

SOCIAL PROTECTION & JOBS

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Tracking Global Social Protection Responses to Inflation

Living paper v.5

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Abstract

Between December 2022 and May 2023, the number of social protection and other related measures announced or implemented in response to inflation rose by about 31%. The latest tally includes 1,333 responses across 178 economies. Overall, subsidies claim 33% of such measures and take four main forms (fuel, food, fertilizers, and various fee subsidies). Social assistance accounts for 31% of responses, 77% of which is provided in the form of cash transfers. Tax measures represent 19% of the global responses, and trade, active labor market policies and social insurance claim a share of 6% each. Based on planned coverage data from 116 economies, social protection programs intend to cover 1.94 billion people or about 25% of the world's population. But so far, *actual* coverage shows that 303.5 million individuals, or about 4% of the global population, were reached (based on data from 36 economies). Next, based on expenditure data from 561 programs across 143 economies, a total of \$1.01 trillion is being invested in social protection responses. This involves an average country spending of 1.06% of GDP. The average size of both social assistance and subsidy transfers represents slightly over a quarter (i.e., 27%) of the daily median income, while their average initial duration is 7.3 months. Almost one-fifth of the responses to inflation have been extended, and the average duration of such extensions is 8.5 months. Over half of social assistance transfers are new (56%) and are provided on a one-off basis (47%).

About this tracker

This discussion paper provides an update on social protection and related responses to the food, fuel, fertilizer, and other price shocks sparked or accelerated by the Ukraine war. Although some of these measures to mitigate the increase in prices started in mid-2021, the vast majority of them were introduced between early and mid-2022. This discussion paper complements other two ongoing thematic trackers of global, regional and country-level action on how social protection is being leveraged in crises – one on [Covid-19 responses](#) (16 versions) and another on displaced population due to the war in [Ukraine](#) (4 versions). As for the above-mentioned trackers, the issuance of subsequent versions would hinge on the number of responses observed at the economy-level. The current note tracks six broad measures, namely social assistance, social insurance, labor markets, trade-related measures, subsidies, and tax measures. Subsidies include four subcategories, i.e., fuel, food, fertilizers and agriculture inputs, and fee subsidies. The tracker captures fiscal and (some) monetary policies announced or implemented to reduce the impact of inflation on consumers. For instance, (unconventional) monetary policies that provide direct transfers or tax relief to the population are part of the stocktaking, while (conventional) monetary measures in terms of interest rates or assistance to firms are excluded. Information on remittances is not included given that the tracker only captures government responses. Data and analysis are preliminary and meant to elicit comments, additions, integration, and revisions to be incorporated in the next living paper versions. To this effect, continuous monitoring of data and responses is ongoing. Information sources for reported measures are provided as web links. Suggestions on materials and measures to be included in future updates are welcome and could be signaled to the team directly. To ease reference, previous versions of the tracker can be found here:

- [Tracking Global Social Protection Responses to Price Shocks \(version 1\) April 2022](#),
- [Tracking Global Social Protection Responses to Price Shocks \(version 2\) July 2022](#).
- [Tracking Global Social Protection Responses to Price Shocks \(version 3\) September 2022](#)
- [Tracking Global Social Protection Responses to Price Shocks \(version 4\) December 2022](#)

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Executive summary

A total of 1,333 social protection and related measures to counter inflation are announced or implemented across 178 economies. This represents a 31% increase in measures recorded since December 2022 and over a sixfold increase since April 2022. In addition to new programs, governments have extended 257 measures (19% of total responses).

The composition of inflation responses has changed over time, reflecting the evolving nature of countries' policy choices. While subsidies continue to be the most widely used response, their share out of total programs dwindled from 79% at the beginning of the crisis to one-third. In contrast, the share of social assistance doubled over time, ranging from 17% to 31% between version 1 and 5 of this tracker.

Fee subsidies account for half of total subsidy measures. Within the fees category, 49% concern utility bill discounts. Examples include Greece's EUR 20 (\$21.33) natural gas subsidy covering 16.7% of the population and Anguilla's XCD 1,000 (\$370) electricity subsidies. Both of these measures have been extended in duration. Next, fuel, food, and agricultural inputs account for 19%, 18%, and 13% of total subsidies, respectively. Examples of fuel subsidy includes the price cap from Barbados and 10% discount of agricultural diesel for farmer in Portugal. France extended for the sixth time the 30 cent/litre fuel subsidy until mid-October 2023, while Gabon capped fuel prices at the pump costing \$344.7 million (1.9% of GDP). Food subsidies include, for instance, price control measures on bread, like in the case of North Macedonia. Fertilizer and agricultural subsidy schemes are also put in place in several countries, such as Kenya, Turkey, St. Lucia, and Croatia. At least four programs have universal coverage, including Cyprus' and Hong Kong's electricity subsidy, an electricity credit in Ireland, and the energy bill reduction in the UK.

Over three quarter (77%) of social assistance is provided in the form of cash transfers. Unconditional cash transfers are reaching large shares of the population in select countries, such as 100% in Germany, 99% in Taiwan, 90% in Iran, and 52% in Poland. About 45% of cash transfers (141 measures) are adaptations of existing measures implemented before the current crisis (e.g., child allowances in Malta and Hong Kong), including measures linked to Covid responses, such as the "Kwenda" program in Angola and the REALISE project in Liberia. Since the initial crisis response was announced, programs have extended their initial duration (e.g., Ireland's child benefit), expanded vertically (e.g., Argentina's cash to elderly and pensioners) and horizontally (e.g., Italy's EUR 200 one-off bonus). In-kind transfers include food distribution (e.g., Chad, Burkina Faso), seeds and fertilizers (Cameroon), food vouchers (Anguilla), and other vouchers (such as for transportation in the Philippines, education in Oman, and fuel in Italy). Other programs include school feeding (e.g., Ireland, UK), social pensions (e.g., Lithuania, South Africa), and public works (e.g., Madagascar, China).

Social protection programs are planning to cover 1.94 billion people (25% of the global population), based on data from 116 countries. Such number includes the program with the highest coverage per country (irrespective of whether it is a subsidy or social assistance intervention), mostly driven by India's PDS program planned coverage of 800 million people. Disaggregated data by measure shows that social assistance measures plan to reach 917 million individuals in 95 countries. Among social assistance programs, cash transfers plan to cover 794.6 million individuals in 82 countries. Subsidies are set to reach nearly 1.2 billion people in 55 countries.

Data on *actual* coverage portrays a more sobering picture. Based on data from 36 economies with available information, social protection measures have reached at least 303.5 million people (4% of the global population). Social assistance responses covered 173.8 million individuals, 145 million of whom are reached by cash transfers in 17 countries. Subsidies reached a total of 126.1 million people.

A total of \$1.014 trillion, or 1.06% of global GDP, is being invested in social protection responses. Based on 143 countries or territories with available data, most of such spending is directed to subsidies (\$586.3 billion), followed by social assistance (\$256.3 billion) and tax measures (\$72.6 billion). Spending on subsidies accounts for an average of 1.08% of countries' GDP, higher than the 0.58% of GDP devoted to social assistance. These estimates, as those for coverage, should be treated with caution as they may be driven by the countries and programs with available information on each instrument.

The transfer size of social assistance and subsidies represent over a quarter (27%) of median income. Information on adequacy, excluding one-off, is available only for 24% (203 measures) of total social assistance and subsidy measures. Contrary to the previous version of the tracker, based on available data and excluding one-off payments, subsidies transfers account for a higher portion of average median daily income (28%) compared to social assistance (26%). Most subsidies take the form of monthly payments (40%), followed by one-offs (36%); while most social assistance measures take the form of one-off payments (47%), followed by monthly instalments (35%).

Based on data from 428 measures, the initial program duration for inflation responses is 7.3 months on average. The average duration of the SPL instruments ranges from 5.4 months (e.g., trade response) to 11.3 months (e.g., social insurance). Information on extension duration is available for 150 measures (out of the 428 with initial program duration information) revealing that countries, on average, extended programs for 8.5 months.

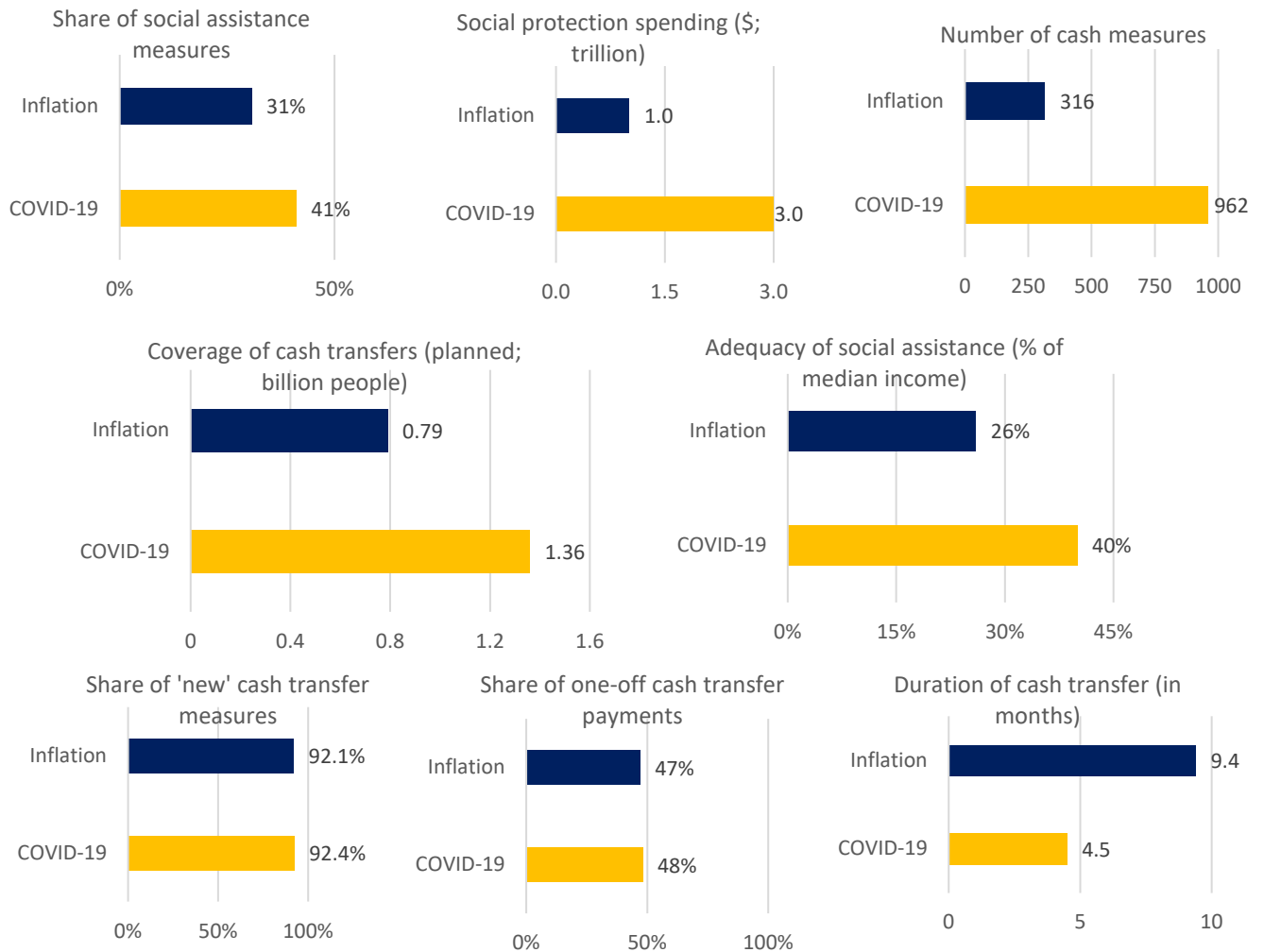
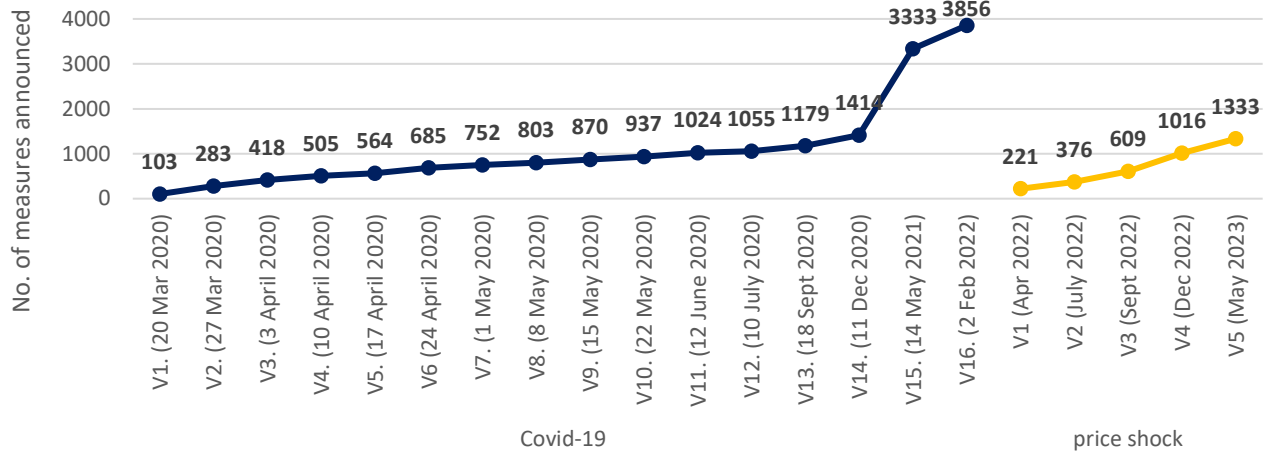
Tax-related measures account for 19% of the global response to high prices with 258 measures across 99 economies. Most of the tax responses (73%) pertain to indirect taxes (e.g., VAT and Excise), such as the 6-month VAT suspension on food products in Spain for or the reduction of VAT to 7.5% in Grenada. The remaining relate to direct taxes (e.g., income tax). These measures relate to some forms of adaptation, such as exemption of tax, reduction of tax, tax rebate, increase in the base/bar for tax-free income (i.e., increase in the tax exemption limit), deferral of payment, and suspension of annual indexation. For instance, Ireland simultaneously reduced income tax, raised the income tax band and tax credits, while Finland introduced a fixed-term tax credit for electricity. Furthermore, countries, similarly to many states in the U.S., have issued tax rebates, with some being targeted at taxpayers earning below a certain threshold. Canada announced a one-time Grocery Rebate which will be delivered via GST credit when filing taxes.

Trade measures represent 6% of total responses and are implemented in 47 economies. These measures mostly reflect import/export restrictions (95%), mainly focused on food items, such as the export bans on onions and other root vegetables in parts of Eastern and Central Asia, and in Serbia and Kazakhstan on diesel export. A slimmer share involves restrictions on the export of livestock, animal feed and fertilizers. An increasing number of measures also concern export/import easing, reflecting a gradual reduction in the stringency of export restrictions. Examples come from Argentina lifting the ban on the export of soybean meal and oil; or from Turkey, where the export ban on butter was replaced with

a monthly quota restriction on certain goods including food items, consumables and medicines was suspended.

Finally, active labor market/productive inclusion policies and social insurance also account for 6% of global responses each. Most activation programs (present in 54 countries) relate to wage increases (i.e., minimum wage and public sector wage increases), especially in high and upper-middle-income countries. For instance, New Zealand announced an increase to the minimum wage by NZD \$1.50 to \$16.06 per hour, while Egypt increased the minimum wage to EGP 2,700 (\$172.58) for private sector employees. Next, under social insurance, select countries are increasing old-age pensions (e.g., Canada) and reducing insurance contributions (e.g., Bosnia Herzegovina and Israel). For instance, Argentina introduced a vertical expansion to the current pension plan which will see a 15.5% increase for all pensioners (16 million individuals; 35.3% of the population), in Canada pensions of those under the *Old Age Security* program will be increased by 10% permanently, while Bosnia and Herzegovina approved amendments and extended the reduced social security contributions basis for employees of labor-intensive industries.

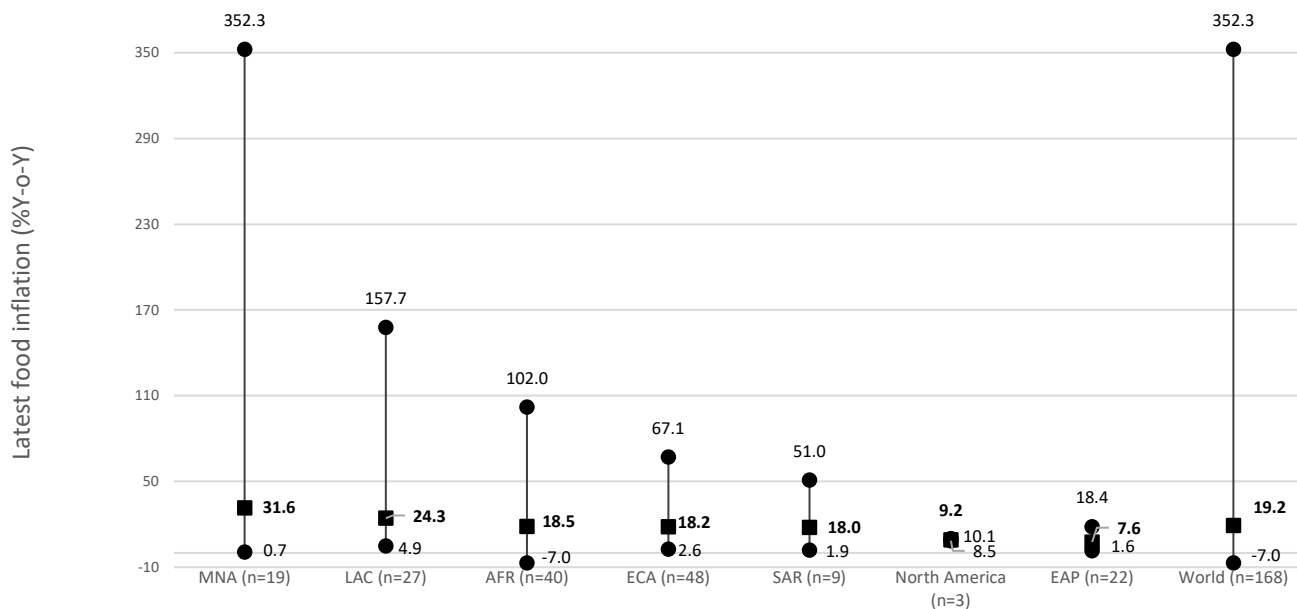
Snapshot: Inflation versus COVID-19 responses



1. Introduction

This update presents the fifth version of the tracker recording social protection measures put in place worldwide in response to the current inflation. As of May 2023, our tracker records a total of 1,333 measures introduced or announced in response to inflation across 178 economies.¹ This marks an increase of 31% in the number of interventions and 4.5% in the number of economies reported since version 4 of the tracker released in December 2022. Such growth in measures stems from the high levels of inflation that were still recorded in May 2023, including a global average of 19.2% food inflation rate.

Figure 1. Food inflation globally (May 2023)



Source: World Bank's food security update, May 2023 (year-on-year food inflation, percentage change).

The most widely employed instrument continue to be the family of subsidies, which account for 33% of the overall response. This is followed closely by social assistance programs such as cash and in-kind transfers, accounting for 31% of the total measures. Tax measures, such as VAT and income taxes, account for 19% of global responses, while trade-related measures, including export restrictions, social insurance, and labor market measures, each represent 6% of the total responses, as shown in Table 1.

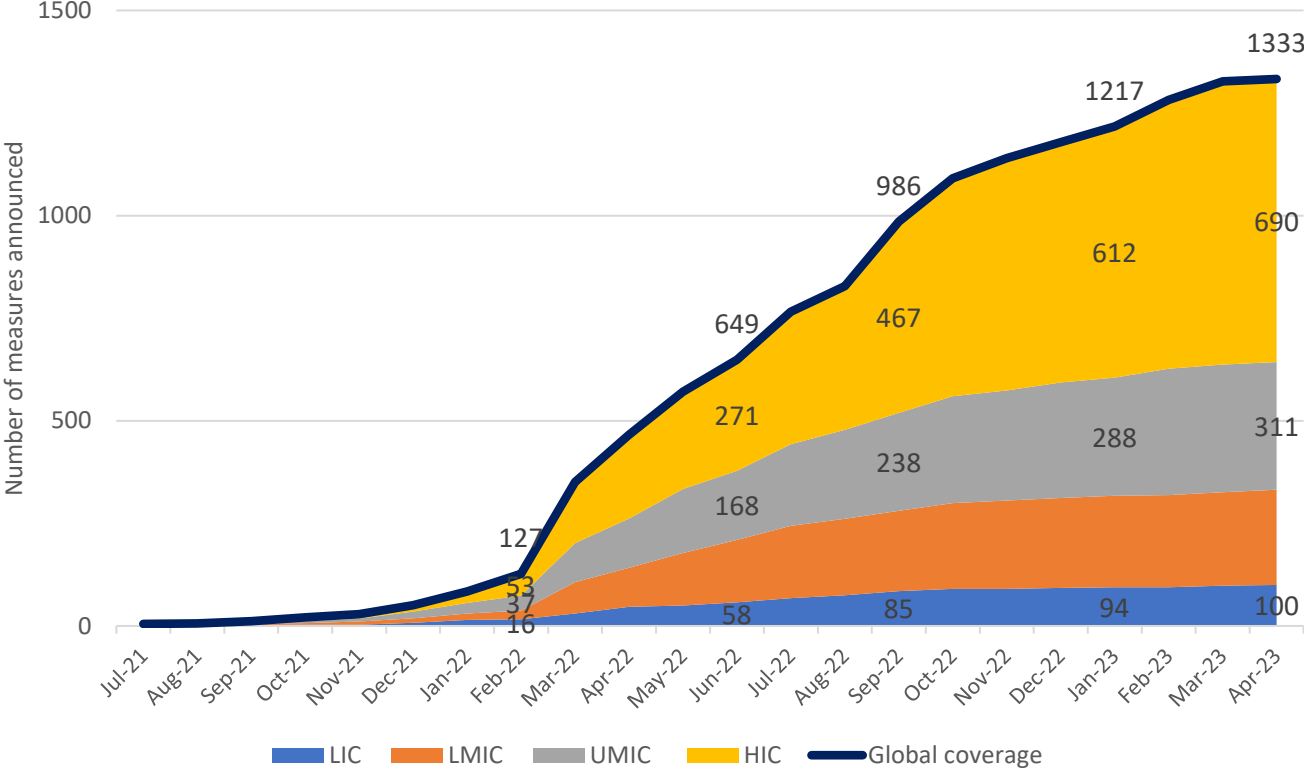
Table 1. Number of measures and economies

Component	Measures (share of total)	Economies
Subsidies	439 (33%)	143
Social assistance	409 (31%)	118
Tax measures	258 (19%)	99
Labor market programs	77 (6%)	54
Trade related measures	75 (6%)	47
Social insurance	75 (6%)	41
Total	1,333	178

Although a few economies had already announced measures to tackle inflation since mid-2021, the majority of social protection measures were declared after the commencement of the Ukraine conflict, as shown in Figure 2. In April 2022 (tracker version 1), a total of 221 responses were reported, which

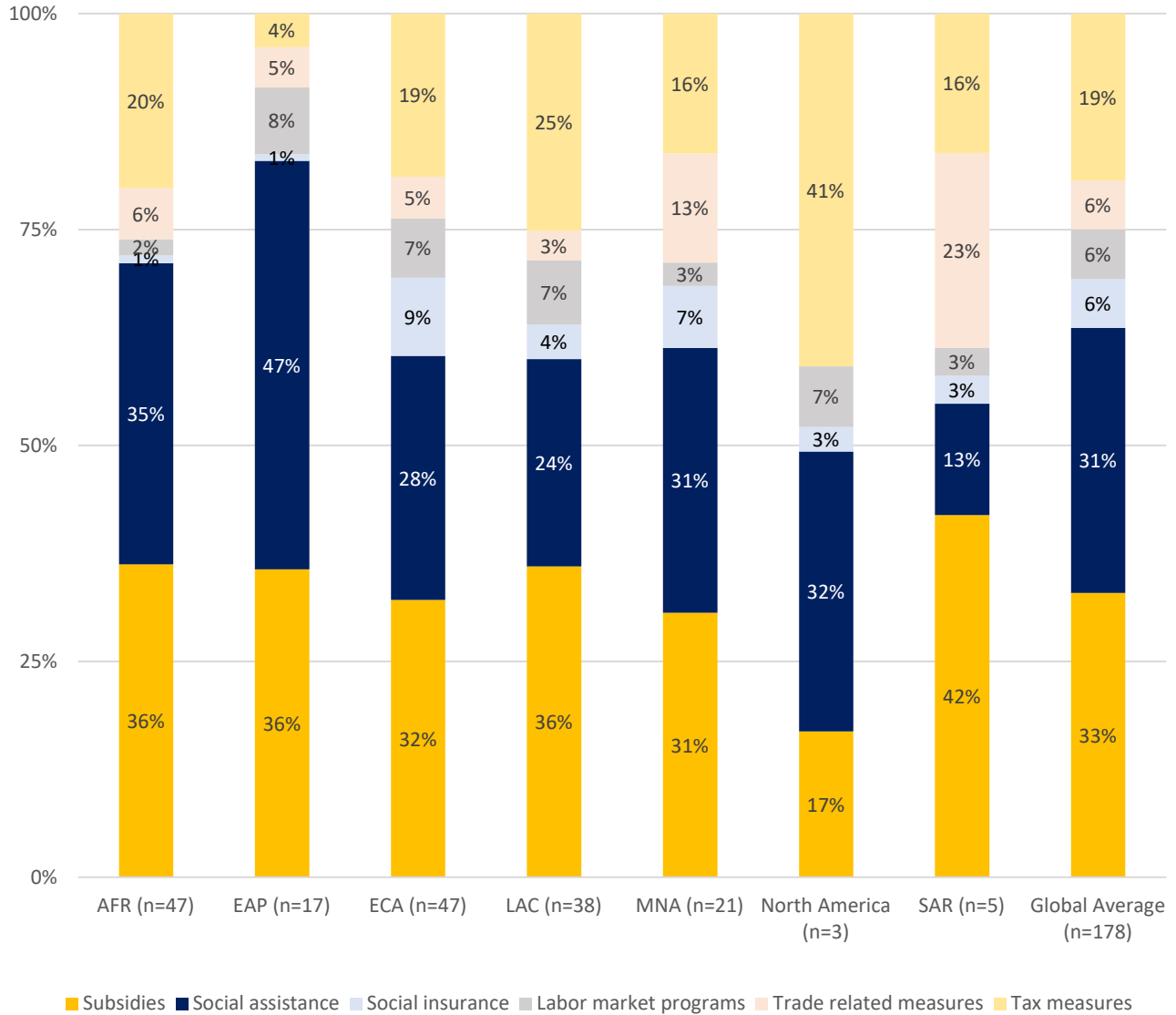
has increased more than six times in the latest update. This rise has been largely propelled by measures adopted in high-income countries, which represent half of the global responses, a proportion that has remained nearly steady since March.

