



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Interregional training workshop on strengthening capacity for evidence-based social protection policies for responding to the triple global crisis in fuel, food and finance

8 to 10 July 2025, Livingstone, Zambia

Resilience and Adaptation in the Face of the Triple Crisis

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**Economic
Policy
Research
Institute**

Megatrends are interacting to intensify global crises



Demographics

Rising dependency ratios and closing demographic windows of opportunity are elevating the importance of social protection in building human capital



Technology

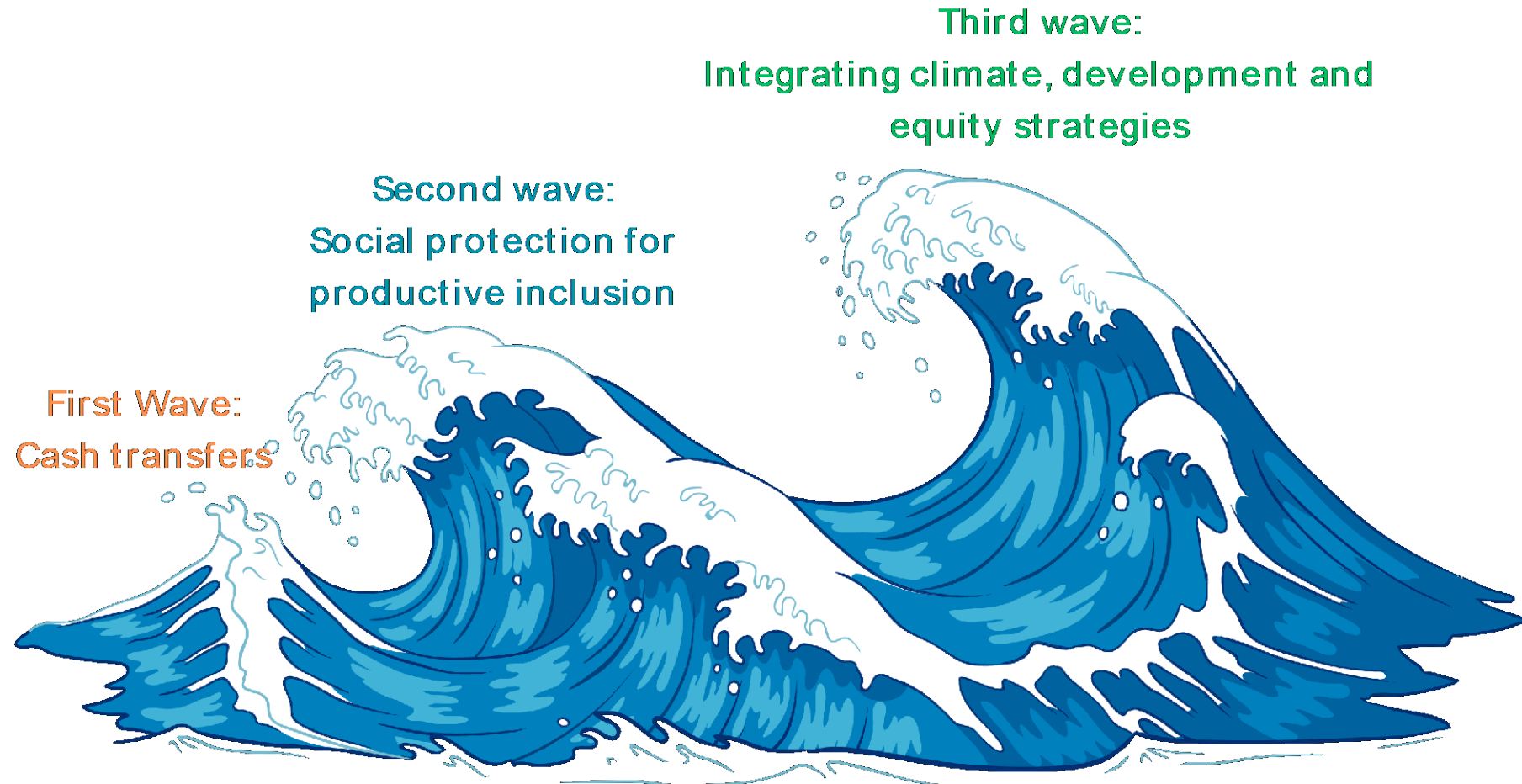
Disruptive technological changes, particularly artificial intelligence (AI), are creating massive risks and opportunities—and accentuating the impact of digital exclusion.



Climate change

Climate change increases vulnerabilities, and the necessary policy response is continuing to prove highly disruptive, creating global risks to social cohesion through polarization.

Three global waves of social protection powering human capital, inclusion and resilience



First wave of social protection

STRENGTHENED INCLUSION IN MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES

ROOTED IN TACKLING POVERTY AND VULNERABILITY, MICS EXPANDED CORE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMES RAPIDLY IN RESPONSE TO CRISES



