

PIDS 7th Annual Public Policy Conference

Webinar #4 Robust and Healthy Workforce

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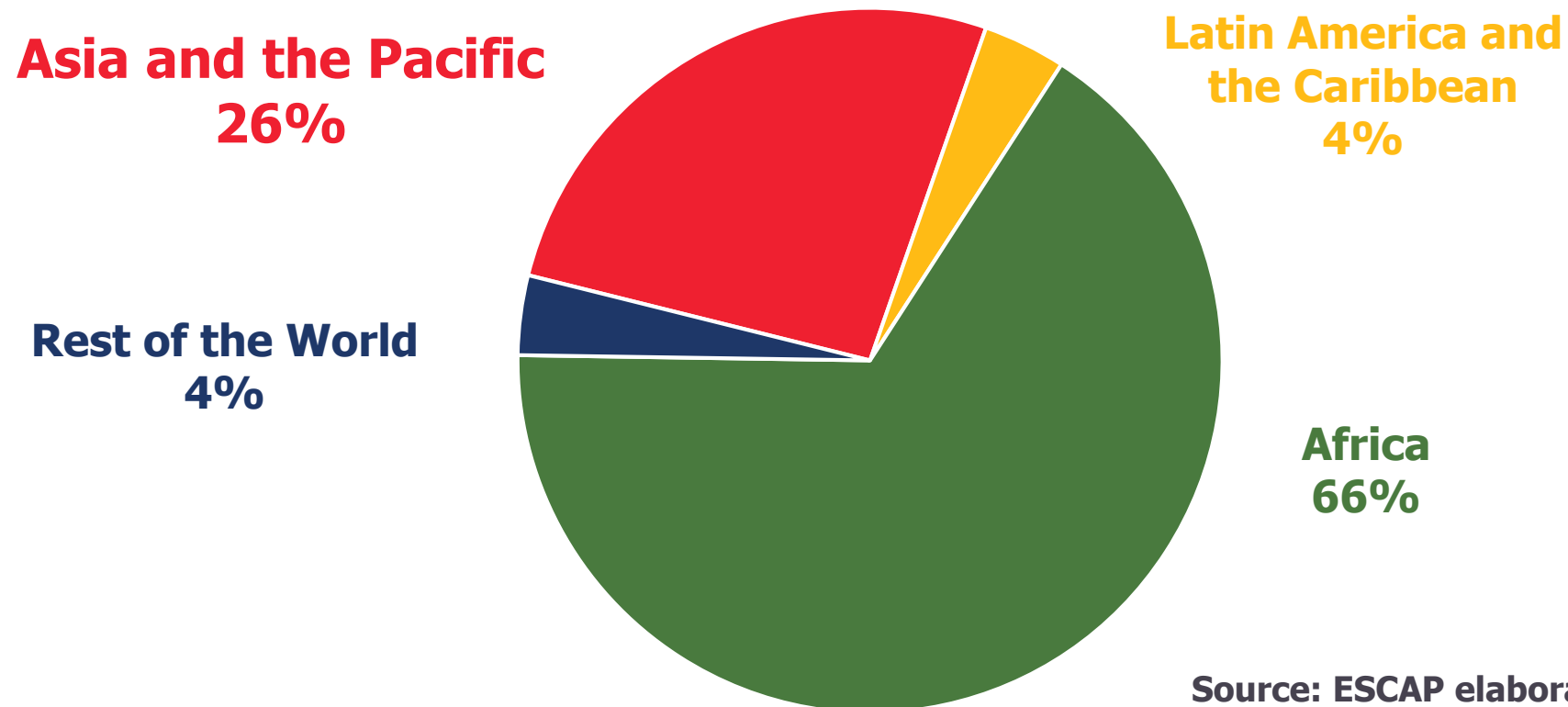
23 September 2021

