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The Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI) is a global partnership that supports the adoption of economic inclusion programs for extreme poor and vulnerable households at scale and that creates a cutting-edge platform for global learning and knowledge.

We respond to the global momentum to strengthen inclusive and sustainable growth and to Leave No One Behind.



Economic inclusion shows promise in fragile contexts

A new working paper from the World Bank's Development Impact Evaluation Group, [No Household Left Behind: Afghanistan Targeting the Ultra Poor Impact Evaluation](#), tests whether a multifaceted economic inclusion project can reduce poverty in one of the most difficult settings in the world: Afghanistan.

The work showcases the potential of the Targeting the Ultra Poor (TUP) package as an effective tool for reducing poverty, improving gender equality, and strengthening financial inclusion in a fragile and conflict-affected context. One year after the program ended, the randomized controlled trial study finds significant impacts across all primary outcomes considered: consumption, assets, food security, labor, financial inclusion, women's empowerment, and overall psychological well-being. Per capita consumption increases by 30% with respect to the control group, and the share of households below the national poverty line decreases by 20 percentage points to 62% in the treatment group. Access to finance significantly improves: TUP households saved on average US\$31 more than the control group (average savings balance of US\$1). The report also includes a cost benefit analysis, estimating the return against the increase in consumption, and finds a return of US\$2.30 for every dollar spent.

As World Bank CEO [Kristalina Georgieva wrote](#), "good things can happen when

you take a “big push” approach.”

Paraguay government, UN work to build hope



Journalist Nick Kristof from the [New York Times reports](#) from a remote village in Paraguay, where indigenous people are gaining hope and leaving poverty because of a joint project with the government of Paraguay and the United Nations, with technical support from Trickle Up.

Exploring links between social assistance and economic inclusion

The Indonesian government seeks to create stronger synergies between its conditional cash transfer program and income-generating interventions for the poor. In May 2019, the Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS) and MAHKOTA, an Australian-funded national social protection policy program, hosted the [Linking Social Protection to Sustainable Livelihoods: A Way Forward for Indonesia](#) conference. Colleagues from the governments of Paraguay and the Philippines, and economic inclusion experts from BRAC and Fundación Capital, gathered with Indonesian policy makers to [share their experiences](#).



Resources:

- Should graduation replace more conventional cash transfers in Pakistan? Hina Shaikh, Country Economist for the International Growth Centre, [considers how the Benazir Income Support Program utilizes graduation-influenced design](#).
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- **What does it take to empower poor women?** The Center for Global Development, Women for Women, and PEI [consider critical elements](#) like violence, psycho-social development, and household gender dynamics.
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- **What impact does graduation have on child well-being in Burundi?** [IDS has published research](#) from a Concern Worldwide graduation program finding improved child well-being, particularly in relation to housing, food security, and education. The research also includes lessons learned on improving outcomes and sustainability.
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- **Recommendations for a graduation strategy in Lebanon.** The World Bank and Trickle Up published a [feasibility study to guide engagement in graduation](#) in Lebanon.
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Events:

- **October 28-November 8**, the World Bank's [Social Protection & Jobs Core Courses](#) are held in Washington DC, consisting of three parallel trainings on Social Safety Nets; Pensions; and Jobs and Migration Policies.
 - **November 4-8**, Development Pathways will host [Inclusive Social Protection: Making the Case](#) in Naivasha, Kenya
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Want more information, guidance, and resources?

Visit PEI's website at peiglobal.io. For research, guidance, and manuals on economic inclusion, visit the Graduation Community pages on [FinDev Gateway](#) or socialprotection.org.

We want to hear from you!

Please [contact us](#) with any updates or information we can include in future newsletters or share your thoughts on how to improve these newsletters.

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