Figure 2. Evolution of social protection measures in response to inflation



When it comes to response distribution among regions, only North America is significantly below the global average (31%) in terms of subsidy-based responses, as illustrated in Figure 3. Meanwhile, Europe and Central Asia, as well as the Middle East and North Africa, fall just below the global average. South Asia, on the other hand, has more than 40% of its response based on subsidies, while Africa, East Asia and Pacific, and Latin America's responses are around 36% subsidy based. In regard to social assistance, East Asia and Pacific countries concentrated 47% of their response on non-contributory measures, significantly higher than the global average of 31%. Other regions' social assistance response shares are in line with the global average, except for South Asia, which only accounts for 13% of the region's response. Notably, South Asia's, and the Middle East and North Africa's trade-related measures significantly surpass the global average (6%), while over 40% of North America's response focuses on tax-related measures.

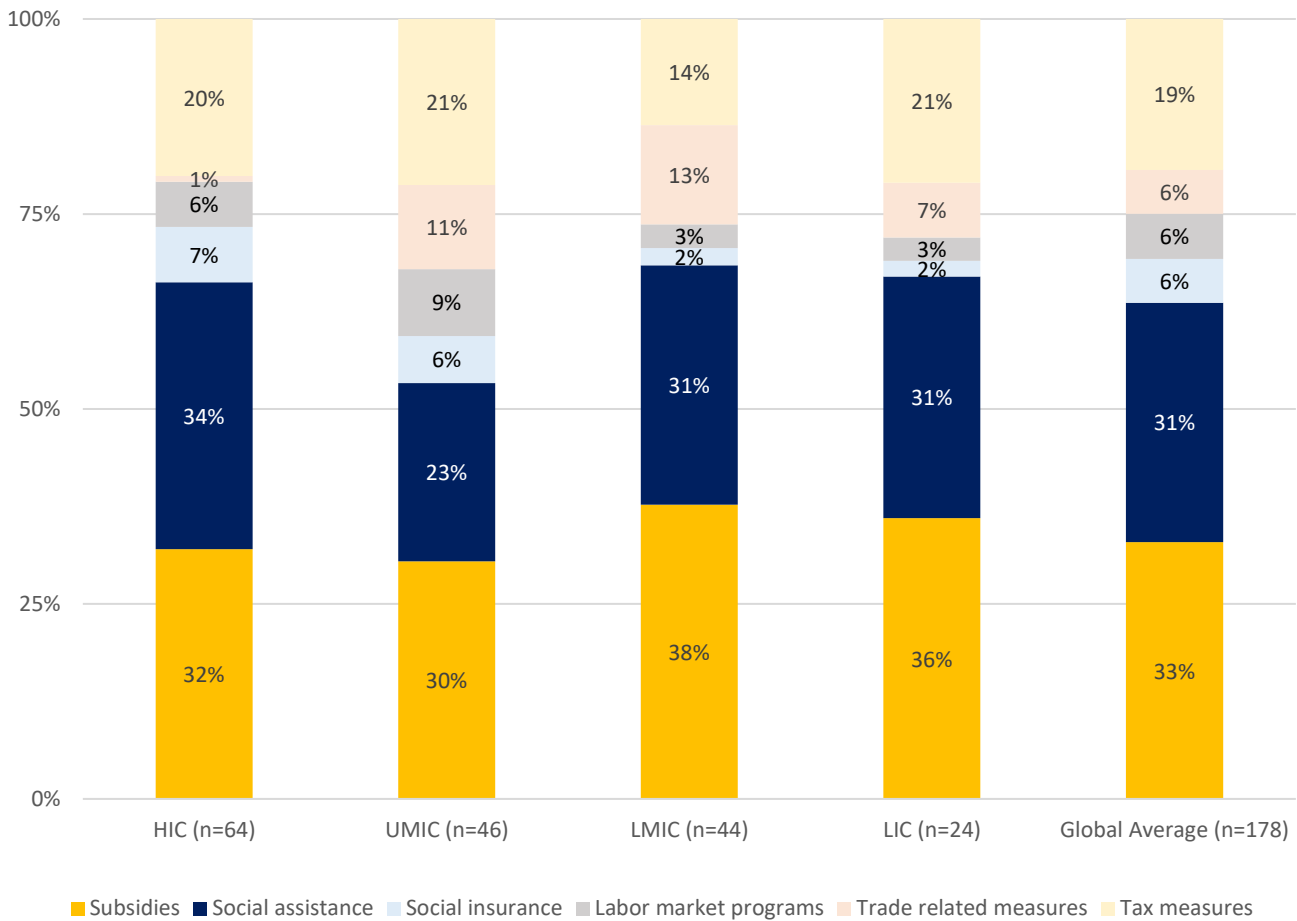
Figure 3. Composition of global social protection responses by region



Note: “n” represents number of countries or economies in the database.

Among income categories, Low Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) have the highest proportion of subsidies implemented (38%), while Upper Middle-Income Countries’ (UMIC) share of subsidy and social assistance responses falls below the global average due to their high concentration on trade and tax-related measures, as shown in Figure 4.

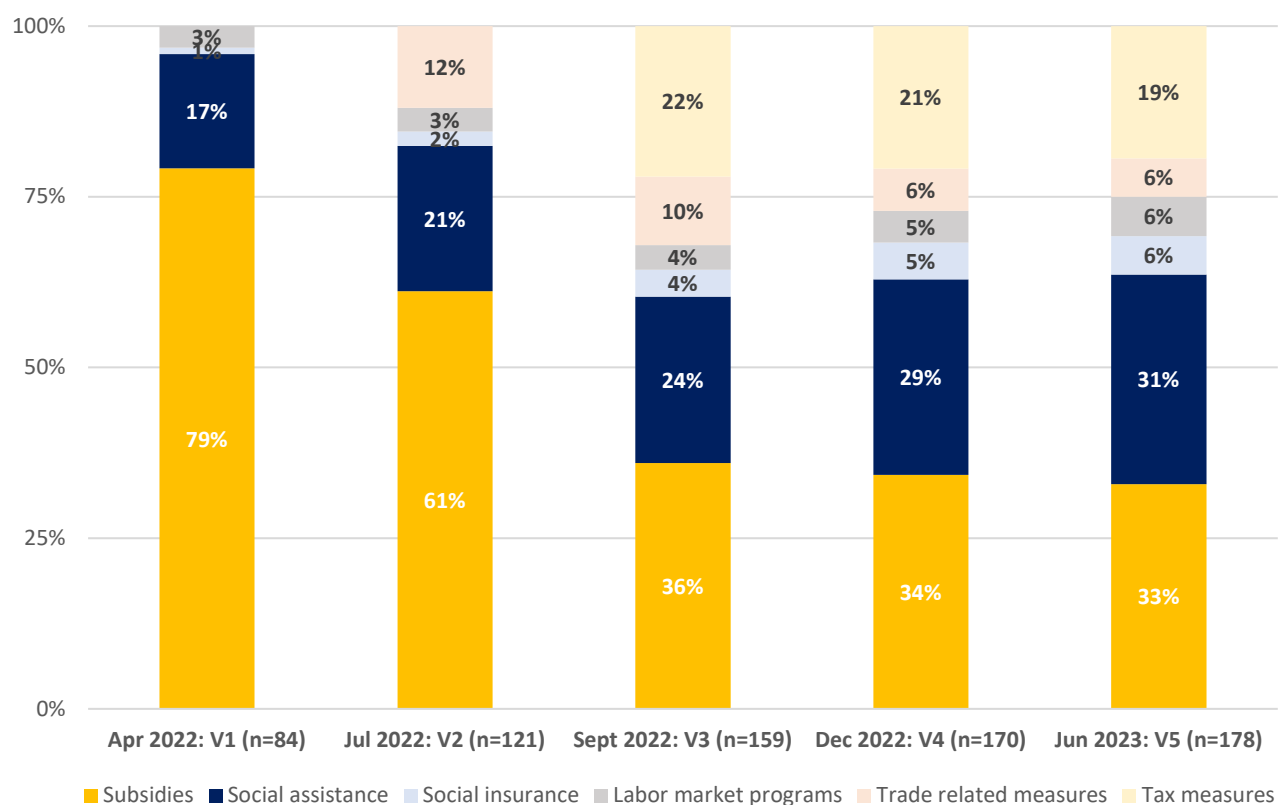
Figure 4. Composition of global social protection responses by country income group



Note: “n” represents number of countries or economies in the database.

The composition of social protection responses to inflation has changed over time, as shown in Figure 5. While subsidies remain the most widely employed measures, its share significantly decreased from 79% at the onset of rising prices a year ago (tracker v1, in April 2022) to and 33% (current v5). In contrast, social assistance has been progressively adopted since the beginning of the crisis, with its share increasing from 17% as of April 2022 to 31% as of today, making social assistance almost equally popular policy response tool as subsidies. Similarly, the utilization of tax measures witnessed a notable surge, from almost non-existent at the beginning to becoming the third most popular instrument since September 2022 (v3), while observing a smaller share of trade related measures over time.

Figure 5. Change in composition of global social protection responses to inflation over time



Note: “n” represents number of countries or economies in the database.

To understand the trend on combining different policy instruments at country level, table 2 shows the number of countries which implemented subsidies alone (but no social assistance), social assistance only (but not subsidies), both, versus the rest. Over time, many countries are adding social assistance measures in addition to subsidies, as opposed to replacing them.² Initially, 70% of countries in our tracker were implementing subsidies alone, and only less than 30% of countries had social assistance measures. As of now, two thirds of countries in our tracker implement social assistance measures – in most of cases (three quarters) implementing social assistance in parallel to subsidies.

Table 2. Number of countries by types of response measures

Number of countries implementing	As of April 2022 (V1)	As of May 2023 (V5)
Only subsidies	59 (70%)	52 (29%)
Only social assistance	5 (6%)	27 (15%)
Both subsidies and social assistance	19 (23%)	91 (51%)
Only other measure(s)	1 (1%)	8 (4%)
Total	84 (100%)	178 (100%)

2. Overview of key performance metrics

Available information on key performance indicators (such as coverage and spending) vary by intervention. This is an important caveat of the analysis, hence the relative magnitude across instruments should be interpreted with caution. The diagram below (Figure 6) shows the number of programs with available information across those main interventions. An important warning: estimates for coverage and spending, as those for the other performance metrics, should be treated with caution as they may be driven by the countries and programs with available information on each instrument. Finally, before proceeding to the detailed program analysis, figure 7 provides a quick snapshot comparing subsidy and social assistance responses across the key program parameters, namely expenditure, coverage, benefit adequacy, and duration.

Figure 6. Overview of coverage and expenditure information

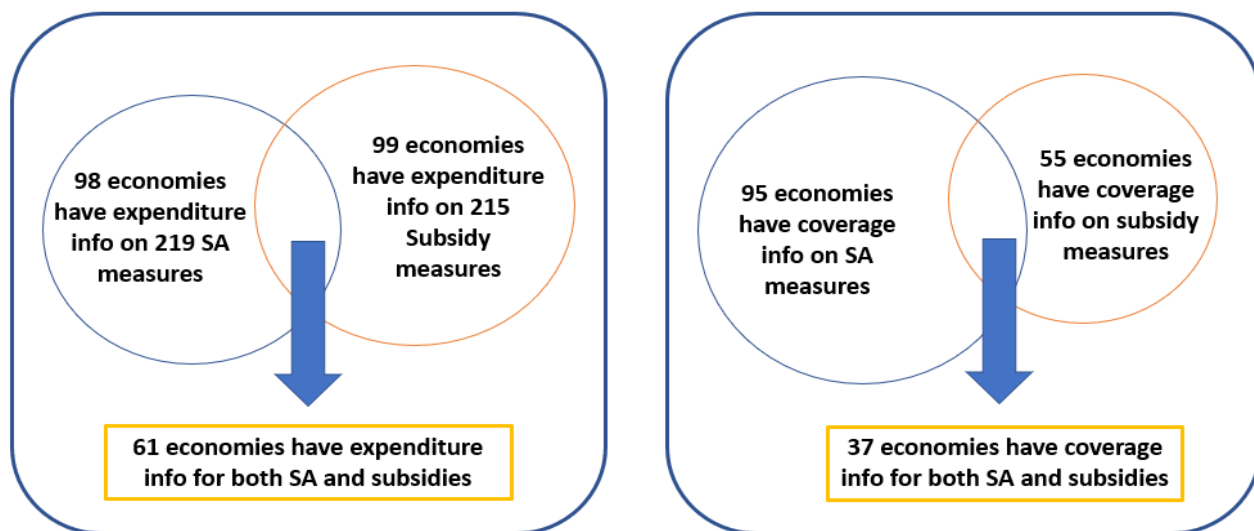
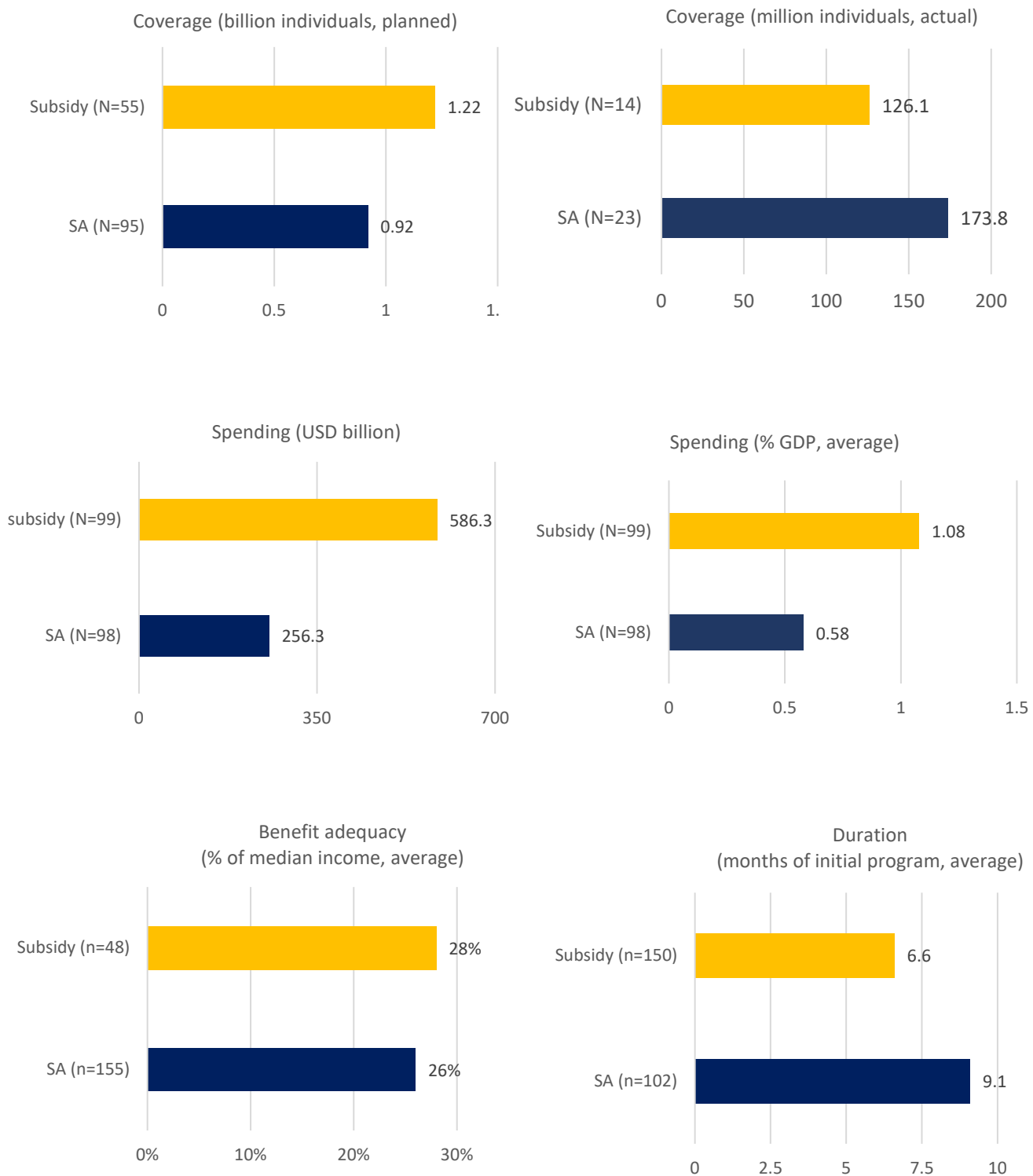


Figure 7. Snapshot of social assistance vs subsidies, select performance parameters
 (N= number of countries; n = number of programs)



Spending

Data on social protection and labor spending is available for only 42% of measures (561 out of 1,333 responses; 143 out of 178 economies). Economies, with available information, have invested over \$1 trillion (i.e., 43% increase from version 4's spending of \$710.6 billion) on social protection and labor interventions (Table 3).

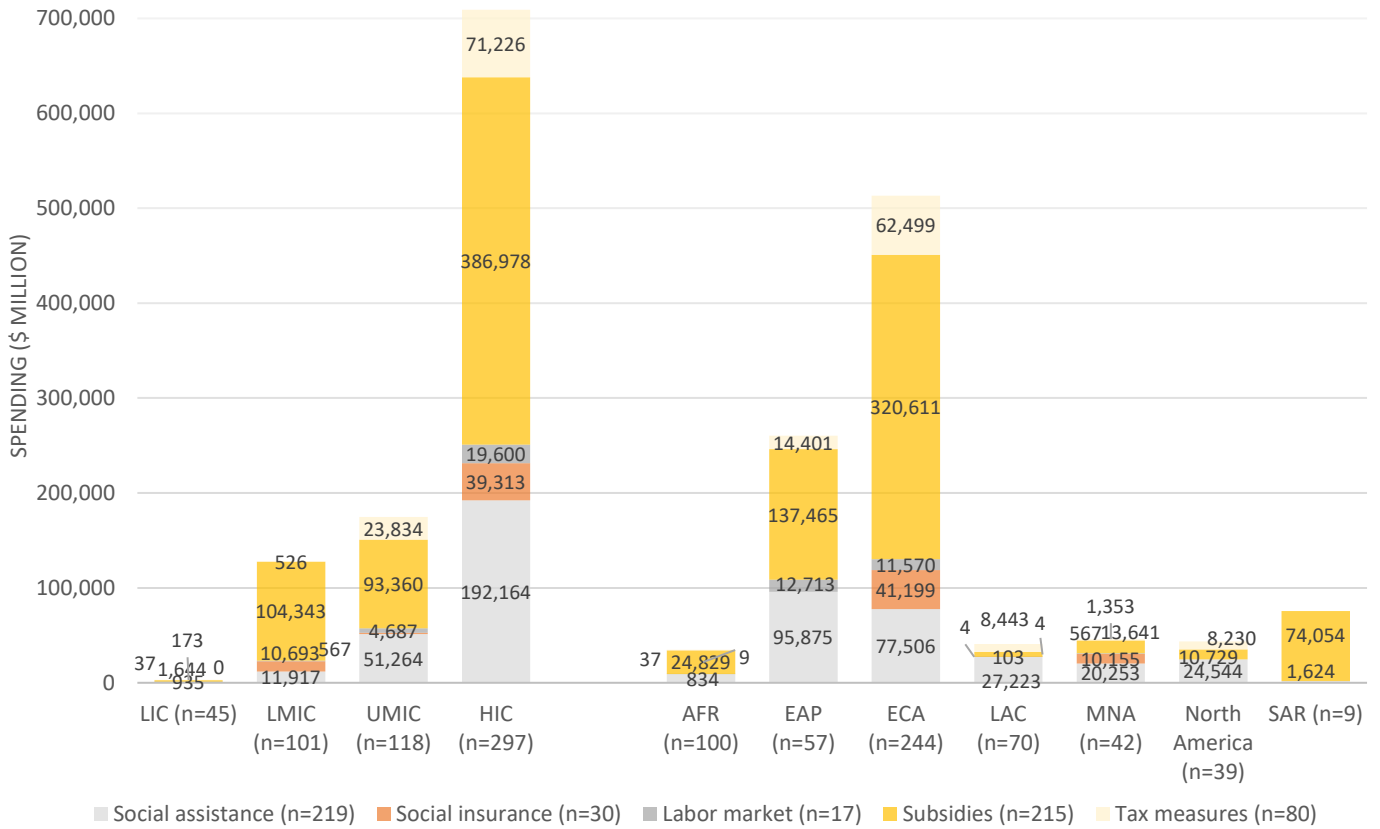
Table 3. Social protection and labor spending by income group and region (\$ million)

Income/region (n=measures)	Social assistance (n=219)	Social insurance (n=30)	Labor market (n=17)	Subsidies (n=215)	Tax measures (n=80)	Grand total (n=561)
LIC (45)	935	0	37	1,644	173	2,789
LMIC (103)	15,769	10,693	567	104,343	526	131,898
UMIC (116)	47,412	1,450	4,687	93,360	23,834	170,743
HIC (297)	192,164	39,313	19,600	386,978	71,226	709,281
AFR (100)	9,254	0	37	24,829	834	34,953
EAP (57)	95,875	0	12,713	137,465	14,401	260,455
ECA (244)	77,506	41,199	11,570	320,611	62,499	513,385
LAC (70)	27,223	103	4	4,995	8,443	40,767
MNA (42)	20,253	10,155	567	13,641	1,353	45,969
North America (39)	24,544	0	0	10,729	8,230	43,503
SAR (9)	1,624	0	0	74,054	0	75,678
Grand Total (561)	256,279	51,457	24,891	586,325	95,759	1,014,711

Note: All non-USD spending information is converted using normal exchange rates (national Currency per U.S. Dollar, period average); rates were for December 2022 (source: IMF International Financial Statistics database). Lastly, “n” = number of measures for which data on spending is available.

Spending on subsidies amounts to \$586.3 billion (or more than half of total investment; based on info from 99 economies), while \$256.3 billion is invested in social assistance accounting for 25.3% of total investment (based on info from 98 economies). Out of the social assistance spending, almost 94% was spent on cash transfers (\$240.6 billion). The remaining 6% (\$15.7 billion) of social assistance spending was devoted to in-kind transfers (\$12.4 billion), social pensions (\$2.1 billion), public works (\$1.1 billion) and school feeding (\$34.5 million). Tax-related measures account for 9.4% of total spending (\$95.8 billion). About 69% of this spending is focused on indirect taxes, such as VAT and exercise duty, while 31% is directed to direct taxes, such as income and property taxes. Lastly, labor market and social insurance have a small share given the lack of available data on spending.

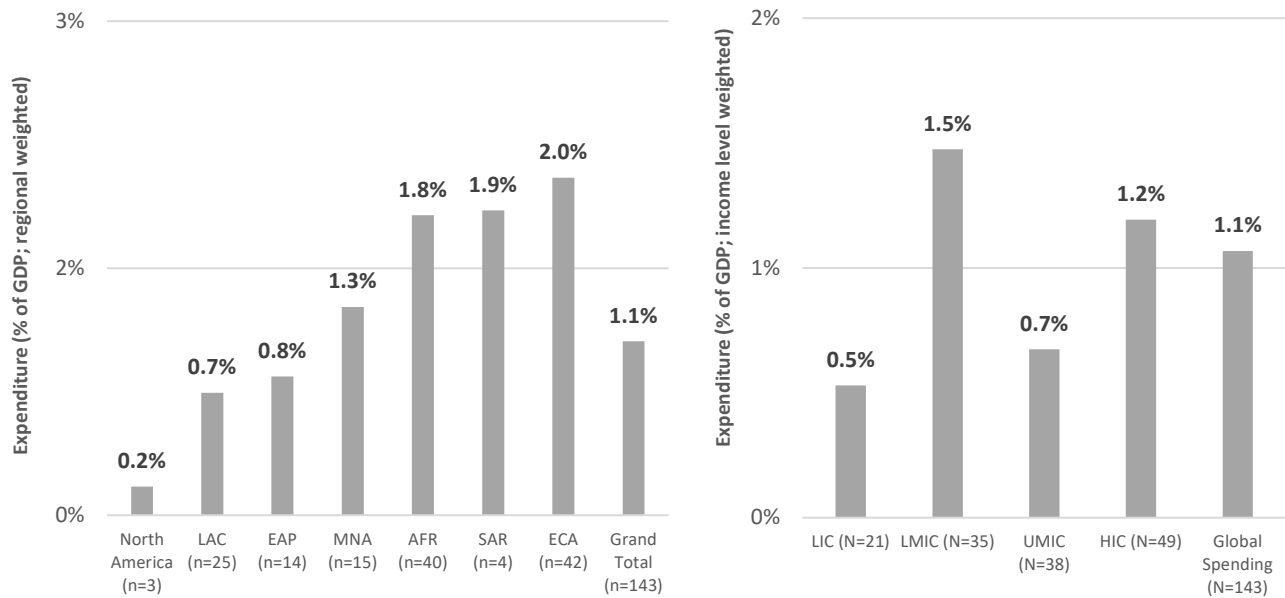
Figure 8. Social protection spending by income groups and regions (n = 561 programs)



Note: n= number of measures for which data on expenditure is available.