Mexico Progresa
South Africa CSG

1990-94

Brazil Bolsa
Escola
South Africa OAP



1995-99



Indonesia - PKH
Zambia SCT
Chile Solidario
Colombia -
Familias en
Acción

2000-04

Mongolia - CMP
Philippines - 4Ps
India - NREGS
Kenya - HSNP
Ghana's LEAP

2005-09



**Global financial
crisis prompts
expansions in
MICs (e.g.,
Indonesia PKH,
Philippines 4Ps)**

2010-14

Thailand CSG

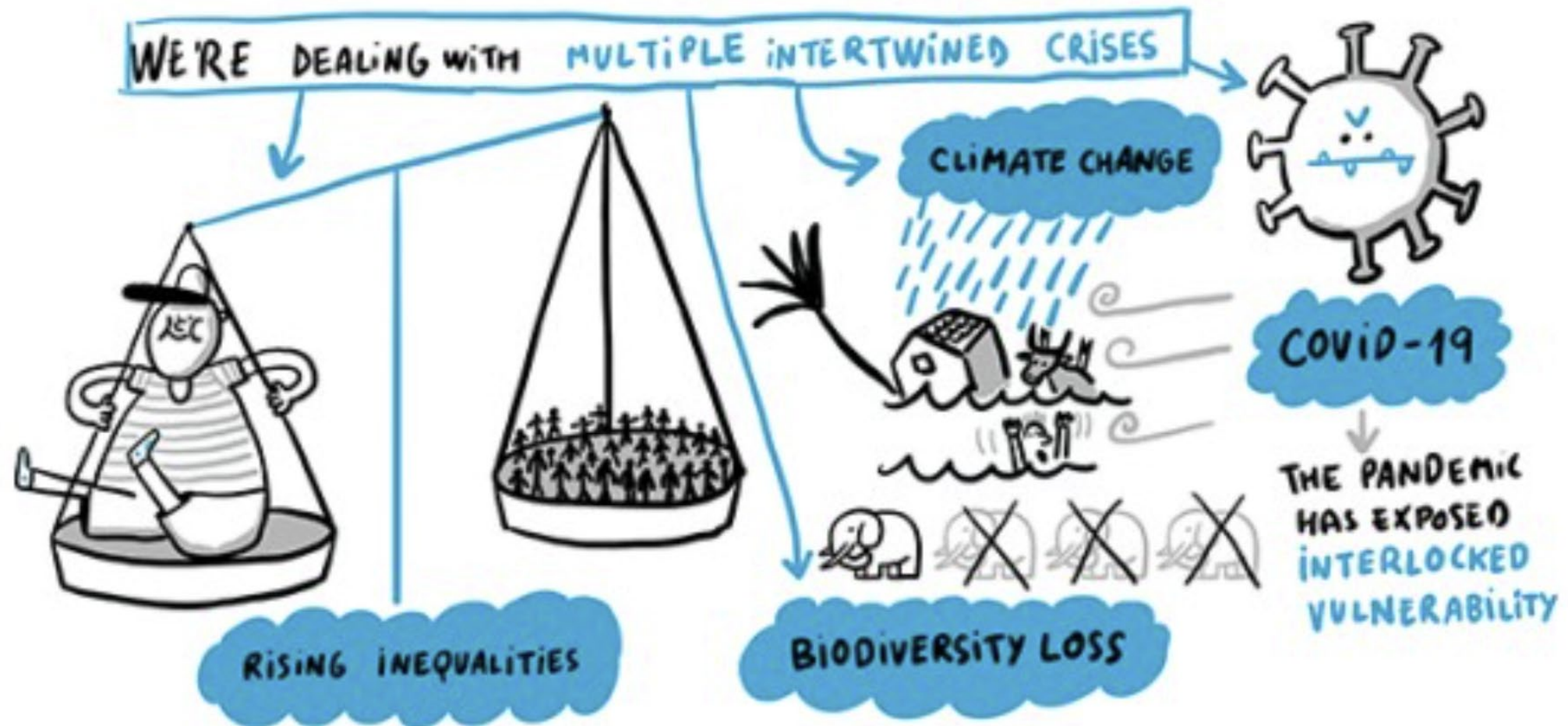
2015-19



Expansion of core
social protection
programmes in
almost every MIC

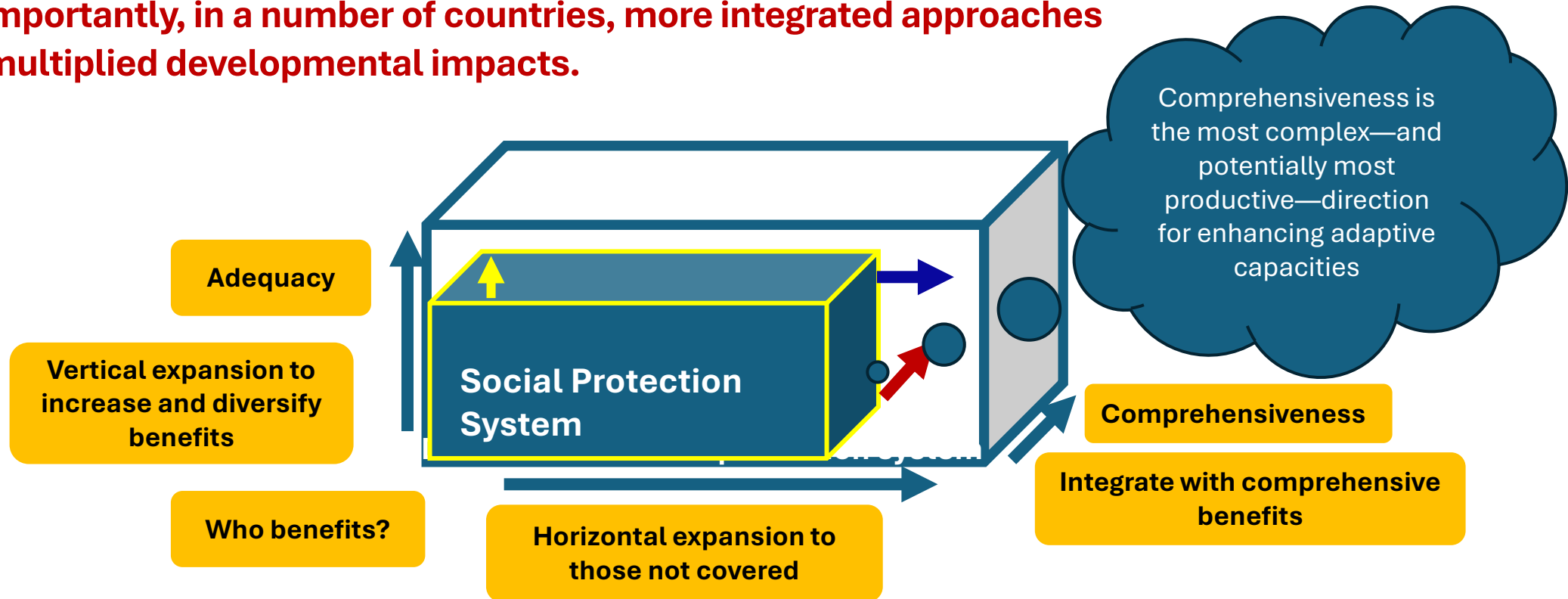
2020-24

COVID is a harbinger of future shocks that will make core social protection responses more important than ever



The greatest challenge globally has been implementing **comprehensive** expansions. These are the most complicated: they require multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Very importantly, in a number of countries, more integrated approaches have multiplied developmental impacts.



Second wave of social protection

REINFORCED EMPOWERMENT IN MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES

BUILDING ON LESSONS OF DEVELOPMENTAL SYNERGIES, COUNTRIES BUILT MORE COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEMS THAT LINKED SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SECTORS



South Africa's
"developmental"
social security

1990-94

CCTs in Latin America introduced the idea of **integrated human capital investments**



