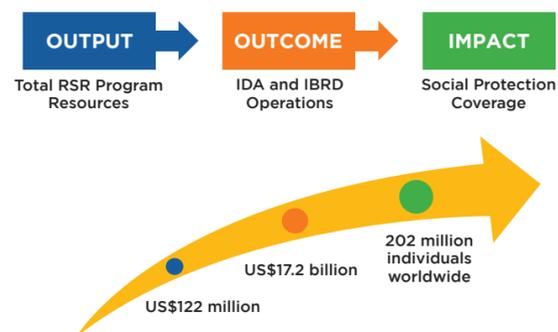


## RSR MULTIPLYING IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Catalytic, Agile, Results Oriented

- Provides small—averaging **US\$470,000**—but highly catalytic funding and paves the way for larger World Bank supported operations
- Leveraged over **US\$8.5 billion** of International Development Association (IDA) and **US\$1.7 billion** of International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) operations and a matching **\$7 billion in Government financed SPJ programs** and other domestic resource mobilization - altogether **\$17.2 billion**.

### RSR Results Chain



- Reached over **202 million** poor and vulnerable people—increasingly women
- Helped **96 countries** enhance the capacity of social protection and jobs systems
- Supported **259 approved proposals worldwide** with **US\$ 122 million funding** through **four windows**
- Sub-Saharan Africa **received 50 percent** of RSR resources
- Facilitates new partnerships and promotes global knowledge exchanges such as the **South-South Learning Forum** and **numerous regional and sub-regional Communities of Practice on social protection and jobs issues**
- Helped develop **6 Inter-Agency Social Protection Assessment (ISPA) tools** (4 completed and 2 in progress). Out of **69 ISPA applications** (41 completed and 28 in progress), half of them are supported by RSR funding
- **ASPIRE** (Atlas of Social Protection Indicators of Resilience and Equity) includes performance indicators of social protection program based on **328 surveys** from **124 countries**



## RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE PROGRAM

Building adaptive social protection systems to protect the poor and vulnerable

### For additional information, please visit the following websites:

- ▶ RSR Program: <http://www.worldbank.org/rsr>
- ▶ World Bank's 2012-2022 Social Protection and Labor Strategy: <http://www.worldbank.org/spstrategy>
- ▶ RSR ASPIRE Database - The Atlas of Social Protection Indicators of Resilience and Equity: <http://datatopics.worldbank.org/aspire/>
- ▶ RSR Nutrition Sensitive MDTF in partnership with SecureNutrition: <http://www.securenutrition.org>
- ▶ RSR Disaster Responsive MDTF in partnership with the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR): <https://www.gfdr.org>
- ▶ Inter-Agency Social Protection Assessment (ISPA) tools: <https://www.ispatools.org>

### For questions, please contact RSR Core Team:

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Rapid Social Response Program  
Social Protection and Jobs  
The World Bank



## THE RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The Rapid Social Response (RSR) Program, supports the **world's poorest** by building effective and adaptive social protection systems to prepare and respond to urgent **social needs** for sustainable livelihoods and jobs. The “adaptive” approach integrates basic social protection with disaster risk management to cushion poor and vulnerable people against losses of income that could force them to cut down on nutritious food for their families, take their children out of school, or make distress sales of precious assets such as livestock.

The RSR Partnership Program is supported by the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Australia, Denmark, the Bill & Melina Gates Foundation, and World Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). It is a key instrument for implementing the World Bank's 2012-2022 Social Protection and Labor Strategy to increase **resilience, equity and opportunities** for the poor worldwide. Launched in 2009, the RSR Program has undergone two phases, and created three special themed windows. Namely:

**RSR Phase 1 (2009-2012):** helped low-income countries address urgent social needs stemming from food, fuel, financial crises and natural disasters and build resilience to future shocks.

**RSR Phase 2 (2012-present):** supports countries through **new innovative, catalytic windows aimed at increasing the adaptability** of social protection systems in particularly high impact areas such as **nutrition, disaster risk management, youth empowerment, gender-smart social protection, digital economy and artificial intelligence**. Other emerging themes which are being piloted are **refugees and humanitarian assistance** and applying advances in **behavioral sciences and decision making**.

**RSR Nutrition Sensitive Window (MDTF):** This window develops nutrition-sensitive SPJ systems in WBG client countries—both IDA and IBRD. Since 2014, RSR-NS has supported eight countries: Armenia, Botswana, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Mexico, and one global initiative.