In terms of income groups, all groups are allocating more financial resources to subsidies than social assistance (Figure 8). In terms of spending as a share of GDP, data from 143 countries show that, on average, governments plan to invest around 1.06% of their GDP. Spending ranges from 0.2% of GDP in North America to 2% in Europe and Central Asia; and from 0.5% in LICs to 1.97% of GDP in HICs. Spending on subsidies accounts for an average of 1.08% of GDP, higher than the 0.58% of GDP devoted to social assistance. See Annex 7 for graphs by regions and country-income levels.

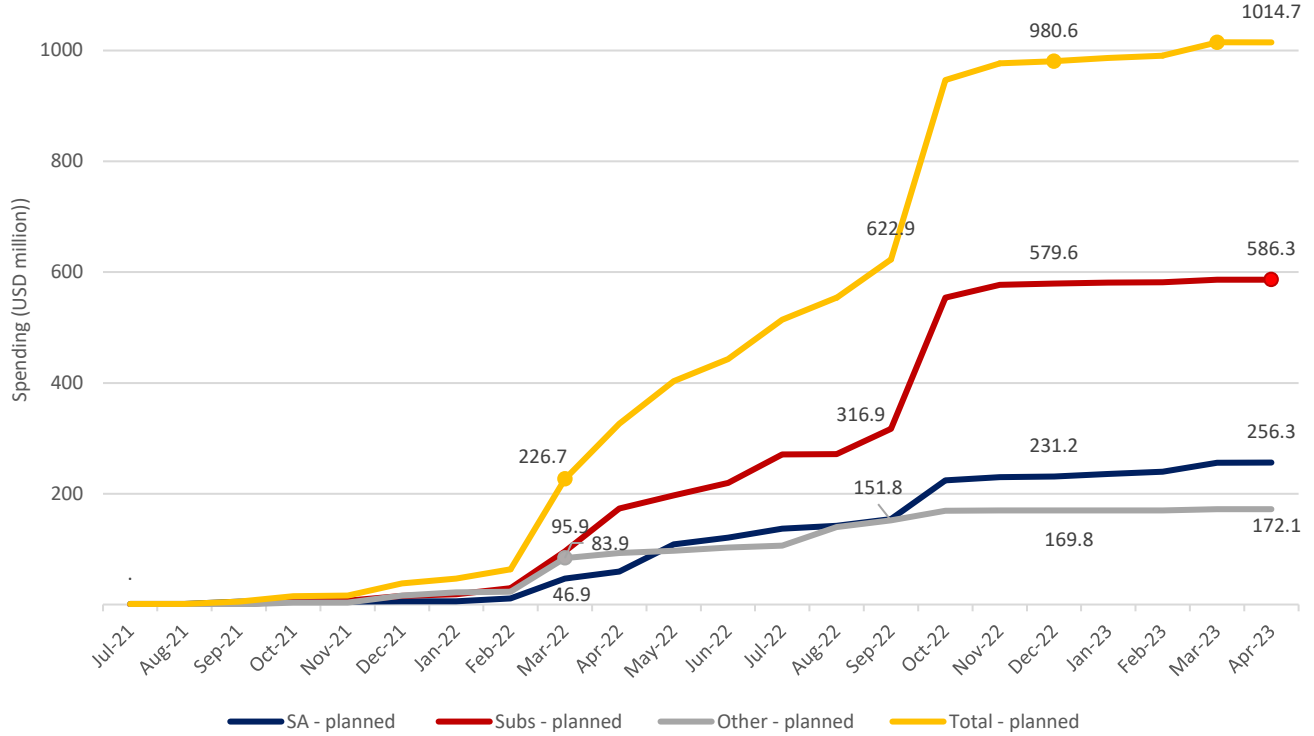
Figure 9. Spending as % of GDP by regions (left) and income group (right)



Note: n= number of countries for which expenditure is available.

Next, figure 10 highlights the evolution of social protection expenditure in response to inflation (see box 1 for financing examples) regarding the source of financing for such social protection measures. Before February 2022, spending in response to inflation was low. Right after the onset of the Ukraine crisis, in response to growing food, fuel and fertilizer prices, governments across the globe spent over \$200 billion on social protection measures, of which, \$96 billion belong to subsidies and \$47 billion to social assistance. Over the course of the following 6 months, the global cumulative spending doubled reaching \$622.9 billion by the month of September. During the same period, spending on subsidies started plateauing, while social assistance measures were steadily rising, closing the gap between the two. Around September 2022, as the crisis continued and with winter months fast approaching, governments announced large budgets (especially in the European continent) and scaled up global cumulative spending, reaching \$980 billion planned expenditure by December 2022. As of April 2022, governments are planning to spend over \$1.014 trillion, of which approximately \$586.3 billion will be on subsidies and \$256.3 billion on social assistance.

Figure 10. Evolution of social protection expenditures



Note: The graph depicts the evolution of cumulative SPL spending in response to the price shock. SA represents Social Assistance and Sub represents Subsidies.

Box 1: Source of financing SPL responses to inflation

During the current inflation crisis, governments have used diverse mechanisms to fund their social protection and labor responses. This includes use of excess revenues from (or windfall tax³ on) specific industries, other forms of taxes (income tax, carbon tax, custom tax), and debt instruments (e.g., bonds, loans). This box presents some such interesting examples.

“Excess profits” from specific industries were used to fund measures. For example, Suriname plans to use the increased profits from the oil sector (benefitting from the rise in the global oil prices) to fund its fuel subsidy. Similarly, Bulgaria also financed the reduction in the fuel price by using the excess profit of the oil company Lukoil and didn’t use the state budget. Norway, in September 2022, allocated additional funds of EUR 1 billion (\$1.06 billion; 0.221% of its GDP) in revenues from state-owned power grid firm Statnett to extend its electricity subsidy scheme to shield consumers from higher energy bills.

Revenues generated by specific tax measures were used to fund social protection measures. These include both direct and indirect taxes. Under direct taxes, for instance, Peru used tax money paid by middle- and upper-income categories to fund the additional energy subsidies for poor households (on top of the existing program). Next, under indirect taxes, countries mainly used windfall tax, carbon taxes and custom taxes. With regard to windfall taxes, consider the cases of Greece and Poland. Greece’s food subsidy is estimated to be EUR 650 million (\$693.3 million; 0.3% of its GDP) and will be raised from a windfall tax on two of its oil refineries. It provides 10% discount on each household’s food purchases for a duration of six months starting from February 2023. Similarly, the Poland’s electricity price cap is financed by the revenues from windfall tax on electricity producers and from the state budget. Moving to carbon taxes in Estonia and Germany. Germany’s reduction in electricity levy (*Erneuerbare-Energien-Gesetz* or EEG) was funded using carbon tax and Estonia partially sourced energy subsidies for the poor by selling CO2 emission credits. Lastly consider measures funded using custom tax as in Argentina, in late-March 2024 imposed increased export tax rate of 2% resulting in a tax rate of 33%, and the revenue from this was planned to be used for flour subsidies.

Some countries are funding SPL responses through debt instruments, such as bonds or loans. Nigeria, for example, extended the duration of the petrol subsidy, which was supposed to end in June 2022, by 18 months using a fund of EUR 2 billion (\$2.13 billion; 0.48% of its GDP) from its Eurobond sale last year. Similarly, loans from multilateral (e.g., World Bank, ADB, etc.) and supranational organizations (e.g., EU) have helped countries respond to the crisis. For instance, Tajikistan's one-off cash assistance of SM 600 (\$53) per household announced in October 2022 for 250,000 poor and vulnerable households (1.5 million individuals; 15.7% of the population) was funded through ADB's BRACE program.⁵ This grant is \$50 million and will support the social assistance component of the anti-crisis plan, which will cost a total of \$80 million.

Lastly, mostly measures were funded through state budget, with some clearly earmarked. Some of these were also earmarked, as in the case of Algeria's new permanent youth unemployment benefit measure announced in February 2022 to support the purchasing power of low-income people. It aims to provide DZD 13,000 (\$100) to 3580,000 young jobseekers aged between 19 and 40 (1.3% of the population). Similarly, in the Netherlands an estimated EUR 35 million (\$37.3 million) will be earmarked to provide support with energy bills to higher education students having difficulty paying their bills.⁶

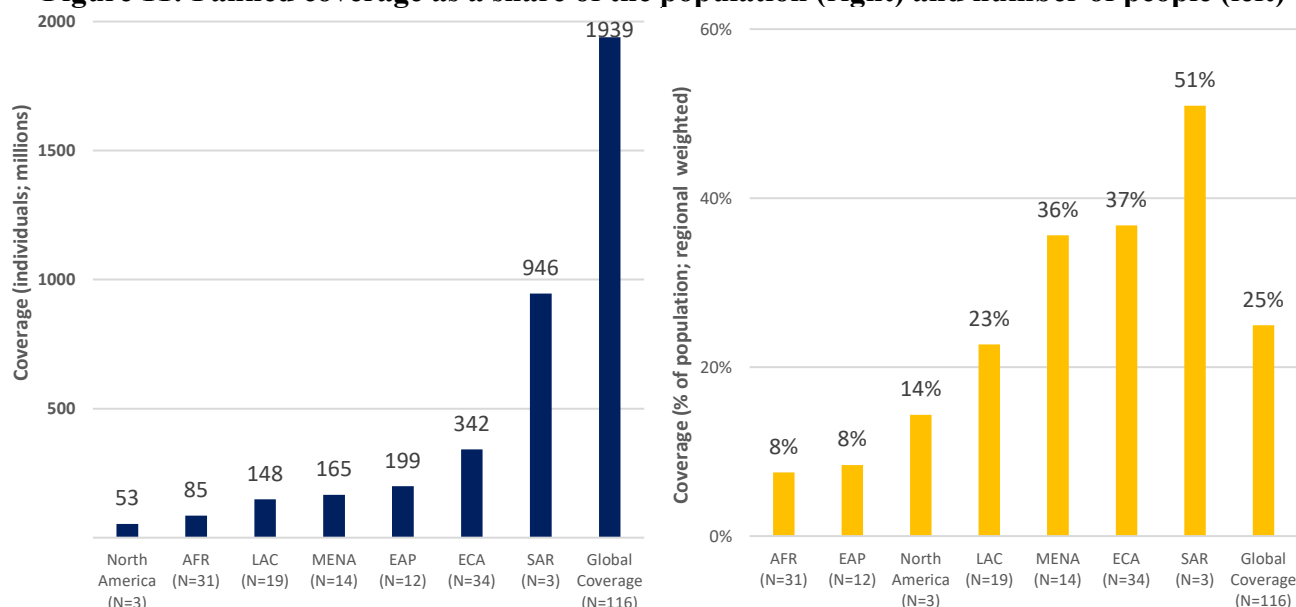
Coverage

Data is available for planned and actual coverage. In terms of planned coverage, the relevant information on social protection measures is available for 116 economies. These economies are planning to cover around 1.94 billion people across the globe (25% of the global population). While the actual coverage data, although still emerging, is available for 36 economies, with an actual coverage of around 303.5 million people across the globe (4% of the global population). To avoid double counting of beneficiaries participating in multiple interventions, country-level estimates are conservatively obtained by only considering the program of highest coverage (see Annex 3 for full methodology).

Planned coverage

The Social protection measures in the South Asia region have the largest coverage in terms of the number of people planning to be reached (946 million). This figure is mostly driven by India's PDS program covering 800 million people. This is followed by Europe and Central Asia region with a planned coverage of 342 million individuals. Three regions have coverage between 100 and 200 million individuals: East Asia and Pacific (199 million), Middle East and North Africa (165 million), and Latin America (148 million). Countries in both Africa and North America are planning to reach 85 million and 53 million people, respectively. Next, regional coverage (as a share of the population) is computed by taking the population-weighted averages for countries with coverage information as a share of the total regional population. The global average share of the population is 25% (see Figure 11; right panel); ranging from 8% (in Sub-Saharan Africa, and East Asia and Pacific) to 51% (in South Asia).

Figure 11: Panned coverage as a share of the population (right) and number of people (left)



Note: N= number of countries for which data on coverage is available.

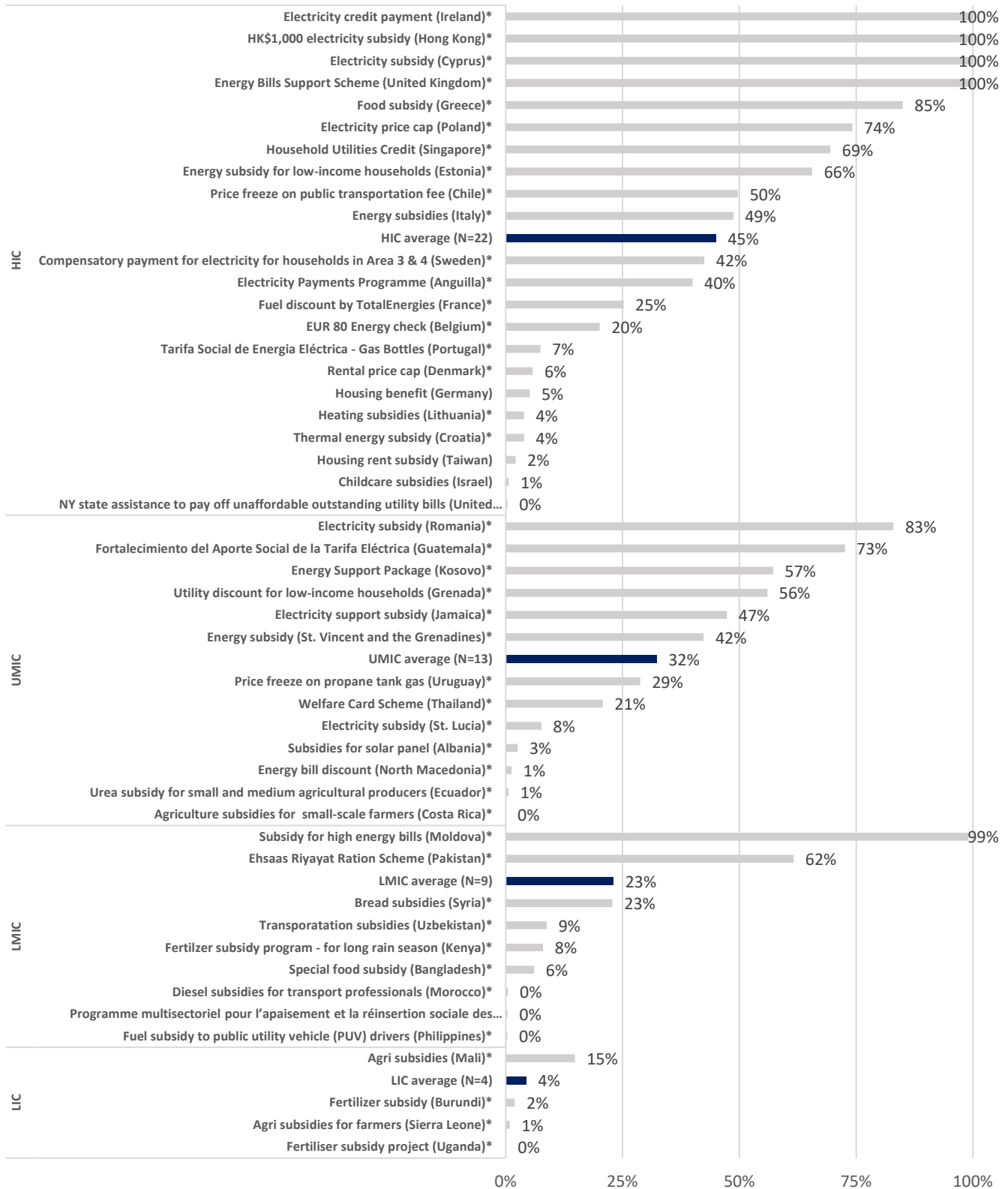
Disaggregated data by measure shows that social assistance plans to cover 917 million individuals across 95 economies. Among social assistance programs, cash transfers plans to reach 794.6 million individuals (86.6% of social assistance coverage) in 82 economies (see Annex 4). Subsidies plans to reach nearly 1.2 billion people in 55 economies. Next, tax, social insurance and labor measures aims to reach 178.1 million (12 economies), 76.7 million people (20 economies) and 21.6 million (13 economies), respectively. N.B. the 1.2 billion planned subsidy coverage is driven by India’s PDS⁷ program which aims to cover 800 million people. So as mentioned earlier, these estimates should be interpreted cautiously as data for social assistance tends to dwarf information on food subsidies.

On average, subsidies plan to cover more than one-third (31%) of the population. Out of the 55 subsidy programs with available planned coverage data, 45 are new measures (those with an asterisk in Figure 12) while the rest have scaled up the existing schemes. In some cases, those interventions were expanded on a universal or quasi-universal basis. There are 4 examples of universal coverage in the tracker. Cyprus, on July 28, 2022, announced electricity subsidy to absorb the rise in electricity bills for households and businesses for a period of 3 months between September and December 2022, and further extended for 2 months (as announced in February 2023). This subsidy would cover residential users⁸ thus supporting 449,000 households (100% of the population). Similarly, Hong Kong’s electricity subsidy measure which was announce in March 2022 also got extended until 2025. It provides HK\$1,000 (\$128) to 2.8 million households (100% of the population).⁹ Next, Ireland has been provided multiple rounds of electricity credit to 2.25 million households (100% of the population). Lastly, the energy bill subsidy scheme in UK provides GBP 400 (\$483) reduction to utility bills and covers 29 million households (100% of the population).

In terms of quasi-universal measures, consider Moldova’s energy compensation program announced on July 6, 2022, to tackle high electricity and heating bills for the upcoming winter months. The measure was aimed at the elderly, families with many children, and people with disabilities.¹⁰ In addition, it also provided to those in rural areas in the form of “support for cutting wood” for wood fires. It is estimated

that 99% of the population¹¹ will receive some form of compensation, with 60% of the population eligible for the maximum compensation. More recently in December 2022, Greece government announced that it will cover 10% of each household's purchases for six months in supermarkets and food businesses starting from February 2023. The program will be funded from a windfall tax on its two oil refineries and the program would potentially cover 85% of population. Lastly, in October 2021, Romania announced electricity subsidy to 6 million families (16 million individuals; 83% of the population). The measures initially announced to last from November 2021 until end of March 2022. However, the measure was extended twice. One time in April 2022 (until August 2022), and in September (until August 2023).

Figure 12. Coverage of subsidies (% of population)



Note: * = new program. Coverage rates refer to planned values as a share of the population. A value of “0” indicates coverage rates less than 1%.

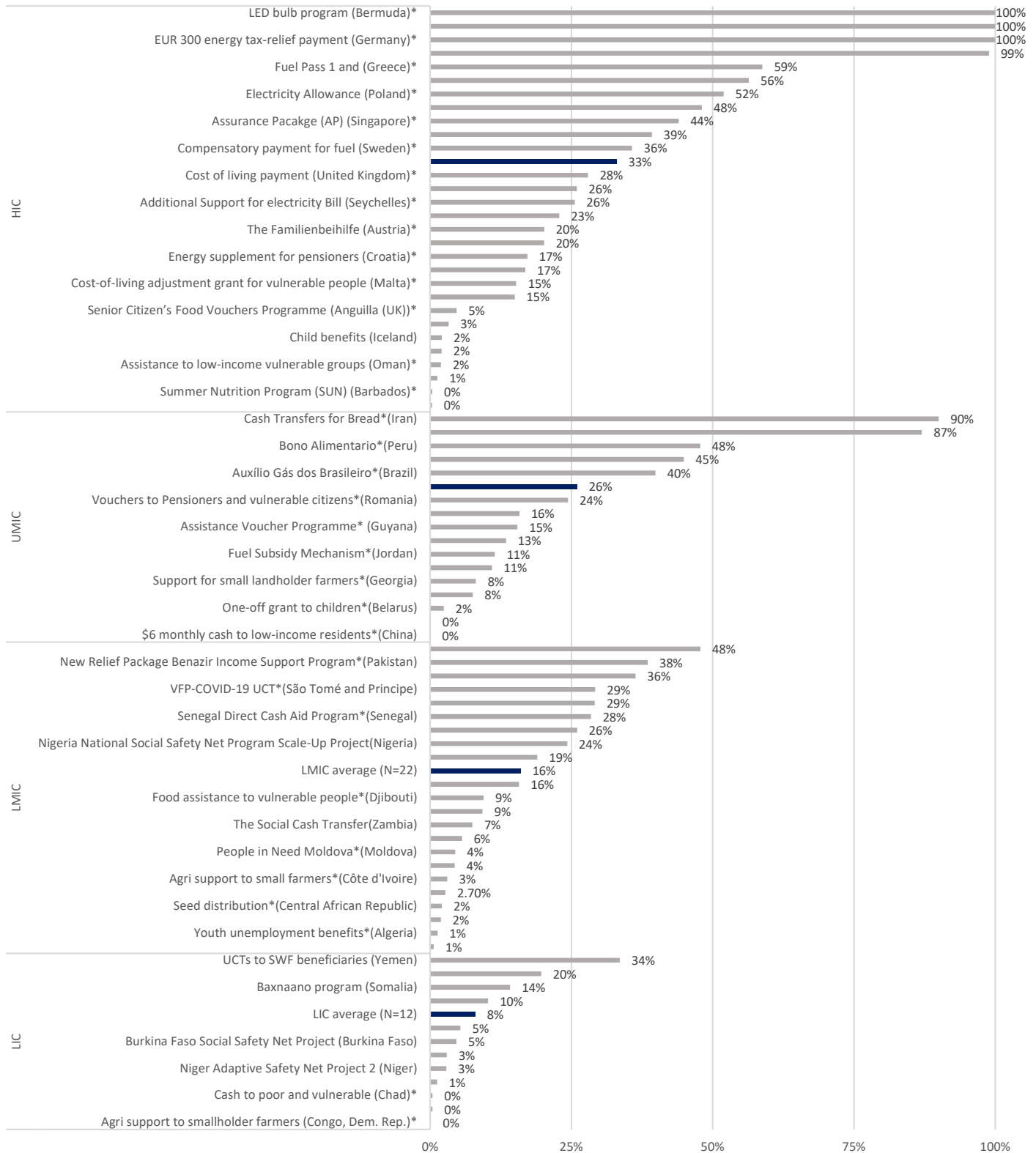
Social assistance programs plan to reach, on average, 22% of the population. The majority of social assistance programs (i.e., 62 out of 95 measures) with planned coverage information are new measures (see an asterisk in Figure 13). The remaining program were scale-ups of pre-crisis programs. Annex 5 provides data for the top 10 cash assistance programs by coverage rates and numbers.

Some inflation responses are large-scale and quasi-universal in coverage. For example, recently, in January 2023, Taiwan announced a cash payout worth TWD 200 (\$195) to every citizen this year for Chinese New Year. This benefit will reach almost 23.3 million individuals (~99% of the population). Iran announced cash compensations for increased prices of bread. The program will provide monthly payments (about \$90) to 30% of the population in the lowest-income groups; additionally, \$71 will be provided to 60% of the population, reaching 90% of the population in total. The top decile would receive no cash transfers. Similarly, Iraq, on 8 June 2022, as part of the emergency food security law, announced to provide in-kind assistance worth \$3.4 billion which aims to cover 35 million individuals (87% of the population).

Few other high-coverage social assistance measures are reaching more than 50% of the population. For example, Greece, on 17 March 2022, announced a fuel rebate e-card for a duration of three months. The subsidy comes in the form of a cash transfer through the use of an e-card for use at gas stations. The amount ranges between EUR 30 (\$35.5) to EUR 50 (\$59.1) for residents depending on the type of vehicle and location¹² of residence.¹³ On 21 June 2022, the government extended the program to motorists for another three months (i.e., July to September 2022) and also increased the amount for car and motorcycle owners.¹⁴ In total, the coverage is expected to reach 59% of the population. Similarly, France, on 15 September 2022, announced a one-off EUR 100 (\$118.3) payment to the 5.8 million households (12.9 million individuals; 19% of the population) that already receive energy vouchers. In October, the government augmented the number of beneficiaries of the voucher to everyone earning less than EUR 2,000 (\$2,365.5) per month net, that is, around 38 million people (56% of the population).

Next, there are three social assistance measures which were provided universally: Macau in September 2022 announced that a living subsidy worth MOP 8,000 (\$996) will be provided in the form of e-vouchers to residents' accounts starting from end of October 2022 with a validity lasting until the end of June 2023. So far, 667,000 permanents (100% of the population) have so far registered for the e-consumption plan. Earlier, Germany offered one-off energy assistance of EUR 300 (\$355), with people receiving social assistance benefiting from a top-up of EUR 100 (\$118).

