



International Labour Organization

Social protection floor: A UN Joint crisis initiative

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Structure of the presentation

- I. Social security is a human right, a social and economic necessity, a stabilizer in times of crisis ...**
- II. However the coverage is still low worldwide**
- III. The UN CEB Social protection floor initiative as a response to the crisis**
- IV. The SPF is affordable and feasible, as shown by many country experiences**
- V. What can we do to support the Social Protection Floor?**
 - a) Global level**
 - b) Country level**

I- Social security is a human right, a social and economic necessity, a stabilizer in times of crisis...

- **A human right:**

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), recognizes that: Article 22: Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security, and Article 25: Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family



- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), 160 UN Member States ... « *recognize the right of everyone to social security, including social insurance* » (Article 9)

- One area of social security (access to health) is addressed by a specific right: the right to health

I- Social security is a human right, a social and economic necessity, a stabilizer in times of crisis...

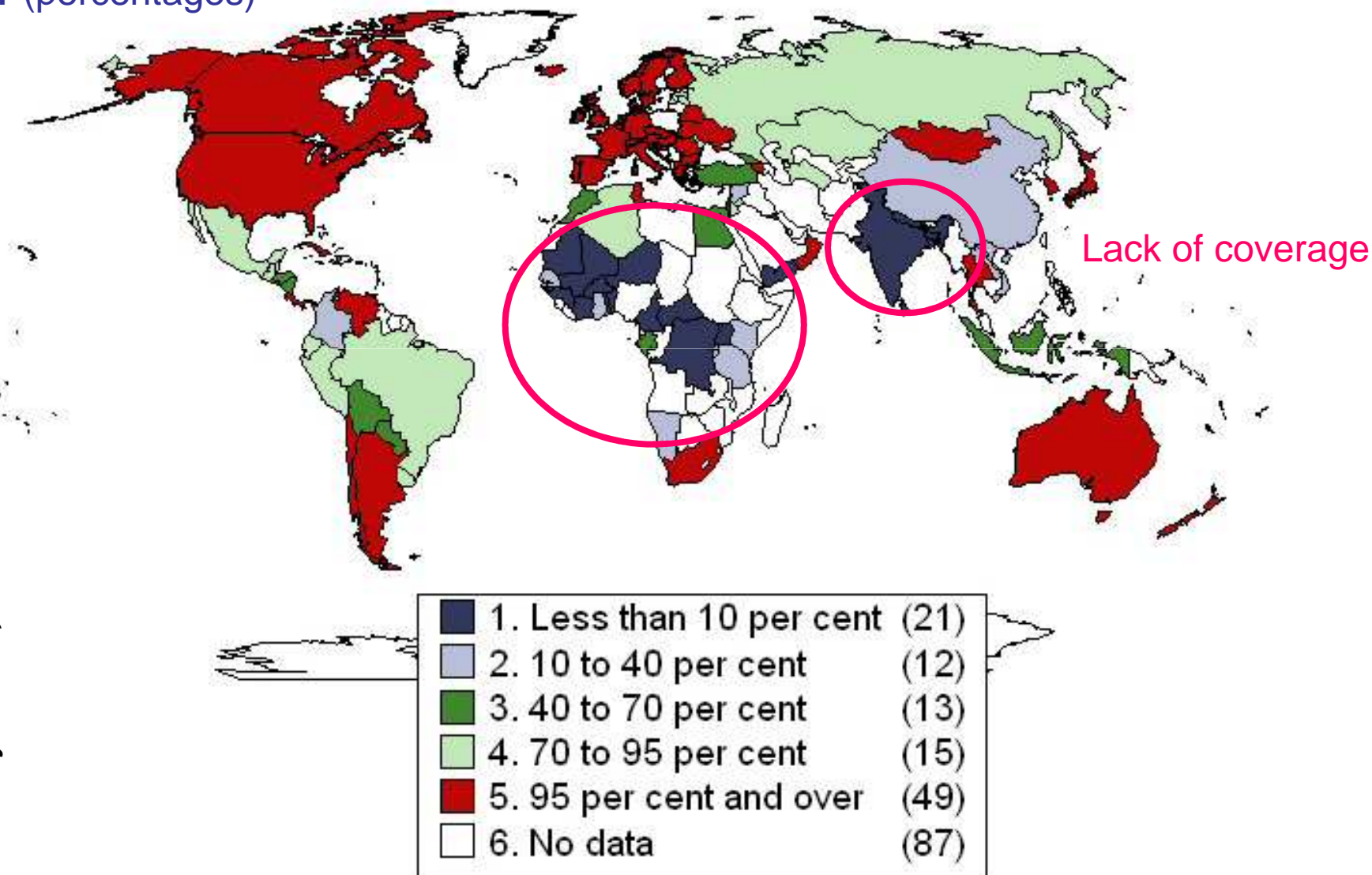
- **A social necessity** since economic and social shocks may have devastating effects at individuals' level in the absence of social protection (poverty, lower access to productive activities, lower health status, child labour ...)
- **An economic necessity**
 - Those countries that have been the most successful in achieving long-term sustainable growth and poverty reduction have all put in place extensive systems of social security at an early stage).
 - Income transfers through social security have a powerful effect on the income inequality and poverty in developing countries.

