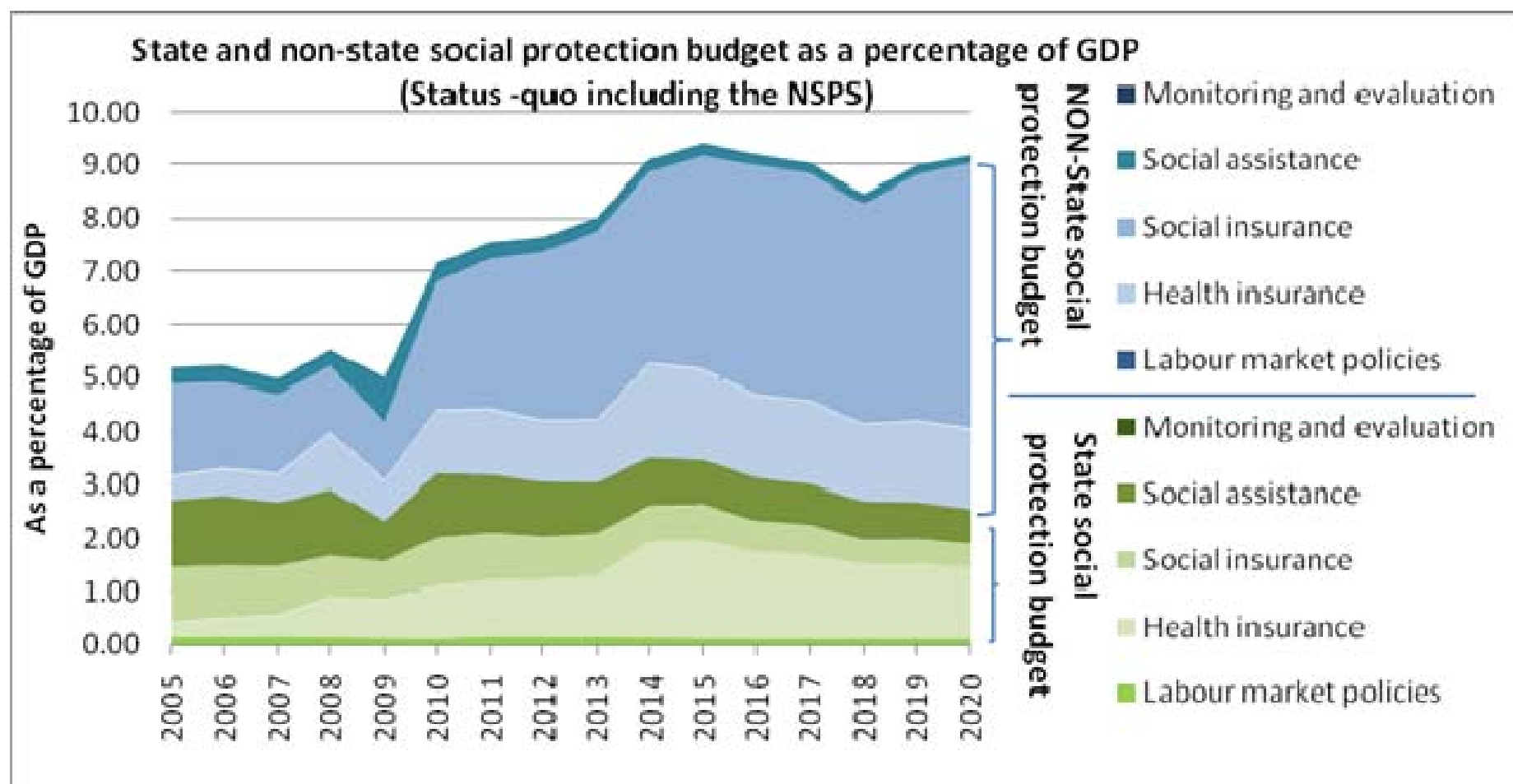
# Developments at country level by SPF activity

