

Inclusive and resilient recovery from COVID-19 for sustainable livelihoods, well-being and dignity for all: eradicating poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions to achieve the 2030 Agenda

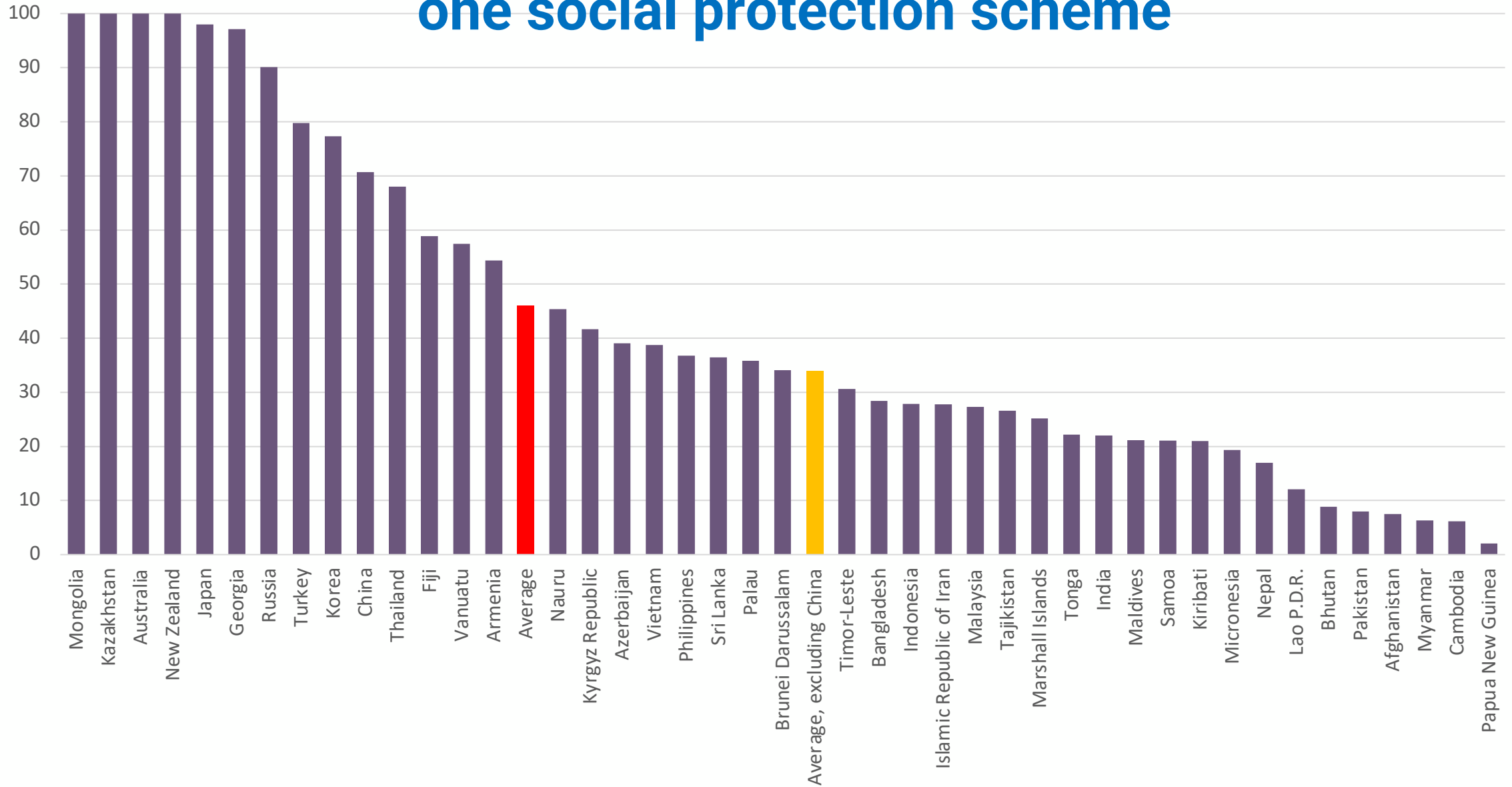
Session 5: Effective strategies to eradicate poverty and hunger (Part II): Social protection systems and floors