Figure 13. Coverage of social assistance (% of the population)

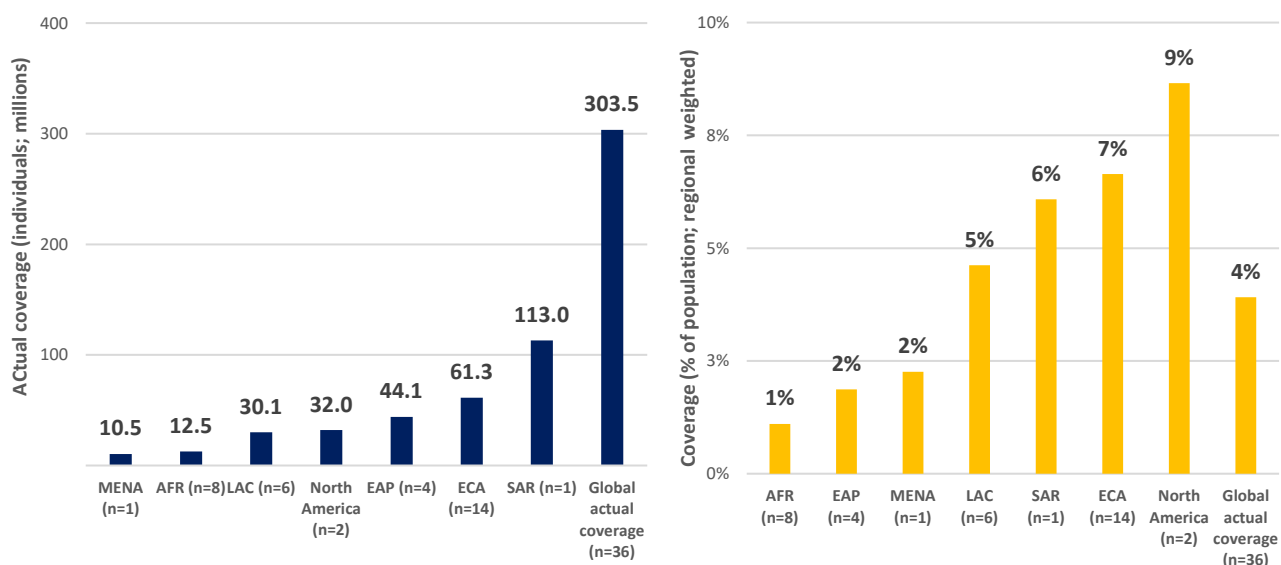


Note: * = new program. Coverage rates refer to planned values as a share of the population. A value of “0” indicates coverage rates less than 1%.

Actual coverage

Social protection measures in the South Asia region have the largest actual coverage in terms of the number of people reached (113 million).¹⁵ This is followed by Europe and Central Asia region with a actual coverage of 61.3 million individuals. Rest of the regions have actual coverage below 50 million individuals: East Asia and Pacific (44.1 million), North America (32 million), Latin America (30.1 million), Africa (12.5 million), and Middle East and North Africa (10.5 million). Next, regional coverage (as a share of the population) is computed by taking the population-weighted averages for countries with actual coverage information as a share of the total regional population. The global average share of the population is 4% (see Figure 14; right panel); ranging from 1% (in Africa) to 9% (in North America).

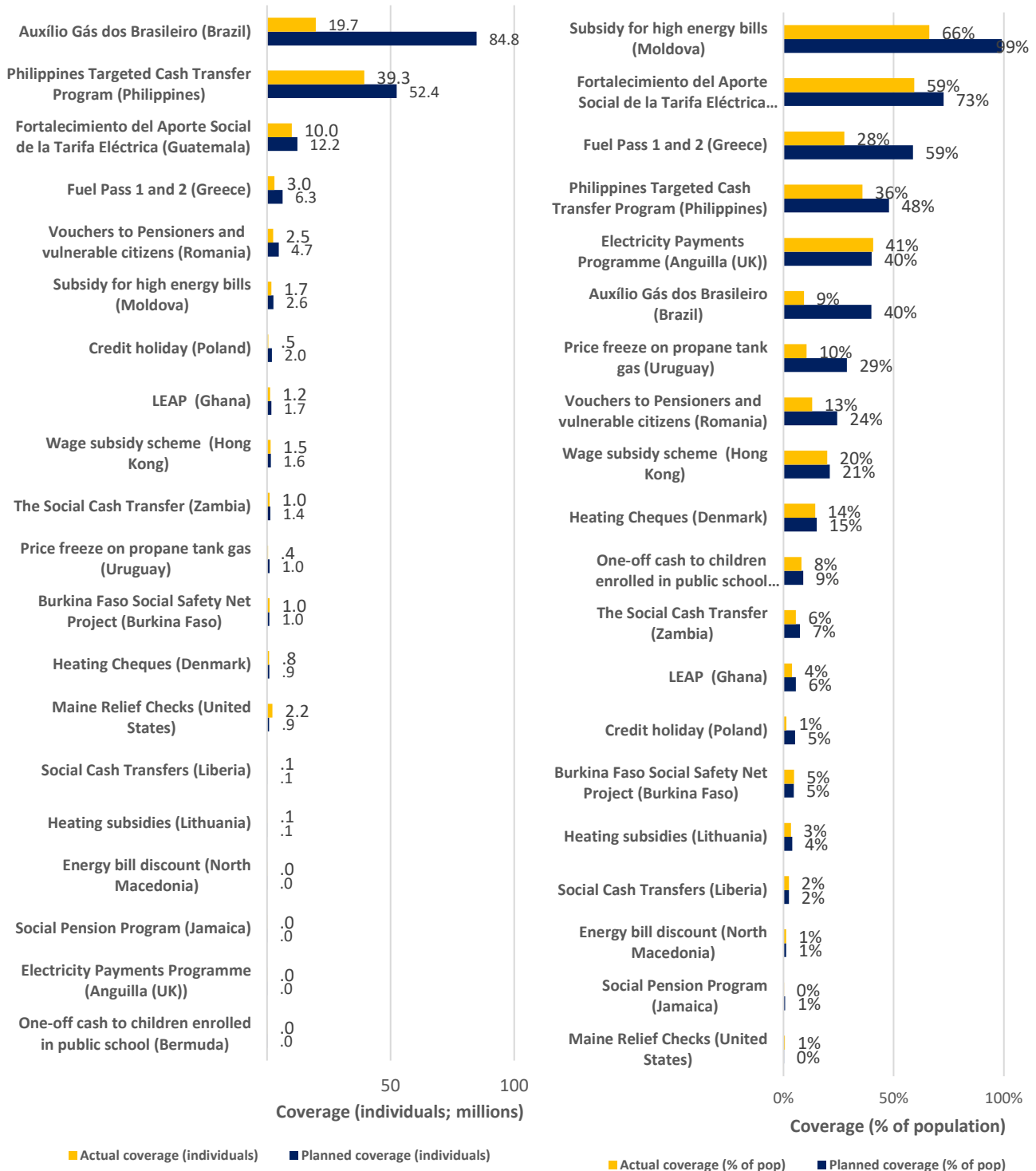
Figure 14: Actual coverage as a share of the population (right) and number of people (left)



Note: n= number of countries for which data on coverage is available.

Disaggregated actual coverage data by social protection instrument shows that social assistance measures covered 173.8 million individuals across 23 economies, while subsidies have reached 126.1 million individuals across 14 countries. Among social assistance programs, cash transfers reached 145 million individuals in 17 countries. Lastly, a subsample of measures having both planned and actual coverage information are plotted to compare actual coverage with the planned coverage. There are 22 countries having both the information and such measures planned to reach 184.3 million individuals but were only able to reach 89 million individuals. The coverage (planned vs. actual) for new measure and measure with horizontal expansions are plotted in figure 15.

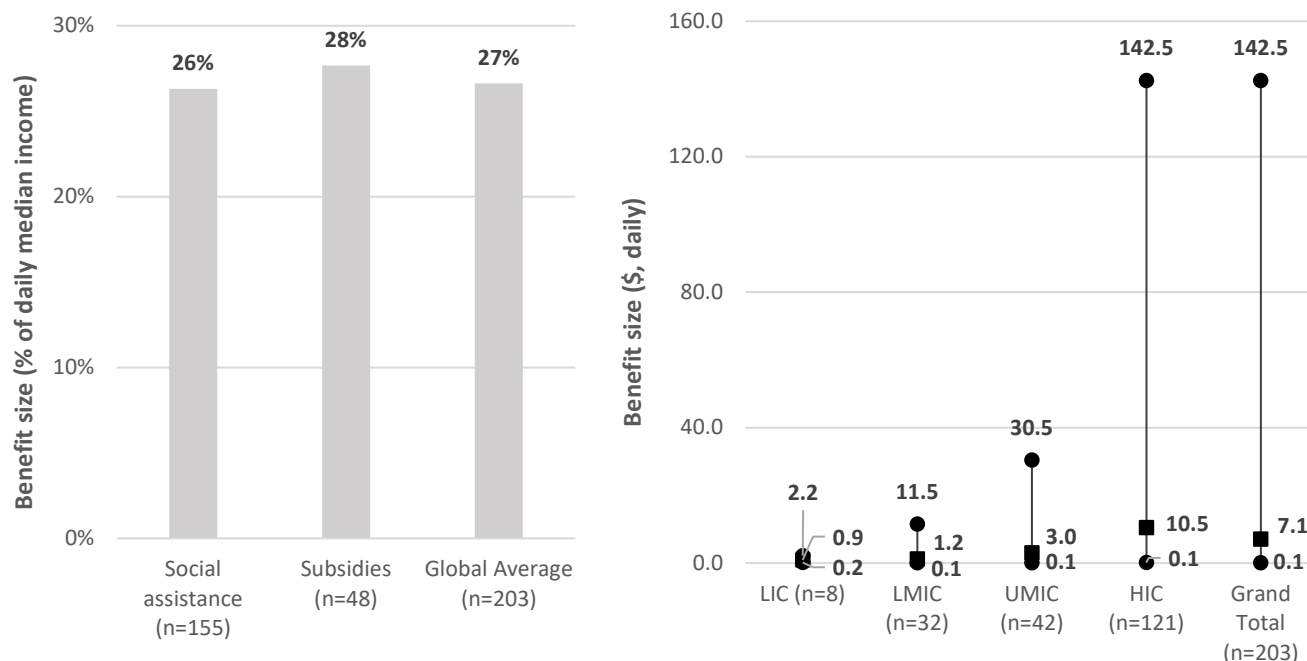
Figure 15. Actual vs. planned coverage for social assistance and subsidy measures (% of population, left, and million individuals, right)



Adequacy and duration

Information regarding the adequacy of transfers, or the size of benefits, is accessible for 370 social assistance and subsidy programs, which accounts for 44% of the total social assistance and subsidies measures (i.e., 848 measures).¹⁶ Out of these 370 social assistance and subsidy measures, only 203 measures were used for the adequacy calculations, while the remaining 167 measures were one-off payments and were not included in the main analysis due to the methodological challenge of normalizing/converting the value of one-offs to daily transfer value. For this subset of one-off measures, a separate analysis showcasing their adequacy is performed below.

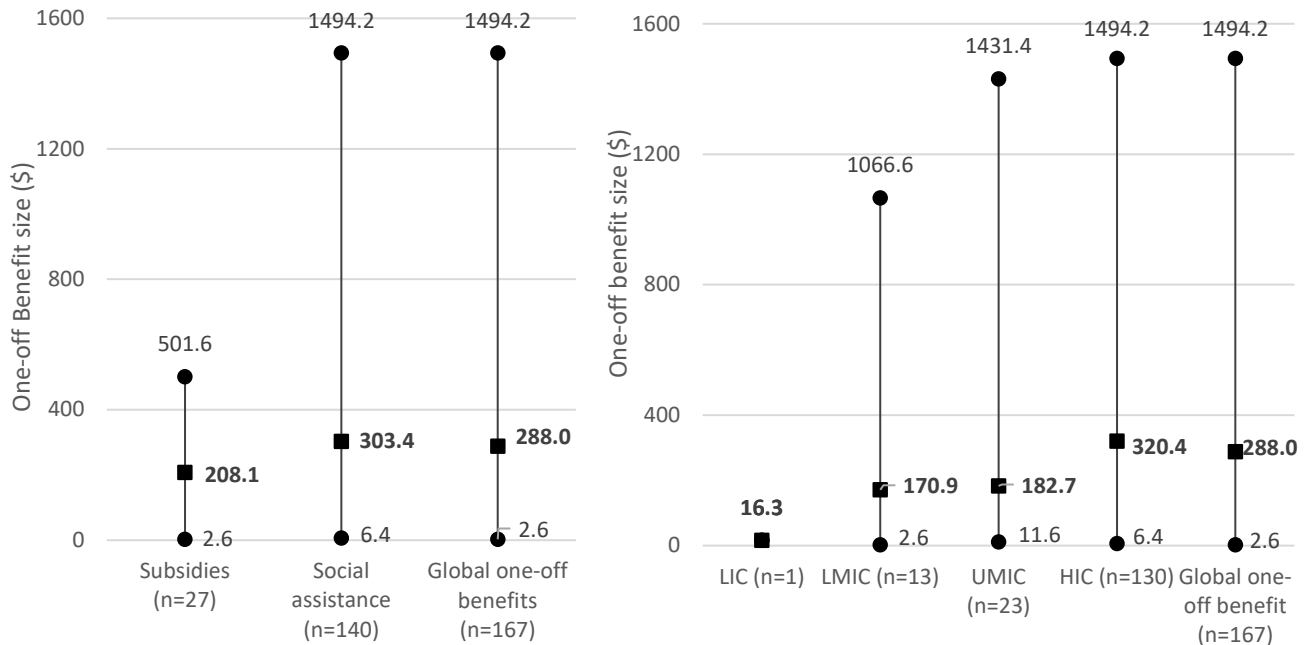
Figure 16. Average daily benefits as a share of median income (left) and in USD (right)



Note: black squares in the right graph = average values; (n) = number of measures. All non-USD benefit size information was converted into USD using normal exchange rates. The exchange rates used (national Currency per U.S. Dollar, period average) were for latest exchange rates between 2021/2022 (IMF International Financial Statistics database). Daily median income was obtained from the Our World in Data database. One-off transfers were excluded from this analysis.

On average, cash transfers, vouchers, and subsidies amount to 27% of the median daily income.¹⁷ When compared, on average, subsidies are more generous than social assistance transfers, whether in cash or vouchers. Specifically, subsidies represent 28% of the median daily income, while the former is 26% of it (refer to Figure 16, left panel). In absolute terms, daily transfers per beneficiary were, on average, \$7. Average transfers range from \$1 in lower income economies to \$10.5 in high-income economies (figure 16; right panel).¹⁸ As for the other performance dimensions, these results should be interpreted with caution given the disparity in the number of programs with available information between social assistance (in this case 155 programs) and subsidies (48 programs). Next, one-off transfers have provided, on average, \$288 (based on data from 167 measures), with social assistance benefit being much higher than subsidies (see figure 17).

Figure 17. Average benefits of one-off payments (in absolute value; USD) and by income group



Note: black squares in the right graph = average values; (n) = number of measures. All non-USD benefit size information was converted into USD using normal exchange rates. The exchange rates used (national Currency per U.S. Dollar, period average) were for latest exchange rates between 2021/2022 (IMF International Financial Statistics database). Daily median income was obtained from the Our World in Data database. One-off transfers were excluded from this analysis.

The most prevalent payment frequency was found to be one-off payments, accounting for 167 out of 370 measures for which information was available. This indicates that 45% of transfers with available frequency information were single payments, with social assistance and cash transfers making up 47% and 36%, respectively. Monthly payments were the second most common form of payment, representing 36% of the total measures (134 out of 370). The remaining 19% (69 programs) were allocated for daily, weekly, bi-weekly, bi-monthly, quarterly, bi-annually or yearly payments. For example, Singapore in March 2023 as part of the budget announced a one-off payment of SGD 700 (\$521) to Singaporeans aged 21 (or older) living in home with an annual value less than SGD 13,000 (\$9,665). Next, Comoros, using the World Bank’s grant of \$9.5 million (0.7% of its GDP) as announced in November 2022, provides a Social Cash Transfers (SCTs) equivalent of KMF 25,000 (\$54) per household per transfer, for an estimated maximum period of twelve months, and paid quarterly through mobile money or through a microfinance institution, to the extent possible.¹⁹

Data on the initial duration of the benefits are available for 428 measures across 143 economies.²⁰ The most popular forms of program duration are annual or 12 months (95 measures; 22%), 3 months (88 measures; 21%) and six months (84 measures; 20%). Rest of the duration have less than 10% share. The average duration of SPJ responses was 7.3 months ranging from 5.4 months (e.g., trade response) to 11.3 months (e.g., social insurance) (see Table 4). For example, Bulgaria in May 2022 introduced a zero VAT rate on the supply of bread and flour for one year starting from July 2022. In January 2023, this measure was extended to end in December 2023, instead of July 2023, as presented in the following sections. Next, Montserrat in September 2022 announced electricity subsidy for a duration of 3 months paid in the form of a transfer to households. The subsidy amount depended on the electricity consumption threshold.²¹ Lastly, the Belize government in April 2022 announced a capped fuel subsidy for bus tour

operators in the form of fuel voucher or card with an expected cost of BZD 1.5 million (\$750,000) for a period of up to six months starting from July 2022.

Table 4. Average initial duration of global response (n=number of programs)

Response	Average duration (in months)
Social insurance (n=17)	11.29
Social assistance (n=102)	9.05
Labor market programs (n=13)	7.38
Tax measures (n=104)	6.84
Subsidies (n=150)	6.57
Trade related measures (n=42)	5.44
Global average initial duration (n=428)	7.33

Next, information on extension duration is available for 150 programs, which, on average, have extended benefits for 8.5 months. The average duration of extension across instruments ranges from 4.8 months (social assistance) to 10.5 months (in social insurance). Subsidy measures have the maximum number of measures with extension duration information, and tend to, on average, have higher extension duration compared to social assistance measures. Some examples of measures which have been extended are as follows. Anguilla (UK), for instance, in April 2022 removed the excise duty (XCD 0.35 or 0.13 per liter) on fuel imports for a duration of 6 months and this measure got extended in mid-December 2022 for a duration 3 months (i.e., until the end of March 2023). Next, some programs have been extended more than once, for instance, Hungary in February 2022 announced a price cap on staple food products²² with an initial aim to last until early May 2022. Since then, the program has been extended three times: once in June 2022 (until October 2022), a second time in mid-September 2022 (for 3 months until end of the year), and the third one in December, which will extend the measure until the end of April 2023. There are many more such measures with multiple extension (see next section for analysis on extension).

Table 5. Average extension duration of global response (n=number of programs)

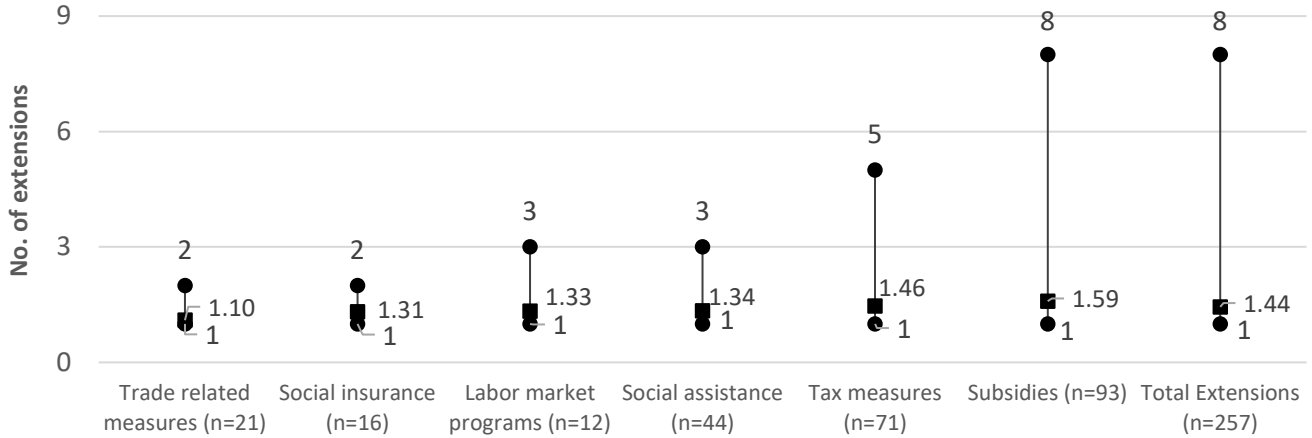
Response	Average extension duration (in months)
Social insurance (n=6)	10.5
Tax measures (n=47)	9.2
Subsidies (n=65)	9.2
Labor market programs (n=3)	7.7
Trade related measures (n=16)	5.4
Social assistance (n=13)	4.8
Global average extension duration (n=150)	8.5

Extension (and evolution) of measures²³

Information on extension (or evolution) of measures is available for 257 measures, which is almost one-fifth (19%) of the total SPL responses to inflation (1,333). In terms of number of measures extended per SPL category, labor market has the least (12 measures) while subsidy has the most, with 93 measures. The measures which got extended have a total frequency²⁴ of 371 extensions, meaning, many of these measures were extended multiple times. These programs, on average, got extended 1.4 times. In term of frequency of extension per SPL category: trade measures, on average, were extended only once (1.10) while subsidies were extended more than almost twice (1.6 times). In particular, the frequency of

extensions was much higher under subsidies and tax measures, ranging from a low of 1 to a high of 8 and 1 to 5, respectively.

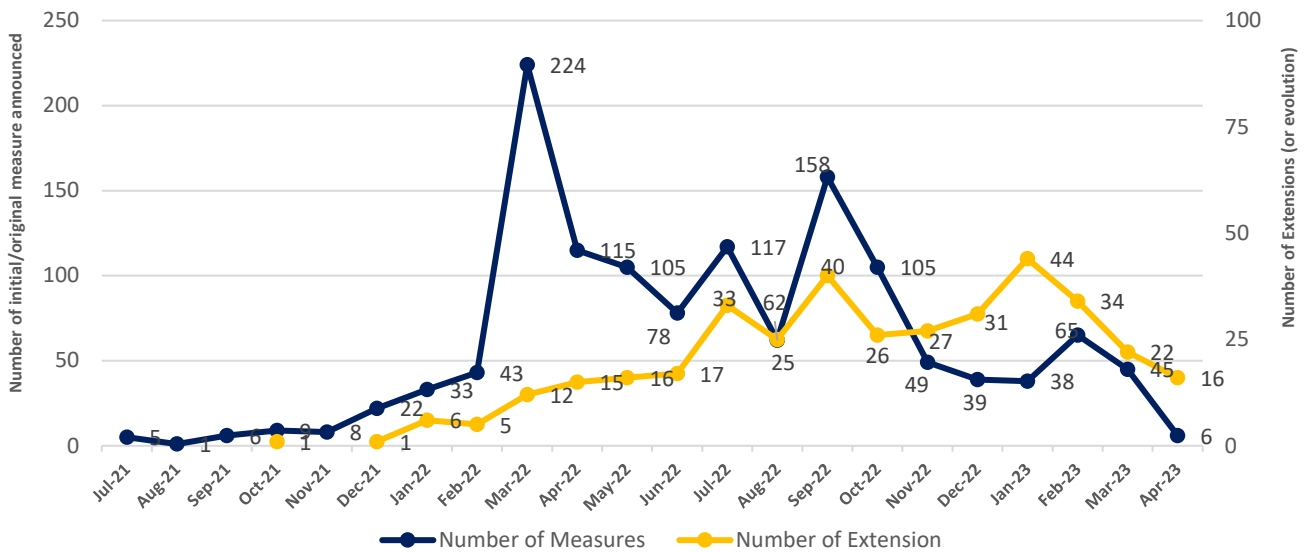
Figure 18. Average number of extensions (n=number of programs)



Note: n=number of measures. n=257, implies 275 measures experienced extension. The total frequency of extension of these 257 measures was 371 times, ranging from labor market getting extended the least number of times (16 times, n=12) to subsidies being extended the most (148 times; n=93).

The program extensions seem to have played a crucial role in maintaining the support to households during the long on-going inflation crisis. Governments continued their support via extending the already announced measures during the latter part of the crisis, when the number of initial/original program announcements were low. Figure 19 depicts that announcement of extension came at a time when the number of new (or initial or original) program announcement were reducing.

Figure 19. Plotting number of programs announced vs. number of programs extended



Note: The graph plots extension announcements alongside initial program announcement in response to the crisis.

3. Subsidies

Subsidies are being put in place across four main categories, i.e., fuel, food, fertilizers, and various fees (Table 6). These are discussed individually in the remainder of the section.