Challenge 1

**Too many people are trapped
in poverty**

Asia-Pacific is home to a quarter of the world's extreme poor

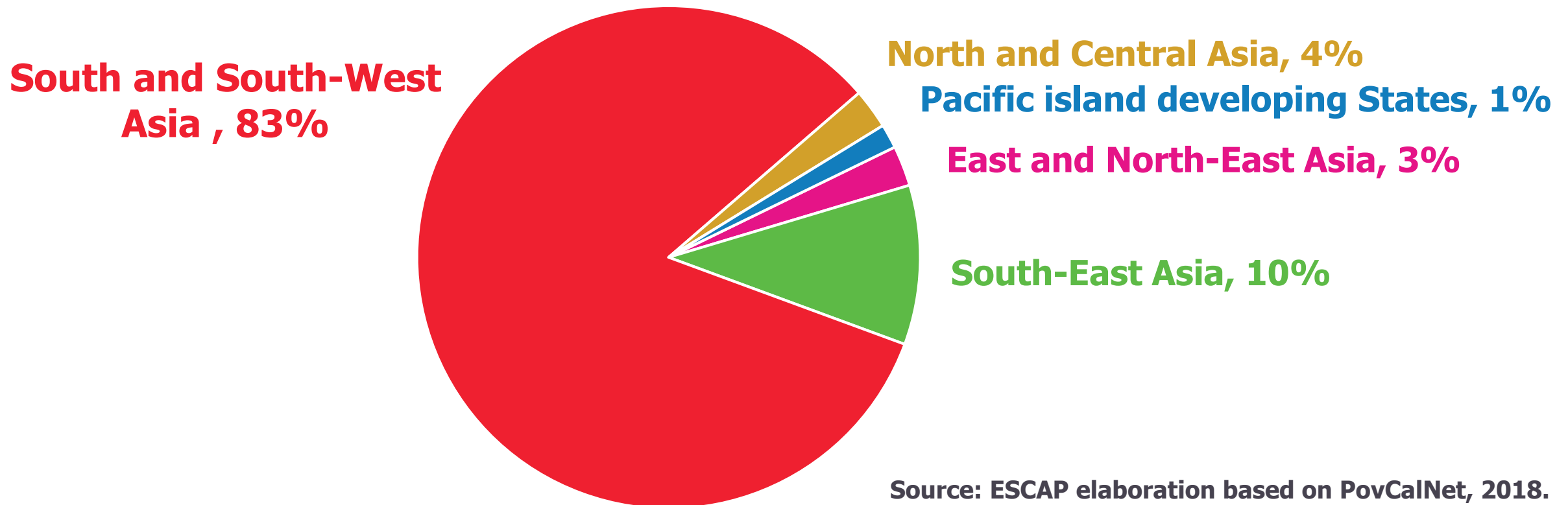
Share of global population living on less than \$1.90 per day, by region



Source: ESCAP elaboration based on PovCalNet, 2018.

Poverty in Asia-Pacific is concentrated in South Asia

Share of global population living on less than \$1.90 per day, by subregion

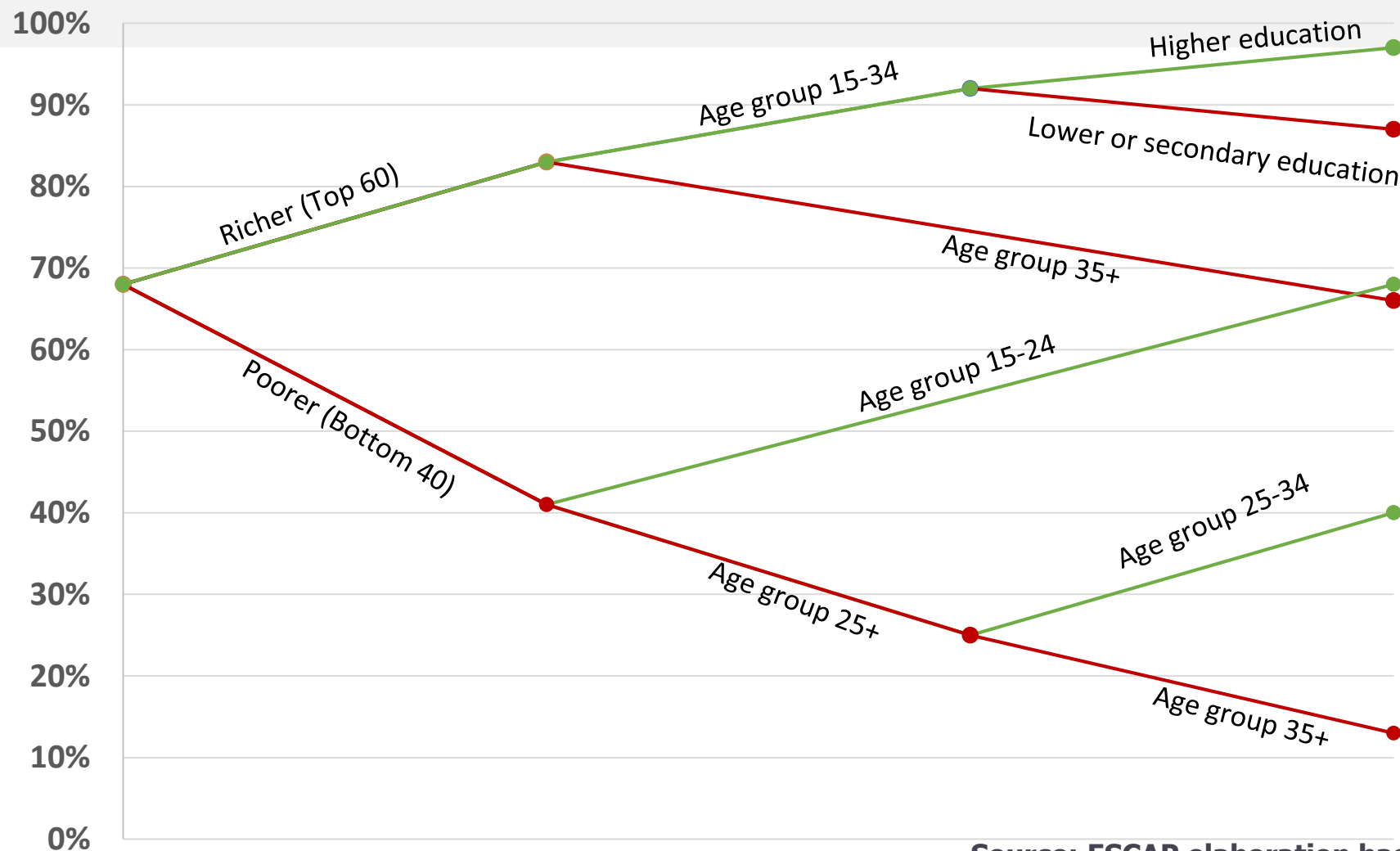


Source: ESCAP elaboration based on PovCalNet, 2018.