	Raising awareness	National SPF Task force	Social protection stocktaking	Elaboration of measures	Analysis	Implementation	Monitoring
Burkina							
Bénin							
Togo							
Sénégal							
Rwanda							
Cameroun							
Mozambique							
Ghana							
Zambia							
Haiti							
Thailand							
Cambodia							
Viet Nam							
Indonesia							
Lao PDR							
Argentina							

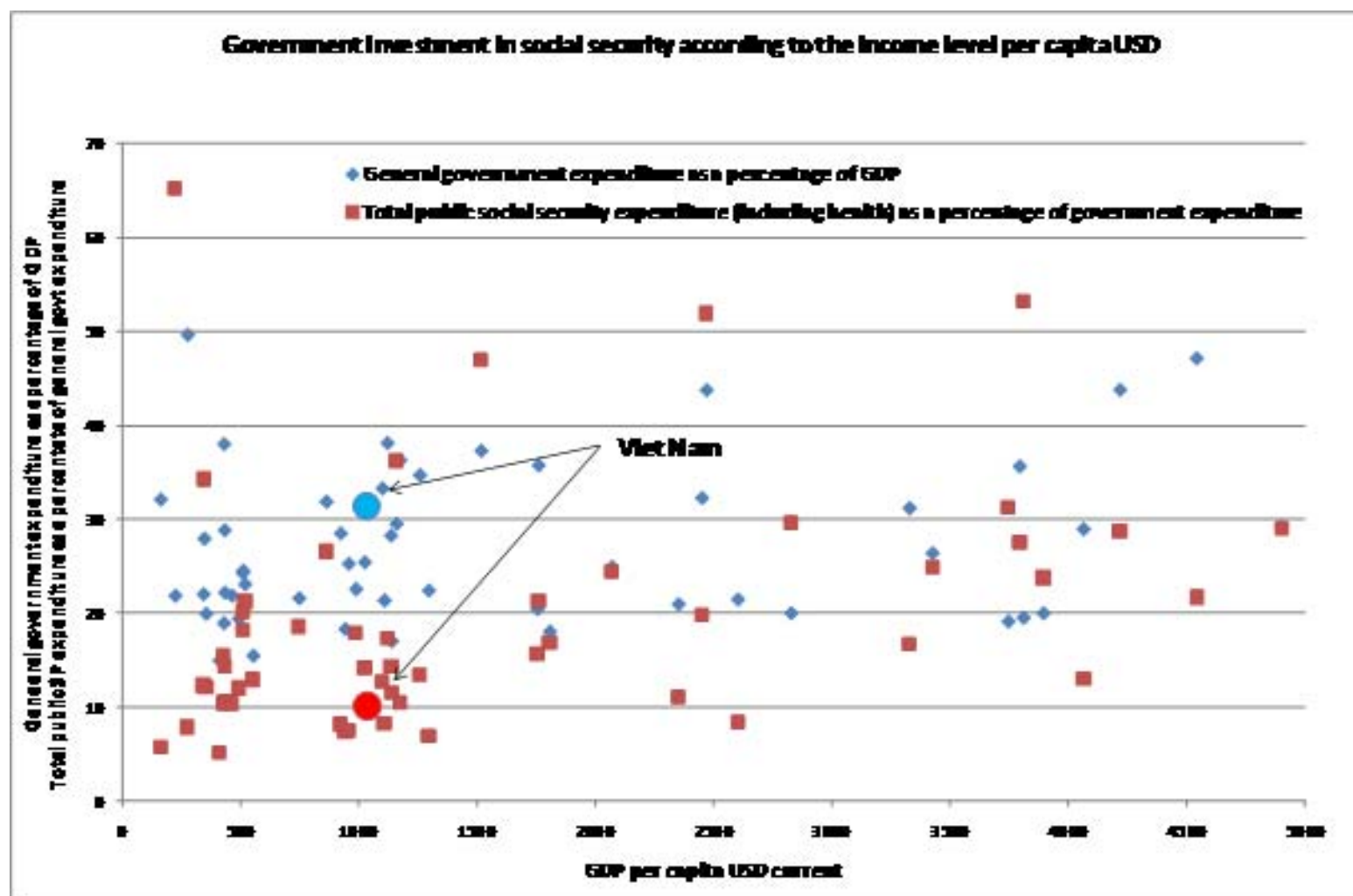


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## Vietnam: Baseline analysis



