



International
Labour
Organization

► Social Protection Training for Lao PDR





Social Protection Training for Lao PDR

Module 1 Introduction to Social Protection

► Activity 4: Jargon busting

	Procedure:	1. Divide the participants into 3–4 groups or in groups based on the seating arrangement 2. Ask a representative from each group to pick 1–2 of the following terms:
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Social protection	Social security	Social welfare
Vulnerable groups	Informal workers	Health insurance
Non-contributory scheme	Public works programmes	Social protection floor

► Activity 4: Jargon busting

	Procedure:	3. Each group will discuss what their term(s) means. 4. Give one point to any group who provides a correct definition. If the definition is wrong, give the other groups a chance to provide an answer. 5. Show the actual definitions of the terms. Explain that these definitions are from the National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS). 6. The group with the highest score wins the game.
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Session 2

Basic concepts of and background on social protection

- *Explore how social protection can help us meet the needs of Lao people*
- *Explore what is meant by the term social protection*
- *Explore what is meant by the life-cycle approach to social protection*

Jargon



Social protection jargon

Social protection

Social security

Social welfare

Vulnerable groups

Informal workers

Health insurance

**Non-contributory
scheme**

**Public works
programmes**

**Social protection
floor**

Session 2

Basic concepts of and background on
social protection

Social protection
terms and definitions

Social protection

- A **set of policies and programmes** designed to **reduce and prevent poverty, vulnerability, and social exclusion** throughout the life cycle
- Addresses all these policy areas through a **mix of contributory** schemes (social security and national health insurance) and **non-contributory tax-financed** benefits (social welfare)

Social security

- A programme **protecting members and their families** against life-cycle contingencies
- Financed from **contributions by workers and their employers**

Social welfare

- A set of measures designed to **prevent and reduce poverty and vulnerability** and **promote social development**, including a social safety net
- Provision of essential services to help people **meet the basic needs for decent livelihood** – including good education, good health, adequate shelter, decent employment and income – **to ensure the welfare and security of society**

Vulnerable groups

- Groups particularly **threatened by social, economic, political or other pressures**

Informal workers

- A worker who is **outside a registered formal enterprise** is considered informal or self-employed

Health insurance

- Ensure **access to essential healthcare services**
- Financed by **co-payments** and by **contributions from the Government**

Non-contributory scheme

- Members are **not required to make contributions** to receive benefits

Public works programmes

- Provide **income transfers to the poor** through employment
- Designed to **smooth income**, particularly during “slack” or “hungry” periods
- Build **infrastructure** (such as, rural roads, irrigation, water harvest facilities, tree plantations, schools, and healthcare facilities)

Social protection floor

- Set of basic guarantees for all in need to have access to essential healthcare and basic income security throughout the life cycle
- Secure adequate access to goods and services defined as necessary

What is social protection?

Contingencies during life cycle that have financial consequences:



Coming back to the definition

Social protection

- A set of policies and programmes designed to **reduce and prevent poverty, vulnerability, and social exclusion** throughout the life cycle



International standards on social protection

- **Lay down obligations and guidelines** for countries to follow
- **Help in drafting** laws and regulations and in **designing** and **implementing social protection programmes**



Conventions and Recommendations

Lao PDR has joined the international community in adopting international standards and goals:

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

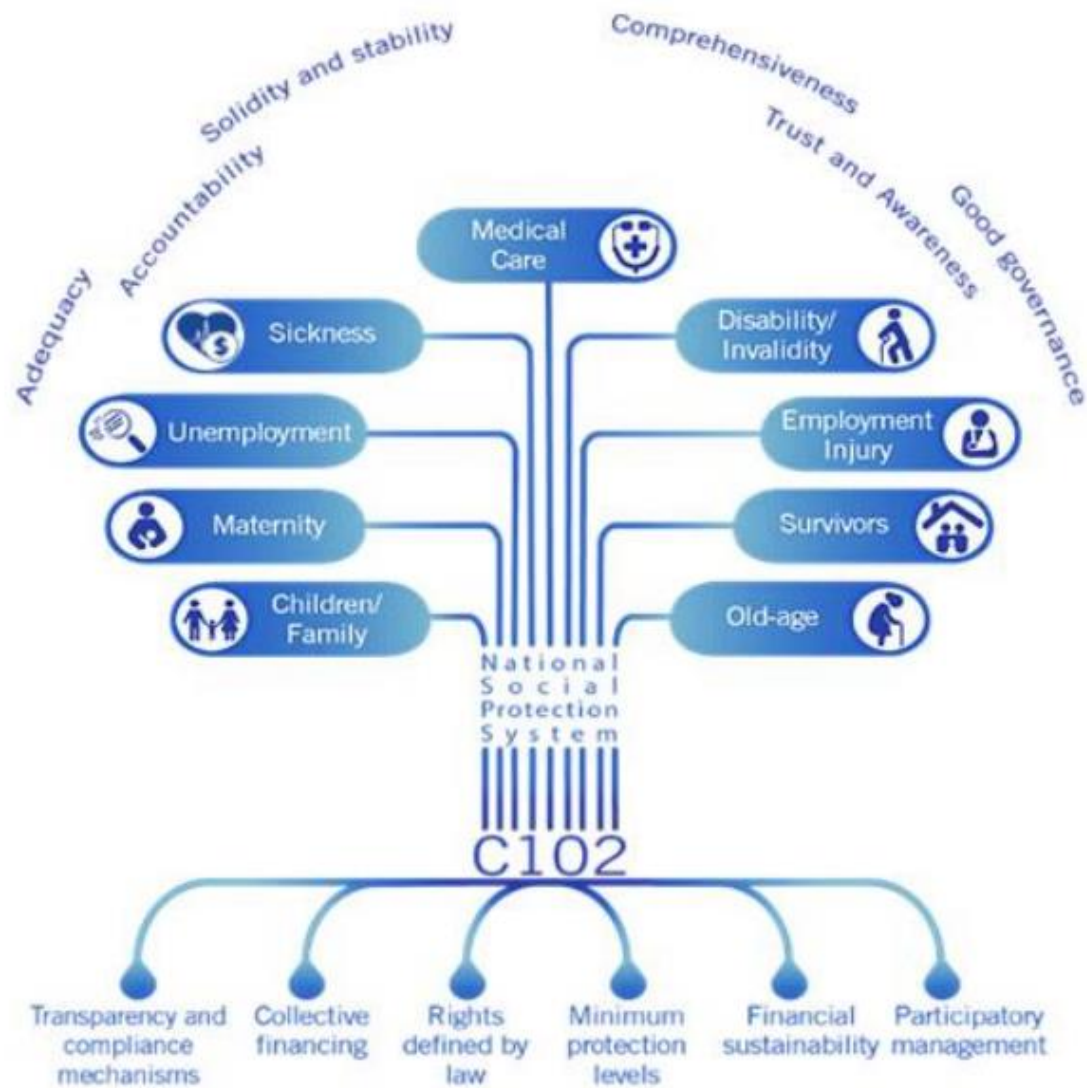
- Social protection is anchored on this declaration, as prescribed in Articles 22 and 25
- Right of everyone to healthcare, education, decent work, and an adequate standard of living throughout the life cycle

► International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

- Particularly General Comment No. 19 on the right to social security (1966)
- No one should live below a certain standard of living, and everyone should have access to at least essential social services (Articles 9, 11–13)

ILO Minimum Social Security Standards Convention, 1952 (No. 102), and the ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202)

- **Guidance on building nationally-defined** social protection floors, and reaffirms that they are **economically affordable** for any country
- Social protection floors **can be introduced, developed and maintained anywhere**





Conventions and Recommendations

Principles in Convention No. 102

State's responsibility	• Provide and guarantee benefits stated by law • Supervise and administrate the concerned institutions and services
Adequacy and predictability	• Benefits should adjust with the cost of living and general income • Pre-determined and periodical benefits at minimum levels
Collective financing	• Costs shall be borne collectively by workers' and employers' contributions and/or taxes, and should avoid hardship
Right to appeal	• Right to appeal in case of refusal of benefits or complaints regarding quality or quantity of benefits
Progressive	• Gradually extend coverage



Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Aim to **eradicate poverty and promote sustainable socio-economic and environmental development** in social harmony.
- A **priority area** for government action (Lao PDR 8th NSEDP).
- Lao PDR aims to **achieve the SDGs by 2030**.
- **NSPS carefully chooses its goals and objectives** to achieve SDG targets directly linked to social protection.