Challenge 2

**Inequalities to basic
opportunities remain high**

Access to Internet, Philippines



Richer individuals with higher education between 15-34 years of age
Rate: 97%

Richer individuals with lower or secondary education between 15-34 years of age

Rate: 87%

Poorer individuals between 15-24 years of age

Rate: 68%

Richer individuals over 35 years of age

Rate: 66%

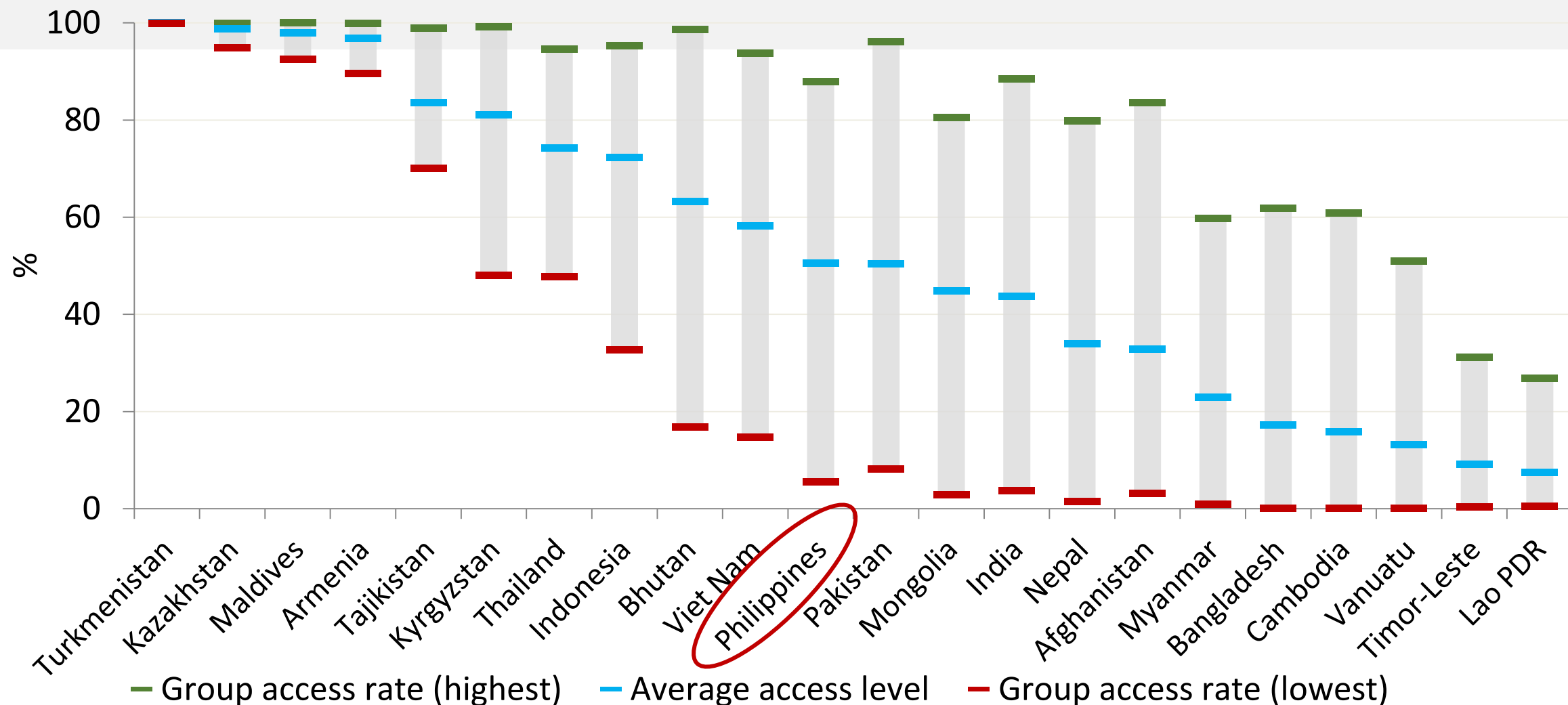
Poorer individuals between 25-34 years of age

Rate: 40%

Poorer individuals over 35+ years of age
Rate: 13%

Source: ESCAP elaboration based on latest DHS Philippines 2017.