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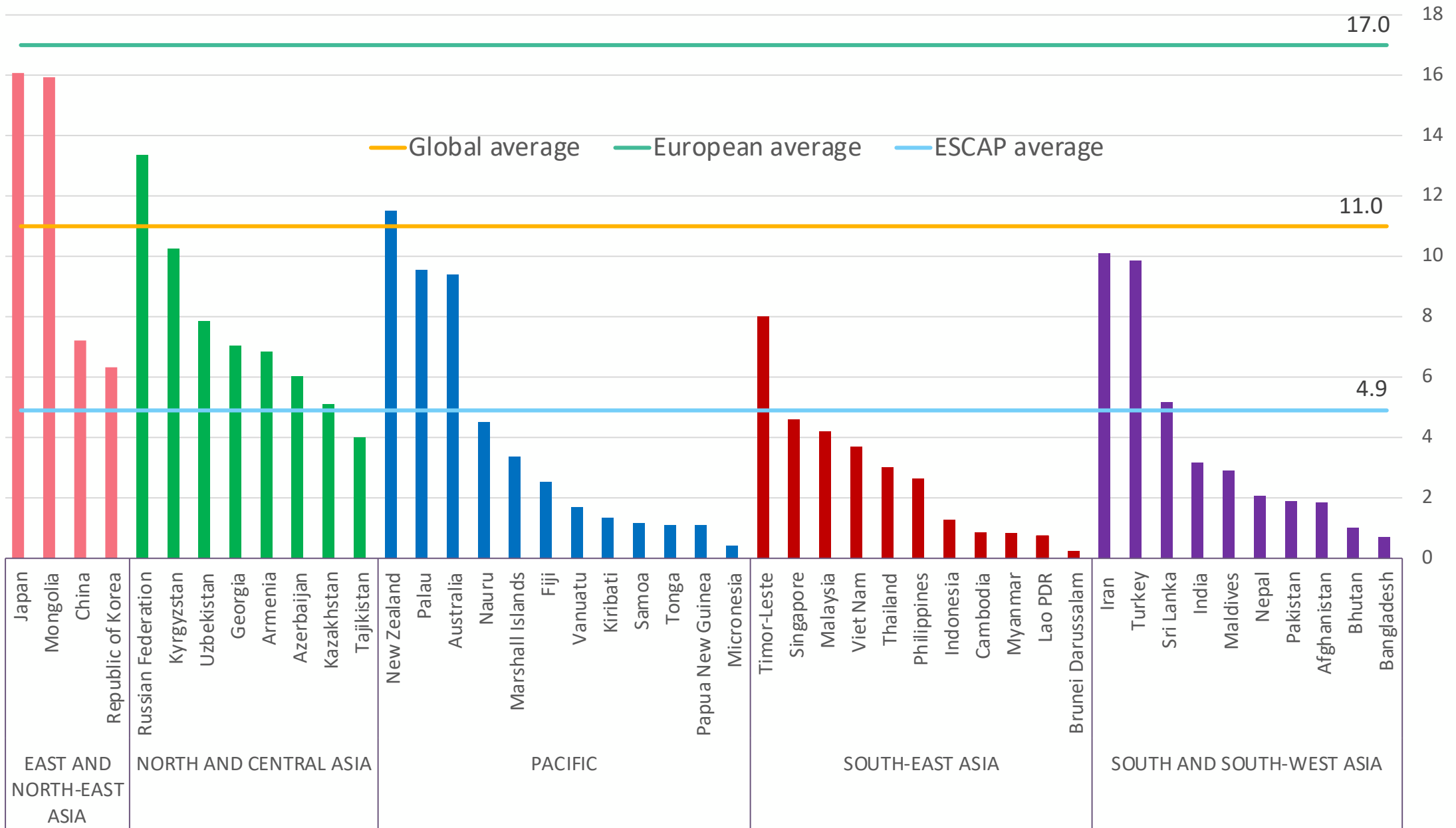
Social Development Division, UNESCAP

2 August 2021, 08:00-09:10 (NYT)

Less than half of the region's population is covered by at least one social protection scheme