Table 6. Type of subsidy programs

Category	Number of measures (% of total subsidies)	Number of economies
Fuel subsidies	84 (19%)	65
Fuel subsidy	52	40
Price control (fuel)	32	30
Food subsidies	77 (18%)	59
Food subsidy	33	28
Price control (food)	44	41
Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	58 (13%)	43
Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	57	43
Price control (fertilizers)	1	1
Fees subsidies	220 (50%)	80
Education (fee waivers/vouchers)	11	8
Health (fee waivers/vouchers)	3	3
Housing (rent support)	12	12
Utility discount (e.g., Water, electricity, heating, cooking gas)	107	57
Transportation	19	14
Money transaction fees	0	0
Mortgages and other loans	6	6
Other	9	7
Price control (fees)	38	27
Green energy subsidies (e.g., EV subsidies)	15	11
Total	439	143

Globally, fee subsidies are the most popular form of subsidies (50%), followed by fuel and food subsidies with 19% and 18%, respectively. Fertilizer subsidy is the least popular form, comprising only 13% of subsidy responses. Food subsidies represent a sizable share of subsidies in MENA and SAR and a much lesser share in other regions comparatively. Fees subsidies have the largest share of the subsidy responses in ECA, NAC, and EAP, while fuel subsidies constitute a large percentage of measures in LAC (Figure 18). Fees subsidies were the most used subsidies in HICs, while in UMICs, fuel subsidies were almost as prevalent as fee subsidies with an 8% difference. Food subsidies were the most common subsidies in LMICs with 36% of the response compared to LICs (19%), UMICs (15%), and HICs (only 11%). Finally, the LICs' share of fertilizers subsidies was the highest at 39%, significantly more than the global average (Figure 19).

Figure 20. Composition of subsidy responses by region

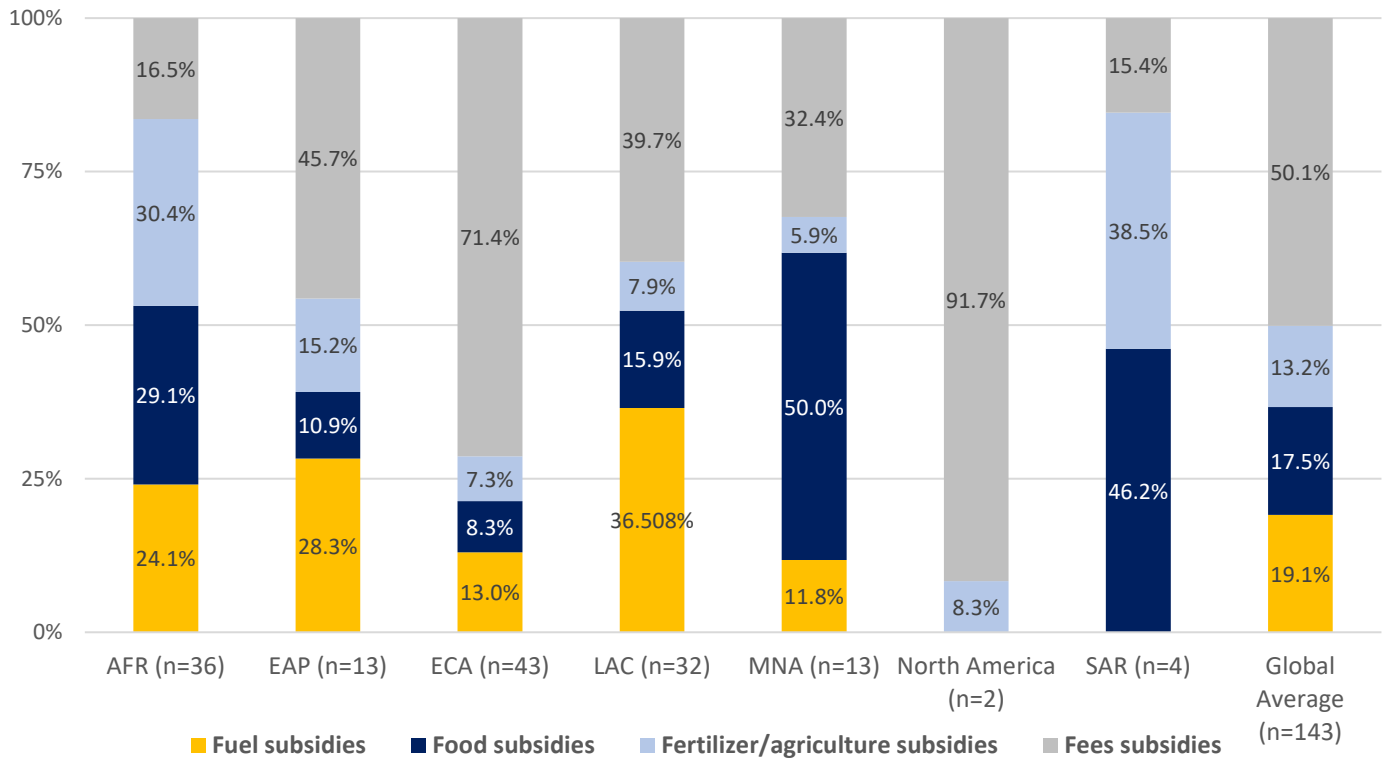
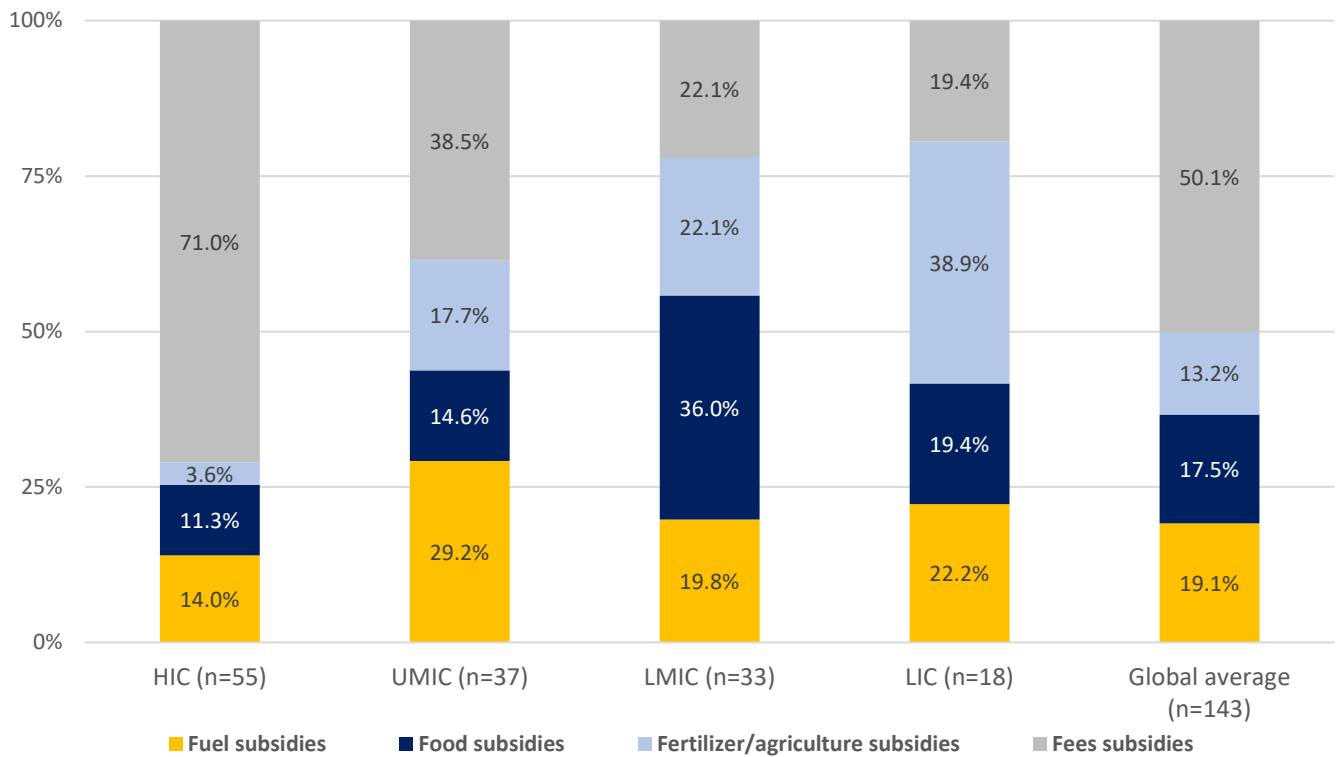


Figure 21. Composition of subsidy responses by country income group



Subsidies plan to reach 1.2 billion²⁵ individuals and cost \$586.3 billion.²⁶ Next, the average daily benefit size of subsidy measures, excluding one-off payments, tends to be \$7.3, which is 28% of the daily median income.²⁷ The average benefit size of one-off payments is \$208.²⁸ And, on average, these subsidy measures have a duration of 6.6 months.²⁹ Of the 150 subsidies with duration information, 65 measures (43%) recorded extension in initial program duration of 9.2 months, on average.

Fuel subsidies

In general, 65 economies³⁰ have implemented 84 measures to reduce fuel prices through price control (fixing prices) and fuel subsidies (covering part of the fuel cost) (Table 7). In terms of program parameters: fuel subsidies are expected to cover 18.3 million individuals³¹ and cost \$88.8 billion.³² Next, the average daily benefit size of fuel subsidy measures, excluding one-off payments, tends to be \$4, which is 45% of the daily median income.³³ The average benefit size of one-off payments is \$94.³⁴ And, on average, these measures have a duration of 5.9 months.³⁵ Of the 32 measures with duration information, 20 measure (62.5%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 9.85 months, on average

Table 7. Types of fuel subsidy measures

Category	Number of measures	Number of economies
Fuel subsidy	52	40
Price control	32	30
Total	84	65

Fuel subsidies that cover part of the fuel cost include 52 measures across 40 economies.³⁶ Most of the fuel subsidies (which cover part of fuel cost) apply to all. For example, Curaçao, in May 2022, introduced a fuel subsidy of 24 cents per liter with an initial duration of 3 months. This measure was extended twice (once in August and another time in November) for a duration of 3 months each and was ended in February 2023. A similar fuel subsidy measure was implemented in Guyana in October 2022, which reduced the gasoline and diesel cost by 20% and 15%, respectively, through the Guyana Oil Company Limited, a state-sponsored fuel company.³⁷

Some other governments have targeted their fuel subsidies to specific groups such as farmers or fishermen (e.g., Antigua and Barbuda, France, etc.³⁸), drivers of public transportation, taxi or cargo trucks (e.g., Belize, Morocco, etc.³⁹), and employees based on their commute distance and income (e.g., France). For example, Belize, starting from April 15, 2022, has provided a monthly fuel subsidy to bus operators traveling in excess of 13 miles (one-way) for the number of gallons used. This fuel subsidy had a duration of six-month resulting in over BZD 1 million (\$0.5 million; 0.028% of its GDP) in savings to commuters. Similarly, Antigua and Barbuda, in March 2022, announced a new fuel subsidy to reduce fuel cost by 25%⁴⁰ for registered fisherman, and bus and taxi drivers from the transportation sector. This measure lasted for one month. Next, Philippines, on March 2023, allocated PHP 4 billion (\$71.27 million; 0.018% of its GDP) for direct fuel subsidies for people in the transportation and agriculture sector – public transport drivers, fisherfolk, and corn farmers – for 2023. Of this, PHP 1 billion (\$17.8 million; 0.0045% of its GDP) will be spent on providing fuel subsidies to farmers and fisherfolk, covering 312,000 members (0.3% of the population) of the sectors with PHP 3,000 (\$53.46) per beneficiary.

Box 2. Withdrawal of fuel subsidies

Some countries are phasing-out their previously announced subsidies. In June 2022, Colombia announced that it would gradually reduce overall fuel subsidies to minimize the fiscal deficit. This comes after the country increased its spending on fuel subsidies for the first half of 2022 to maintain lower prices of fuel for Colombians at the time of rising prices. This reduction in subsidies is estimated to reduce the deficit by COP 14.2 billion (\$3.8 billion).

In April 2022, Suriname announced a temporary fuel subsidy to tackle the rising prices of gasoline and diesel for consumers. The country used the increased profits from the oil sector due to the rise in the price of oil to fund this subsidy. However, in February 2023, the government announced plans to phase out subsidies fuel⁴¹ as it seeks to reduce expenditures.

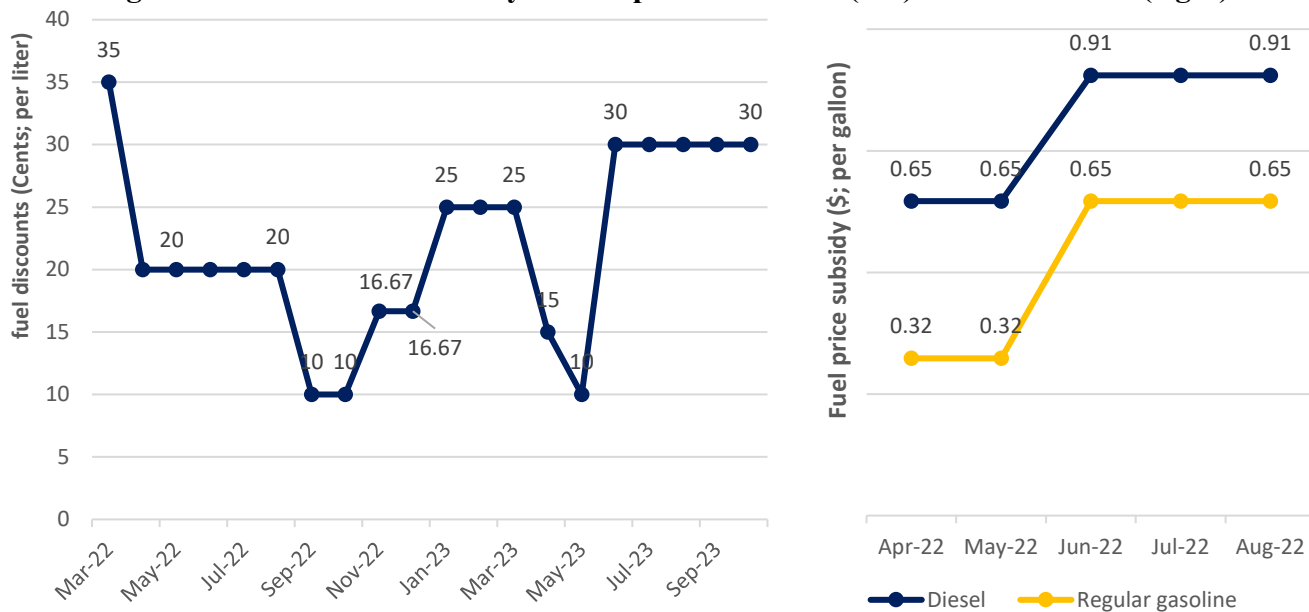
Similarly, Kenya, on 4 April 2022, announced that it had spent KES 118 billion (\$1.08 billion) on fuel subsidies for FY2021-22. On 14 July 2022, the government authorized the spending of another KES 16.67 billion (\$152 million; 0.14% of its GDP) to retain current retail fuel prices for another 30 days. Without the cushion, petrol and diesel prices would have jumped to KES 209.70 (\$1.91) and KES 193.70 (\$1.77) per liter, while with the subsidies, prices were maintained at KES 159.20 (\$1.45) and KES 193.70 (\$1.77), respectively. However, Kenya announced its intention to continue gradually realigning its domestic fuel prices to global in FY2022-23, and, in October 2022, the government started gradually withdrawing fuel subsidies. This is in line with the new recommendation (condition) from IMF which requires Kenya to gradually remove subsidy. So as previously announced, in October 2022, the government started gradually withdrawing fuel subsidies. For the first time in a year, Kenya fully withdrew an KES 20.5 (\$0.19) per liter subsidy on petrol and halved the reliefs on kerosene and diesel to KES 26.25 (\$0.24) and KES 20.82 (\$0.19), respectively. As a result, it reduced the fiscal burden of the subsidy from KES 14.5 billion (\$132.3 million) to KES 5 billion (\$45.6 million) as the new administration works on withdrawing State-backed discounts on petroleum products, saving KES 9.5 billion (\$86.6 million).

Next, there are 32 measures across 30 economies,⁴² which have implemented price control on fuel. For example, Gabon, in March 2023, signed two agreements with Sogara and the Professional Petroleum Association to stabilize fuel prices at the pump with an expected cost of CFA 212 billion (\$344.7 million; 1.887% of its GDP) so that prices at the pump do not increase. Similarly, Mexico, in July 2021, announced a temporary price ceiling for LP gas to prevent it from rising above the inflation rate (among other reasons). However, in July 2022, this measure was extended as a direct response to inflation and some modifications were made to the price cap calculation.

Around 30% (25 out of 84) of the fuel subsidies measures have been extended at least once. Four examples are presented. The first two pertain to the evolution of fuel subsidies in France and Guatemala, while the other couple illustrates the evolution of fuel price control in Slovenia and Hungary (reduction of coverage) with extension.

Extension on fuel subsidy. France extended fuel subsidy 6 times since its initial announcement in March 2022. The government initially announced that 35 cents per liter of fuel subsidy to fishermen would be provided from March 17 to March 31, 2022 (see figure 22; left panel). The subsidy was extended and reduced to 20 cents per liter from April until the end of August 2022. On July 29, 2022, the second extension of the measure was announced with a subsidy of 10 cents per liter from the month of September. The third extension increased the subsidies to 16.67 cents per liter and would be applicable from November 16 to December 31, 2022. The fourth extension was from January to mid-February 2023 and the subsidy was increased to 25 cents per liter of fuel. On February 15, 2022, the fifth extension was announced with a gradual reduction of the subsidy from 25 cents to 15 cents starting from mid-March until mid-April, and 10 cents until May 15, 2023. Finally, the sixth extension announced, on February 25, 2023, that the subsidy would be 30 cents per liter until mid-October of 2023.

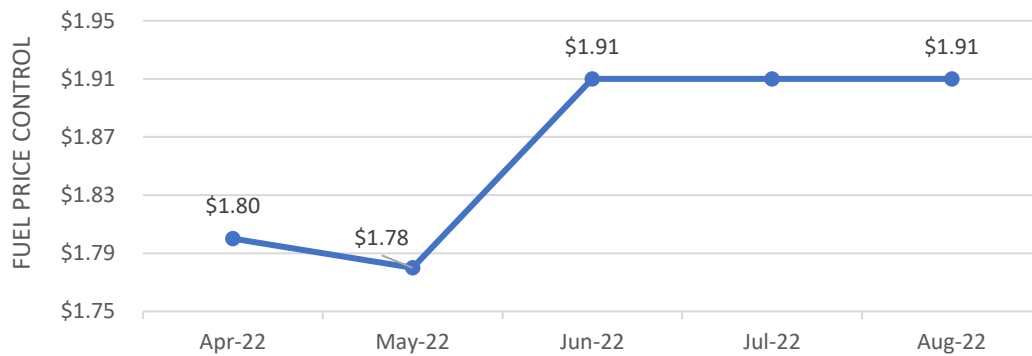
Figure 22. Evolution of subsidy on fuel price in France (left) and Guatemala (right)



Around the same time, Guatemala (see figure 20; right panel), on April 4, 2022, introduced a new law to provide a fuel subsidy of GTQ 5 (\$0.65) and GTQ 2.5 (\$0.32) per gallon on diesel and regular gasoline, respectively, for a duration of 2 months. On May 18, 2022, the government approved the extension of the previous measure until August 2022, and also increased the fuel subsidy from GTQ 2.5 (\$0.32) to GTQ 5 (\$0.65) for regular gasoline and from GTQ 5 (\$0.65) to QGT 7 (\$0.91) for diesel.

Extension on fuel price control. Slovenia, in March 2022, set the maximum retail price for 95-octane gasoline at EUR 1.503 (\$1.78) per liter and for diesel at EUR 1.541 (\$1.82) per liter for a duration of one month. On April 1, price control on fuel price was extended and set at wholesale price which was lower than the previously set price. The wholesale prices were frozen at EUR 1.483 (\$1.75) per liter of petrol and EUR 1.521 (\$1.80) per liter of diesel for one month. On May 10, the government again reintroduced a price cap on motor fuels by increasing the maximum retail prices to EUR 1.560 (\$1.85) per liter and EUR 1.668 (\$1.97) per liter for petrol and diesel, respectively. This measure was in place until early August (Figure 23).

Figure 23. Evolution of fuel price cap in Slovenia



While Hungary announced a three-month cap on gasoline and diesel prices at a max of EUR 1.30 (\$1.39) on November 11, 2021. On February 12, 2022, the same price cap was extended for another three months. In April, the government further extended the same price cap until July 1, 2021. Again, in July the measure was extended for the third time, but the coverage was reduced by restricting the price cap on petrol and diesel to privately-owned vehicles, farm vehicles and taxis, and excluding company-owned cars. Finally, it was extended once again in September 2022, and it is now set to last from then until the end of the year.

Food subsidies

There are a total of 77 recorded measures related to food subsidies across 59 economies.⁴³ These have helped reduce the consumer prices of food either through price control (i.e., by fixing price) or food subsidies (covering part of the food cost) (Table 8). These measures are expected to cover 962.4 million individuals⁴⁴ and cost \$64.6 billion⁴⁵. The average daily benefit size of food subsidy measures, excluding one-off payments, tends to be \$13.8, which is 55% of the daily median income. The average daily benefit size of one-off payments is \$4.⁴⁶ On average, these measures have a duration of 4.6 months.⁴⁷ Of the 29 measures with duration information, 10 measures (34%) recorded an extension to the initial program duration, these extensions have a duration of 6.4 months.⁴⁸ In total, 22 food subsidy measures have been newly recorded for this version.

Table 8. Types of food subsidy measures

Category	Number of measures	Number of economies
Food subsidy	33	28
Price control	44	41
Total	77	59

Within the broader food subsidies category, price control measures are the most recorded measure with 44 (57%) across 41 economies. Of these, 11 measures are newly recorded for this version. For example, On February 1, 2023, DBS Bank in Singapore announced that it will subsidize five million hawker meals over the next 12 months. The subsidy of SGD 3 (\$2.23) per meal will be available for the first 100,000 users (1.8% of the total population) every Friday, from February 10, 2023, to January 19, 2024, when they use DBS PayLah! to scan and pay for their meals at one of the 11,600 SGQR-enabled hawker stalls across the island. North Macedonia announced in March 2023 that it is capping the price of bread at EUR 0.50 per half a kilogram loaf until the end of May. Additionally, France announced in the same month a new deal with supermarkets to keep certain food items at the “lowest price possible” for the

next 3 months. One such supermarket, Carrefour, will keep 200 items under EUR 2, while another, Casino, will have 500 items at or below one euro.

Previously, Hungary had announced a price cap on staple food products starting in February 2022 and the measure has recorded three extensions since. The program started with a ban on many staple products, including sugar, wheat flour, chicken breast, pork legs, and sunflower oil, and was set to last until May 2022. In June, the government announced the extension of this measure until October 2022. On September 17, 2022, the government further extended until the end of the year. In December 2022, it was extended one more time until the end of April 2023. This is one of 8 price control measures that has recorded at least one extension in duration. The average duration of the extensions is 6.8 months⁴⁹ while the average initial duration of all price control measures is 5.4 months.⁵⁰

Most price control measures target a list of basic or essential food products and sometimes are specific to one main product such as bread in the case of North Macedonia. Other economies, such as St Maarten, have a list or basket of products whose prices are being set by the government on a continual basis but have expanded the number of products included due to the crisis. For example, the government of St Maarten expanded from 12 products to 72 products in July 2022.

The second sub-category within food subsidies is general food subsidies where the price is not being set at a certain amount, but they are being lowered through government intervention. A total of 33 measures have been recorded under this sub-category across 28 economies. Of these, 11 measures are newly recorded for this version. For example, Greece announced a new program that started in February 2023 and would cover 10% of each household's purchases for six months in supermarkets and food businesses. This measure has a maximum of EUR 220 (\$234.65) per month for a single-member household with the maximum increasing by EUR 100 (\$118.29) for each additional member of the household (up to EUR 1,000 - \$1066.60- per month per household). This measure is limited to households earning less than EUR 24,000 (\$25,598) per couple with this limit being increased by EUR 5,000 (\$5,333) for each additional child. This subsidy is expected to cost EUR 650 million (\$693.3 million; 0.321% of its GDP), cover 85% of the population per the government with 175,000 individuals (1.6% of the population) already signed up for the program on its first day.

Previously, in May 2022, the Utility Stores Corporation in Pakistan was ordered to provide 10-kilogram bags of flour at a subsidized rate of PKR 400 (\$1.77) throughout the country. In June 2022, UAE as part of its AED 28 billion (\$7.6 billion; 2.12% of its GDP) relief package announced a food subsidy program for Emirati families making less than \$6,800. In Kenya, on July 20, 2022, as part of the 5th stimulus package, reduced maize flour prices from KES 205 (\$1.66) to KES 100 (\$0.81) in retail stores across the country. Later in the same month, Paraguay also announced price discounts ranging between 15% and 40% on more than 100 products which were part of the basic basket of goods (comprising mainly of food and health products). The measure was set to last until August 9, 2022. And more recently, in October as part of the new budget, Malaysia announced a food subsidies measure costing \$407.8 million for the rice and fishing industries (0.109% of GDP).

Fertilizer subsidies

The fertilizer/agriculture subsidy category records 58 measures across 43 economies to support farmers with agricultural inputs (such as seeds, fertilizers, and agricultural equipment) (Table 9). Nine new measures have been passed in this category since the last version of this tracker. Almost all the measures

relate to subsidizing fertilizers via covering part of the cost, except for one measure from Mali where price control on fertilizer was implemented. 14 of the measures are still active, 11 measures have come to an end, 2 measures have been announced but are not active yet, while the status of 29 measures is not known.

In terms of program parameters: fertilizer subsidies are expected to reach 6.3 million people and cost \$38.3 billion. Next, the average daily benefit size of fertilizer subsidy measures, excluding one-off payments, tends to be \$53.3, which is 1.2% of the daily median income.⁵¹ The average daily benefit size of one-off payments is \$238.⁵² And, on average, these measures have a duration of 6.1 months. Of the 7 measures with duration information, 1 measure (14%) recorded an extension to the initial program duration, this extension has a duration of 3 months.

