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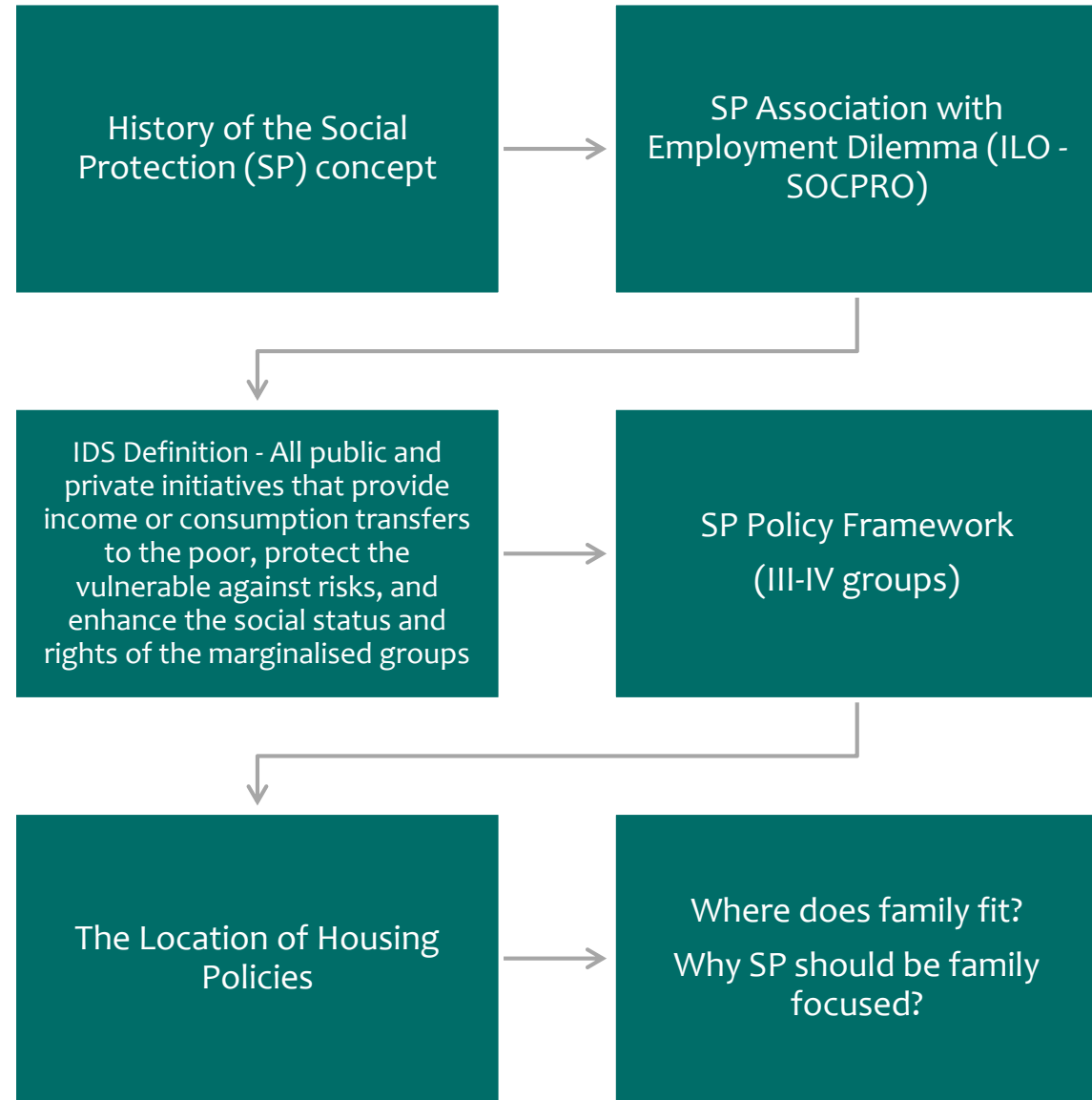


The Impact of Housing Instability on Families: Investing in Social Protection Systems and Parenting Programs”
58th Session of the Commission for Social Development – Feb 12, 2020, UN HQ NY

The Case for Family-focused Social Protection: Policy Framework and MENA Realities

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Conceptual Framework



Social Protection Systems and Access to Housing in SDGs

“Adequate Housing proposes a three-dimensional approach anchored in human rights

- Recognizing that homelessness has both a material and social aspect: the lack of adequate housing that would provide a secure place to **establish a family** of social relationships and participate in community life.
- Recognizing homelessness as a form of systemic discrimination and social exclusion; and
- Recognizing those who are homeless as right holders who are resilient in the struggle for survival and dignity”