Gaps in access to clean fuels, Asia-Pacific

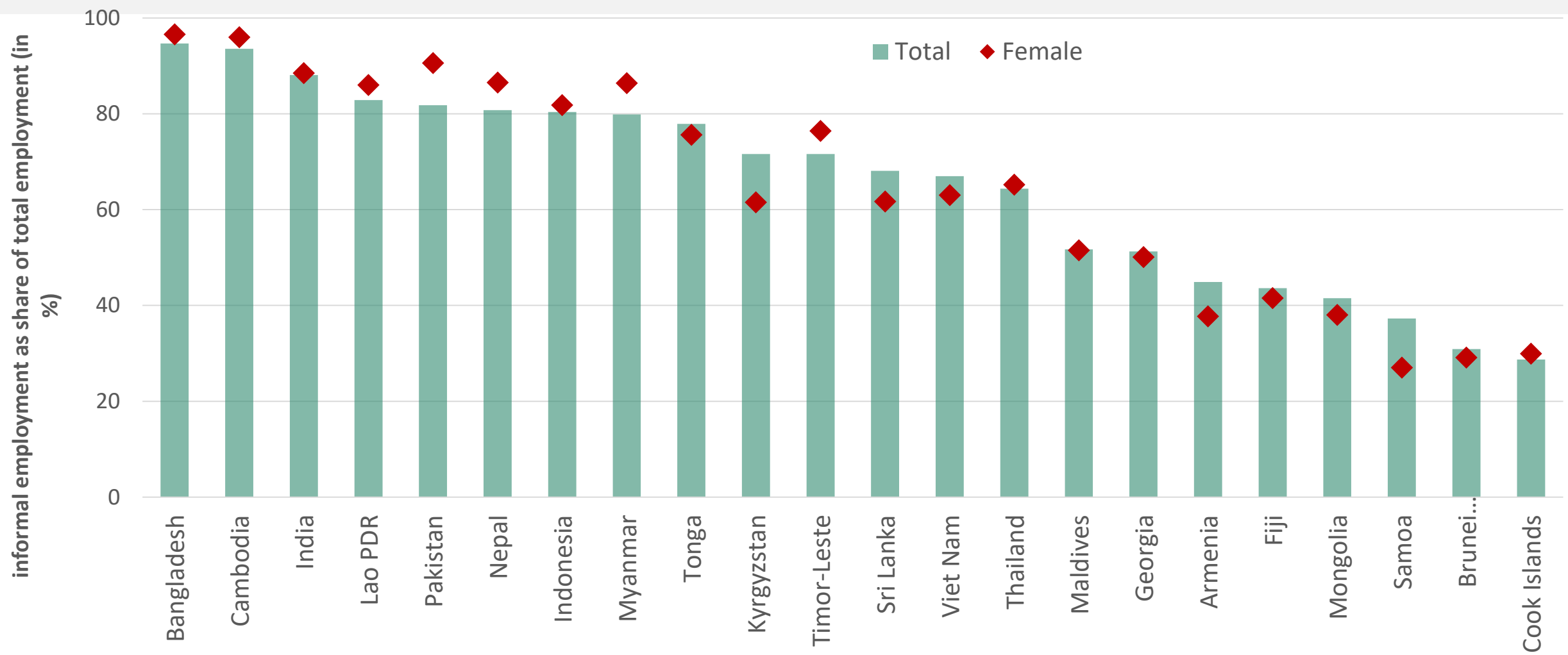


Source: ESCAP elaboration based on DHS and MICS data, latest year.