Table 9. Types of fertilizer subsidy measures

Category	Number of measures	Number of economies
Fertilizer/agriculture Subsidy	57	43
Price control (fertilizers)	1	1
Total	58	43

Several countries passed measures to support their agricultural sector for fiscal year 2023 to mitigate the adverse effects of the rising food and wheat prices. Similar to the previous version of the tracker, many of the fertilizer subsidies were given in Africa (24 measures). For example, Kenya announced agriculture subsidies for 2023 to help farmers access fertilizers on a lower price. The cost of fertilizer will decrease from KES 6,000 (\$48.63) per 50kg bag to KES 3,500 (\$28.37). This program will continue until the onset of the long rains in 2023. The government in Rwanda announced a subsidy for potato farmers which has been rolled out in January 2023. This subsidy will allow the farmers to pay RWF 603 (\$0.56) for a kilogram of chemical fertilizers, which is 30% less than the price they were paying under a subsidy agreement rolled out in January 2022. Ethiopian government announced that it will provide ETB 15 billion (\$304.9 million; 0.274% of GDP) as fertilizer subsidies to farmers in the country.

From outside of Africa, the department of Agriculture in Philippines distributed over PHP 400 million (\$7.24 million; 0.002% of GDP) worth of fertilizer subsidies to rice farmers in six provinces of the Bicol region. The fertilizer subsidies were provided in the form of fertilizer discounts vouchers to more than 100,000 farmers (0.1% of the population). Additionally, Croatia announced that it will provide an agriculture subsidy package of EUR 26 million (\$27.7 million; 0.041% of GDP) to help more than 55 thousand farmers (1.4% of the population).

2 measures saw extensions in this category. For example, in September 2022, the Government of Saint Lucia had approved a 30% subsidy on inputs for banana farmers. In January 2023, the measure was extended one more time while keeping the subsidy percentage the same. In February 2022, Turkish government had announced a measure to provide fertilizer subsidies to farmers. In October 2022, it was announced that the program has been extended for 2023 but the complete details have not been released yet.

Fee subsidies

Fees subsidies are the most popular form of subsidy with 220 measures across 80 economies.⁵³ In particular, utility discounts account for almost half the measures (49%; 107 measures) under the fee subsidies category. These are followed by price control, accounting for almost 17% (38 measures). The rest of the responses account for below 10% (see Table 10).

In terms of program parameters: fee subsidies are expected to cover to cover 256.6 million individuals⁵⁴ and cost \$394.65 billion.⁵⁵ Next, the average daily benefit size of fee subsidy measures, excluding one-off payments, tends to be \$6.2, which is 22.4% of the daily median income.⁵⁶ The average daily benefit size of one-off payments is \$238.⁵⁷ And, on average, these measures have a duration of 7.6 months.⁵⁸ Of the 82 measures with duration information, 34 measures (41%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 9.9 months, on average.

Table 10. Type of fees subsidies

Fee subsidies	Number of measures	Share of measures
Utility discounts (e.g., Water, electricity, heating, gas)	107	48.6%
Price control (fees)	38	17.3%
Transportation	19	8.6%
Green energy subsidies (e.g., EV subsidies)	15	6.8%
Housing (e.g., rent support)	12	5.5%
Education	11	5.0%
Other	9	4.1%
Mortgages and other loans	6	2.7%
Health	3	1.4%
Total	220	100%

Subsidies on services, including utility discounts (electricity and heating), housing, transportation

There are 138 measures under this sub-category relating to a variety of subsidies on services ranging from energy, such as electricity and heating, to housing and transportation services, accounting for 63% of fee subsidies.

Starting with utility subsidies, 77 measures across 47 economies⁵⁹ were implemented to reduce utility bills (including electricity, water, and heating). For example, Greece, on 23 December 2022, announced that about 700,000 households (1,788,849 individuals; 16.7% of the population) that use natural gas will also get a monthly EUR 20 (\$21.33) subsidy per megawatt hour. In addition, in March 2023, the State-owned company DEPA provided a EUR 20 (\$21.33) per thermal MWh discount. And in April, the government subsidy doubled to EUR 40 (\$42.66) per MWh. Similarly in Anguilla, in June 2022, a utility subsidy for electricity payments made to the energy supplier ANGLEC, called the Electricity Payments Programme was announced which will provide XCD 1,000 (\$370) credit in two tranches to an estimated 6,000 accounts (40% of the total population). The expected XCD 6 million (\$2.22 million; 0.77% of GDP). In November 2022, Anguilla announced an extension of this measure by providing an additional XCD 1000 (\$370) for the same accounts. The coverage, which was estimated to be 6,000, ended up being 6,100 (40.7% of the total population). This extension will have three tranches instead of two, XCD 500 (\$185) distributed December 1, 2022, XCD 250 (\$93) on December 31, 2022, and another EC\$ 250 (\$93) on January 31, 2022. The extension is expected to cost an additional XCD 6.1 million for a total expenditure of XCD 12.1 million (\$44.8 million; 1.556% of GDP).

Most of the measures that are adaptations of pre-crisis programs have vertically expanded the existing utility support. For example, in September 2022, Togo announced an increase in natural gas subsidies from XOF 7.7 billion (\$12.5 million) to XOF 9.3 billion (\$15.1 million; 0.18% of its GDP), while Albania announced to increase the energy support for the blind, paraplegic and tetraplegic. Earlier, in

March 2022, Botswana announced to continue its support to Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) with a revue grant meant to cushion consumers against high electricity tariffs, at an estimated cost of BWP 600 million (\$46.9 million; 0.27% of its GDP) for fiscal year 2022-2023.

Several utility fee subsidies have also extended throughout the crisis. Among the new programs, Guatemala has extended the subsidy for liquid propane six times since it started in December 2021. In September 2022, it was extended for two months to last until November 2022, then again until January 2023 and more recently it was announced it would last until June 2023. Romania announced, in September 2022, the extension of the electricity bill compensation until August 2023. The scheme, first introduced in October 2021, was meant to run until March 31, 2022, to cover 6 million families (16 million individuals; 83% of the population). Similarly, the electricity support announced in Hong Kong in March 2022 was extended in time to continue in 2023 as well.

Some of the measures that extended in time also expanded vertically. In Norway, in December 2021, the government announced a temporary scheme to households for up to 5000 kilowatt hours of monthly electricity use to remain in place until the end of March 2022. The Norwegian government then proposed an extension until March 2023 with increased support to households in response to high electricity costs. The government would pay 80% of the portion of power bills above prices of 70 ore (7 cents) per kilowatt hour (kWh), up from 55% in the plan devised in December. In early September 2022, the government allocated almost EUR 1 extra billion (\$1.06 billion) in revenues from state-owned power grid firm Statnett to extend its scheme to cover 90% of the portion of power bills above prices of 70 ore (7 cents) per kilowatt hour. Finally, on February 23, the government announced a proposal to extend through 2024, bringing the total cost of the scheme to \$7.5 billion (1.6% of its GDP).

Finally, some measures that were previously scaled up horizontally, were extended in time while also reducing coverage. Italy's Electricity and gas social bonus was announced, on 18 March 2022, and the ISEE (indicator of equivalent economic situation) value for being eligible to apply for the social bonus was set to EUR 12,000 (\$12,799.20) per annum for families with four dependent children. On May 2, 2022, the measure was extended until the end of September 2022. The benefit size ranged between EUR 128 (\$136.53) and EUR 178 (\$189.86). The estimated cost for the measure during 2022 was EUR 102.8 million (\$109.65 million; or 0.005% of its GDP) and aimed to cover more than 5 million households (12,012,962 individuals; 20.2% of the population). On September 13, 2022, the measure was further extended until the end of 2022 and the exclusionary family income threshold was raised to EUR15,000 (\$15,999) per annum, thus reaching an additional 600 thousand households (1,441,555 individuals; 2.4% of the population). Currently, for the year 2023, families who belong to a household with ISEE indicator between $EUR\ 9,530 < ISEE \leq 15,000$ (with less than 4 children), the bonus is granted in the reduced amount equal to 80% compared to the ordinary bonus, recognizing the full compensation (100%) only to households with ISEE not exceeding EUR 9,530. Finally, a phasing out of subsidies was also observed in a few countries. In Argentina, energy subsidies were expected to rise in 2022 from 2.3% of GDP in 2021 to be 3% of GDP for 2022, or from \$11 million in 2021 to an estimated \$20 million in 2022, as based on formula calculated from the rising prices of fuel. On August 2, 2022, the Secretariat of Energy announced a new update to existing calculations, which rolled back the subsidies that were in place only for certain groups and meaning that for these groups there would be an increase in the price of electricity (mostly high-income groups). The subsidy will thus remain in place for a targeted group who qualify, majority being low income. This phasing out of subsidies would come in three phases that will gradually reduce subsidies and increase prices for electricity until the users are paying the full price of electricity

by the end of 2022. The first phase begun on August 31, 2022, and the final phase was set to be in December.

Next, a set of subsidy measures pertains to transportation (19 measures)⁶⁰ which have either subsidized or provided free transportation services to encourage people to use public transportation. Most economies (e.g., Albania, Germany, etc.⁶¹) have subsidized public transportation services. For example, on March 14, 2022, New Zealand announced a cut in public transport fares by 50% and on February 1, 2023, this measure was extended until June 2023 with an estimated expenditure of NZD \$718 million (\$454.8 million; 0.182% of its GDP). In August 2022, Singapore announced an increase in the benefit size of the transport grant for needy children from SGD 15 (\$11.16) to SGD 17 (\$12.64) starting from January 2023. More recently, on February 21, 2023, Ireland reduced the fee for the School Transport Scheme 2023-24 to EUR 50 (\$53.33) per primary school child and EUR75 (\$79.99) per secondary school child, with a cap of EUR 125 (\$133.33) per family. A few economies (e.g., Andorra, Comoros, Croatia and United States) even provided free and special transportation (and related) services. For example, the state of Connecticut in the US has been providing fare-free bus service since April 2022 until March 2023. This program was extended twice: once in June 2022 (until December 2022) and again in late November 2022 (until the end of March 2023). Andorra, on April 20, 2022, created a free monthly season ticket for all residents and lowered the price of school transport. Next, Comoros granted free transportation to farmers to bring their local agricultural products to Moroni, Mutsamudu and Fomboni. Lastly, Croatia, on December 20, 2022, announced the continuation of the package of measures that have lasted for almost two years, including the use of the A11 Zagreb-Sisak highway without paying tolls. 2022, announced the continuation of the package of measures that have lasted for almost two years, including the use of the A11 Zagreb-Sisak highway without paying tolls.

Lastly, there are 12 measures⁶² relating to housing subsidies. These pertain to rental subsidies (e.g., Senegal, France, Taiwan, and UAE), rental advance limits (e.g., Guinea), and creating more flexible criteria for accessing housing aid (e.g., Andorra, Iceland). Senegal for example, on November 9, 2022, 39 subsidized rents by 20% for rents falling below CFA 300,000 (\$487.80), 15% for those between CFA 300,000 and 500,000 (\$813), and 5% for those above CFA 500,000. Similarly, Taiwan approved a TWD 30 billion (\$976.9million; 0.124% of its GDP) budget for the housing rent subsidy program for the fiscal year 2022, to expand horizontally (i.e., increase coverage) as well as vertically (i.e., increase the amount of rent subsidies). Next, Guinea has set a limit of rental advances to three months in order to protect the interest of tenants. Andorra, on April 30, 2022, created more flexible housing aid accessing criteria, where applicants can now request housing aid after 3 years of residence, as opposed to the previously existing 5-year requirement. In June 2022, Andorra also increased the eligible income threshold for aid from 1.2 to 1.3 times the personal or family Economic Threshold of Social Cohesion (LECS).

Price control measures

There are 38 price control measures⁶³ implemented on a variety of items: mostly⁶⁴ on utilities (such as electricity, water and gas), and a few on housing rent increase (e.g., Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, etc.⁶⁵) and transportation (Estonia, Nicaragua, Portugal, and Poland).

Starting with price control on utilities, Uruguay, for example, in May 2022, announced a price freeze on propane tank gas until December 2022 and was expected to cover 1 million individuals (28.8% of population). On December 27, 2022, the measure was extended until the end of June 2023. To date, the measure has covered 130,000 homes (363,421 individuals; 10.5% of the population) so far and has been

costing about \$1 million per month (accounting for a total of ~\$18 million [0.03% of the GDP]). Similarly, Egypt, on June 15, 2022, postponed the decision to increase electricity prices for duration of 6 months, which was later in October 2022 extended until June 2023. This measure is expected to cost EGP 10 billion (\$405 million; 0.1% of its GDP).

The next set of examples relate to price cap on rent. Spain, in March 2022, announced a 3-month price cap on rental increase for housing at 2%. In June 2022, this measure was extended until the end of December 2022 and is expected to cover 875,000 renters (1.8% of the population). This measure was further extended in December 2022 until the end of 2023. Similarly, Denmark, in August 2022, capped rent increases to 4% a year for the next two years and this will apply to existing and new rental agreements, as well as rents that have been raised in recent months.

Other measures relate to price caps on public transportation. Chile, on January 25, 2023, announced the extension of a price freeze measure – which has been in place since 2022 – on all public transportation fees. The extension will benefit adults for a duration of 6-months while students and the elderly will benefit for a year. This measure is expected to cover 9.5 million beneficiaries (49.7% of the population). Portugal, in September 2022, announced a freeze on the prices of public transport under the “Families First” plan. This would cost the government about EUR 66 million (\$78 million; 0.03% of its GDP).

Miscellaneous policies: energy saving, rationing & stockpiling of goods; childcare fee reduction.

There are 24 miscellaneous policies, of which 15⁶⁶ (63%) relate to energy efficiency and the remaining 9⁶⁷ concern rationing of goods and childcare fee reduction.

To promote energy saving, economies mostly focused on subsidizing the installation of solar panels, and energy-efficient heating and cooling systems (11⁶⁸ out of 15 measures: 73%), among other electrical appliances. A few economies even subsidize electric vehicles (EVs). For example, China, on May 2, 2022, announced subsidies for Electric Vehicle (EV) buyers who retire a registered car in the city more than 1 year ago and purchase a new EV by the end of 2022 of as much as RMB 10,000 (\$1,428.57). On February 1, 2023, this measure was extended until May 2023 and consumers will continue to receive rebates of RMB 10,000 (\$1,428.57) per car for any trade-in of internal combustion vehicles for EVs until June 2023. Albania, in October 2022, launched subsidies to help households install solar panels to heat water, thus helping keep energy costs low for lower-income families. The government plans to cover 70% of the cost for 2,000 families (6,599 individuals; 0.2% of the population) to equip their homes with solar thermal connectors. On January 10, 2023, the government announced that it would provide EUR 8 million (\$8.5 million; 0.047% of GDP) in subsidies to households this year for the installation of solar water heaters, aiming to help 20,000 local families (65,992 individuals; 2% of the population). Similarly, Kosovo, on February 24, 2023, announced that EUR 35 million (\$37.3 million; 0.414% of its GDP) will be used to support some 12,000 families (60,960 individuals; 3.4% of the population) residing in private houses or apartments in social housing to improve thermal insulation (facades, windows, and doors), and 10,000 more families (50,800 individuals; 2.9% of the population) will be supported in buying energy-efficient appliances.⁶⁹ Lastly Croatia, on March 15, 2023, announced subsidies to encourage farmers⁷⁰ to use renewable energy sources. It aims to increase energy independence and reduce production costs by investing in renewable energy sources to meet one’s own needs for electricity or heating. The amount of support amounts to EUR 15,000-300,000 (\$15,999-319,980) up to 65% of eligible costs (or 80% for young farmers) and the total expenditure of the measure will be EUR 10 million (\$10.6 million; 0.016% of its GDP).

Another way in which governments are ensuring availability of fuel is by rationing. There is only 1 such measure implemented in mid-April in Sri Lanka, where the state-owned petroleum corporation implemented fuel rationing for vehicles.⁷¹ The measure was later scrapped and re-introduced again on May 5, 2022, as the crisis continued.

Finally, governments (e.g., Canada, Israel, and the Netherlands) have allotted subsidies for child/foster/home care. There are 7 such measures. Canada, on June 16, 2022, announced that the childcare fees in all 13 provinces would be reduced by 50% and by April 2, 2023, it was announced that childcare fees in six provinces and territories were to be reduced to CAD 10 (\$7.35) per day or less. Similarly, Israel, in February, as part of its cost-of-living crisis package of ISL 4.4 billion (\$1.37 billion) announced that middle-class working families will benefit from afternoon childcare subsidies. It would be extended to about 60,000 additional children (0.65% of the population) in broader socioeconomic categories and is expected to cost NIS 150 million (\$42.6 million; 0.009% of its GDP). Estonia, on October 17, 2022, invested an additional EUR 12.3 million (\$13.1 million; 0.036% of its GDP) to support persons with special needs and children requiring foster care; this will be used to improve availability and to help service providers with the increased costs (including increased labor costs).⁷²

Human capital-related services (education and health)

There are 14 measures across 11 countries⁷³ subsidizing education and health. On June 16, 2022, as part of its Affordability Plan package Canada included dental care coverage for Canadians earning less than CAD 90,000 (\$71,777) a year. Similarly, Panama, on August 11, 2022, announced lowering prices on medicine and other pharmaceutical products for consumers by 30%. This measure was effective since August 15, 2022, for a duration of 6 months. More recently, Anguilla, on December 15, 2022, announced a new subsidy program covering 100% of the cost of medical treatment at the Health Authority of Anguilla (HAA) facilities for individuals 70 years and older⁷⁴ starting March 2023. This would cover both primary and secondary care services on the island including access to medical, surgical, diagnostic and prescription drug coverage.⁷⁵ The estimated cost of this program is expected to be XCD 5.1-7.1 million (0.617% of its GDP).⁷⁶

Next, come education subsidies. There are 11 measures (across 8 economies⁷⁷) subsidizing tuition or examination fees and back-to-school stationery and providing education scholarships/study grants. On February 22, 2023, Hong Kong exempted university entrance examination fees for school candidates who will be taking the 2024 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination as part of its 2023 budget. The measure is set to cost HKD 151 million (\$19.3 million; 0.005% of its GDP). Similarly, Ireland also exempted examination fees for the 2023 academic year and Senegal, on November 9, 2022, announced subsidized tuition fees for schools and universities. UAE, on July 4, 2022, as part of a large package targeting inflation announced an education subsidy of AED 3,200 (\$853.3371) per month to Emirati families with income below AED 25,000 (\$13,866.67) per month. This is designed to encourage children to enroll in universities. Similarly, in January 2023, Finland increased study grants in line with the National Pensions Index, effective from the new academic year in August 2023. For students aged 18 or above and who live independently, the study grant will go up from EUR 268.23 (\$286.09) to EUR 279.38 (\$297.98) per month. Togo, on September 19, 2022, announced subsidies for purchasing school stationeries (e.g., writing and reading manuals) to parents with primary school children, equivalent to CFA2.5 billion (\$4.06 million; 0.048% of its GDP).

Mortgages and other loans

There are 6 measures across Bulgaria, Canada, Ireland, Poland, Spain, Togo, and the UK, which relate to loans and other financial obligations. Canada, in April 2022, adapted its Advance Payments Program to support farmers ahead of planting season by allowing them to access 100% of their 2022 cash advances and waiving off their timed instalments. For the same program, more recently (in June 2022), Canada also increased the interest-free limit for advances up to CAD 250,000 (\$183,782), from CAD 100,000 (\$73,513), for the years 2022 and 2023. In Bulgaria, the interest rate was reduced on overdue payments to the state, municipalities, utilities and others by up to 8%. Togo also implemented a similar measure, while Poland postponed the mortgage loan repayments for a duration of 8 months already benefiting 500,000 families (1.4 million individuals; 3.7% of the population). Ireland, in January 2023, introduced a new low-cost interest rate loan scheme for residential retrofit – by making energy efficient upgrades – to private homeowners and non-corporate landlords. Finally, the UK, in October 2022, increased the maintenance loan amounts for students by 2.3% for the academic year 2022-23.

4. Social assistance

Social assistance includes 409 measures across 118 economies (Table 11), representing 31% out of all measures. Among social assistance measures, cash transfers claim the largest share (77%; 316 measures), followed by in-kind measures (14%; 57 measures). The rest of the social assistance measures account for close to 9%, with social pensions, school feeding and public works counting 17, 11 and 8 measures each.

Moving to program parameters: social assistance measures plan to reach 917 million individuals and cost \$256.3 billion. Next, the average daily benefit size of social assistance measures, excluding one-off measures, tends to be \$7.1, which is 26% of the daily median income. The average daily benefit size of one-off payments is \$303.⁷⁸ And, on average, these social assistance measures have a duration of 9 months. Of the 102 social assistance with duration information, 13 measures (13%) recorded extension in initial program duration of 4.8 months, on average.

Table 11. Type of social assistance measures

	Number of measures (% of total social assistance)	Number of economies
Cash transfers	316 (77%)	106
Unconditional cash transfers	299	102
Conditional cash transfers	17	15
Social pensions (non-contributory)	17 (4%)	13
Old age social pensions	11	11
Disability pensions	6	5
In-kind transfers	57 (14%)	43
Food vouchers (quantity or value-based)	10	10
In-kind food distribution	13	11
Health kits and other in-kind transfers	16	13
Other in-kind vouchers (quantity or value-based)	18	15
School feeding	11 (3%)	10
School meals (on-site school feeding)	11	10
Take-home rations	0	0
Public works	8 (2%)	8
Cash for work	8	8
Cash for services	0	0
Food for work	0	0
Total	409	118

Cash transfers

Cash transfers remain the predominant social assistance instrument, counting 409 measures in total. In terms of program parameters, cash transfers are expected to cover 794.6 million individuals and cost \$240.6 billion. Next, the average daily benefit size of cash measures, excluding one-off payments, amounts to \$6.8, which represents 25.4% of the daily median income. The average daily benefit size of one-off payments is \$305.⁷⁹ On average, these interventions have a duration of 9.4 months, and out of the 80 measures with duration information, 12 measures (15%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 5 months on average.

Cash transfer measures are typically targeted to different groups of beneficiaries, such as elderly and pensioners, poor and vulnerable individuals, families with children, students, employed and unemployed people (see Table 12).

Table 12. Programs by beneficiary group and coverage

Target group	Total # of CTs	Of which, # of CCTs	Coverage (individuals in millions)	# of CTs with coverage info
Low-income families	105	4	560.7	45
Vulnerable (elderly, disabled, refugees & their hosts, floods/drought affected, etc.)	89	3	196.5	31
Children (pregnant and lactating women; families w/ children [incl. single parent, women headed]; child allowance & youth)	86	5	121.1	33
Workers (formal & informal)	42	3	127.8	11
<i>Formal sector employees (e.g., government servants, public/private sector employees)</i>	27	3	64.0	8
<i>Commercial transportation (e.g., drivers of taxi, cargo ship/trucks)</i>	5	-	0.004	1
<i>Public transportation (e.g., bus driver)</i>	2	-	-	-
<i>Agri-, fishing, and poultry industry (farmers, fishermen, etc.) and Animal production (e.g., livestock breeders)</i>	6	-	0.08	1
<i>Other self-employed/informal sector workers (e.g., street vendors)</i>	17	2	111.6	6
Students (education; training)	25	3	32.0	8
Unemployed	10	-	1.0	4

Note: The table is generated by the author based on 316 CT programs from Version 5 of the Price shock tracker (Gentilini et al., 2023). The coverage and number of cash transfers are not exclusive across target categories implying that certain programs were categorized under more than one target group. Therefore, the sum of programs from each target group under column 2 (i.e., Total # of CTs) does not add up to 316. Similarly, the coverage figure total (in column 4) does not add up to 794.6 million individuals.

In particular, assistance has been provided to support families with children and those on low incomes to help them cope with the costs of increased energy. Japan announced in March 2023 that it is considering providing additional cash payouts worth JPY 50,000 yen (\$367) to low-income households with children to ease the pain of inflation, costing over JPY 2 trillion (\$15 billion; 0.305% of its GDP) of reserve funds from the state budget for the current business year to March, together with a cut in liquefied petroleum gas bills. In France, the government announced in September 2022 exceptional energy checks. This aid will concern the 12 million poorest households, i.e., 4 out of 10 households (26,664,681 individuals; 39.6% of the population), and its amount will be EUR 100 or EUR 200 (\$106.66-\$213.32) depending on incomes.

Additional countries also introduced child benefit schemes for the first time, as announced in Kosovo in September 2022. Similarly, in Portugal, the new Childhood Guarantee is aimed at children and young people under the age of 18, holders of family allowances, belonging to households that are in a situation of extreme poverty. The measure consists of a benefit that complements the family allowance in order to guarantee the payment of a total amount of EUR 70 (\$74.66) per child/youth. The amounts were paid in September retroactive to July 2022. This measure will cost EUR 70 million (\$74.66 million; 0.03% of its GDP) in 2023 and the same amount is allocated in 2023 to increase the values of the family allowance for children in the 1st and 2nd income brackets, which will be 400,000 (3.9% of the total population). In Czech Republic, a one-time payment for children of CZK 5,000 (\$221.08) was approved in June 2022. This regulation applies only to families whose annual gross income is less than CZK 40,000 (\$1,768.66), with 1.1 million households entitled to the benefit, covering about 1.6 million

children (15% of the population). The measure should amount to about CZK 7.8 billion (\$344.88 million; 0.122% of its GDP). In Fiji, the 2022-2023 budget announced in July 2022 included a child benefit payable to parents with a combined annual income of less than \$50,000 and with children under the age of 18, in the amount of \$180 per child over a 6-month period, or \$30 per month per child, to be paid out in two phases.