I- Social security is a human right, a social and economic necessity, a stabilizer in times of crisis...

- **Social security systems are powerful social and economic stabilizers** in case of crisis
 - They cushion the impact of economic downturn on workers and their families (affected by Unemployment and Under-Employment) thus contributing to social stability.
 - They also support aggregate domestic demand in times when external demand contracts due to reduced economic activity, and thus facilitate recovery.
 - Lessons learned from past crises: countries that had effective and efficient social security systems in place before a crisis hit were much better equipped to cope with its fallout than those who had not had the foresight to put such systems into place.

II- ... However the coverage is still low worldwide

Health protection: Proportion of the population covered by law, latest available year (percentages)

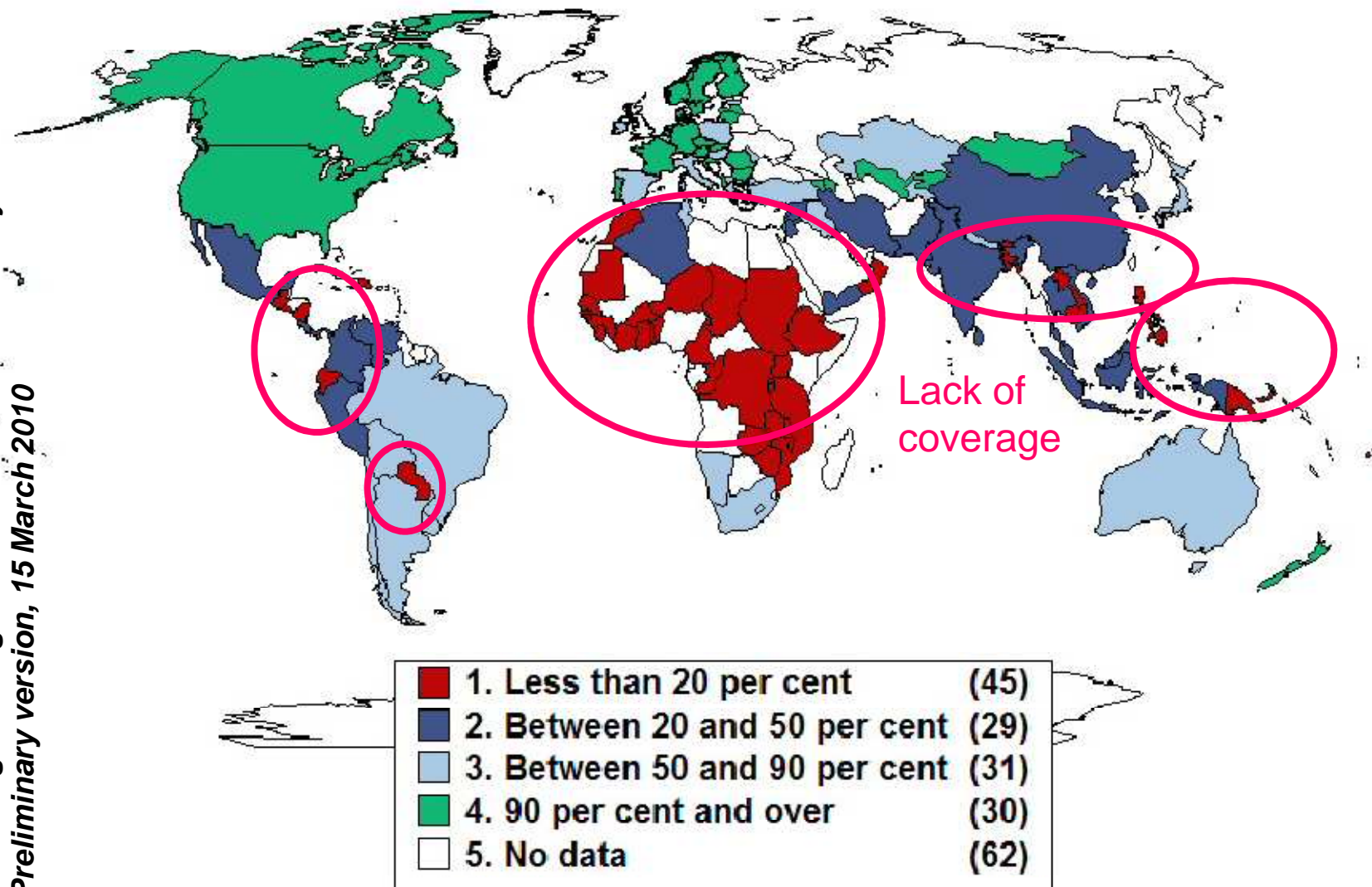


SOURCE: (ILO, 2010)World Social Security Report
Providing coverage in the time of crisis and beyond
Preliminary version, 15 March 2010

II- ... However the coverage is still low worldwide

Old-age pension beneficiaries (C and NC) as a percentage of the population above retirement age, latest available year

SOURCE: (ILO, 2010) World Social Security Report
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II- ... However the coverage is still low worldwide

Existence of unemployment protection schemes by type of scheme, 2008–09

SOURCE: (ILO, 2010) World Social Security Report
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