



► Part III: Promoting Health Equity and Reduce Inequality

SDSN videoconference, 27 April 2020

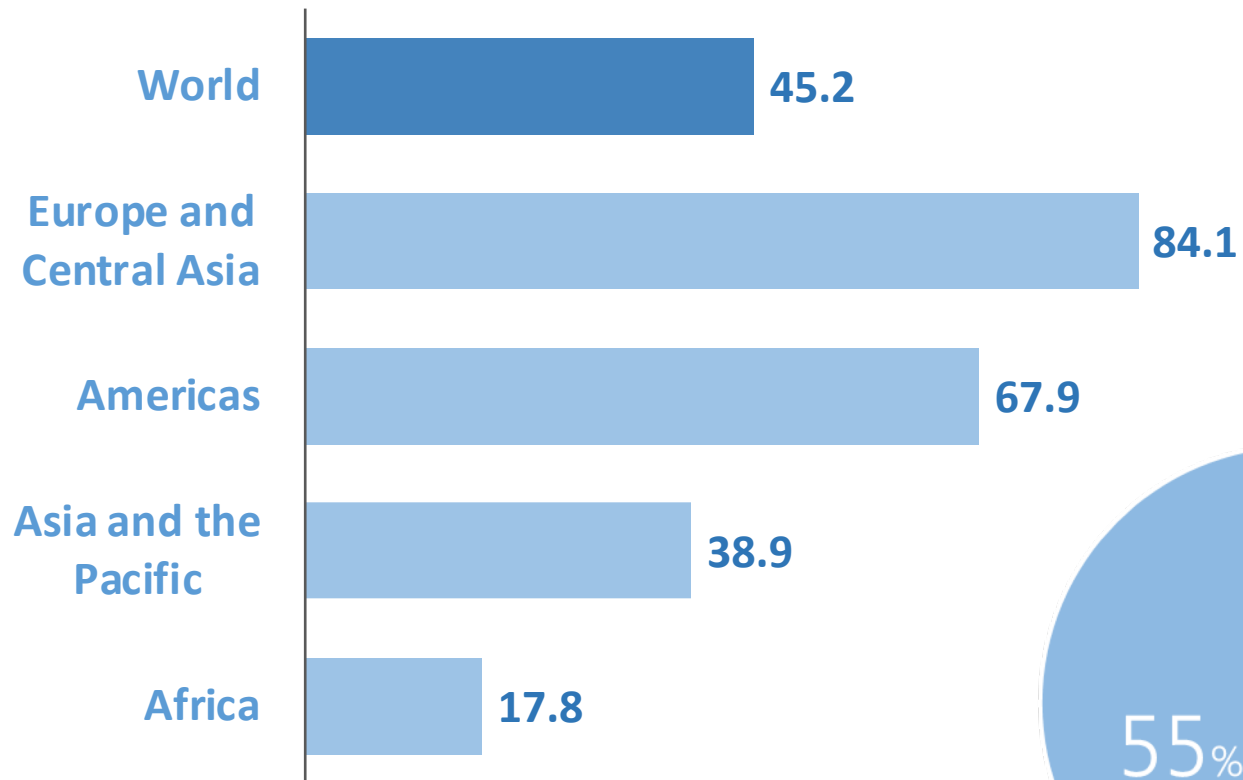
Valerie Schmitt, ILO Social Protection Department, Geneva

► What is social protection?

The ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation adopted in 2012, No202:

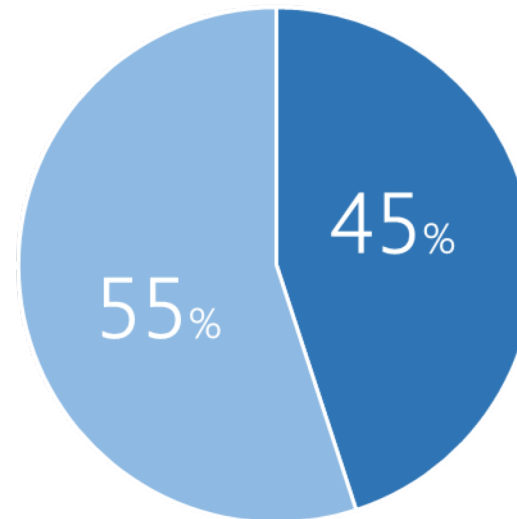
- **All in need of medical care should be guaranteed access to essential health care services;**
- **All children and all residents should enjoy income security across their lives**