A number of cash transfer interventions were also given to pensioners and vulnerable groups. In Greece, pensioners who did not benefit from the increase in pensions at the end of 2022 will now receive a one-time allowance, ranging between EUR 200 (\$213.32) and EUR 300 (\$319.98), which will cost the state EUR 300 million (\$319.98 million; 0.148% of its GDP) in total. In Denmark, the bill to offset rising energy costs adopted in September 2022 includes a second installment of DKK 2,500 (\$358.57) tax-free to pensioners as a one-time measure. In Croatia, it was announced in March 2022 a one-time monetary compensation of EUR 150 (\$159.99) covering 167,000 vulnerable buyers (4.1% of the population) of energy products at a cost of EUR 25 million (\$26.66 million; 0.04% of its GDP). In the Seychelles, a package to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel prices has been running from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023. In addition, recipients of a fixed benefit from the Agency for Social Protection (ASP), will receive a temporary additional income support of SCR 500 (\$35.40) monthly for a duration of 6 months. This will include pensioners with income not exceeding SCR 9,000 (\$637.21), home carers and recipients of invalidity and social safety net benefits. Portugal announced on December 15, 2022, that it would increase the one-off contribution to vulnerable households to EUR 240 (\$255.98), for a total of EUR 249 million (\$265.58 million; 0.106% of its GDP). The support will cover around one million families (2,676,409 individuals; 26% of the population) and would be paid on December 23, 2022.

Several programs provide support to public and private sector workers, as well as students. In Kosovo, a one-time payment of EUR 100 (\$106.66) was given to workers in public companies in October 2022 and a one-time payment of EUR 100 (\$106.66) for students in November 2022; while in the Seychelles, a monthly payment of SCR 300 (\$21.24) in support of electricity bills was given to formally employed individuals starting in August 2022 for the duration of 6 months. The measure is expected to cover 7,000 households (25,200 individuals; 25.6% of the population) at a cost of SCR 14.3 million (\$1.01 million). Malta, in February 2022, announced the disbursement of a one-time cash grant to alleviate the effects of inflation. Workers and students received a cash grant worth EUR 100 (\$106.66), while pensioners and individuals on social benefits received EUR 200 (\$213.32). In March 2023, New Zealand announced a cost-of-living package, according to which student support rates will increase in line with inflation, with single students under 24 without children to get an extra \$20.21 per week.

Some unconditional cash transfers are also targeted to the agriculture sector. In Saudi Arabia, the government allocated SAR 108 million (\$28.8 million; 0.008% of its GDP) to support the beneficiaries of the Small Livestock Breeders Support Program. In Sri Lanka, on August 22, 2022, following a 290 percent price hike for kerosene, the government has decided to provide a direct cash transfer to low-income families, fisherfolk and plantation workers.

Adaptations of existing programs

There are 141 cash transfer programs across 70 countries that are adaptations of existing measures implemented prior to the crisis. Amongst these, 62% are vertical expansions (88 measures), 11% are horizontal scale-ups (15 measures), and 13% of programs are both horizontal and vertical extensions (18

measures). The remainder 14% (20 programs) have either undergone an administration simplification, advancement of payments, or have been solely extended in time. The complete program list can be found in Annex 9.

A great number of measures aim to support families with children, by increasing the size of the benefits. Malta announced, as part of its 2023 Budget, to increase the children allowance by EUR 90 (\$95.99), affecting more than 41,000 families with 62,00 children (11.8% of the population), at a cost of EUR 5.6 million (\$5.97 million; 0.035% of its GDP) for the State. Similarly, Hong Kong also proposed to vertically expand its child allowance and the additional child allowance for each child from HKD 120,000 (\$15,368.85) to HKD 130,000 (\$16,649.59), benefitting 324,000 taxpayers (4.3% of the population). In December 2022, in Iceland, the child benefit system was horizontally and vertically expanded, while admin rules were also simplified. Simultaneous payments of child benefits will be introduced so that the waiting time for benefits will never be longer than 4 months after the birth of a child.

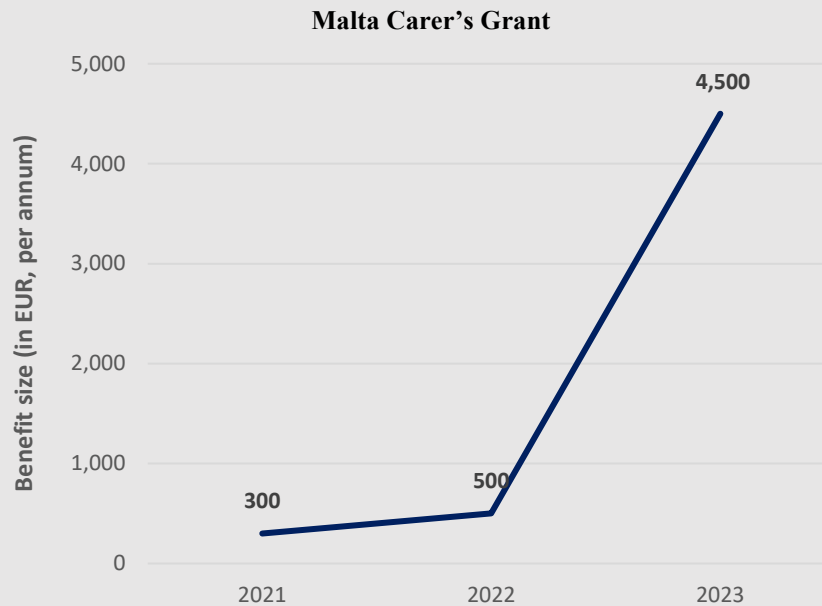
In several economies, programs also targeted beneficiaries of existing programs, either by implementing new separate CT programs or by complementing the existing measure with additional top ups. An example of the former case is a one-off cost of heating allowance provided in Germany to recipients of housing allowance and students under the *Federal Training Assistance Act (BAföG)* funding, amounting to EUR 270 (\$287.98) and EUR 230 (\$245.32), respectively, ending in 2032. For the latter, in Cameroon, in October 2022, the restructuring of *Cameroon Social Safety Nets* will enable the provision of additional cash transfers to 15,000 households (74,885 individuals; 0.3% of the total population) currently enrolled in cash transfer programs (regular and emergency) in the cities of Douala, Yaoundé, Bafoussam and Ebolowa. Each beneficiary household will receive an additional amount of CFA 90,000 (\$146.34), in two installments of CFA 45,000 (\$73.17).

Other programs aim to provide additional resources to strengthen shock-responsive safety nets, in most cases with the financing support of international organizations. For instance, in Pakistan \$1.5 billion (0.433% of its GDP) was released in October 2022 by the African Development Bank to support the government's effort to expand coverage from 7.9 to 9 million BISP beneficiary families (61.2 million individuals; 27.7% of the total population) by providing cash transfers through the *BRACE* program. In Egypt, the government announced expansions of the *Takaful and Karama* program in March 2022, in July 2022 and in August 2022 to cover 5 million families in total (20.7 million individuals; 20.2% of the total population) and announced in March 2023 a 25% expansion of cash payments.

Some of these programs are also adaptations of measures introduced in response to the Covid pandemic. Under the *Recovery of Economic Activity for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE)* Project, the Government of Liberia is providing grant support to vulnerable households to revive or start small businesses, aiming to increase access to income earning opportunities for the vulnerable in the informal sector in response to the COVID-19 crisis. This support runs from October 1, 2021, through June 30, 2024, at an estimated cost of \$3.52 million (0.101% of its GDP). In Angola, on January 2022, it was reported that the government proposed an increase in the value of the cash transfer program "*Kwenda*" *Monetary Social Transfer Program* to account for inflation from AOA 8,500 (\$16.87) to AOA 11,000 (\$21.84) per month per beneficiary household. The program was started during COVID with a 3-year duration (ending in December 2023) and in January 2022, the government planned to institutionalize it by continuing it beyond its December 2023 end date.

Box 3. Adaptation in Malta

Other existing measures were adapted to take into account the price crisis and are specifically targeted to supporting vulnerable groups and poor households. As an example, Malta announced in October 2022, as part of its Budget 2023, that parents who stop working to take care of an adult child with severe disabilities will receive up to EUR 4,500 (\$4799.70) annually and will be paid every three months in 2023, at an estimated cost of \$1.8 million per year (\$1.9 million; 0.011% of its GDP). The measure was first put in place in 2021, by introducing financial assistance in the amount of EUR 300 (\$319.98). This support was further increased to EUR 500 (\$533.30) in 2022.



Evolutions of programs during the crisis

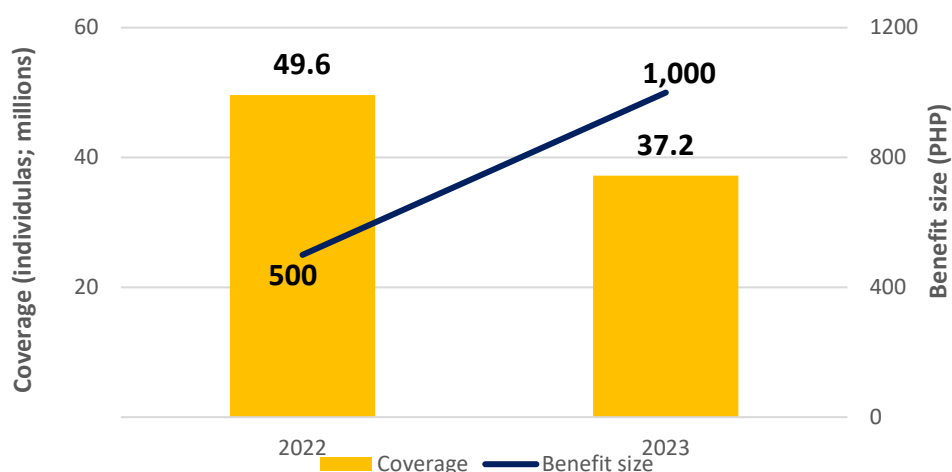
Out of all cash transfers, 37 measures (xx%) undergone policy changes. Policies have been subject to one or a combination of the following modifications: (i) vertical expansion, (ii) horizontal expansion, (iii) time extension, (iv) admin simplification. Most of these policies changes pertain to time extensions and/or vertical expansions, followed by horizontal expansions and admin changes.

Specifically, many measures related to family support which were introduced as adaptations of pre-crisis measures further extended in time. In Sweden, the housing allowance to families with children was temporarily increased between July and December 2022, and the measure was then extended in time to last through 2023, at an estimated cost of SEK 0.52 billion (\$49.9 million; 0.008% of its GDP) for the state. In Ireland, after providing a double Child Benefit payment of EUR 140 (\$149.32) per child in November 2022, the government announced an additional one-off payment of EUR 100 (\$106.66) per child in June 2023. Others have undergone a vertical expansion by increasing the value of the benefit given. In South Africa, on June 1, 2022, the child support grants (CSG) for those taking care of orphaned children increased to ZAR 720 (\$42.37) a child a month, from ZAR 480 (\$28.24). This increase is via a top-up of ZAR 240 (\$14.12). As per the budget 2023 announced on February 22, 2023, the government proposed an increase in the top-up by ZAR 10 (\$0.58) amounting to ZAR 250 (\$14.71) per child per month and the grant by ZAR 30 (\$1.76) thus reaching ZAR 510 (\$30.01) by October 2023. The total Child Support Grant will therefore be ZAR 750 (\$44.13) per child per month by October 1, 2023.

Other measures aiming at supporting vulnerable groups were also discounted and restarted at multiple points in time through the crisis. In Argentina, the government announced in August 2022 a monthly cash transfers for retirees and pensioners to go along with vertical expansion set to last between September and November 2022, with average benefit size of ARS 5,500 (\$31.06). Following a break of three months, a second round of transfers between March and May 2023 was announced, along with a vertical increase to provide a set amount of ARS 15,000 (\$84.71) to 6.1 million individuals (13.4% of the total population). Similarly, in Norway, an extra fixed electricity allowance was given to beneficiaries of the housing allowance between January and May 2022. While the benefit was suspended between June and September 2022, the pay-out was again made available in October at NOK 1,000 (\$101.42) and vertically expanded to NOK 1,500 (\$152.13) in November and December 2022. Again, in January 2023, the support was given until April 2023. Earlier in August, Peru made available one-off cash transfers to provide additional funds to beneficiaries of three different existing programs, mainly, *Juntos*, *Pensión 65* and *Contigo*. The transfer size will be in the amounts of PEN 200 (\$52), PEN 250 (\$64) and PEN 300 (\$77), respectively. In December 2022, it was further announced that another one-off of the same amount will be provided.

Other measures aimed at pensioners and workers expanded horizontally and in time, for instance, by expanding coverage to multiple categories of beneficiaries. In Italy, the EUR 200 (\$213.32) one-off bonus for 28 million workers and pensioners (47% of the total population) with an income level lower than EUR 35,000 (\$37,331) approved in May 2022, was extended in August 2022 to another 300 thousand workers (0.5% of the total population), including doctoral students and research assignees, to those who had not received it because they are covered by notional INPS contributions (40,000 individuals; 0.07% of the total population), retirees starting by July 1, 2022 (50,000 individuals; 0.08% of the total population) and sports collaborators severely affected by the pandemic and energy crises. The decree of December 7, 2022 further extended access to the bonus to self-employed workers and professionals who do not have a VAT number.

Figure 24. Philippine’s TCT program



To the contrary, some programs also saw a decline in coverage. On March 16, 2022, the Government of Philippines announced the *Targeted Cash Transfer (TCT)* Program which aims to support around 12.4 million vulnerable households (52.4 million individuals; 47.8% of the total population) belonging to the bottom fifty percent, amid the rising prices of fuel and goods. The program provided cash grants amounting to PHP 500 (\$9) for six months. On March 21, 2023, the Government announced that it would

release cash aid of PHP 1,000 (\$18) to 9.3 million households (39.3 million individuals; 36% of the total population) as inflation remains stubbornly high.

In-kind transfers

There are 57 in-kind measures across 43 economies. 13 new measures have been added in this category since the last version of the tracker. 23 measures are still active, 16 measures have come to an end, 1 measure has been announced but not started yet, and the status of 17 measures are not known yet. In-kind measures can be classified into two broad categories: (i) food-related measures (including both in-kind and voucher modalities); and (ii) non-food-related measures (also both in-kind and vouchers). The former category identifies 23 measures (40%) while the latter consists of 34 measures (60%).

Table 13. Types of In-Kind

Category	Number of measures	Number of economies
Food related measures	23	20
Non-food related measures	34	28
Total	57	43

In terms of program parameters: in-kind measures are expected to cover 170.3 million individuals and cost \$12.4 billion. Next, the average daily benefit size of in-kind measures, excluding one-off payments, tends to be \$4.8, which is 16.1% of the daily median income. The average benefit size of one-off payments is \$252.⁸⁰ And, on average, these measures have a duration of 6.5 months. Out 15 measures with duration information, 1 measure (7%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 3 months.

Food-related measures

A total of 23 measures have been reported across 20 economies that are related to in-kind food transfers. 6 new measures have been passed in this category since the last tracker.

Among new measures, Slovakia announced a meal voucher program for workers which will be provided by the employers at workplace. It will be valued at 75% of the meal allowance for work trips lasting from 5 to 12 hours with a meal allowance of EUR 7.30 (\$7.78), while the minimum value of the meal voucher will be EUR 5.48 (\$5.85). For the 2023 budget, Hong Kong announced electronic consumption vouchers worth HKD 5,000 (\$640) that will be distributed in two instalments which can be used for catering and in local retail. Moreover, the US has announced an increase of 12.5% for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), commonly referred to as food stamps, for fiscal year 2023. For a family of four, this increase will amount to \$104 more per month which can be spent on groceries, raising the current monthly amount from \$835 to \$939.

Some measures were also extended in time. For instance, in June 2022, the Ministry of Finance of Anguilla announced a one-off food voucher program called the Senior Citizens' Food Voucher Program. Under this program, food vouchers of XCD 500 (\$185.19) were provided to eligible citizens, benefitting 857 individuals (5.7% of the total population). In November 2022, the food voucher program was extended for a second one-off transfer).

Non-food related measures

A total of 34 measures have been reported across 28 economies that are related to non-food in-kind transfers. 7 new measures have been added in this category since the last version of this tracker.

Several new measures are also targeted to specific groups of beneficiaries. Macau announced that it will be providing a living subsidy of MOP 8,000 (\$996.16) in the form of e-vouchers which will be valid until June 30, 2023. The daily cap for the living subsidy is set at MOP 300. 667,000 residents have registered for the e-vouchers so far (100% of the total population). The Government of Georgia announced a program to support small holder farmers for purchasing goods required for farming activities. The program will assist farmers by depositing subsidy points onto special agricultural cards which they can use to purchase goods for agriculture. Some 300,000 farmers (8.1% of the total population) will be able to qualify for this program. Additionally, in Oman, the government will be providing a one-time subsidy of OMR 25 (\$65.02) which will be disbursed to more than 59,000 students (1.2% of the total population) to be used for school supplies.

Three measures saw extensions in this category. For example, in March 2022, Philippines had rolled out targeted subsidies for transportation use worth PHP 6.1 billion (\$109 million). They were extended for the first time in July 2022. A second extension for the measure was announced in March 2023 when the national government allotted an additional PHP 4 billion (\$71 million). In March 2022, Italy distributed petrol vouchers of up to EUR 200 (\$213.32) and in February 2023, the measure was extended with the total amount of the vouchers staying the same. Greece also announced a fuel voucher program in March 2022 that was set to last three months and which ranged from EUR 30 to 50 (\$31.99-53.33). This measure was extended in July 2022 for another 3 months after which it came to an end.

Social pensions

There are 17 measures under this category identified across 13 economies. A total of 13 new measures have been added in this category since the last version of this tracker. 14 of the measures are still active, 2 of the measures have ended, 1 measure has been announced but not active yet. In terms of program parameters: non-contributory social pension programs are expected to cover over 35.3 million individuals around the globe and cost \$2.1 billion. The average daily benefit size of non-contributory social pensions, excluding one-off payments, is roughly around \$14, which is 54% of the daily median income. The average benefit size of one-off payments is \$82.⁸¹ Moreover, on average, these measures have a duration of 12 months (2 measures). No measures saw an extension in this category.

Table 14. Types of Social Pensions

Category	Number of measures	Number of economies
Old Age Social Pensions	11	11
Disability Pensions	6	5
Total	17	13

The majority of social pensions (14 measures) have seen indexations across 10 economies⁸² due to rising inflation and cost of living. As part of its new budget, Lithuania announced a comprehensive pension package for 2023. The government has announced an increase in base pensions ranging from EUR 184 (\$196.25) up to EUR 368 (\$392.51) for orphans, retirees, and people with disabilities. As part of its budget for 2023, South Africa announced ZAR 30 billion (\$1.76 billion; 0.42% of its GDP) which will be used for inflation-linked increases for social grants. Pensions for the elderly and people with disabilities will also increase by ZAR 90 (\$5.29) on April 1, 2023, and a further ZAR 10 (\$0.58) by 1st October 2023. Hong Kong also announced in its 2023 budget that it will increase the allowance for eligible social security recipients. The Government of Guyana announced an 18% increase to pensions for the elderly, raising it from GYD \$28,000 (\$134.29) to GYD 33,000 (\$158.27). This increase in pension will benefit about 73,000 senior citizens (9.3% of the total population).

Moreover, in Slovakia, a one-off contribution of EUR 100 (\$106.66) has been announced for senior citizens over the age of 62 years who have not yet become entitled to a pension. There are roughly 102,000 citizens (1.9% of the total population) who will benefit from this contribution.

Public works

Eight public works programs have been recorded across 8 countries.⁸³ In terms of program parameters, public works programs are expected to cover 3.3 million individuals⁸⁴ and cost \$1.1 billion.⁸⁵ The average daily benefit size for public works programs, excluding one-off measures, is \$0.31, which is 22.2% of the median daily income.⁸⁶ The average benefit size of one-off payments is \$1,431.⁸⁷ On average, these measures have a duration of 7 months (3 measures). No measures saw an extension in this category.

Most recorded public works programs are in Africa (75%), and most are World Bank operations. There is one new public works program that has been recorded since the previous version of this tracker, a *Labor-Intensive Public Works program (LIPW)* in Madagascar. This is a World Bank approved *Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC)* that has a \$50 million fund aimed at mitigating the impact of the government's decision to raise fuel prices. Previously, in China, the government will invest CNY 6.6 billion (\$944.7 million; 0.005% of its GDP) in 2022 to support more than 1,800 cash-for-work projects which will affect more than 130,000 people (less than 0.1% of the population). In Cameroon, the labor-intensive public works subcomponent of the Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis Project, approved by the World Bank and financed by IDA, will support 33,400 able-bodied laborers (0.13% of the population) who support about 167,000 household members (0.63% of the total population), of which 60% are women.

Additionally, Malawi's *Climate Smart Enhanced Public Works Program (CS-EPWP)* has a wide-ranging focus apart from a price shock response. It has a climate adaptation and resilience focus, aimed at mitigating the impact of natural disasters and hazards while also providing pathways for the most vulnerable to secure income and be incorporated into the expanding social safety net. This program aims to replace the *Affordable Input Program* and the previous *Public Works Program (PWP)* by planning to reach some 435,000 households (roughly 10.3% of the population) with roughly \$108 million (0.85% of its GDP) in financing allocated so far.

School feeding

There are 11 school feeding programs recorded across 10 countries.⁸⁸ In terms of program parameters, school feeding programs are expected to cover some almost 295,263 individuals⁸⁹ and have a total expenditure of roughly \$34.5 million.⁹⁰ On average, school feeding program measures have a duration of 13 months (2 measures). No measures saw an extension in this category.

There are 5 new measures that have been recorded since the previous version of the tracker. One of these is in Oman, where the government planned to offer daily meals in public schools to an expected 59,030 students (1.2% of the population). This program uses a voucher system where students receive a voucher with a value of OMR 0.5 (\$1.30) to cover roughly 22 school days each month. A record just over OMR 4 million (\$10.4 million; 0.005% of its GDP) have been approved by the Ministry of Finance for the first year.

Additionally, in Cape Verde, under a Limited Emergency Operation, WFP was set to purchase and transport food for school meals to 90,000 children (16.2% of the population), using existing procurement platforms to cost-effectively source the food; while in Cameroon, the sub-component of the Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis financed a home-grown school feeding (HGSF). Through this activity, the scale-up of HGSF was supported in order to benefit 50 schools and 35,000 children (0.13% of the population).

5. Social insurance

Social insurance recorded a total of 75 measures across 41 economies⁹¹ (Table 15), representing 6% of all measures. Such measures are anticipated to reach 76.7 million⁹² individuals, costing 51.5 billion.⁹³ On average, these social insurance measures have a duration of 11.3 months. Out of 17 measures with duration information, 6 measures (35%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 10.5 months, on average.

Table 15. Type of social insurance measures

Category	Number of measures	Number of economies
Pensions	55	38
Old age pensions	47	36
Disability pensions	6	6
Survivor pensions	2	2
Social security contributions	11	7
Individual retirement accounts and social contributions for individuals	10	6
Social security contributions for firms	1	1
Paid leave	2	2
Sickness and population at risk	0	0
Maternity/Paternity	2	2
Health insurance	3	3
Health insurance	3	3
Unemployment insurance	4	3
Out-of-work income support	4	3
Total	75	41

Pensions

Since the last version of the tracker, 10 new measures were added in the pension category, bringing the total number of pension-related measures to 55. Among these, the majority pertain to pension increases. Of the 52 measures that saw increases to pensions, 10 measures were indexed. Some of these increases are undertaken through indexation to inflation (e.g., Albania, France), GDP growth (e.g., Bosnia and Herzegovina), or both income and inflation (e.g., North Macedonia). In Canada, on June 16, 2022, as part of a new package called the *Affordability Plan* which is estimated to cost a total CAD 8.9 billion (\$6.5 billion; 0.329% of its GDP), pensions of those under the *Old Age Security* program will be increased by 10% permanently. This includes 75-year-old and older pensioners and is expected to cover 3 million seniors (7.9% of the population). In May 2022, Bulgaria announced that a BGN 60 (\$32.72) per month “Covid supplement” for pensioners will be permanently incorporated into pensions, a measure that was originally supposed to end by June 2022. For those in the military, Armenia announced on August 24, 2022, increases of AMD 2,000 (\$5.08) each to both military and military disability pensions.

As of January 1, 2023, a child-raising allowance of CZK 500 (\$113.59) will be added to both retirement and old-age pensions for each child that the insured pensioner has raised in Poland.

Several countries have provided pensioners with one-off supplemental payments; in Kosovo, pensioners received EUR 100 Euro (\$106.66) payments in November 2021, April 2022, and September 2022; Portugal paid out a lump-sum payment equivalent to half a month's pension in October 2022 as part of its *Families First package* aimed at fighting inflation; in July 2022, about 3,000 government pensioners (1.6% of the population) in St. Lucia received a lump-sum payment of \$500 to help deal with rising prices, costing the government XCD 1.5 million (\$0.56 million; 0.031% of its GDP); and \$532 million (0.064% of its GDP) was allocated towards one-time pension payments to social security beneficiaries in Saudi Arabia during the 2022 fiscal year, as part of a \$5.33 billion (0.639% of its GDP) package to cushion the effects of rising costs. Other measures related to pensions aimed to increase the number of people benefitting from pensions, such as in Jamaica where on April 5, 2022, the government announced the ramping up of the *Social Pension Program* to target vulnerable seniors affected by increased prices. Started in July 2021, the program has only benefited 7,800 beneficiaries (0.26% of the population) as of April 2022 and the government has set a new target of 20,000 beneficiaries (0.68% of the population). Similarly, on July 6, 2022, Paraguay announced an increase in budget for the *Alimony Program for Older Adults* by PYG 25 million (\$3.4 million; 0.009% of its GDP) to add 15,000 new beneficiaries (0.21% of the population) to the program which assists elderly people.