**RSR Gender Window (MDTF):** This dedicated window was created in 2018 to develop and promote gender-smart social protection policies, systems, and programs supported by the United Kingdom, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Commonwealth of Australia. RSR-Gender aims at reducing gaps and boosting socioeconomic outcomes for women and girls.

**RSR Disaster Risk Window (RSR-DR)** is supported by GFDRR, to make SPJ programs and delivery systems more adaptable to natural disasters. So far, the RSR-DR has helped 9 middle income countries (Colombia, Jamaica, Fiji, Dominican Republic, Peru, Botswana, Serbia, Mexico and the Philippines). Solutions supported by RSR-DR have been increasingly adapted also by low income countries both within and outside RSR support.

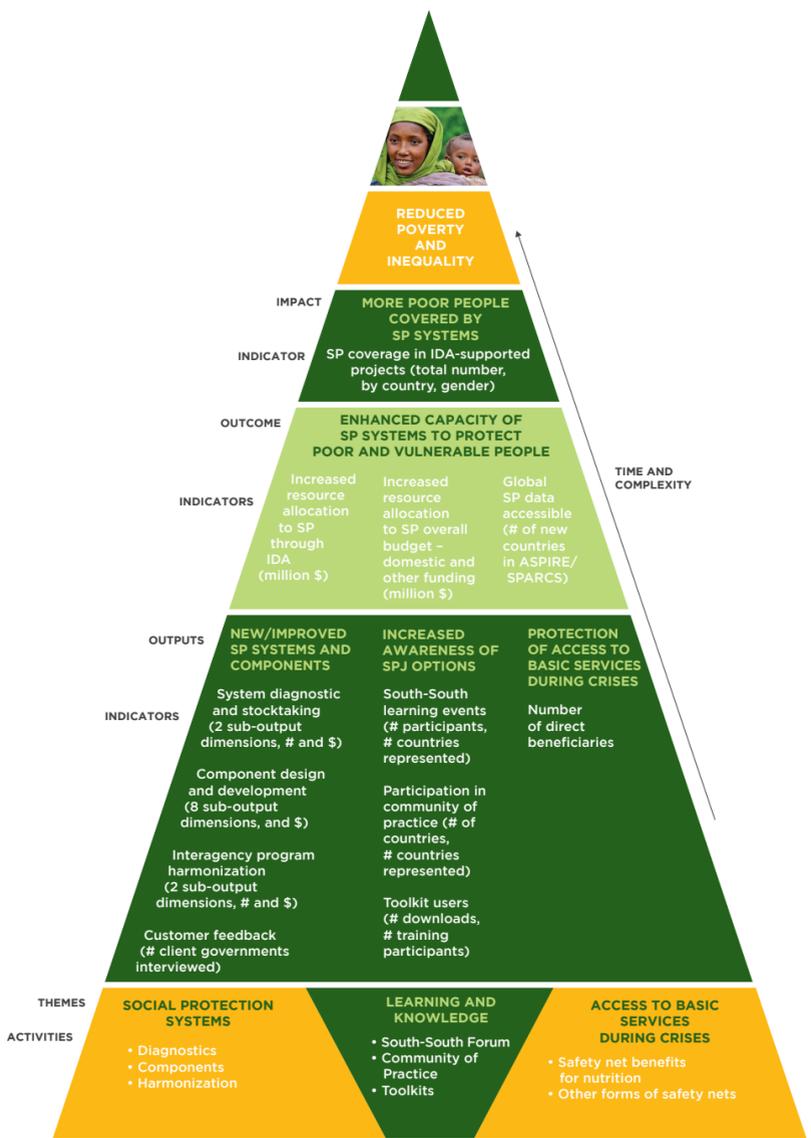
**A Special RSR Youth Call in 2018** funded 11 grants (US\$1.7 million) to help young people with support from the Kingdom of Denmark.

**RSR Donors Meetings:** The last RSR Donors Meeting took place on February 19-22, 2018 in Frankfurt, Germany. The next RSR Donors meeting is planned for October 2019 also discussing a 2009-18 **RSR Program Review**.



