

Rethinking Social Protection Reform in Post-Pandemic Recovery

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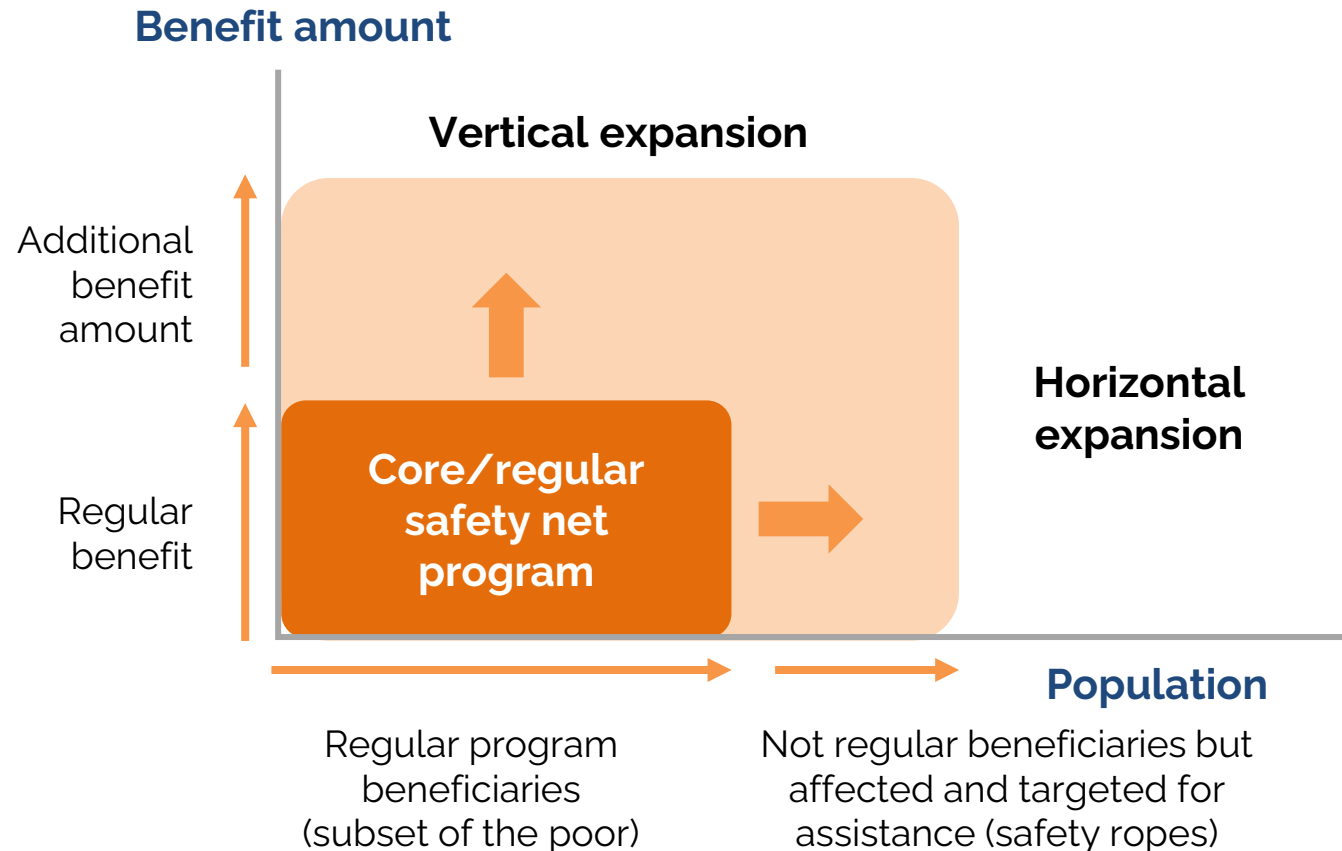
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To some extent, Indonesia had an adaptive social protection system and the ability to introduce some flexibility and scalability to its many social programs. However, these efforts remain ad hoc with little legal basis that is needed to respond to future crises.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact to Indonesian citizens and worries arose on its impact to poverty. Despite the projections made by many early in the pandemic, the Indonesian Government managed to limit poverty rate increases. Many attributed this to the Indonesian social protection system's mobilization to disburse social assistance. However, COVID-19's impact still lingers especially for the middle and working class.





To improve Indonesia's social protection system, what needs to be done?

- 1 | Establish a reliable social registry and set up a dynamic updating mechanism.**

There is also a need to actively reach out to vulnerable populations like women, children, the elderly, the disabled, and other marginalized populations.
- 2 | Expand coverage to include those who are at risk of falling back into poverty (Safety Ropes).**

This entails expanding coverage beyond the poorest 40%.
- 3 | Streamline regulations, integrate programs across the government and clarify their funding structure.**