South Africa's
EPWP

Rwanda's VUP

Malawi's MASAF

Tanzania's TASAF

2000-04

Bangladesh's BRAC innovated **"graduation"** programmes

GoB livelihoods and social protection



2005-09



Peru's Haku
Wiñay

2010-14

Pacific region
invests in ECD

Indonesia's
BANGGA CG

Heckman
equation



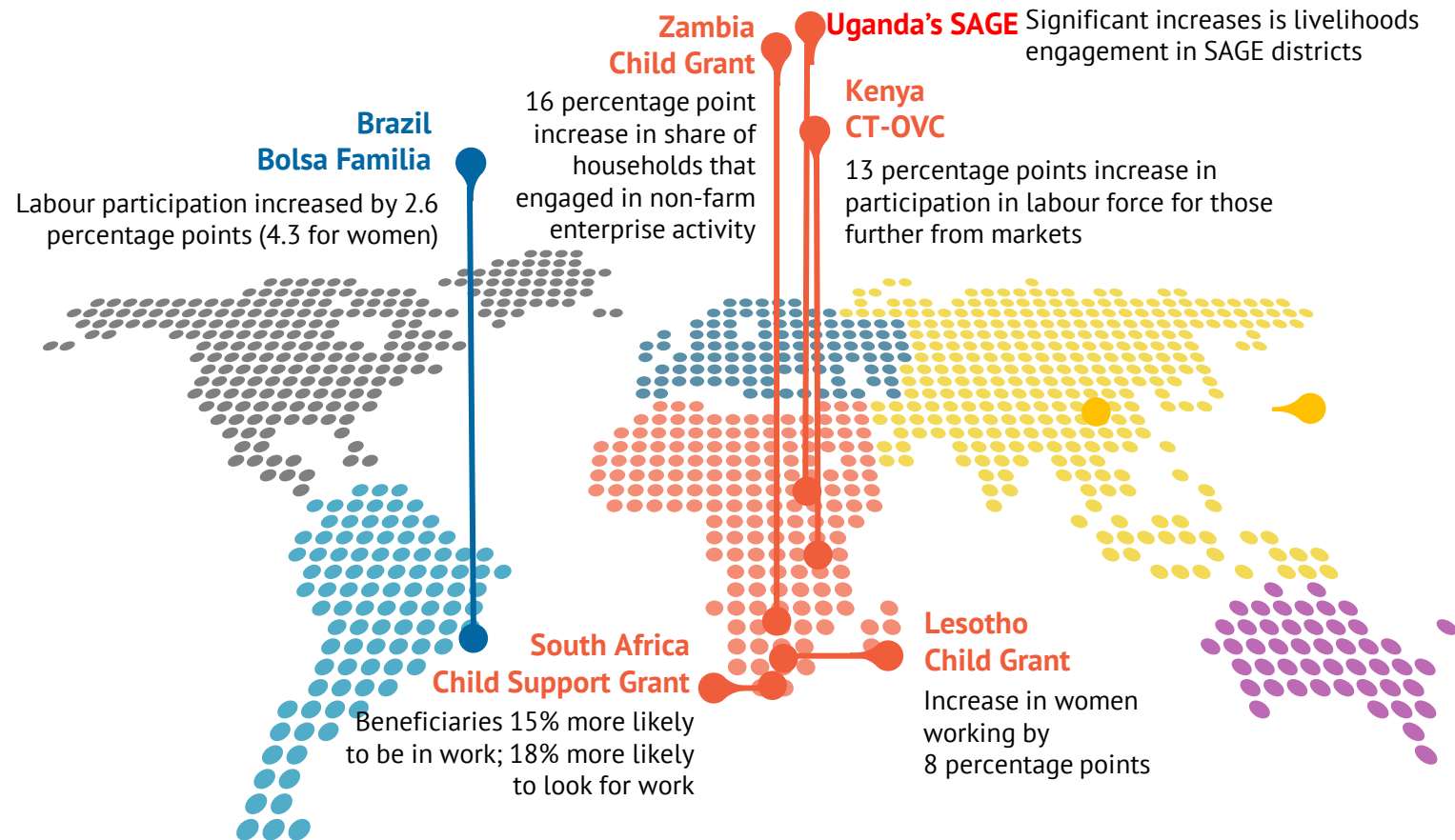
2015-19



Fiji's AA Cash

2020-24

Social protection programmes around the world contribute to employment and economic growth



Social Protection Contributes to 14 of the 17 SDGs



Third wave of social protection

INTEGRATED CLIMATE, DEVELOPMENT AND EQUITY STRATEGIES

LINKING SOCIAL PROTECTION TO ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION



Climate-related public works

South Africa's Working for Water

1990-94

Payment for environmental services

Costa Rica's PPSA



Microinsurance

South Africa's Working on Fire

2000-04



2005-09



Green Energy and Poverty Reduction

Bangladesh, China, Kenya & other

2010-14

Mitigation

Brazil's Bolsa Verde

Ecuador's Socio Bosque



2015-19



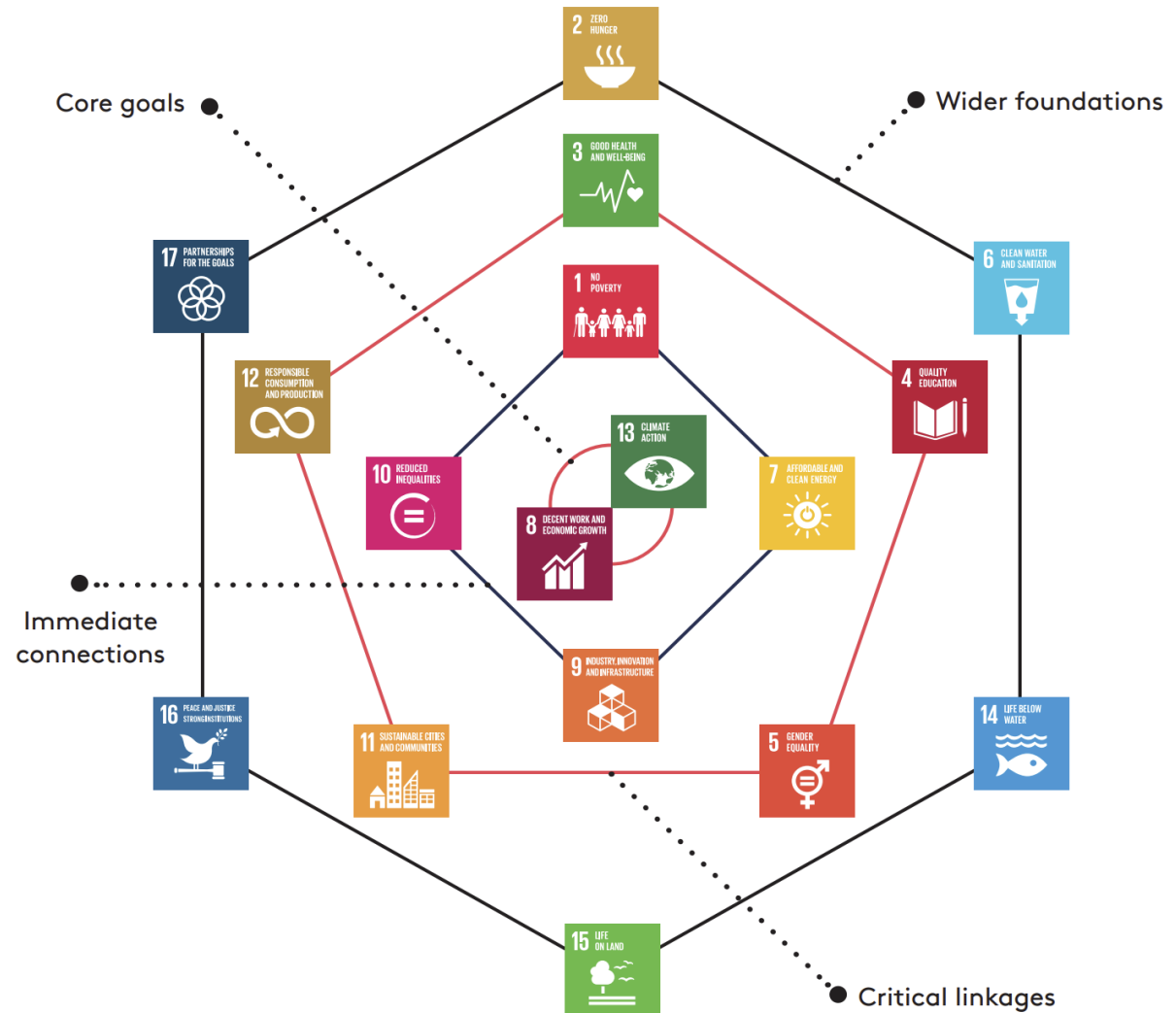
Others

Philippines/ADB invest in Davao Mass Transit project

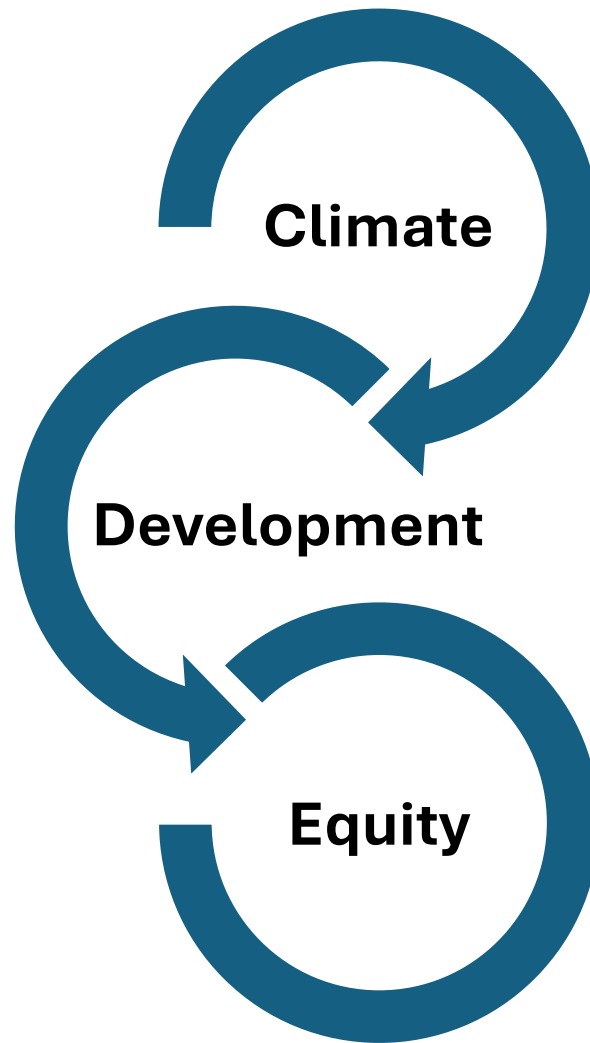
JETS in South Africa, Indonesia

The Third Wave: Integrated Strategies

- COVID-19 has demonstrated that the policy response to complex crisis can be as costly as the direct shock itself
