



Advancing Inclusive Growth through Social Protection

***“Expanding Opportunities, Securing
Incomes, and Promoting
Livelihoods”***

***Paths to Inclusive Growth
PECC 20th General Meeting
Washington D.C.
September 29, 2011***



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Project Rationale and Relevance

➤ Rationale

- Promotes economic and social development
 - Globalization -- greater opportunities, greater challenges
- Reduces economic insecurity
 - Helps households manage/maintain assets
- Acts as a buffer during times of economic crisis
 - \$\$ spent on social protection measures supports aggregate demand during recessionary periods

➤ Relevance

- Contributes to the promotion of regional economic integration via free and open trade and investment
- *APEC Human Resources Development Ministerial Meeting*
- *2011-14 Action Plan for Developing Human Resources, Vigorously Promoting Employment, and Achieving Inclusive Growth*
- *APEC HRD Experts Meeting on Human Resource Impacts of the Global Economic Crisis*



Employment and Social Protection *U.S. Perspective*

- Employment
 - Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis envisions “*Good jobs for everyone*”
 - “*Good jobs*” increase incomes, provide access to social protection, offer safe and healthy working conditions, and give people a voice at the workplace

- Examples of Social Protections in the U.S.
 - Unemployment Insurance
 - Health insurance
 - Earned Income Tax Credit
 - Temporary Assistance For Needy Families (TANF)
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)



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Project Objective and Scope

➤ Project Objective

- Increased understanding of how to strengthen the *effectiveness* and *sustainability* of social protection programs and systems
 - An *effective* program/system:
 - minimizes risk, creates opportunities, and promotes sustainable livelihoods and economic security
 - is comprehensive
 - delivers services efficiently
 - A *sustainable* system involves assuring program cost-effectiveness

➤ Project Partners

- Department of Social Welfare and Development, Philippines
- Project co-sponsored with Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation, and Chinese Taipei

➤ Project Duration

- Two-years: Spring 2011 – Fall 2012
- Elements
 - 2 Seminars: San Francisco (September 2011) / Follow-up in Manila (July 2012)
 - Deliverables



San Francisco Seminar, September 12-13, 2011 (SOM3)

- Seminar Objective
 - Identify successful social protection measures and systems that contribute to economic security and sustainable livelihoods, especially for the most vulnerable
- Inputs
 - Economy papers detailing innovative initiatives
 - General survey cataloguing social protections
- 42 participants from 15 APEC Member Economies / experts from academia and international organizations (World Bank, OECD, ILO and ISSA) convened in San Francisco.



San Francisco Seminar

Discussion Topics

1. Social Protection as an Economic Stabilizer and Platform for Inclusive Growth
 - The role social protection systems play in stabilizing the economy and promoting inclusive sustainable growth.
 - How social supports (e.g. benefits, active employment measures, skills development) reinforce social cohesion and address imbalances.

2. Essential Building Blocks for Effective Social Protection Systems
 - Universal coverage versus social insurance/contributory schemes.
 - How to ensure sustainability.
 - Non-public alternatives, e.g. public/private partnerships, leveraging private funds for public good.

3. Overcoming the Barriers to Extending Coverage
 - How developing and emerging economies can overcome the challenges posed by large, rural and informal populations.
 - The relationship between social protection, economic growth, and competitiveness.
 - How to balance “adequacy of the benefit” with coverage.

4. Breakout Groups – Identification of Challenges and Solutions to Extending Coverage
 - Topics included Informal Urban Economy, Rural Populations, Public-Private partnerships, and legislating social protection benefits.



Expected Outputs from the Two-year Project

- San Francisco Seminar Report
 - Summary of session discussions
 - Identification of best practices
 - Identification of effective targeting methods and implementation strategies
 - Recommendations to reach the 'hardest-to-reach'

- Commissioned Research

- Follow-up Seminar to be held in Manila, Philippines
 - Focus on social protection systems
 - Substance of seminar will be driven by prior project findings
 - Tentatively scheduled for July, 2012

- Materials available on the APEC publications database and the APEC Knowledgebank Wiki

<http://hrd.apec.org/>



Questions & Discussion

THANK YOU !!!

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