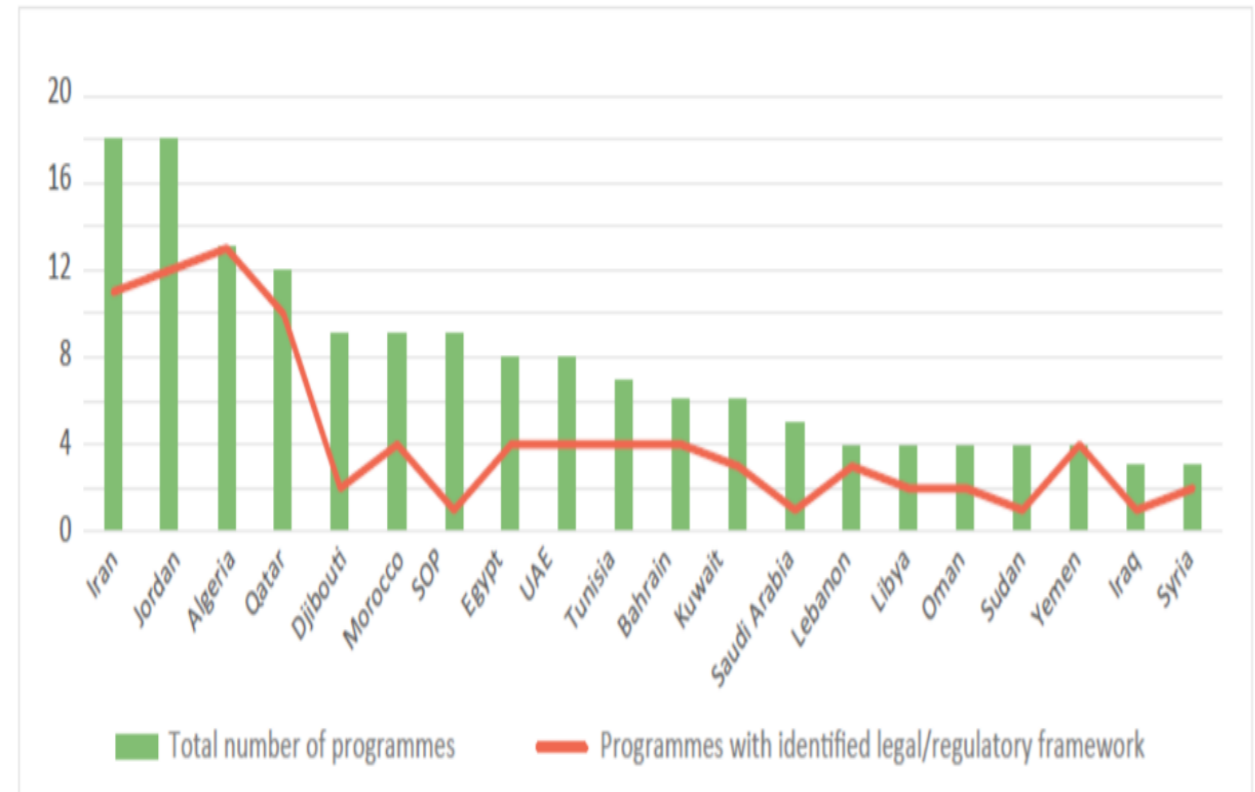
Source: ILO (2019) Social protection systems for all to prevent homelessness and facilitate access to adequate housing. ILO Issue Brief

SP Policy Framework in Select MENA Countries

Relevant articles in constitutions related to the right to social security and an adequate standard of living

Country	Year of Constitution (adopted or last amended)	Relevant articles related to social security	Relevant provision related to an adequate standard of living	Provisions related to social protection or standard of living explicitly extended to children
Algeria	2016	Art. 69	Art. 73	
Bahrain	2002	Art. 5c	Art. 9f, 15b	Art. 5c
Djibouti	2010			
Egypt	2014	Art. 17	Art. 78, 79, 80, 83	Art. 80
Iran	1989	Art. 29	Art. 31, 43	Art. 29
Iraq	2005	Art. 30	Art. 28, 30	Art. 30
Jordan	2011			
Kuwait	1992	Art. 11	Art. 20, 48	
Lebanon	2004			
Libya	2011	Art.8	Art.8	
Morocco	2011	Art. 31, 34	Art. 31	Art. 34
Oman	2011	Art. 12	Art. 11	
Qatar	2003		Art. 28	
Saudi Arabia	2005	Art. 27		
SOP	2003	Art. 22	Art. 23	
Sudan	2005		Art. 10	
Syria	2012	Art. 22 (1)	Art. 13	Art. 22 (1)
Tunisia	2014	Art. 38	Art. 21	
UAE	2004	Art. 16		Art. 16
Yemen	2001	Art. 56	Art. 7	

Number of social protection programmes per country and identified legal provisions