 - The policy response to COVID-19 accelerated and intensified the economic and social costs.
- In this respect, COVID-19 is a harbinger of future shocks—particularly climate change
- The transition to a green and sustainable society will require industrial, labor, technology and other costly adjustments
 - Developmental social protection will complement the optimal mix of climate and development strategies

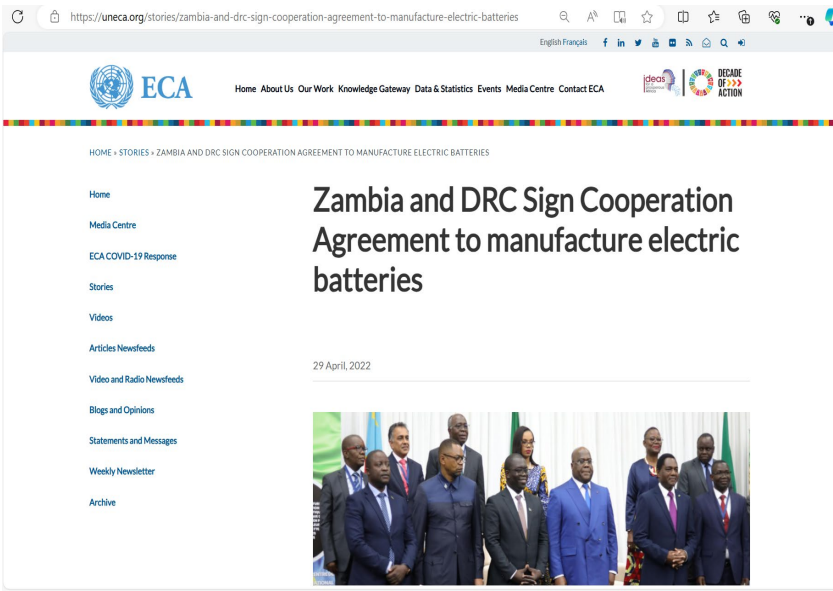


Social protection provides the glue that binds together integrated climate, development and equity strategies that illuminate and address the big picture of future crisis.