SDGs: Social protection contributes to:



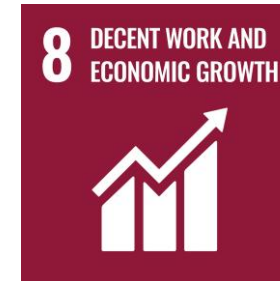
Target 1.3
Implement **social protection** systems for all



Target 3.8
Achieve **universal health coverage**



Target 5.4
Recognize and value unpaid **care and domestic work**



Target 8.5
Achieve full and **productive employment** and **decent work** for all women and men



Target 10.4
Adopt policies and progressively achieve **greater equality**



What is a social protection floor?

- **Nationally-defined set of basic guarantees** aimed at **preventing or alleviating poverty, vulnerability, and social exclusion** for all



Essential healthcare, including
maternity care for all residents

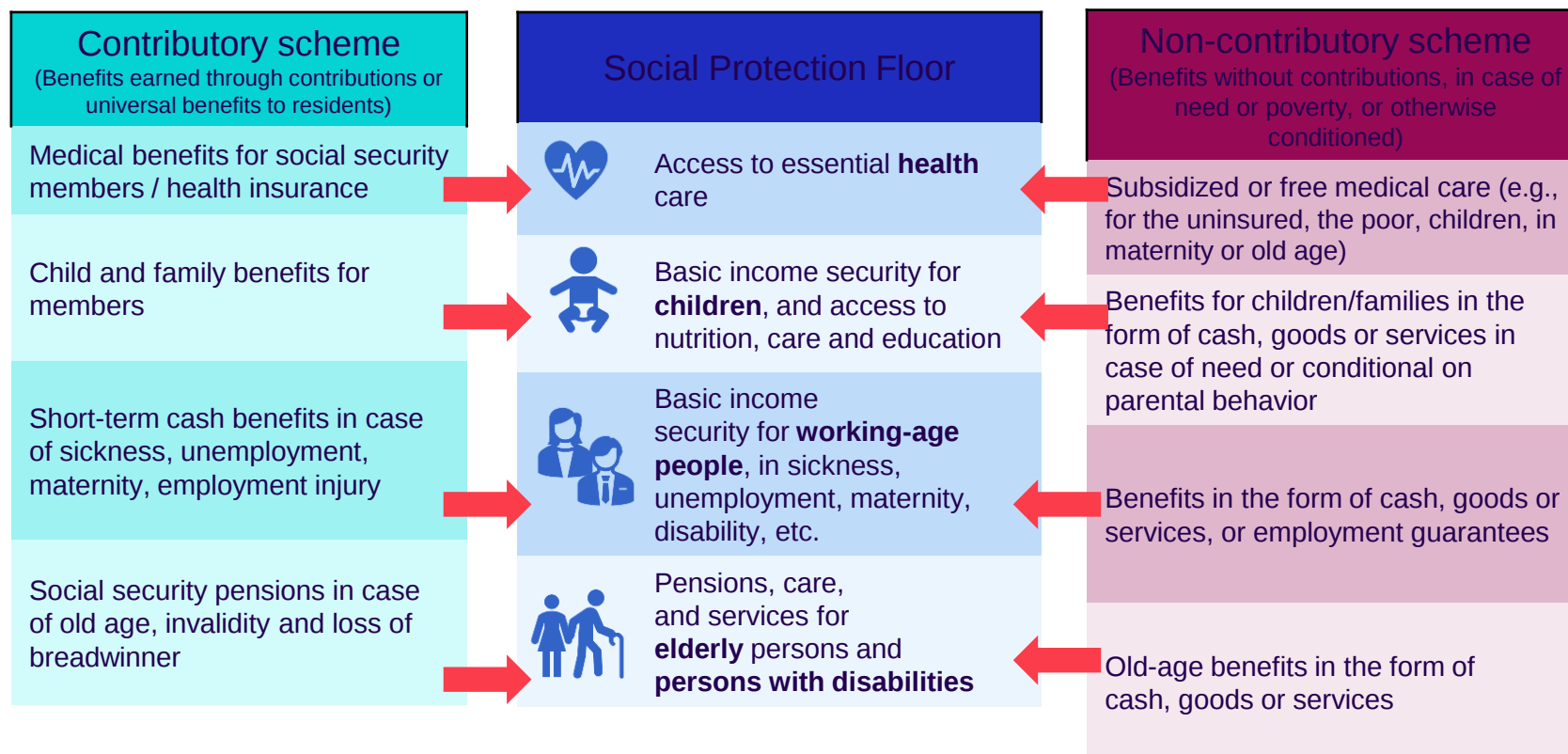
Basic **income security** for children, and **access**
to nutrition, care and education