Low investments in social protection in Asia-Pacific



The pandemic is aggravating existing challenges and ongoing trends

- Inequality, poverty and unemployment are increasing
- Population ageing, migration and urbanization are on the rise
- Technological progress will change labour markets
- Disasters and climate change pose disproportionate pressure on vulnerable people

Examples of measures to mitigate COVID-19

➤ *Job retention & Unemployment schemes*

- (e.g. Australia, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam)

➤ *Sickness benefits*

- (e.g. China, Fiji, Philippines, Russia)

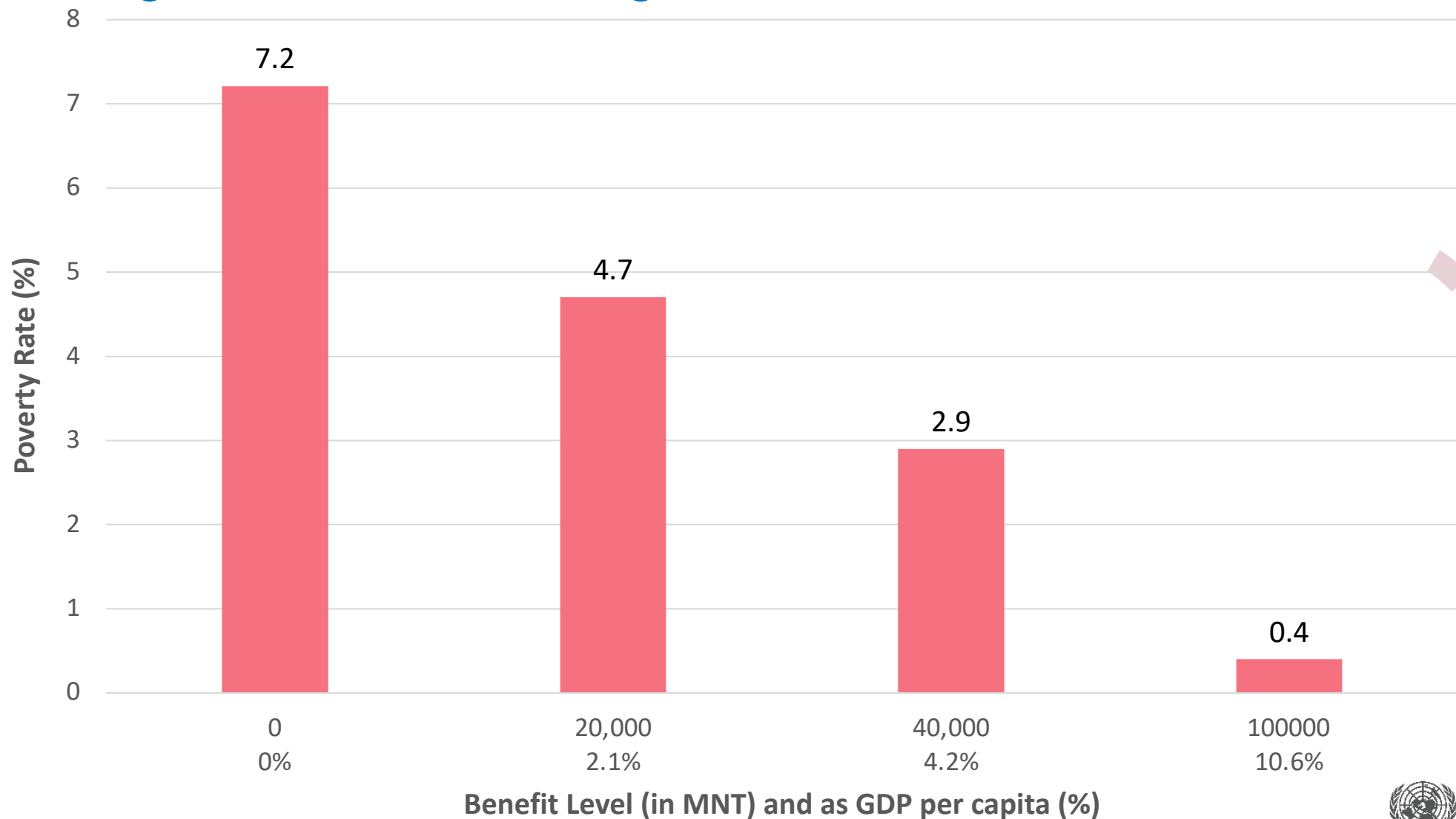
➤ *Benefits to informal workers*

- (e.g. India, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka)