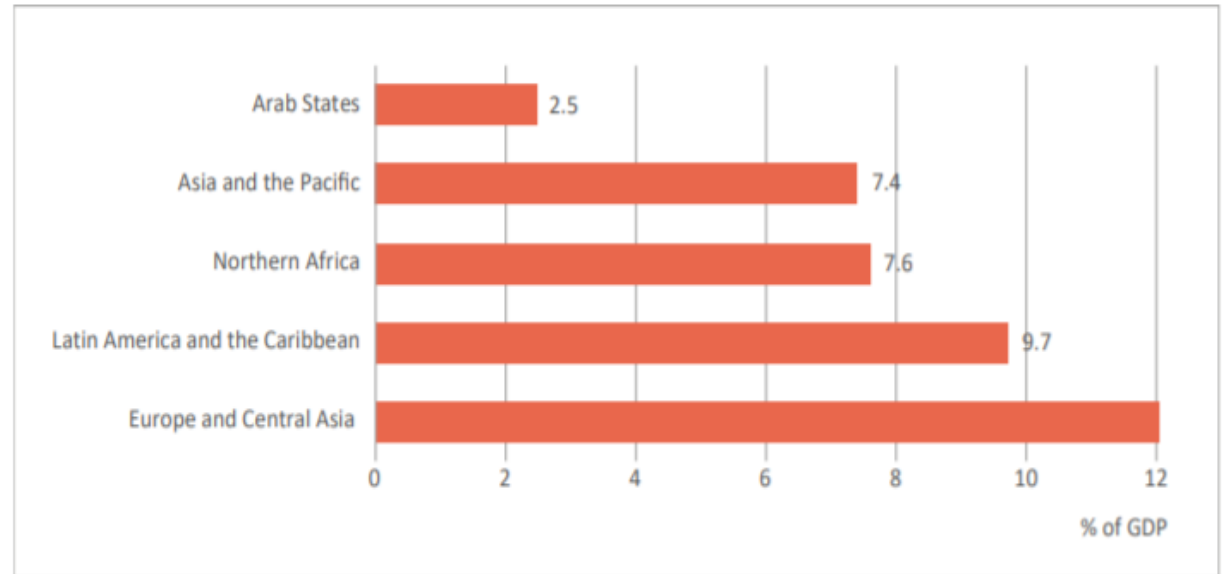
Source: International Policy Center for Inclusive Growth & UNICEF (2018). Children's Right to Social Protection in the MENA: An analysis of legal frameworks from a child-rights perspective

Insights on Regional Realities

Research shows that only 30-40 percent of Arab populations are covered by formal social protection systems. Hence the majority of Arab population is excluded from the formal coverage, such as the unemployed, agricultural workers, the self-employed and informal sector workers.

The Arab world accounts for 45% of all cross-border refugees worldwide, they are placed in host countries where they are almost excluded from the formal social protection policies.

Public social protection expenditure, excluding health, selected regions (% of GDP)



Source: Bloch, C., C. Bilo, I. Helmy, R. G. Osorio, and F. V. Soares. 2019. Fiscal space for child-sensitive social protection in the MENA region. Brasília and Amman: International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth and UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office.

International Evidence based on Impact Assessment

- ❶ **Mexico-PROSPERA** began in rural communities with high levels of poverty in 1997 and gradually expanded throughout Mexico. Today, it covers 6 million families. Statistically significant reductions of severe illness for children age 0-5 and adults age 18-50.
- ❷ **Brazil-Bolsa Família** contributed to the reduction of poverty at the country level by 28% (2002 – 2012).
- ❸ **Portugal-The Equality is Quality award** recognizes companies and other employers with good policies in gender equality and work-life balance. A cooperation protocol was signed with private organizations for the provision of childcare subsidized by relevant ministries. The coverage of childcare facilities for 0–3 years olds in Portugal increased by 84 per cent between 2006 and 2017.
- ❹ **Poland-Family 500+** cash transfer programme, contributed to the reduction of extreme poverty from 6.5 % in 2016 to 4.3 % in 2017.

- ❶ General Assembly Economic and Social Council (2019). UN SG report on Implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes. A/74/61-E/2019/4
- ❷ Newcomer, A.J. (2017). The Long-Term Effects of Conditional Cash Transfer Programs on Health: An Analysis of Mexico's Oportunidades.
- ❸ Gilbert, N. (2018). Consultation Meeting on Family Sensitive Social Protection (FSSP).
- ❹ Hall, A. (2008). Brazil's Bolsa Família: A double-edged sword?. *Development and change*, 39(5), 799-822.

Key Message

Moving from breadwinner / individual-based social protection policies to a comprehensive family-focused social protection system is effective in reducing the economic and social vulnerability and enhancing the overall human and community wellbeing.



Thank you