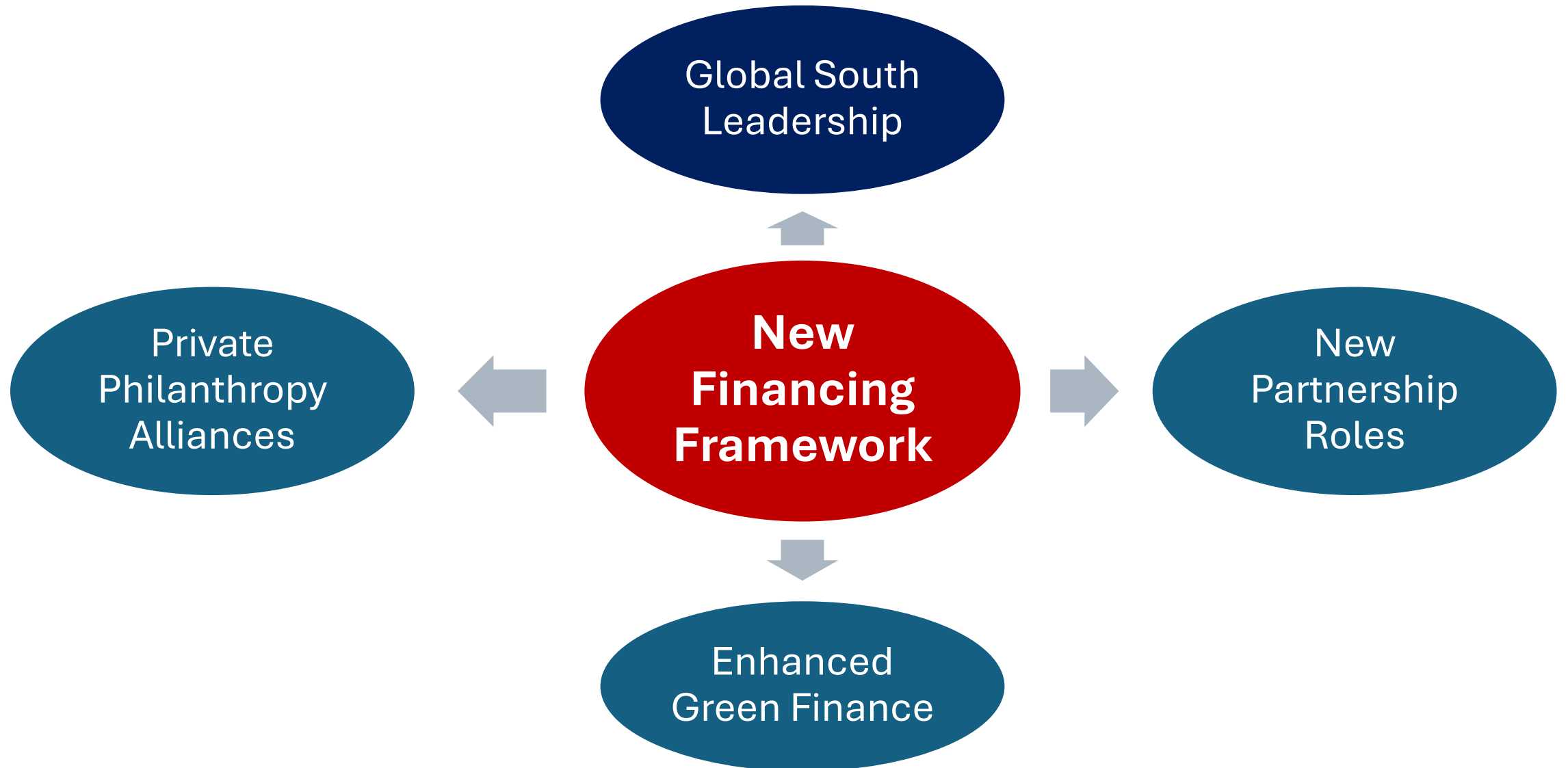


Social Protection's Third Wave

- Lessons from Asia: Philippines, China, Nepal, Indonesia—and South Africa
- Energy crises create **transition opportunities** for green and sustainable energy sources
- Zambia's strategy to build on social protection's human capital dividends to **beneficiate energy minerals** for EV battery production
- Kenya's Green Hydrogen Hub for Africa builds on a foundation of developmental social protection—not least the **human capital** investments
- Uganda's Green Energy Transition explicitly incorporates a commitment to **energy equity (and green energy is shared energy)**—access to electricity for all by 2040 as well as net zero emissions by 2050

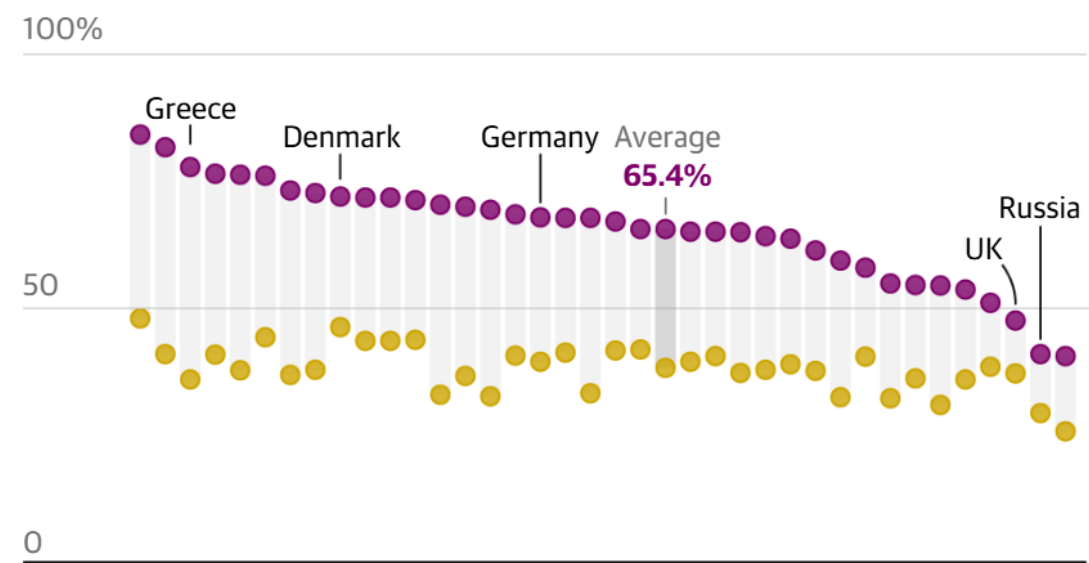


In the face of the global multi-lateral crisis, a new financing framework is emerging