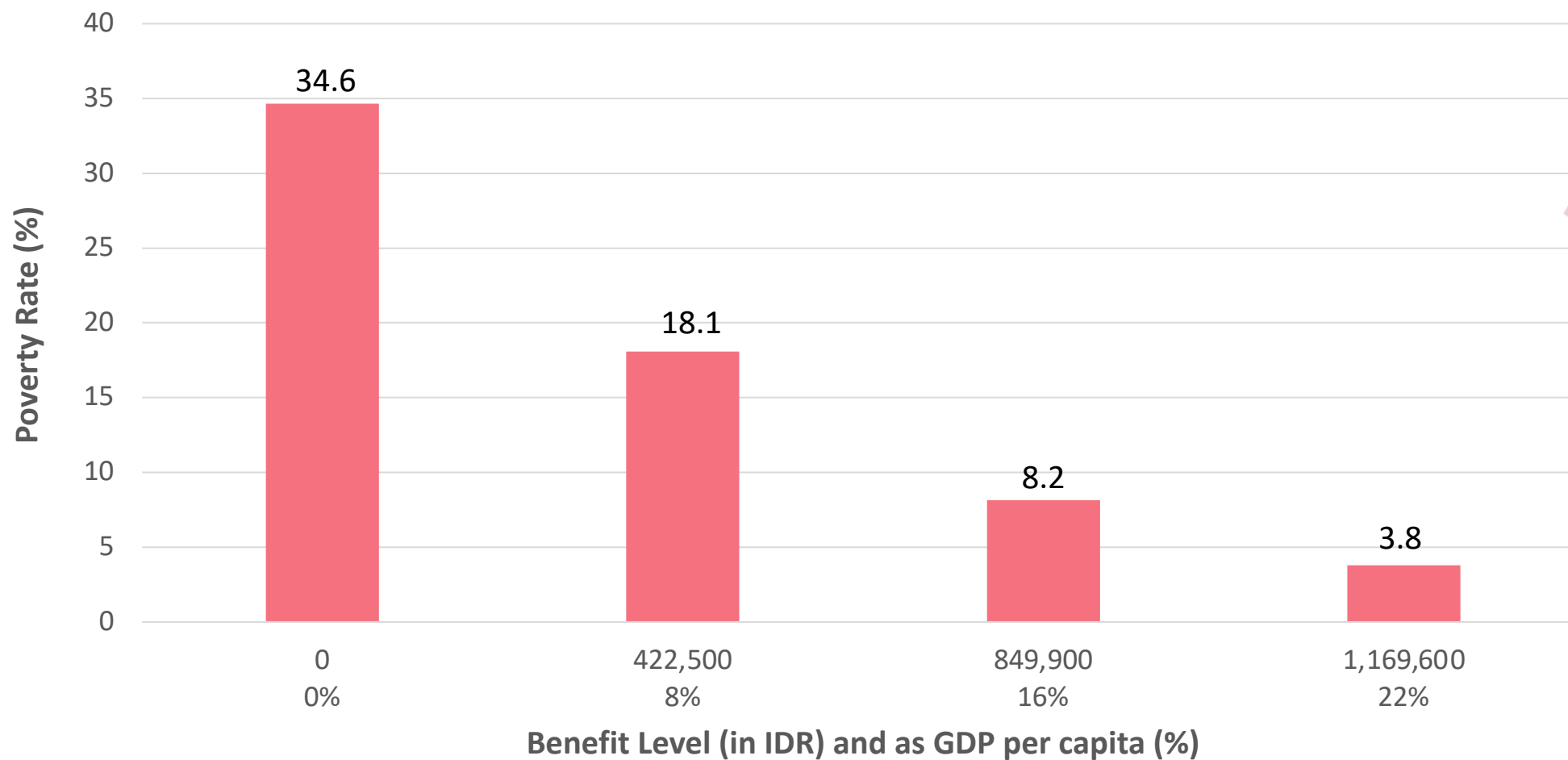
➤ *Increased resources to health sectors*