**Four social protection
floor guarantees**

Basic **income security** for **working-age people**, in
sickness, unemployment, maternity,
disability, etc.

**Pensions, care,
and services for
elderly persons and
persons with disabilities**

The four social protection floor guarantees and common social protection policies

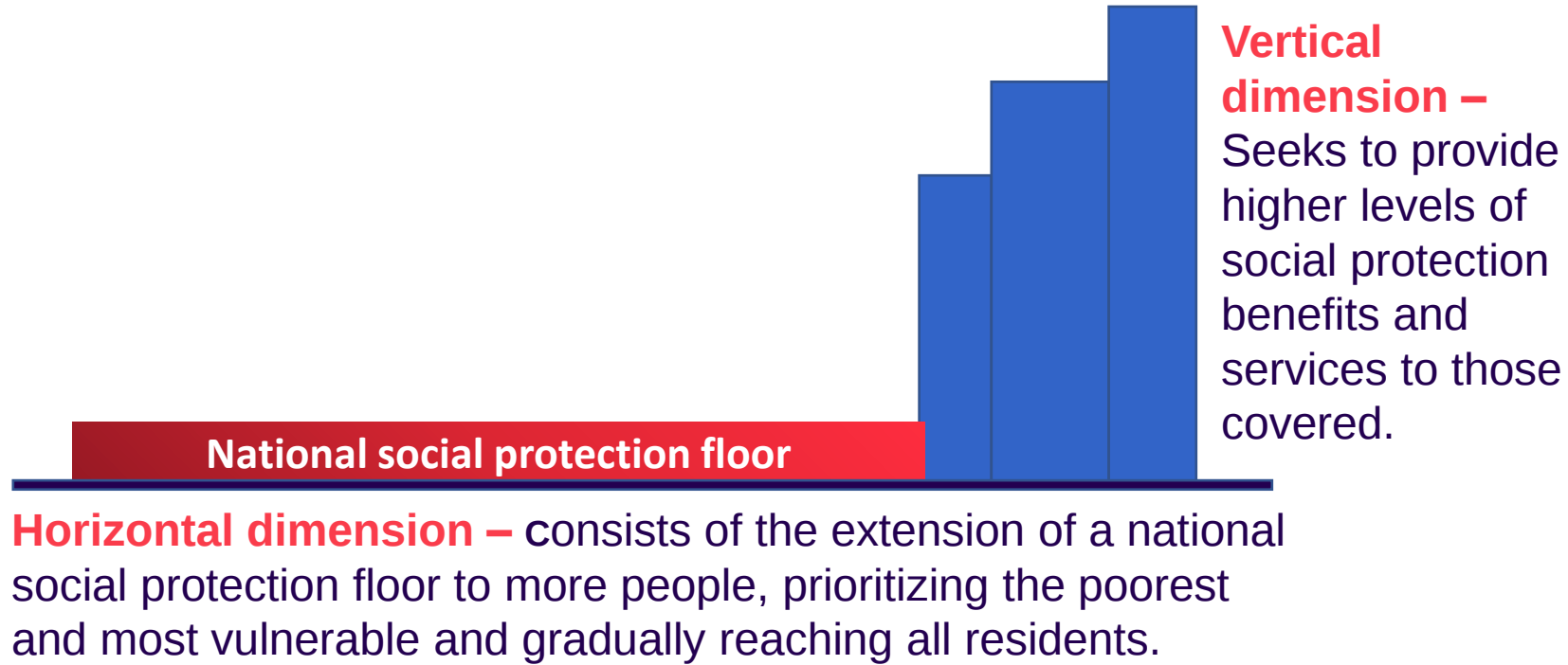