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## RSR RESULTS FRAMEWORK PYRAMID



“SP – Social Protection”

## Innovative and Impactful RSR Projects which Improve Social Protection Coverage and Human Capital Outcomes

Due to the growing multitude of shocks (climate, economic, conflict) the world is facing, and their increased severity and interconnectedness, the challenge for governments to build household resilience and be able to respond rapidly to such shocks has never been more acute. **‘Business as usual’ is not enough. Governments must be able to better respond not only post-crisis, but also be able to quickly scale-up during crises as well as be prepared for future crises. The RSR program helps governments respond quickly and effectively to help mitigate the impact of shocks on the poor and vulnerable, and to build household resilience before a shock occurs, thus developing human capital and a path out of poverty.**

Through small but catalytic grants, the RSR Multi-Donor trust fund supports impactful projects that often pave the way for larger World Bank-supported operations and yet larger government programs—thus multiplying the impact. The aim is to increase the adaptability and effectiveness of social protection systems.

### Some examples:

In **Armenia**, the RSR-NS program helped support targeted nutrition-sensitive social safety nets programs. In the process, it **facilitated building consensus** around shared priorities and bridging nutrition sensitivity and social protection among key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, and USAID. The grant helped establish a case-referral system whereby local SP providers were trained to assess nutrition among beneficiaries and then refer them to the correct health sector services.

Gender Based Violence (GBV) is at endemically high levels in **Cameroon**. With RSR support, this pioneering initiative delves into the factors that cause GBV and its consequences, and how existing safety nets and accompanying measures can be better designed and implemented in order to prevent GBV.

RSR financed activities have helped modernize **Cote d’Ivoire’s** social protection and labor delivery system using digital financial platforms. The activities were instrumental in ensuring that, for the first time ever, vulnerable households enrolled in the productive social safety program received mobile phones and mobile money accounts with social cash transfers and digital financial inclusion, combined with economic support to livelihoods activities. Thus far, **300,000 poor individuals**—more than half of whom are women—have benefitted, and **720,000 individuals** have been registered with the program’s Social Registry. The RSR was instrumental in mobilizing additional IDA financing for scaling-up the program. *In 2017, the project won the KNOWbel (KNOWbel is an IFC-World Bank rewards and recognition program) ‘Client Solutions’ Award for being a high-impact project focused on client solutions.*

In **Guinea and Côte d’Ivoire**, IDA financing supported Government efforts to strengthen identification systems. However, there was a critical gap when it came to vulnerable groups, and citizen engagement was lacking. The RSR helped fill this gap by ensuring that technocratic solutions did not inadvertently institutionalize discrimination against vulnerable groups. The RSR is currently

helping to strengthen innovations to link civil registration and foundational ID systems that is inclusive of all across West Africa. *In 2018, the project became one of the winners of the World Bank President’s Award for Excellence.*

The RSR funded activities that helped youth and women “graduate” from the **Honduras** Conditional Cash Transfer programs, hence helping them become productive members of society and contributing to long-term poverty reduction.

The successful grant activities helped catalyze and leverage World Bank credit in the amount of US\$25 million for a new social protection operation on Youth Employability. The RSR also provided direct input into the design of the project.

RSR activities strengthened the groundbreaking Unified Beneficiary Registry (UBR) in **Malawi** through a rapid assessment which identified areas of strength, improvements needed, and the way forward. The highly replicable and inexpensive UBR is a source of harmonized information on the socio-economic status of households and contributes to a coherent social protection approach. So far, data on four million people has been collected and the government is working on extending its coverage nation-wide.

In **Nepal**, a significant accomplishment of the RSR grant is that it successfully helped the government turn its focus to an *adaptive* approach to social protection, integrating it with disaster risk management and climate change mitigation. The RSR financed activities, analytical underpinnings, and dialogue facilitation played a fundamental role in achieving a new policy consensus among partners and placing adaptive social protection firmly on the development agenda.