- (e.g. China, Iran, Malaysia New Zealand, Japan)

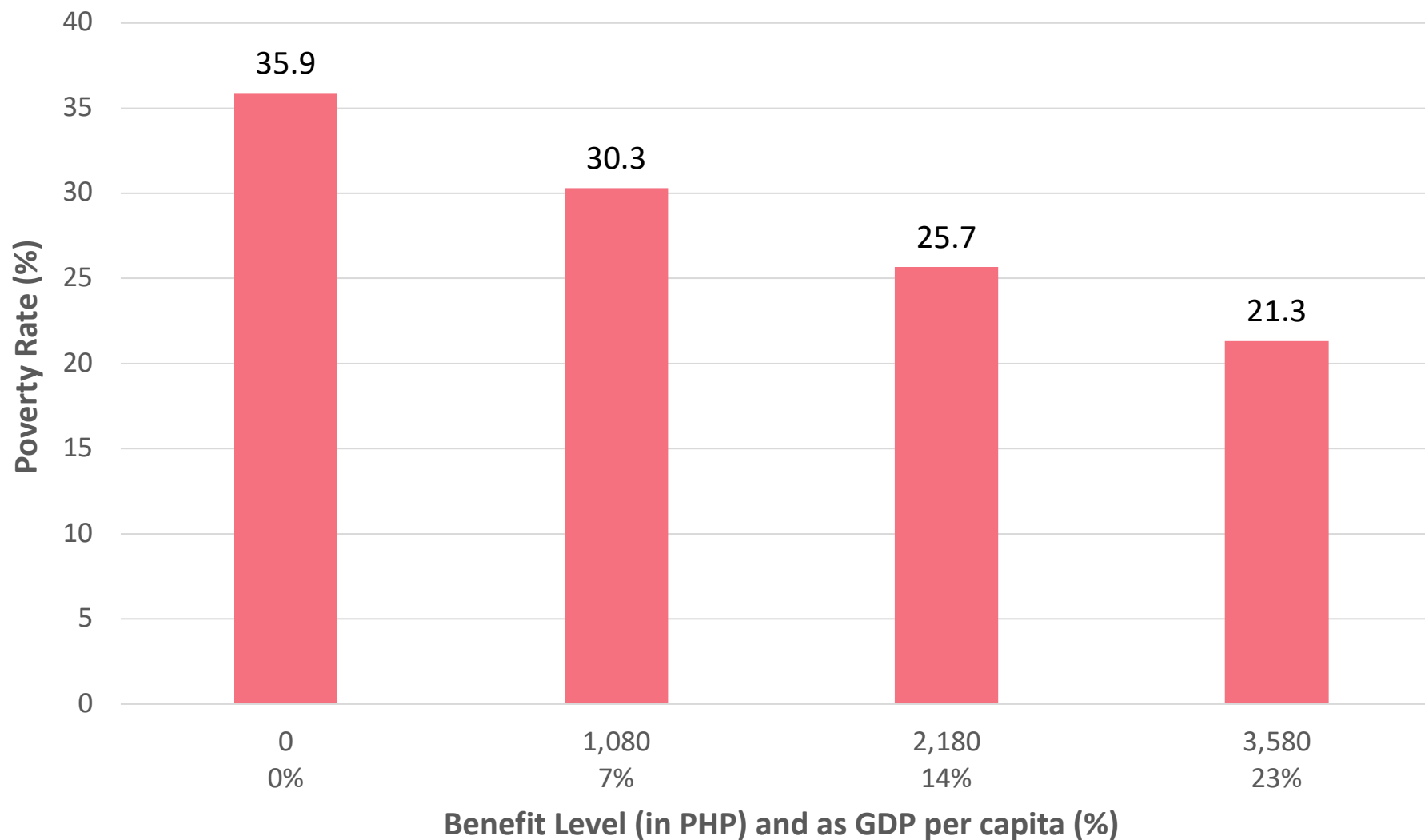
Estimated reduction in poverty (at \$3.2) for households with children aged 0-17, receiving a universal child benefit, Mongolia



Estimated reduction in poverty (at \$3.2) for persons aged 65+, receiving a universal old-age pension, Indonesia