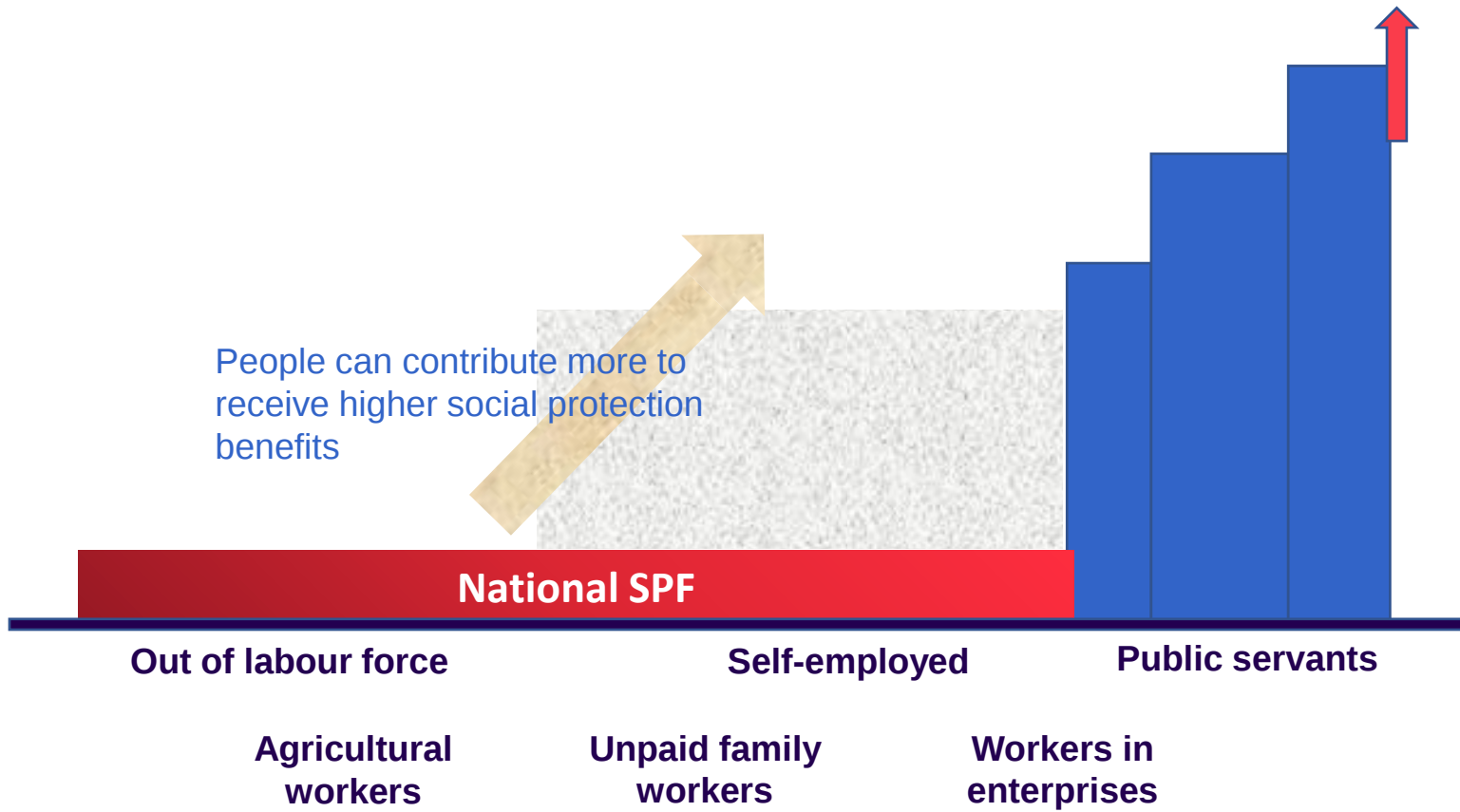
Extending social protection: The staircase approach

- To **progressively develop higher levels of protection**, rather than just the basic level
- As economies grow and fiscal space is created, **social protection systems can and should move up the “staircase”**

► The staircase approach



► The staircase approach



-End-
