



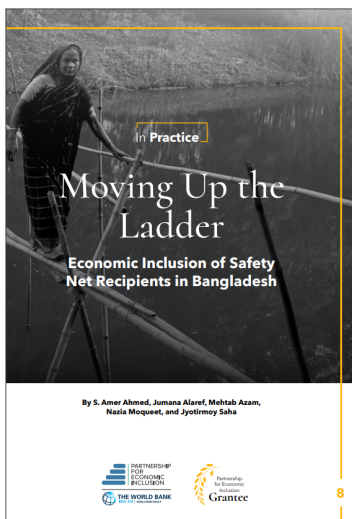
September 2023



Photo credit: Thomas Sennett / World Bank

## NEWS FROM PEI

# Linking social safety net participants to economic inclusion programs in Bangladesh



In Bangladesh, economic inclusion initiatives have been mostly implemented by civil society organizations. However, the country's extensive social safety net (SSN) system holds promising potential to establish economic inclusion pathways for poor and vulnerable households on a larger scale.

This latest In Practice volume documents lessons from a PEI grant-supported analytical work. It unpacks the socio-economic characteristics and potential of three groups of SSN recipients in Bangladesh –working-age widows, people with disabilities, and households with young children– to benefit from economic inclusion programming at scale. Click here to access the [brief](#), or click below for the full report.

Read the full report

# Read more from Bangladesh and check out PEI's new In Focus series

This PEI In Practice is supplemented by three resources, as part of the In Focus Series, which includes deeper, more focused explorations into operational learning, target populations, inclusive programming, and more.



**Designing Economic Inclusion Programs for Marginalized Populations in Bangladesh**

[Access the report >](#)



**Designing Early Childhood Development Interventions in Bangladesh**

[Access the report >](#)



**Program Brief: Recovery and Advancement of Informal Sector Employment (RAISE)**

[Access the report >](#)

# Malawi is helping half a million households who live in poverty with resilient livelihood development

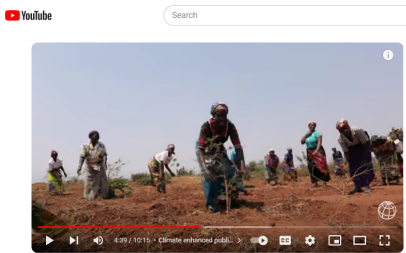


Photo credit: YouTube/World Bank

Malawi is working to build resilience among the poor and vulnerable people through the Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project. It includes cash transfers, livelihood support, climate smart public works, and scalable cash transfers for disaster-affected households. The project currently serves almost half a million households and will be expanded to reach 778,000. Malawi is a PEI grantee.

Watch the video [here](#) and read more about the program [here](#).

# UNGA 78: PEI at the United Nations General Assembly



Photo credit: PEI

PEI Program Manager Victoria Strokova and Senior Consultant Janet Heisey engaged partners and other stakeholders advancing economic inclusion at side events in New York at this year’s United Nations General Assembly. Victoria joined a panel discussion hosted by the government of Zambia that highlighted the success of the [Girls Education and Women Empowerment and Livelihoods Project](#), which includes an economic inclusion component that is poised to scale up. Check the study below on Zambia for impact evaluation results.

As a new team member, Victoria was glad to meet staff from some of PEI's technical partners in person, including BOMA, Fundación Capital, Trickle Up, Village Enterprise, and Bill Abrams, Senior Advisor to the Leadership Collaborative to End Ultra-Poverty. Together with Iffath Sharif, the Global Director for Social Protection and Jobs at the World Bank, the team also met with PEI funding partners BRAC and Co-Impact.

## NEWS AND RESOURCES FROM PEI PARTNERS

NBER WORKING PAPER SERIES  
SUPPORTING WOMEN'S LIVELIHOODS AT SCALE:  
EVIDENCE FROM A NATIONWIDE MULTIFACETED PROGRAM  
Anne Hoxby  
Andrew Brander-Strokova  
Makoto Goshima  
Cristina Lora  
Gerrit Köhler  
Working Paper 31825  
http://www.nber.org/papers/w31825

NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH  
390 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
August 2023