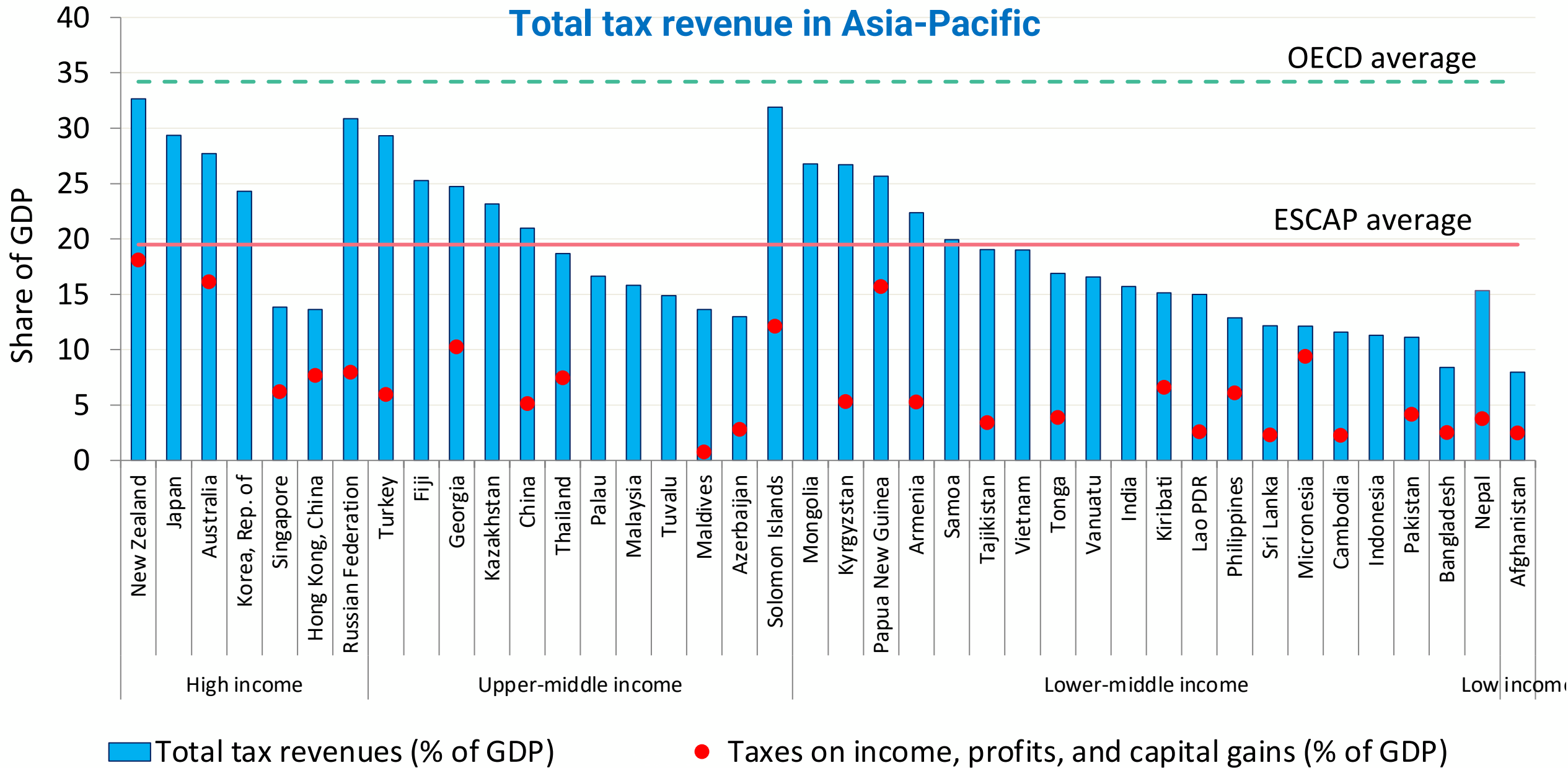
Estimated reduction in poverty (at \$3.2) for persons with severe disabilities, receiving a disability benefit, Philippines



Would this be affordable?



There is room to increase taxation



Thank you

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Specific national actions are needed