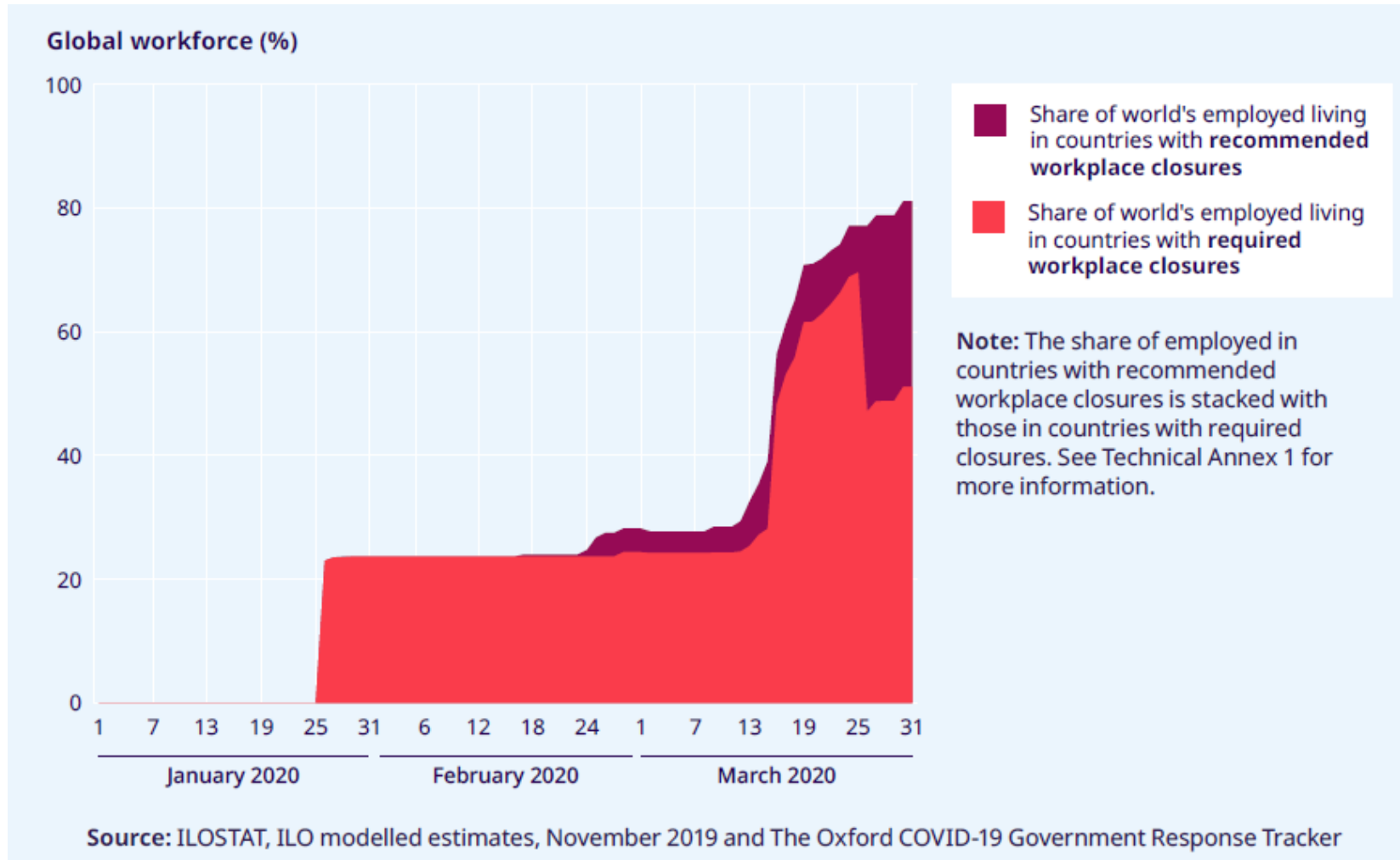
Pre COVID-19 social protection situation



4 billion people
excluded (55% of the world
population)