Challenge 3

Labour market informality is a huge barrier

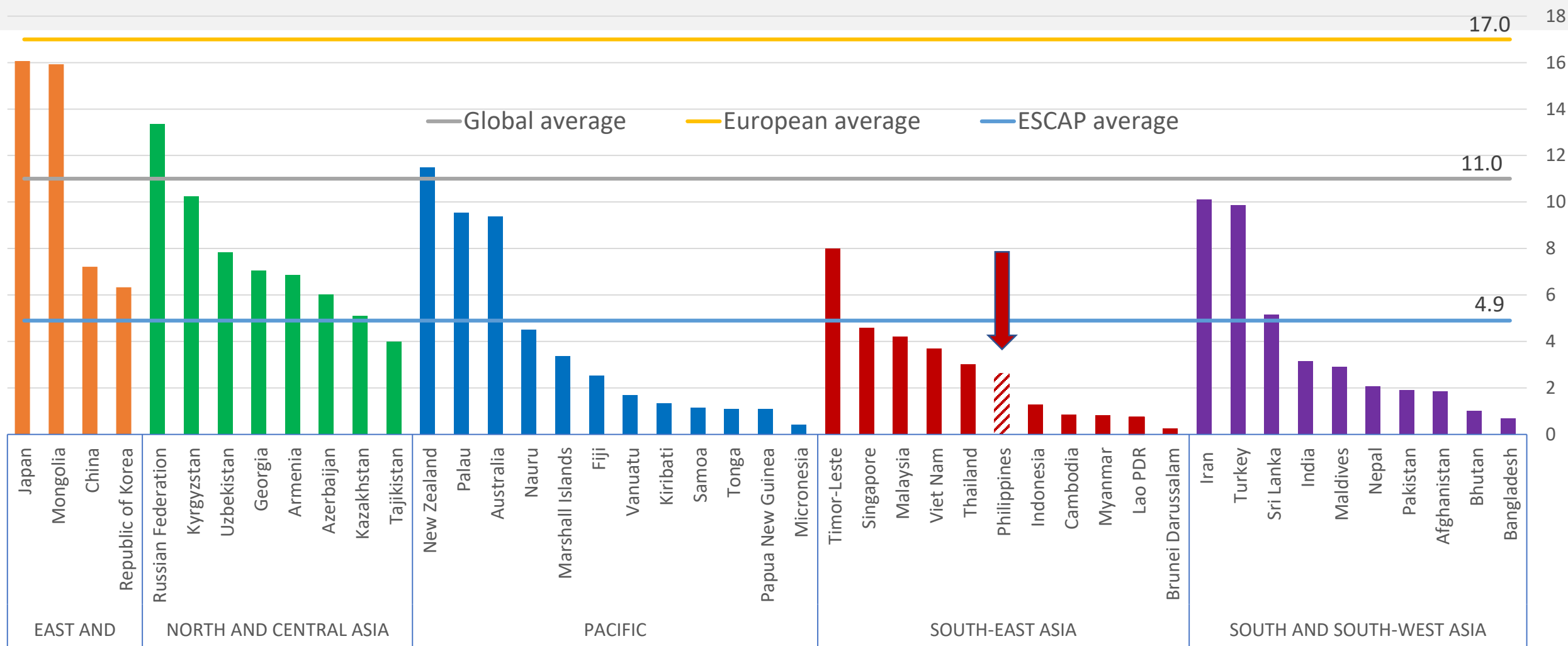
Too many workers are trapped in informal jobs



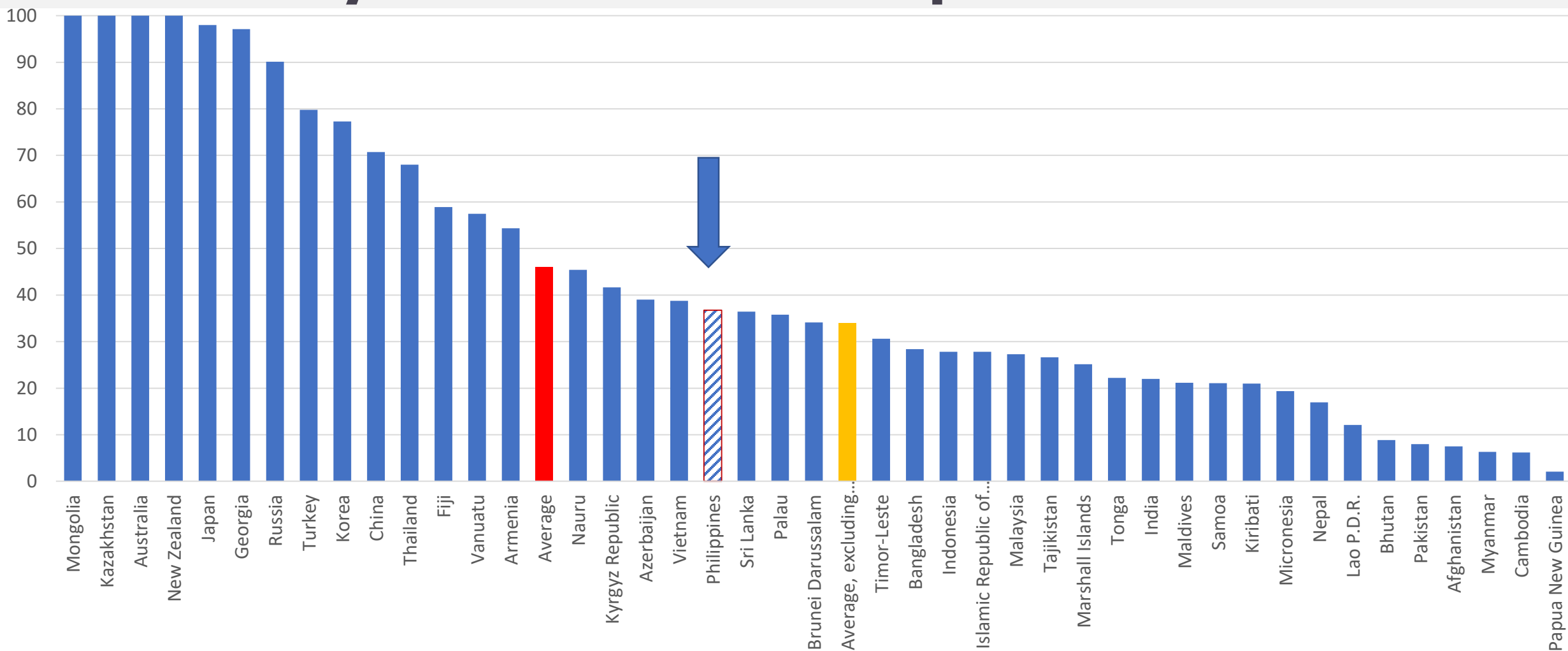
Challenge 4

**Investment in people is
insufficient**

Low investments in social protection in Asia-Pacific



Less than half of the region's population is covered by at least one social protection scheme