This paper greatly benefited from comments by Clive Deaton, David Pritchett as well as seminar participants at the Partnership for Economic Inclusion/ Development Impact Evaluation Workshop at Johns Hopkins (2022) and the Impact Evaluation User/World Bank Africa Gender Inequality Accelerator for Women's Economic Empowerment (2022). We also benefited from the Anti-Poverty Research Conference (December 2022), Annual Peer Review, Annual Summit, and China, which provided excellent feedback and research assistance. We gratefully acknowledge financial support from the World Bank's Livelihoods Facility for Gender Equality. This paper is a product of the Gender Inequality Lab, Office of the Chief Economist, Africa Region. The findings, interpretations, and conclusions expressed in this work do not necessarily reflect the views of The World Bank Group, its Board of Executive Directors, or the governments they represent. Africa  
Key Words: Gender inequality, economic empowerment, women's livelihoods, asset transfer, social protection, and economic inclusion  
If I request it, I will accept full responsibility for any errors and omissions in this work. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Bureau of Economic Research.  
At least one co-author has disclosed additional relationships of potential relevance for this research. Further information is available online at <http://www.nber.org/papers/w31825>

### Evidence from Zambia shows positive results from a government-implemented nationwide livelihood program

Researchers found that a government-implemented livelihood program in Zambia yielded consumption and earnings increases comparable to graduation programs, without negative economic spillovers on non-participants. The effects were entirely driven by the asset transfer portion, indicating the potential for government-led streamlined multifaceted packages.

[Keep reading >](#)

LEVERAGING SOCIAL PROTECTION  
AND ECONOMIC INCLUSION  
INTERVENTIONS FOR AGRIFOOD  
SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION  
A CASE STUDY OF PERU



Photo credit: FAO

### How two government-led programs in Peru are linking social protection and food system transformation

This case study from FAO analyzes two government-led programs (JUNTOS, a conditional cash transfer program and Haku Wiñay, an economic inclusion program) and how they interacted with the elements, actors and outcomes of the food systems for rural populations. This publication is part of a series that aims to understand the role of social protection programs' design, results, and impacts on food system transformation.

[Keep reading >](#)

## Graduating to Resilience: digital literacy and gender approaches from a graduation program with refugees and host communities in Uganda



Photo credit: Trickle Up

Trickle Up shares lessons from including digital literacy and gender transformative approaches as part of “Graduating to Resilience”, a program that supports the self-reliance of ultra-poor refugees and host communities in Uganda, in collaboration with AVSI Foundation, Danish Refugee Council and Norwegian Refugee Council.

[Digital literacy & inclusion brief >](#)  
[Gender transformative approach brief >](#)

## Shameran Abed and Esther Duflo: Ending extreme poverty is within reach. We can’t give up.



Photo credit: Jean-Marc Ferré / UN Photo

In this op-ed, Shameran Abed, BRAC’s Executive Director, and economist and Nobel Laureate Esther Duflo reflect on the negative impacts that global crises have had on poverty reduction. They argue, however, that extreme poverty is not an insurmountable problem. The article highlights how we can achieve real progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal 1, by, among others, continuing to scale up the graduation approach.

[Read the article >](#)

## A new podcast reflects on social protection evidence, policy influence, and more



Photo credit: SocialProtection.org

Socialprotection.org is celebrating its seventh anniversary with a new podcast on the evidence on social protection programs and how it has influenced policy, practice and the global spread of ideas to shape the sector.

[Listen to the podcast >](#)

## Empowering women through climate-smart agriculture in Kenya



Photo credit: Nation Media Group

Village Enterprise is working with FAO and UN Women to ensure that hundreds of female farmers in Kenya build economic resilience and achieve livelihood transformation through the Women Economic Empowerment through Climate Smart Agriculture.

[Village-based banking article >](#)  
[Climate resilient agriculture article >](#)

## New resources on scaling up Productive Inclusion in the Sahel



In case you missed it, the Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASPP) has recently made various resources, toolkits and videos accessible (in English and French) to promote learning and share key lessons from their work implementing economic inclusion in the region.

[Click here to check their site >](#)  
[Subscribe to their newsletter >](#)

## About PEI

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[Events series here.](#)



The [Partnership for Economic Inclusion](#) is a global network that includes national governments, policymakers, development partners, and nongovernmental and research organizations. PEI is hosted by the World Bank's Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice and seeks to formalize partnerships now that will solidify an economic inclusion network that is global and far-reaching. PEI partners help develop economic inclusion programs and contribute to evidence-based good practices that can be adapted to local conditions by governments and local or international agencies. Through their work, each partner is helping build a platform that will refine and enable the sharing of cutting-edge knowledge about what works in economic inclusion.



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