Disruptive Technology and Social Protection

Tina George
Social Protection & Jobs

Opening Panel Presentation
October 28th 2019
How many times would I have to fold a sheet of paper for the height to reach the moon?

$2^{10} = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$

1.024 cm

10 folds
Accelerating growth in technology...presents us with a unique opportunity

Technologies are converging in new ways to change how we live, work, and organize.

This makes them incredibly disruptive, while their ability to scale makes them exponential.
Your Phone has 100,000 times more computing power than the Apollo 11 computer NASA used for the moon landing.
Social protection service platforms:

**Three** key technologies

**Two** safeguards
Social protection has the power to catalyze great change in the way governments offer services to people and build trust.

**TECHNOLOGIES**

- **Foundational IDs:** Are you whom you say you are?
- **Social Registries:** What are your needs and conditions?
- **G2P Payments:** How do you get paid/contribute?

**SAFEGUARDS**

- **Protection:** How do we protect your data?
- **Inclusion:** How do we ensure the poor and vulnerable are the “first mile” for delivery?

Source: T. George., Social Protection & Jobs, 2019

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA
Foundational ID Platform: Are you who you say you are?
Social Registry Platform
Which programs could you be ‘potentially eligible’?
Inclusion

Coordination

Foundational IDs & Social Registries
Disrupting traditional approaches

National IDs

- Tends to *lack universal coverage*.
- Entails *expensive technological solutions* for low-resource contexts.
- Often becomes a functional ID (*not everyone in a country is a national and yet they all need a credential to prove identity to access services*).

Sectoral, functional IDs

(tax, social safety nets, health, etc.)

- Requires reinventing the wheel in each sector, typically resulting in fragmentation, causing substantial inefficiencies, and increased costs, both to public and private services.
...serve as platforms for service providers – public and private – to authenticate identity, - doesn’t prove potential eligibility - facilitating user access. - offer proof that a person is who they say they are – and nothing else.

...and, because they would act as the source of biometric authentication, obviate fragmentation and limit reinvention of the wheel.
Foundational ID Credentials serve four key roles in supporting Social Protection Programs:
Social Registries become dynamic, inclusive and coordinate multiple programs.
Universal Foundational IDs and Social Registries enable inclusion and coordination

- **Scaling up** from small to large coverage… or even to universal
- **Reaching hard-to-serve populations**, such as those in remote areas, or distinct vulnerable groups (ethnic, culture, language, disability)
- **Dynamic inclusion over time**, such that anyone can register or update information at any time *(with implications for universal social protection & the progressive realization of human rights)*
- **Adaptive Social Protection**, such that coverage can expand as needed in response
- **Promoting higher take-up rates** by intended populations, and avoiding bureaucratic obstacles to greater inclusion.
Thank You
G2P Payments

How do you get paid or contribute?
Data Protection
How will you protect my data?
Inclusion

How do we deliver to the “first mile”?
Nudges

How do we create behavioral incentives?

Betty, 38, teaches mothers with small children about nutrition at her home near Mityebili, Uganda. Photo © World Bank