The harsh wake-up call from the pandemic

The pandemic is aggravating these challenges and ongoing trends



Inequality, poverty and unemployment are increasing



Population ageing, migration and urbanization are on the rise

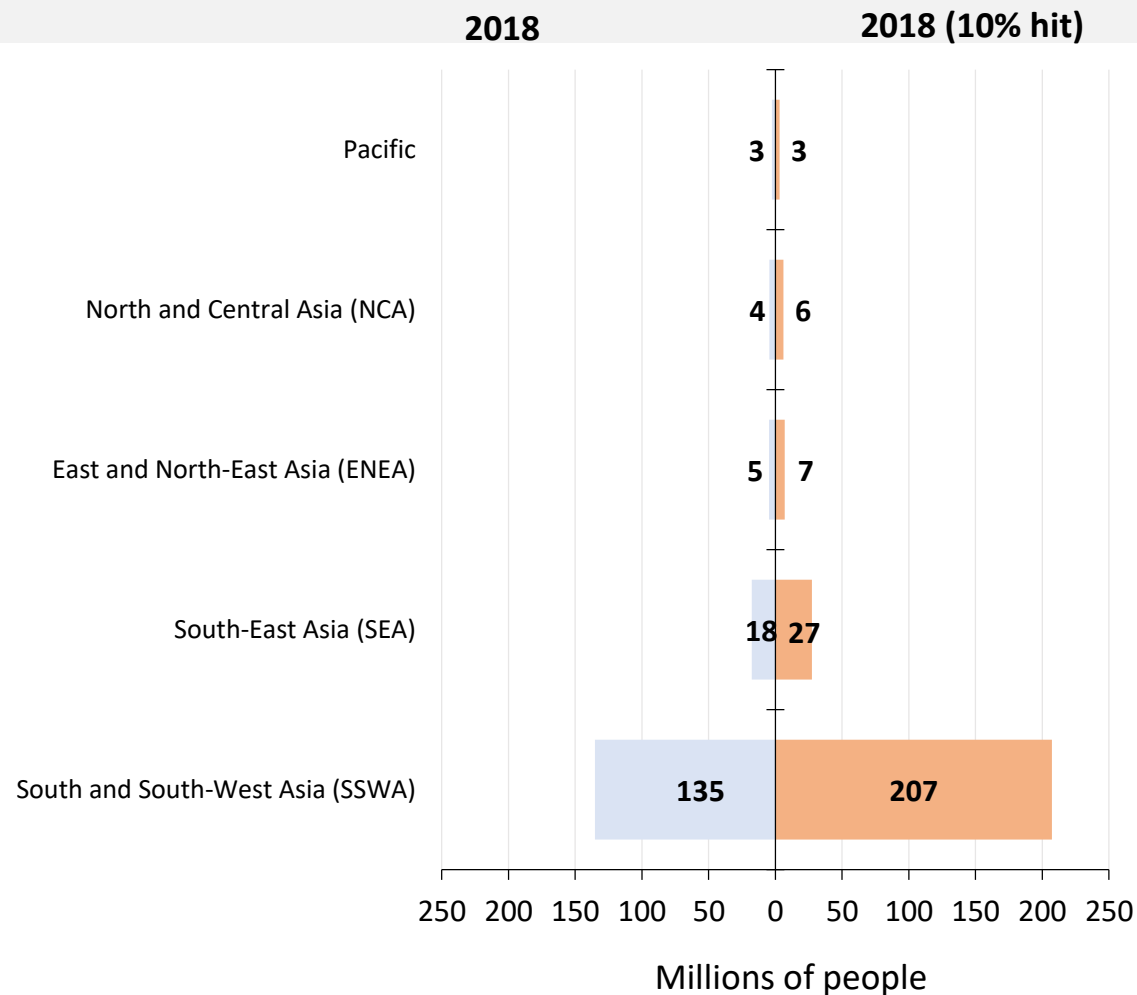
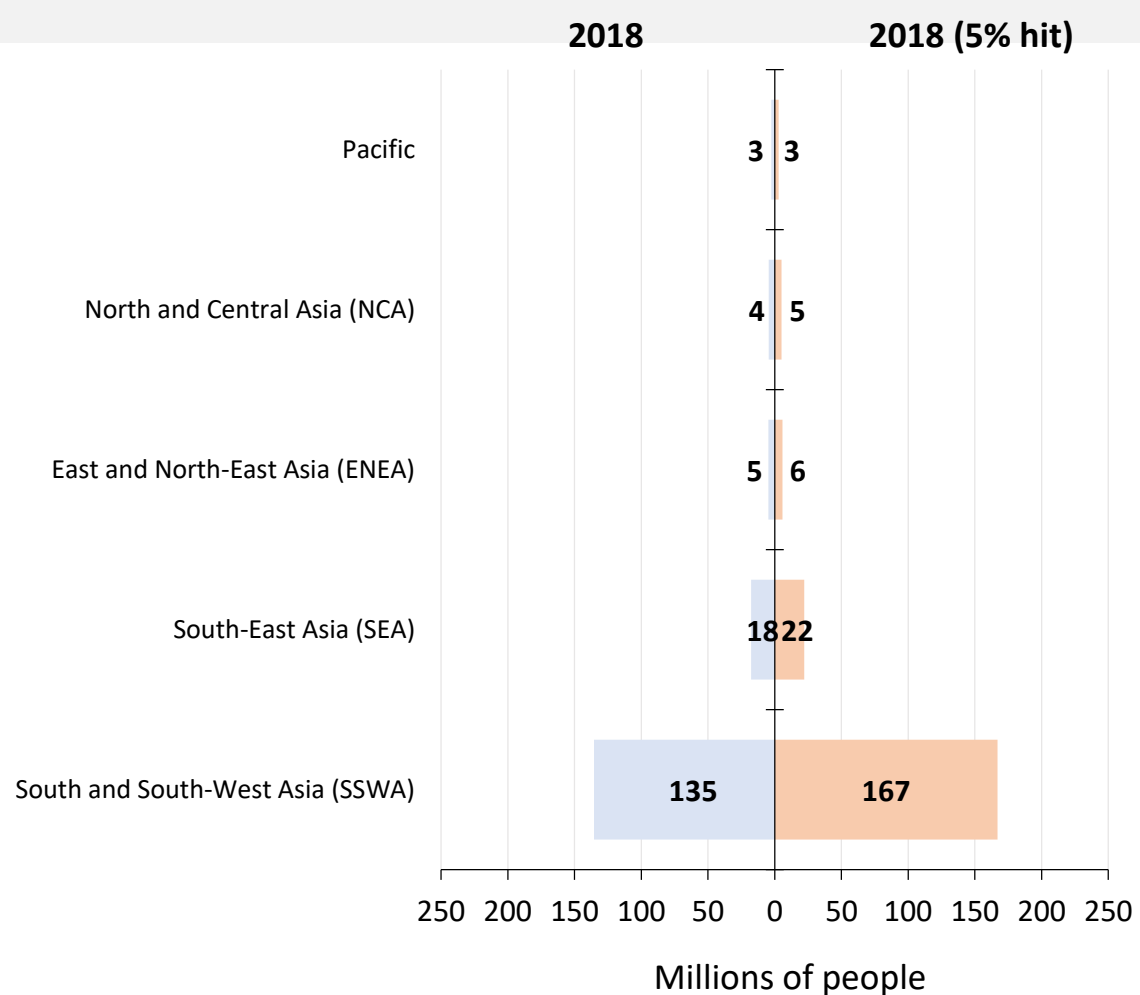