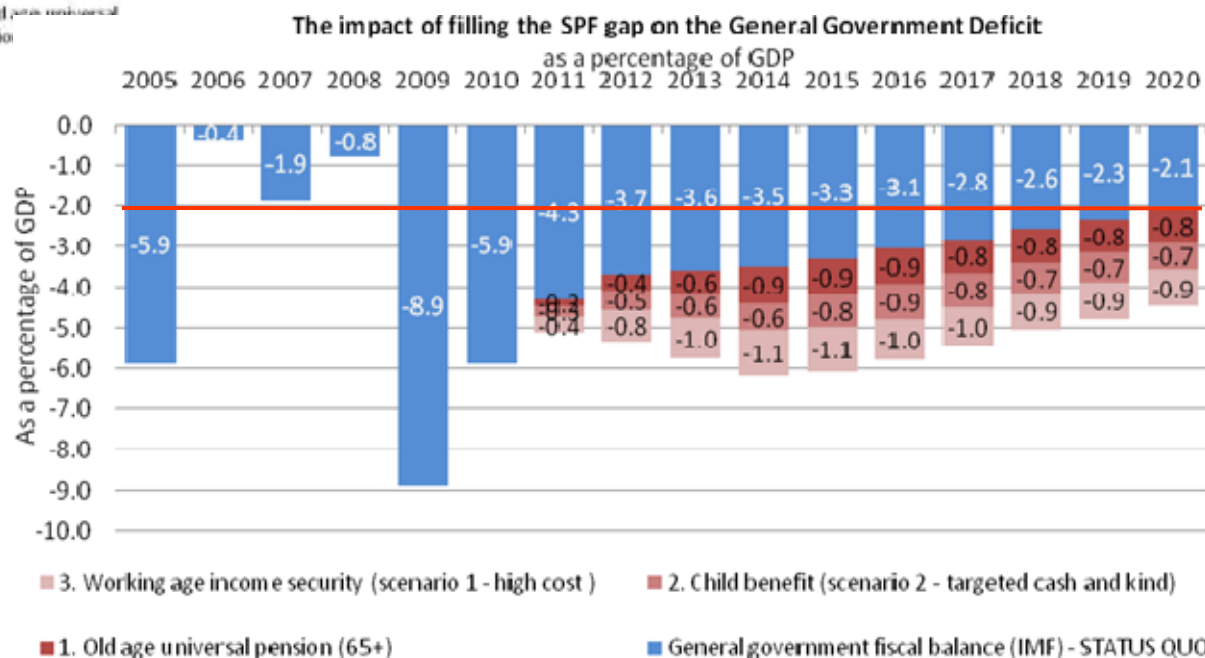
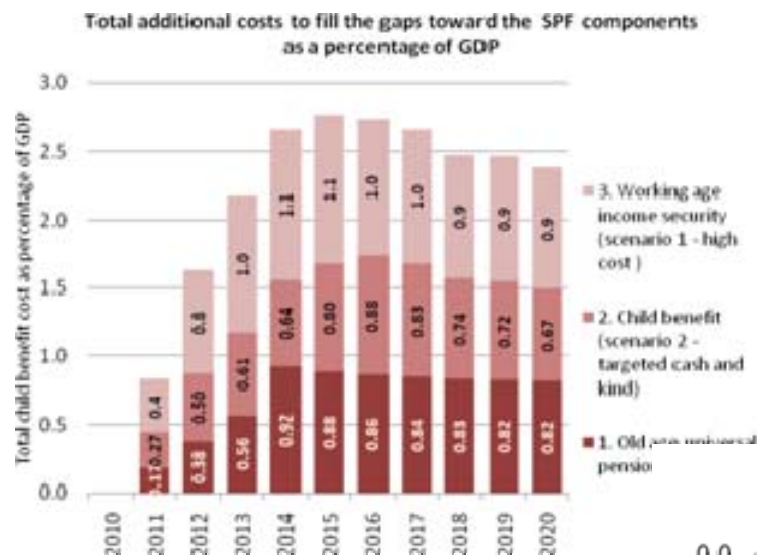
# Vietnam: Analysis of Fiscal Space