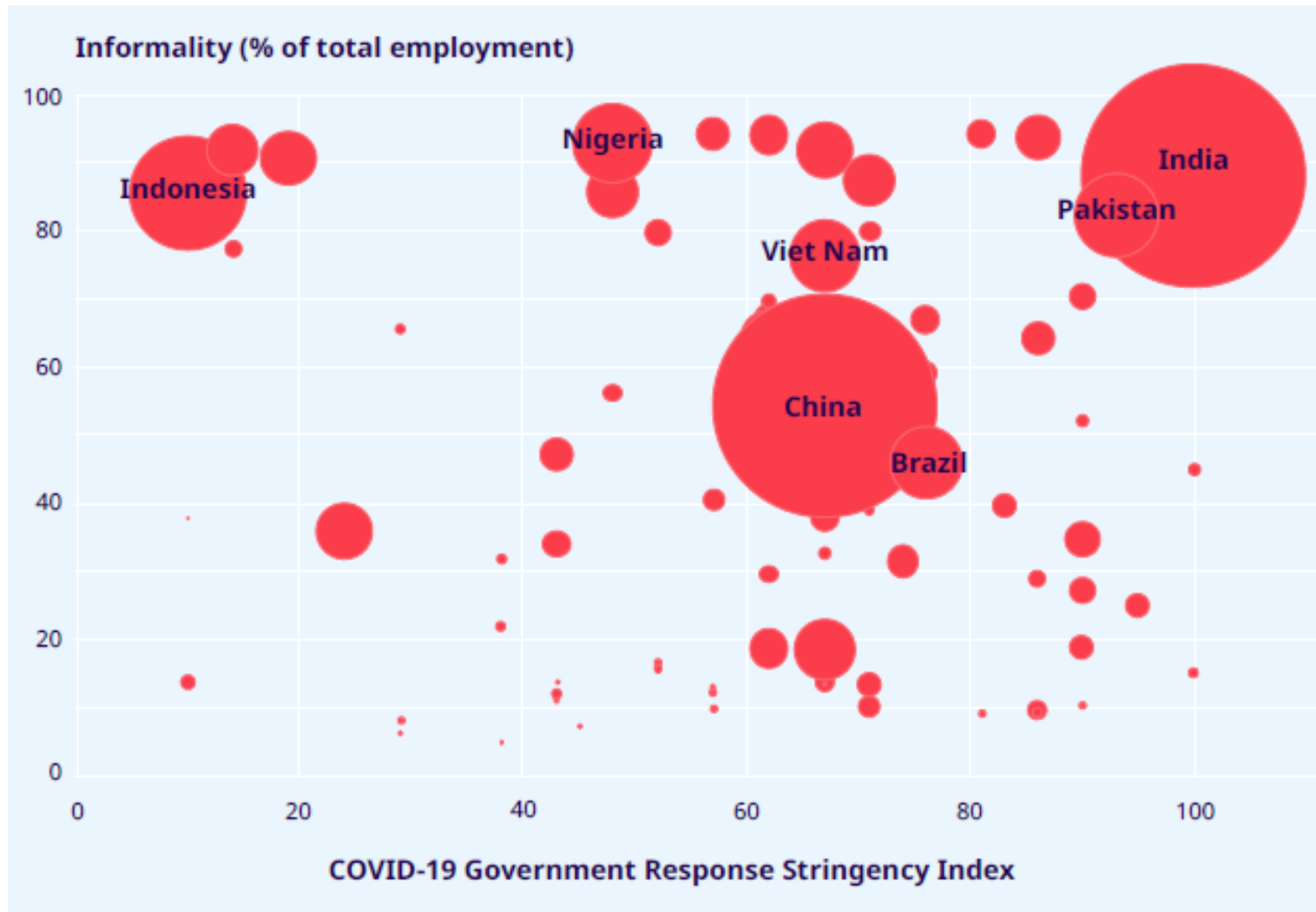
A financing gap of USD 27
billion/year in LICs





81% of the global workforce lives in countries with mandatory or recommended closures

Source: ILO. 2020. 'ILO Monitor 2nd Edition: COVID-19 and the World of Work Updated Estimates and Analysis'.



Millions of informal workers under lockdown and other containment measures

Note:
x-axis: University of Oxford's COVID-19 Government Response Stringency Index.
y-axis: informal employment as a share of total employment in the respective country
Size of bubbles: relative size of total informal employment in each country
Source: ILO. 2020. '[ILO Monitor 2nd Edition: COVID-19 and the World of Work Updated Estimates and Analysis](#)'.

Social Protection Responses to COVID-19

Between 1 February and the present date, majority of countries and territories announced social protection measures in response to the COVID-19 crisis. The highest number of responses are reported in Africa, Americas and Europe and Central Asia, where over half of the countries have introduced these measures, followed by Asia and the Pacific, and Arab states. The figures represent information on the response rate by country, region, date of announcement, function of social protection and type of measure.