Technological progress will change labour markets



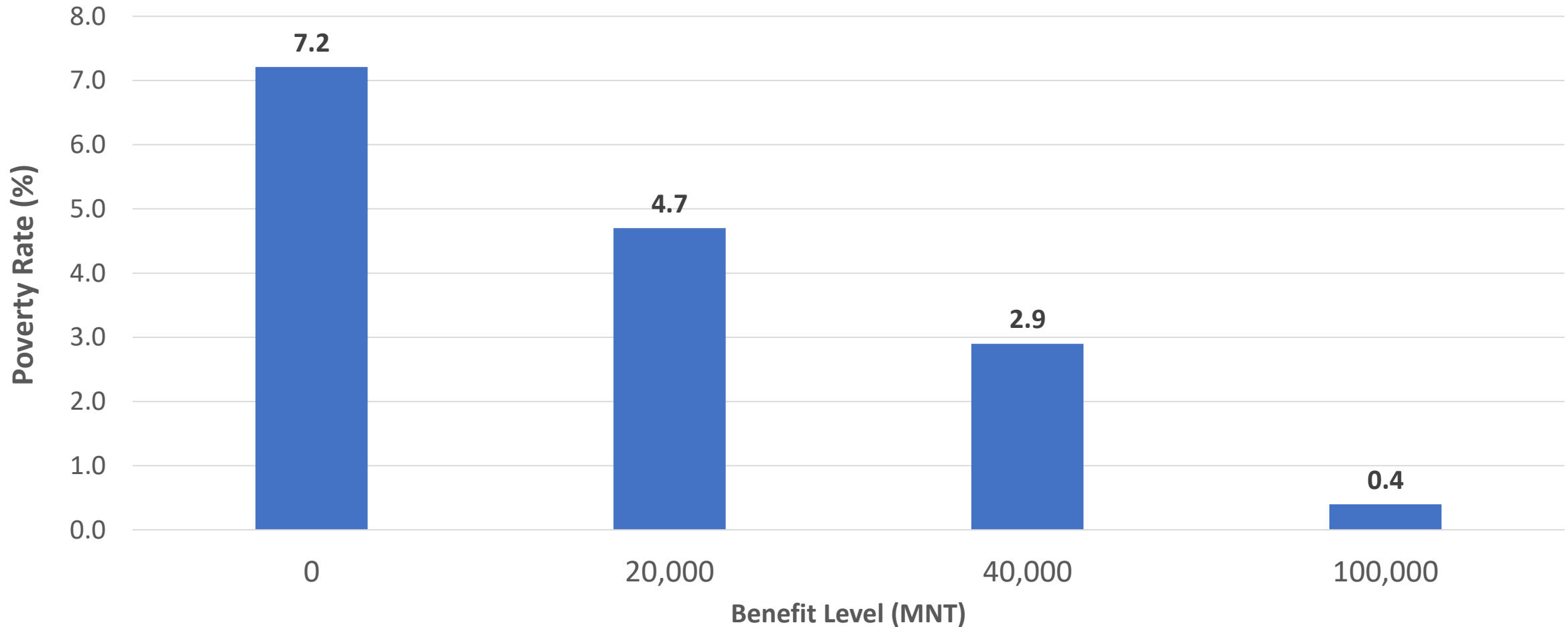
Disasters and climate change pose disproportionate pressure on vulnerable people