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# Vietnam: Analysis of cost to close the SPF Gap

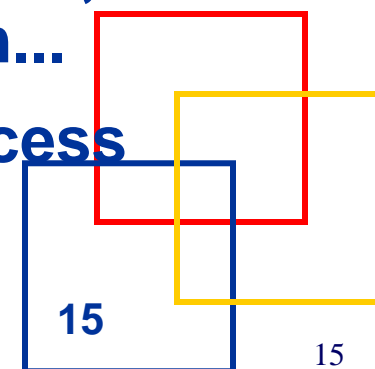




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## What else has been done so far? 10 Things...

- **One:** Joint **manual** for country operations established
- **Two:** Global Interagency Network constituted
- **Three:** **Advocacy** at global, regional, national levels => e.g. Global Jobs Pact, UNCSocD Resolution 2010, UN Millennium Summit, G8, G20, Yaounde Tripartite Declaration
- **Four:** Methodology for rapid **SPF assessments** is being applied in Cambodia, Burkina, Mozambique, Nepal, Togo, Vietnam...
- **Five:** South-South exchange on SPF success stories

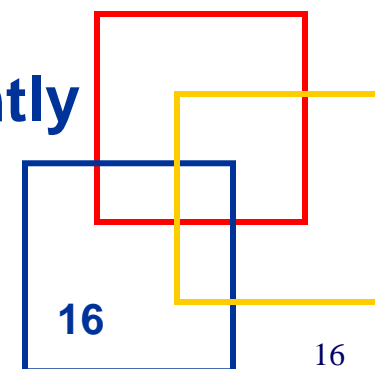




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Continued: What has been done so far?

- **Six:** Joint UNICEF- ILO rapid **costing tool** finalised and training on its use is commencing
- **Seven:** **Training** programme for national planners at ITC is operational,
- **Eight:** **High-level Advisory Group** established under chair-personship of Ms. Michelle Bachelet
- **Nine :** Analytical work on **impact** and, jointly with the IMF, on **fiscal space**
- **Ten:** Input for **G20** on the SPF



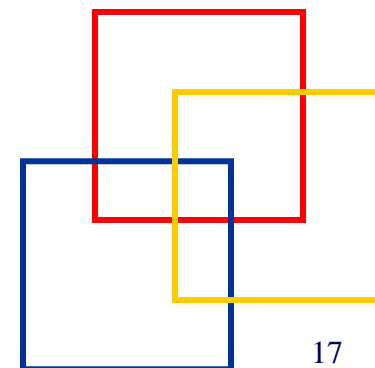




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## What next in the coming months

- *... in the next 12 months*
  - Consolidation of the SPF concept as development paradigm through the Bachelet report,
  - Build on UN system mechanisms, GA, ECOSOC, UNDG (MDG acceleration frame, human rights mechanisms), **the International Labour Conference**
  - Support the **G20 process (France)**, and the SPF Advisory group report
  - SOUTH SOUTH learning dialogue to intensify
  - Country projects to be continued / undertaken, i.e. UNDAFs
- *and beyond...*
  - Concept to be anchored in official institutional strategies of the UN organizations,
  - Major campaign to defend minimum **national social floor budgets** in a globalised economy ,
  - **Promotion of a UN instrument?**
  - **Making UN delivery of TC more effective ?**
  - **Creating a new funding mechanism ?**





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## Social Protection Floor – Further information:

- Visit the SPF website: <http://www.socialfloor.org>
- Read the SPF Manual:  
<http://www.socialsecurityextension.org/gimi/gess/RessShowRessource.do?ressourceId=14484>
- Contact:  
[wodsak@ilo.org](mailto:wodsak@ilo.org), [cattaert@ilo.org](mailto:cattaert@ilo.org)