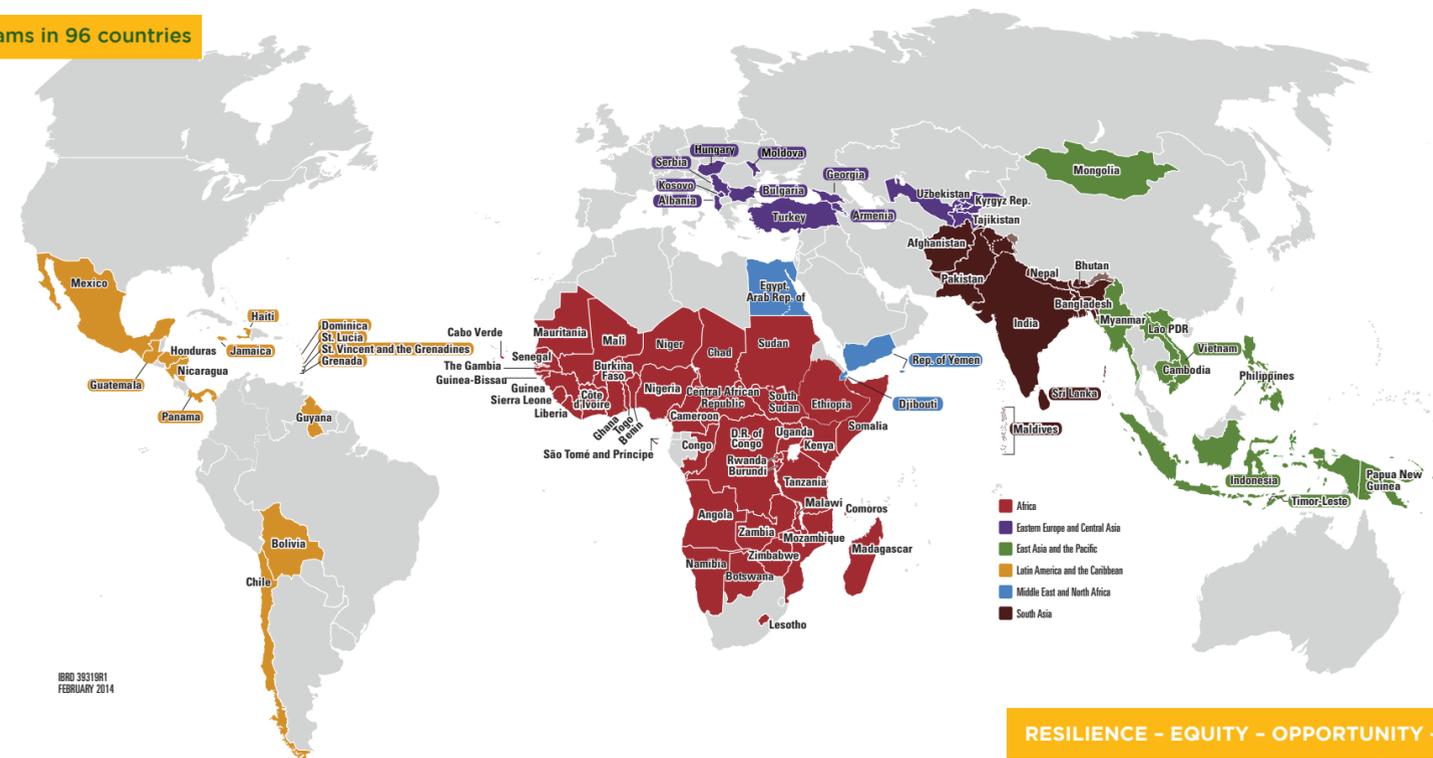
In **Somalia** the work conducted under the US\$400,000 RSR grant was a game changer for its social protection landscape, shaping its direction while ensuring a steady focus on improving delivery mechanisms. The RSR grant enabled the team to advance the need for Safety Nets when it was not on the government’s agenda, and IDA funds were also unavailable. Moreover, the RSR leveraged a US\$2 million Somalia Development Grant as well as 2020 IDA grant financing. The process that has been set in motion is expected to affect millions of Somalis through the setting up of a Government led Delivery System for Cash Transfers and other Social Protection Services.

In **Vietnam**, RSR activities provided the foundational evidence that the Government needed to make informed decisions on the reform of its National Social Protection Policies and Programs. The RSR grant promoted crucial knowledge exchange and ensured that relevant international experiences were shared with key stakeholders.

The **SecureNutrition Knowledge Platform of RSR-NS** has successfully served the global development community as a critical knowledge resource, focusing on the intersection of social protection, nutrition, poverty, agriculture, and food security, with the objective to improve operational understanding of “how to” make nutrition-sensitive programs work.

**RSR-NS published a pioneering report** “The 1.5 Billion Question: Food, Vouchers, or Cash Transfers” (2018), which has been well received and read globally as an authoritative source on best practice in food assistance delivery mechanisms.

### RSR Programs in 96 countries



RESILIENCE – EQUITY – OPPORTUNITY – JOBS