COVID-19 impact on extreme poverty, by ESCAP subregions



Source: ESCAP elaboration based on PovcalNet.

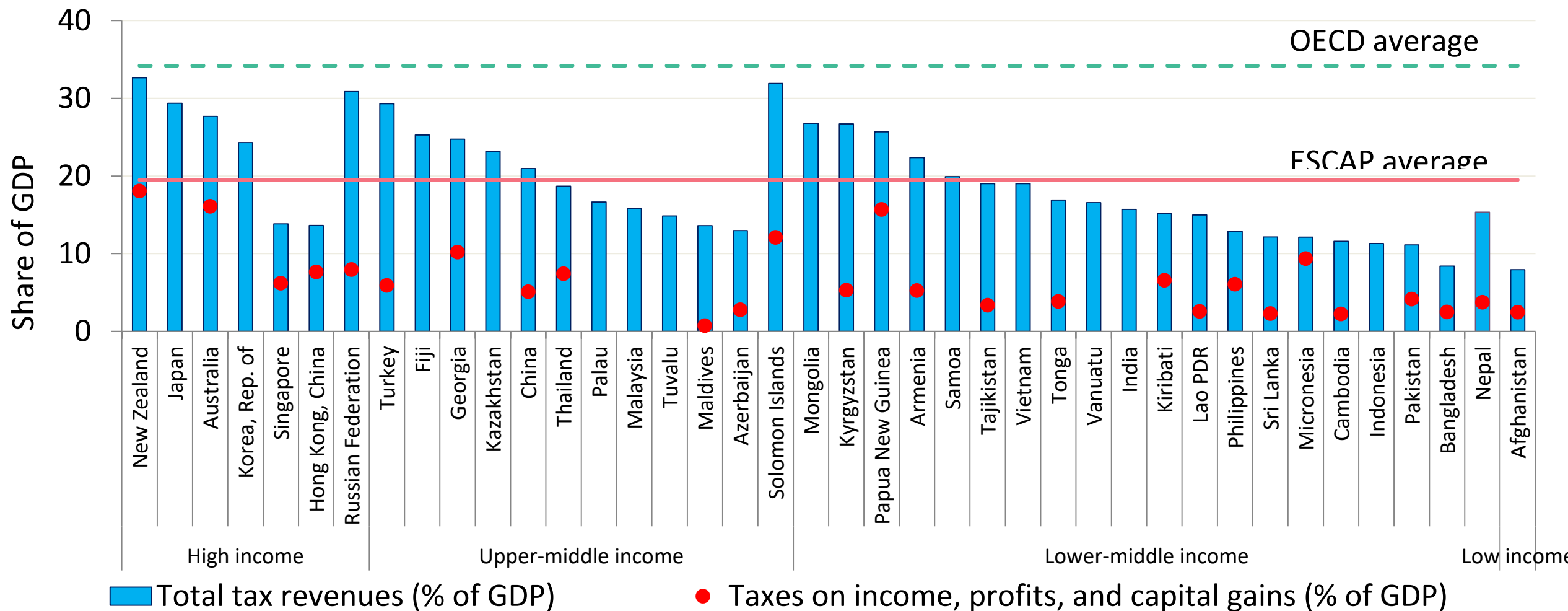
Estimated reduction in poverty for households receiving a universal child benefit, Mongolia, at \$3.2



What's the price of a basic social protection package?

There is room to increase taxation

Total tax revenue in Asia-Pacific



What could countries do to build back better?

Recommendations

- **Embed social protection in national development agendas**
- **Allocate more resources**
- **Build universal social protection systems**
- **Provide adequate social protection to women**
- **Expand social protection to informal workers**
- **Cover the “missing middle”**
- **Improve efficiency by using emerging technologies**



The importance of technologies for social protection



Facilitates identification and registration



Improve integration of schemes



Reduce risks of errors



Increase efficiency



ACTION PLAN
TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL COOPERATION
ON SOCIAL PROTECTION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



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