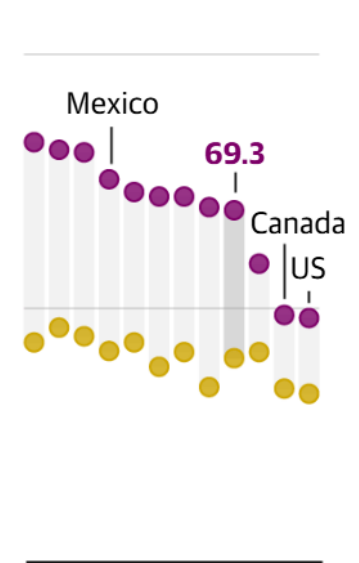


% willing to pay 1% of income for climate action, versus % of population they believe would

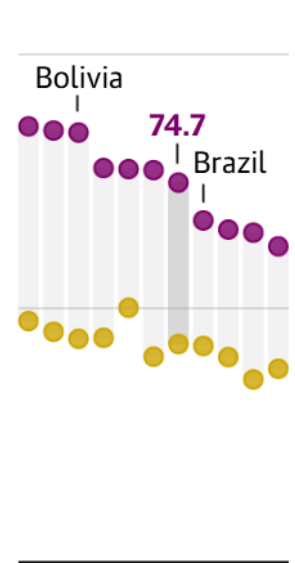
Europe



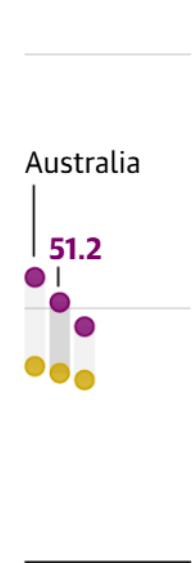
N America



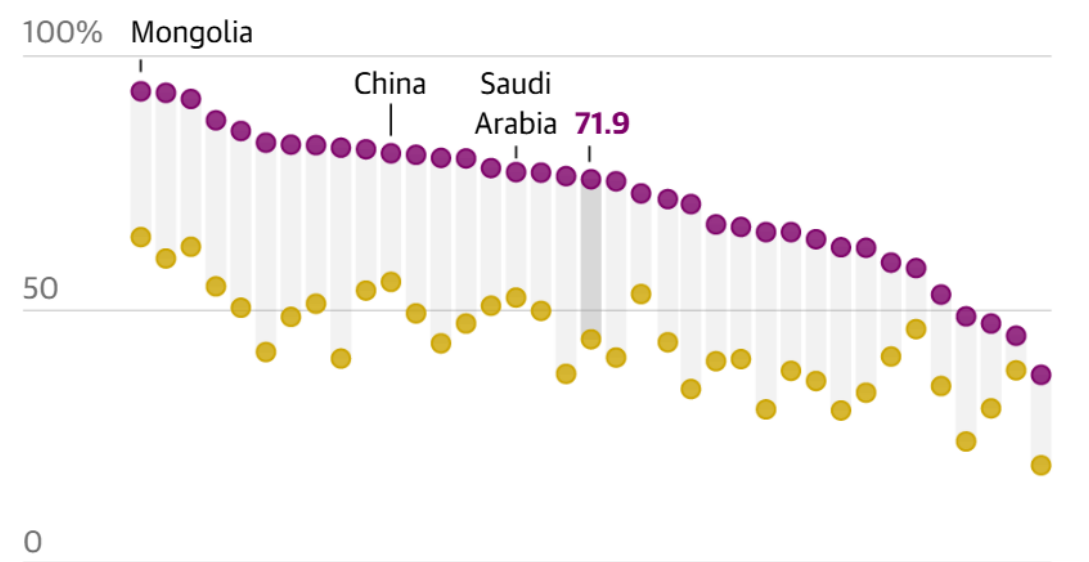
S America



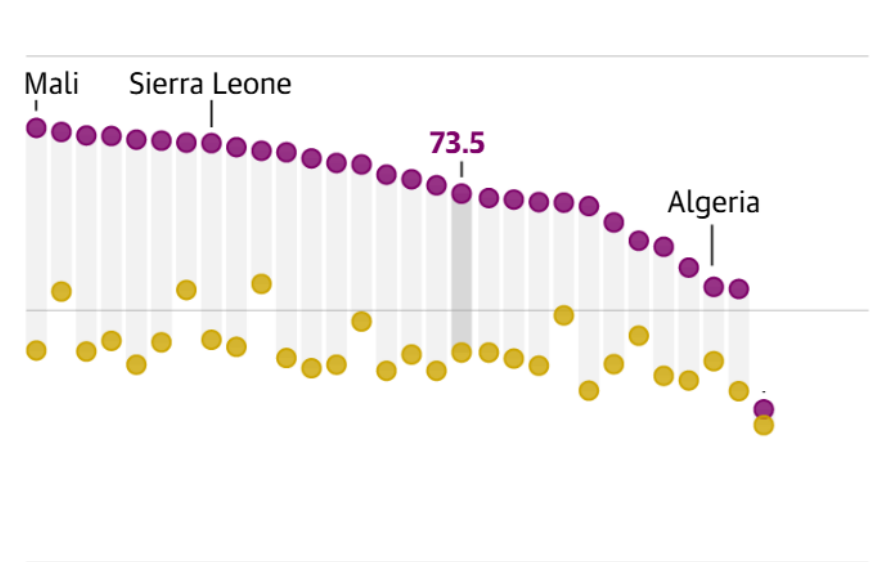
Oceania



Asia



Africa

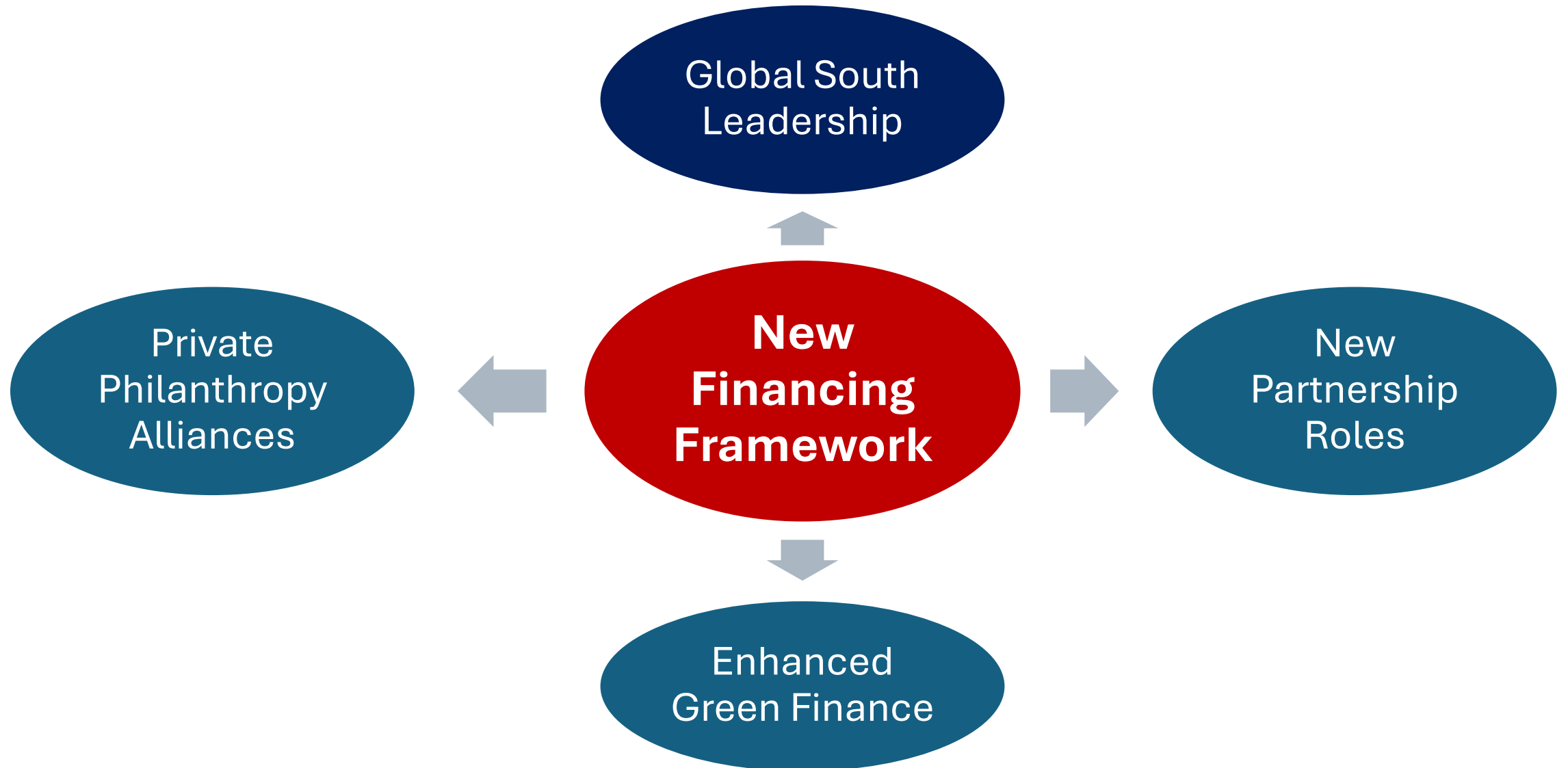


Survey of 130,000 people in 125 countries

In 10 years, Middle Income Countries committing 1% of GDP would provide more multi-lateral resources than HICs

SOURCE: Fabre et al. (2024) Nature Climate Action journal <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-024-01925-3>

In the face of the global multi-lateral crisis, a new financing framework is emerging



Lessons on digitalisation from the 3 waves

1.

- Wave 1: **The first wave of social protection demonstrated the resilience-building potential of social protection in the face of crisis.** Foundational digital systems - from payments to identification - proved essential during COVID-19, demonstrating their critical role in reaching and protecting the most vulnerable.

2.

- Wave 2: The specific focus on developmental impact during the second wave supported integrated approaches, supported by digital platforms, broke down program silos and built stronger resilience through connected digital systems and comprehensive analytics.

3.

- Wave 3: **Social protection (strengthened by digital inclusion) now serves as the glue binding climate action, development, and economic justice.** Advanced digital platforms enable both **predictive, proactive and productive** responses to climate risks and support for just transitions, ensuring equity remains central during major societal transformations—and benefit from new financing solutions.