Reset



Countries with social protection responses



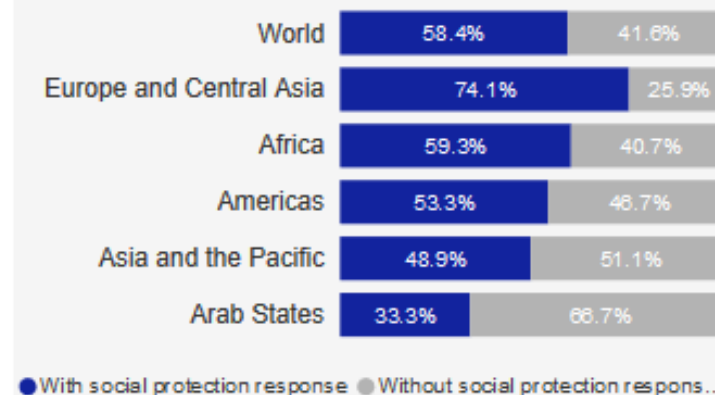
Number of countries for the selection
125

Number of measures for the selection
647

Global number of announced measures, by date

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1 23	2 5	3 21	4 6	5 6
6 9	7 5	8 11	9 11	10 8	11 5	12 2
13 6	14 2	15 12	16 4	17 4	18	19 3
20 1	21 3	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Share of countries with and without social protection responses, by region



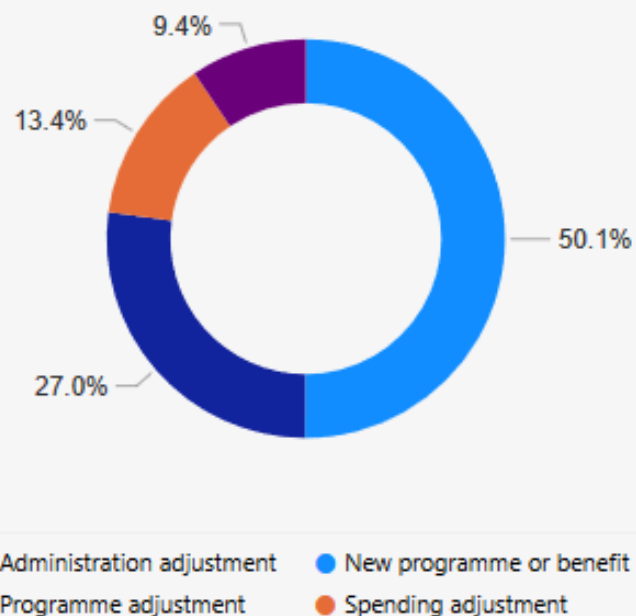
Social Protection Responses to COVID-19 (continued)

Responses cover all functions of social protection. Unemployment protection, income protection, housing and special allowance gather more than 50 per cent of measures. Health and food security play a big role in Americas, Africa and Arab States.

Distribution of measures, by social protection function

Special allowance/grant	18.4%
Several functions	13.3%
Unemployment	13.1%
Income/jobs protection	10.0%
Housing/basic services	9.4%
Health	8.8%
Food and nutrition	8.7%
Children and Family	5.7%
Pensions	5.6%
Sickness	5.6%
Maternity/parental	0.8%
Access to education	0.5%
Employment injury	0.2%

Distribution of measures, by type of adjustment



In all the regions, introduction of new programmes or benefits has been reported as the most common measure, including benefits for workers and their dependents, benefits for poor and vulnerable population, introducing subsidies or reducing costs of necessities and utilities, etc. Many countries are progressing in extending the coverage of existing schemes and increasing the benefit level.

Top-10 announced measures

Measure	Number
Introducing benefit for workers and/or dependents	85
Introducing benefit for poor or vulnerable population	75
Increasing benefit level	68
Extending coverage	53
Introducing subsidies to or deferring or reducing cost of necessities/utilities	49
Increasing credit/budgetary allocation	40
Improving delivery mechanism/capacity	38
Introducing subsidies to wage	37
Deferring, reducing or waiving social contribution	36
Improving access/administration	25

► From ad hoc responses to longer term solutions

Universality of protection, non-discrimination and responsiveness to special needs.

Social solidarity and collective financing

Transparent management and sound administration

Social dialogue and representation of persons concerned