Social security contribution

Under social security contributions, 11 measures have been announced, four of which are new since the last version of this tracker. Social security contributions waivers or reductions in contribution amounts are found in Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Iceland, Italy, Israel, and United Kingdom. On January 27, 2023, Bosnia and Herzegovina approved amendments to the law on social security contributions to amend and extend the reduced social security contributions basis for employees of labor-intensive industries, such as mining, textile, and leather industries whose salary is less than 85% of the average net salary. In the UK, 70% of National Insurance Contributions (NICs) payers will pay fewer NICs while higher-income households will contribute the most; and in Israel, all employees whose monthly salary is higher than NIS 6,331 (\$1799.09) will benefit from a reduction in the rate of provision for social security contributions and health tax of up to NIS 67 (\$19.04) per month. In France, for those who are self-employed, there will be a permanent reduction in self-employed contributions, generating a gain of EUR 550 (\$586.63) per year at the level of the minimum wage

Paid Leave

Since the last version of this tracker, 2 measures related to existing paid parental leave policies emerged in Greece and Ireland. On September 15, 2022, Greece announced that paid parental leave in the private sector would increase from six months to nine months during which the Hellenic Manpower Employment Organization (OAED) will continue to pay parents the equivalent of monthly minimum wage and partial holiday allowance. Earlier this year, on January 1, 2023, Ireland announced that under the *Parents Benefit*, the monthly parental leave benefit will increase from EUR 250 (\$266.65X) in 2022 to EUR 262 (\$279.45) in 2023.

Health Insurance

Three measures related to health insurance were also established since the last version of the tracker with Albania, Ireland, and Singapore announcing actions aimed at ensuring that citizens continue to access

health services despite the rise in cost of living. On October 26, 2022, Albania announced that as part of the 2023 budget, compulsory health insurance will be provided for the first 5 years of a child’s life to families with unemployed mothers and three or more children (where one child is up to 5 years old or younger) and a monthly household income of up to ALL 100,000 (\$934.14). On March 9, 2023, Singapore announced an annually disbursed top-up of SGD 150 (\$111.56) to the Medisave accounts of young people up to 20 years old and those over 55 years old starting in 2023 until 2025, disbursing a total of SGD 450 (\$334.67) per qualifying individual over the period.

Unemployment insurance

Sweden has joined Belgium and the UAE in providing assistance to job seeking individuals bringing the total of measures related to unemployment insurance to 4. On November 8, 2022, the Swedish government announced that funds would be permanently allocated to keep unemployment benefits at the same levels as seen during the COVID-19 pandemic and as part of the 2023 budget, SEK 5.82 billion (\$558 million; 0.089% of its GDP) will be allocated to this measure.

6. Active labor market and economic inclusion programs

There have been 77 labor market implemented across 54 economies,⁹⁴ and they count for 6% of overall measures. There have been 32 new measures introduced in this category since the previous version. These measures plan to reach some 21.6 million⁹⁵ individuals and cost an expected almost \$24.9 billion⁹⁶. The average daily benefit size of labor market measures is around \$42.0, which is 103% of the daily median income. Additionally, on average, these measures have a duration of 7.4 months. Out of 13 measures with duration information, 3 measures (23%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 7.7 months, on average.

Table 16. Types of labor market measures

Category	Number of measures	Number of economies
Training & intermediation	4	4
Labor market services including intermediation (PES)	-	-
Training (vocational, life skills, cash for training, others)	4	4
Wage subsidies	7	5
Wage subsidy with reduced work time	1	1
Wage subsidy without reduced work time	4	4
Subsidies for job creation that are targeted on newly created jobs	2	1
Labor regulatory adjustment and enforcement	2	2
Wage increase	64	47
Minimum wage increase	44	38
Public sector wage increase	20	15
Total	77	54

Wage increases

Most of the measures (64 measures; 83%) pertain to wage increases implemented across 47 economies⁹⁷, of which 44 measures relate to minimum wage increases and 20 measures relate to public sector wage increases.

Minimum wage increases were announced across 38 economies. There have been 20 such measures and 17 economies newly recorded for this version compared to the previous version. For example, starting April 1, 2023, New Zealand has increased the minimum wage by NZD \$1.50 (\$0.95) to NZD \$22.70 (\$16.06) per hour as a part of the *Bread and Butter Support* package. Additionally, many economies

recorded minimum wage increases during January 2023. For example, Belize increased the minimum wage to BZD 5.00 (\$2.50) an hour for all workers and Egypt increased the minimum wage to EGP 2,700 (\$172.58) for private sector employees.

Previously, on September 13, 2022, Thailand announced a minimum wage increase of 5% to help mitigate the impact of high energy prices and living costs. It is the first increase in more than two years. Similarly, in October 2022, Portugal announced an increase to the national minimum wage from the current EUR 705 (\$751.95) to EUR 760 (\$810.62) and went into effect in January 2023. In addition, 8 new measures across 8 economies⁹⁸ have implemented wage increases that only affect public sector employees. For example, Albania announced in December 2022, salary increases of up to ALL 5,900 (\$55.11) for teachers and doctors. For kindergarten teachers and nurses, this increase is of ALL 3,500 (\$33). This represents a roughly 7% increase in salaries and has already affected around 31,000 teachers (1.1% of the population). Previously, in North Macedonia, there was a 15% increase in wages for all staff working in kindergarten, primary, and secondary school as announced on July 11, 2022. Similarly, Sri Lanka, on January 2, 2022, increased civil servants' salaries by LKR 5,000 (\$24.95) per month to cope with the increase in the cost of living. Two economies have recorded increased wages through indexation related to inflation (France and Togo). In July 2022, France announced that inflation had reached a benchmark which triggered a 3.5% increase in civil servants' salaries. On September 16, 2022, Togo announced the increase in the salaries of civil servants, military personnel, and public retirees by 10%.

Wage subsidies

There are 7 wage subsidy measures recorded across Kosovo, France, Hong Kong, Macao and Malaysia. Of which, 4 pertain to wage subsidy without reduced work time, 2 in Malaysia that pertain to subsidies for job creation that are targeted on newly created jobs, and 1 measure relates to wage subsidy with reduced work time in France. The average benefit size is \$935⁹⁹ which for the most part is transferred monthly, with the exception of one measure which is a one-off. There are roughly 4.5 million individuals¹⁰⁰ expected to be covered with an expected expenditure of just over \$10.6 billion. The average duration for these measures is 7.5 months¹⁰¹ and two of these were extended for an average of 6.5 months.

The two subsidies for job creation measures are both from Malaysia and are the two newly recorded measures for this version. One of these is a program to incentivize employers to employ graduates of the Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) institutions through a MYR 600 (\$135.96) a month subsidy for three months. Additionally, the same amount (MYR 600) will be given to employers who employ people from vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, formerly incarcerated, houseless people, and the chronically unemployed. These measures put cash in the hands of employers, in the form of a labor subsidy, in order to incentivize job creation for these particular targeted groups.

Previously, Hong Kong in March 2022, announced a support for eligible employers by providing subsidies of HKD 8,000 (\$1,024.59) for each full-time employee it employs who earns below HKD 30,000 (\$3,842.21) per month. As of August 2022, the government granted subsidies for 350,000 applicants (4.68% of the population), exceeding its original estimate of 300,000 beneficiaries (4.01% of the population). As of November 2022, the government had approved additional funds for this program, which expanded the coverage to an expected 1.57 million beneficiaries (21% of the population) and the measure is now expected to cost HKD 44.1 billion (\$5.65 billion; 1.5342% of its GDP).

Training and intermediation

There are 4 recorded measures related to training and intermediation across the four economies of Comoros, Malaysia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Tajikistan. Of these, 2 are newly recorded for this version. For example, the government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines announced an expansion of the existing Youth Empowerment Services (YES) program which provides jobs/internships to unemployed youth (individuals ages 16 to 30). These typically last around 6 months for around 175 applicants (0.16% of the population). The measure that is in response to the crisis is a vertical expansion to the monthly stipend that accompanies this training program for youth of an additional XCD 150 (\$55.55). Previously, Tajikistan, with the help of ADB's grant, aims to provide employment support employment for returning migrants due to the Ukraine crisis, in addition to other components such as expanding the social assistance coverage. To support business and employment, returning migrants will obtain vocational training for reskilling.

Labor regulation adjustment and enforcement

There are 2 recorded measures related to this category, one in Italy and one in Singapore, and both measures are newly recorded for this version. The Singapore measure is unique in that it is a labor regulatory adjustment to compensate Singapore chicken slaughterhouse workers who are affected by a Malaysian live chicken export ban. Since the slaughterhouse has lost its source of live chickens, the workers are left without work and so the government has announced a one-month foreign worker levy waiver to ease the negative impact of the Malaysian live chicken export ban.

7. Trade measures¹⁰²

There are 75 export/import restrictions and easing measures implemented across 47 economies¹⁰³ (Table 17). Of these, 44 economies¹⁰⁴ have implemented 71 export/import restriction measures to ensure the domestic availability of food/fertilizer. At the same time, when looking at the global shortage, at least 4 economies¹⁰⁵ have started easing¹⁰⁶ restrictions that started prior to June 2021 while others have eased bans instated in response to the global crisis.

These trade measures, on average, have a duration of 5.4 months.¹⁰⁷ Of 42 measures with duration information, 16 measures (38%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 5.4months, on average. Twenty-four bans have been lifted and/or eased to less stringent restrictions¹⁰⁸.

Table 17. Types of trade measures

Trade-related measures	Number of measures	Number of economies
Import/export restriction	71 (86%)	44
Import/export easing	4 (13%)	4
Total individual	75	47

Export/import restrictions

Governments are restricting the export of food (grains, spices, cooking oil, fruits and vegetables, frozen meat, etc.), live cattle and animal feed, fertilizer and its ingredients (e.g., Urea), and new to this version of the tracker, diesel.

The majority (89% or 63 measures out of 71 measures) of trade restriction measures across 41 economies¹⁰⁹ relate to the export of food items. Food export restrictions can be further classified as

having at any given time been a form of the following: bans (76%; 48 measures); license, special authorization, or inspection requirements 13%; 8 measures); quotas (13%; 8 measures); and increases in export tax (6%; 4 measures).

There has been an easing of bans that came into effect in response to the rise in prices which can consist of a gradual shift in stringency going from the most stringent export/import restrictions (i.e., ban) to relatively less stringent restrictions¹¹⁰ measures (licensing requirements and quota) to complete removal of the restriction. All the export/import easing measures were on food, except for South Korea (which removed the export restriction on urea) and Kenya (raw materials for animal feeds). Since the start of the crisis when these bans were put in place, 24 have been lifted or evolved to lighter restrictions. In Argentina, a ban on exports of soybean meal and soybean oil went into effect on March 13, 2022. Two weeks later, on March 28, 2022, the ban was lifted, and the export tax rate was increased to 33% from 31% with plans to use the additional revenues to subsidize flour. On February 27, 2022, Turkey implemented export restrictions on more than a dozen agricultural products, including some dairy products. The ban on butter exports was removed on June 26, 2022 and replaced with a monthly quota until September 2022. Indonesia imposed a ban on the export of palm oil on April 22, 2022, which was then lifted on May 19, 2022, due to pressure on global food prices. One day later, on May 20, 2022, the government re-imposed domestic sales requirement on palm oil. On February 9, 2023, Indonesia clamped down again on palm oil exports to control domestic price. Ahead of Ramadan 2022, on March 15, 2022, Morocco restricted exports of tomatoes to Europe to ease the surge in local prices due to high demand for tomatoes as a key ingredient in holiday dishes. On February 23, 2023, Morocco announced a renewed tomato restriction with quotas. From March 18-22 ahead of Ramadan, there was a total ban on the export of tomatoes. On March 26, 2023, the ban was lifted and replaced with a cap of 1000 tons daily.

There has been an uptick in export bans on onions and other root vegetables sweeping parts of Eastern and Central Asia including Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan. Governments have also restricted the export of livestock (e.g., cattle, chickens, etc.) and their feed (5 measures¹¹¹). For example, Kazakhstan and Malaysia banned the export of cattle and chicken, respectively, while, the Kyrgyz Republic, Azerbaijan, and Lebanon have banned the export of farm animal feeds. Two countries banned export of diesel; Serbia instated a 6 month ban that ended January 20, 2023, and Kazakhstan has instated a 4-month ban starting February 14, 2023.

Finally, a few other economies (3 measures¹¹²) have imposed restrictions on the export of fertilizers and their ingredients. Such restrictions can be classified as bans (e.g., Kyrgyz Republic), restrictions in the form of inspection requirements (e.g., China), and increases in export taxes (e.g., Vietnam).

Import/export easing

There are 4 trade easing measures for restrictions imposed prior to the start of the current global price crisis, or prior to June 2021 recorded. On April 12, 2022, Iraq lifted the requirement of license for the import of foodstuffs, medicine, and consumables until June 8, 2022. Similarly, in Zimbabwe, import licenses are no longer required for the import of certain commodities like sugar, washing detergent, and infant milk as of May 20, 2022. Kenya, as part of the fifth stimulus package, suspended fees and levies on imported maize grain and raw materials for animal feeds for a period of four months from July 1, 2022, to October 31, 2022.

8. Tax measures

A total of 258 tax measures were introduced across 99 countries in response to increases in food and fuel prices. In line with the trend observed in the previous version of the tracker, most of these programs belong to the indirect tax category (73%), while the remaining (27%) measures pertain to the direct tax category (Table 18).

Table 18: Distribution of tax measures according to types

Category/sub-category	No. of measures	No. of countries
Direct taxes	69	29
<i>Income Tax</i>	62	27
<i>Property tax</i>	3	3
<i>Road tax</i>	3	2
<i>Others</i>	1	1
Indirect taxes	189	91
<i>VAT</i>	89	50
<i>Excise duty</i>	44	35
<i>Custom duty</i>	39	34
<i>Others</i>	17	14
Total	258	99

With regard to program parameters: tax measures plan to reach 178.1 million¹¹³ individuals and cost \$95.8 billion.¹¹⁴ On average, these measures have a duration of 6.8 months. Out of 104 measures with duration information, 47 measures (45%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 9.2 months, on average.

Direct taxes

Sixty-nine tax measures relate to direct taxes and are implemented by 29 countries, of which 63 (90%) relate to income taxes. Altogether, there are 18 newly recorded measures pertaining to income tax involving 11 countries. Many of these measures were announced as part of national budgets for 2023. Consistent with the previous version of the tracker, reducing tax, raising base tax-free allowance, and providing tax rebate/credit are the three most common income tax strategies employed by countries in response to inflation, with the ultimate objective of increasing citizens' disposable income.

Some countries adopt multipronged measures that combine all or several of the key strategies aforementioned. For example, Ireland utilizes all three strategies, namely tax reductions designed to benefit 1.5 million people (30% of the population); increasing the income tax band to EUR40,000 (\$42,664) for a single person and to EUR 49,000 (\$52,263) for married couples with one earner; and increasing the tax credit by EUR 75 (\$79.99) for personal tax, employee tax and earned income tax. South Africa announced the following measures as part of its 2023 Budget, (i) increasing the annual tax-free threshold for individuals under the age of 65;¹¹⁵ and (ii) adjusting the retirement tax tables for lump sum withdrawals before and at retirement by 10%. For the latter, such a measure will increase the tax-free amount that can be withdrawn at retirement to ZAR 550,000 (\$32,365).

The newly recorded income tax measures also comprise some noteworthy examples of innovative use of tax rebate and tax credit to directly respond to food and fuel crises. Finland introduced a fixed-term tax credit for electricity, wherein those with electricity bills exceeding EUR 2,000 (\$2,133) between

January 1 and April 30, 2023, will be entitled to receive a tax credit (at the rate of 60 % of electricity expenses). In the United States, as part of the Inflation Reduction Act, the government will provide up to \$14,000 in rebates and tax credits in order to encourage people to make their homes more energy-efficient. This will be implemented through the *High Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program (HEEHRA)*, under which point-of-sales rebates will be given for qualified electrification projects by low- or moderate-income households. In response to food price inflation, in the United States, the City of Boulder implemented a food tax rebate amounting to \$99 for individuals and \$302 for families. This program is targeted at the elderly (age 62 or over); persons with a disability; or families with children under 18 years of age in the household. A similar program was introduced in Canada wherein a tax rebate is used to target grocery affordability. Under the 2023 budget, Canada proposed a one-time Grocery Rebate which will be delivered via GST credit when filing taxes. In terms of benefit size, this measure will provide eligible couples with two children with up to an extra \$467; single Canadians without children with up to an extra \$234; and seniors with an extra \$225, on average. Overall, this measure is expected to provide \$2.5 billion in targeted inflation relief for 11 million low- and modest-income Canadians and families (26,937,078 individuals; 70.9% of the total population).

Other examples of programs that employ strategies using tax reduction and raising tax-free allowance include the Government of Italy's decision, as part of the 2023 budget, to increase the annual income threshold from EUR 5,000 (\$5,333) to EUR 10,000 (\$10,666) for the purpose defining "casual worker" and the applicable tax obligations. Seasonal workers in the agriculture industry will also be subject to the same policy provided that they do not exceed 45 working days in a year. In Togo, tax exemption (previously applicable only to the first bracket of personal income tax) was extended to other brackets of salaries for both public and private sector employees. This measure is expected to increase the size of tax reduction from 25% to 35%.

The remaining 7 measures (10%) fall under three sub-categories of direct tax, which employ similar strategies as discussed above. In regard to *property tax*, the Government of Israel, on January 11, 2023 announced that it will freeze the increase in residential property tax rates of 1.37%, which went into effect in January 2023. This measure is expected to save about NIS 70 (\$19.89) per year, on average, per household. In the United States of America, the State of Illinois' \$46.5 billion package to help ease the burden of inflation announced in April 2022 included a direct one-off cash transfer in the form of property tax rebates, which was rolled out on September 12, 2022. The transfer is subject to a ceiling of \$300 as long as the adjusted gross income for the taxable year does not exceed \$500,000 for joint filers of 2021 Illinois state taxes and \$250,000 for all other returns. This measure is expected to benefit 6.2 million residents (48.9% of the state's population) under the Illinois Family Relief Plan. Other minor categories are (i) *road taxes* e.g., Czech Republic's decision to cancel road tax for cars, buses, and trucks and the measure by the Government of Mexico to freeze bridges and highway tolls, which was extended until end February 2023; and (ii) 'Others' i.e., Ireland's extension of agriculture tax reliefs.¹¹⁶

Some notable updates to the direct tax measures covered in the previous version of the tracker include (the Government of Egypt's policy to raise the income tax exemption limit to EGP 36,000 (\$1458.). This constitutes a 20% increase from the limit of EGP 30,000 (\$1,215) announced in March 2022; in Bermuda, the application window for a one-off direct cash transfer program (paid in the form of payroll tax rebate) closed on December 15th with total applications of 5,116. Of these, 3,625 applicants (5.7% of the population) have already received their transfer, for a total of approximately \$700,000; and In Albania, the tax-free salary limit for individual was increased by 25% from ALL 40,000 (\$373) to ALL

50,000 (\$467). This is expected to benefit more than 70,000 employees (2.5% of the population) and it constitutes an additional change to an earlier announcement on tax measures made in April 2022.

Indirect taxes

189 tax measures under the category of indirect taxes are implemented by 91 countries. These comprise 89 measures (47%) relating to VAT, 44 measures (23%) relating to excise duty, 39 measures (21%) on custom duty and 17 measures categorized as “others”.

Reduction of VAT. A VAT reduction is being used by many economies to help cushion the impacts of the food crisis. The Government of Cameroon announced a 30% reduction of excise duty on beverages that are prepared using domestically produced products. Further, in order to encourage greater production of local products to meet demand for food, Cameroon’s 2023 budget includes a policy that would reduce VAT on pesticides, fertilizers, and other agricultural inputs, as well as equipment and materials for agriculture, livestock and fisheries. Togo exempted VAT for canteen operations in schools, universities and companies to help pupils, students and employees cope with food price inflation. In March 2023, the Government of Malawi announced a VAT exemption on wheat flour. A comparable measure can also be found in the MNA region where the Palestinian Authority decided to exempt the VAT (at the rate of 16%) for bakeries and flour packaged in bags of 25kg, from March to May 2022 and later extended these initiatives until August 2022. The Government of Poland, as part of the Anti-Inflation Shield package, announced that a 0% VAT rate will be applicable to fish, dairy products, meat, vegetables and fruits, bread, oils, etc. Spain announced a 6-month suspension of the 4% VAT for food products under the category of basic necessity. As for oil and pasta, VAT for the products was reduced from 10% to 5%. In response to energy price inflation, the government of Grenada reduced the VAT on electricity consumption from 15.0% to 7.5% for all consumers and reinstated the policy of zero-rate VAT on electricity consumption up to 99 kWh for residential consumers, effective from February 2023. The estimated forgone revenue from this measure is approximately \$3.7 million.

Reduction of excise duties. Recognizing the impact of electricity price increase on food price inflation, South Africa’s government announced under the 2023 budget that manufacturers of food products will be entitled to a refund of levy imposed on diesel used in the manufacturing process (e.g., generator) for a period of two years. Also related to food price inflation, Sweden announced that the temporary tax reduction on agricultural diesel will be further extended, and there are plans to lower the reduction obligation to the EU’s minimum level as of January 1, 2024. Sweden’s 2023 budget allocated SEK 0.38 billion (\$36.4 million; 0.006% of its GDP) to finance temporary tax cuts on diesel in agriculture, forestry and aquaculture sectors. Examples from the LAC region include the government of Antigua and Barbuda’s decision to eliminate taxes on flour with the aim to keep the cost of bread low and stable.

Exemption/Suspension of custom duty. Among various examples, West Bank and Gaza decided to exempt from tax the import of wheat from Egypt for a period of one month. Dominican Republic reduced the customs duties to 0% for imports of a basket of goods covering 67 different products (among others refined oil, butter, milk powder, canned goods, chicken and garlic) for a period of 6 months beginning in June of 2022. Senegal suspended custom duties on imported products such as rice, wheat, corn, sugar and oil, a measure expected to cost the government CFA 157 billion (\$255.3 million; 0.9% of its GDP). The Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina approved an exemption of custom duty on the imports of 370,000 tons of mineral fertilizers based on the criterion that the end users of such imports must be farmers.

In relation to tax reduction strategies, an example from Serbia illustrates a dynamic approach wherein the excise duty levied on petrol and diesel tax reductions were increased gradually and over time throughout March to December 2022, in response to protracted inflation. On March 10, 2022, Serbia reduced the excise duty levied on petrol and diesel purchases by 20%. On April 28, 2022, the government further reduced the excise duty levied on petrol and diesel purchases by 15% from the levels before March 10, 2022. The Fiscal Council estimates that the lowering of excise taxes on oil derivatives costed the state over RSD 20 billion in 2022. On December 9, 2022, as part of the 2023 budget, Serbia announced the further implementation of lower excise taxes on oil derivatives by 10%.

There are 17 indirect tax measures categorized as “others.” Box 4 highlights several noteworthy examples of newly recorded measures falling under this category

Box 4: Some indirect Tax measures Categorized as "Others"

The "Others" category of indirect tax measures includes a variety of noteworthy examples implemented by governments around the world. The following selected examples demonstrate the breadth and scope of such measures:

- Togo suspended "market ticket taxes" for all markets lasting three months.
- Grenada removed the "environmental levy" for consumption up to 500 kWh until December 31, 2022.
- Ghana reduced the Electronic Transfer Levy (e-levy) from 1.75% to 1%, effective from January 2023.

Some notable updates to the indirect tax measures covered in the previous version include, in North Macedonia, the exemption of VAT on imported natural gas, electricity, thermal and cooling energy which was extended until the end of 2022. Overall, the estimated costs for the tax measures implemented in 2022 were EUR 400 million (\$426 million); in Mexico, the policy package of the Mexican government called '*Paquete contra la inflación y la carestía (PACIC)*' that includes an exemption of the general import tax on 26 food products was extended until December 2023. Also under the same package, the list of products for which the import tax is exempt has increased beyond just food and now covers 54 products; in Bangladesh, the VAT exemption on imports of soybean oil and palm oil was extended by four months until April 30, 2022 in order to keep stable the price of edible oil; in Uzbekistan, following the end of VAT exemptions on the import and sale of vegetable oil, sunflower and flax seeds, soya pits, potatoes, meat and meat products, and livestock until the end of 2022, the Government of Uzbekistan announced that the VAT on imports will be reduced from 15% to 12% starting from 2023; and in Denmark, the government introduced another reduction of tax on electricity by lowering the electricity tax from 69.7 øre per kilowatt-hour to 0.8 øre – equivalent to the minimum rate permitted by the EU – for the first six months of 2023. This measure is estimated to cost the Danish state DKK 3.5 billion kroner (\$501 million).

Annex 1. Regional responses

Sub-Saharan Africa (AFR)

Economies in Sub-Saharan Africa have announced or implemented a variety of different measures in response to the global price shock. To date, the tracker has recorded 218 measures across 47 economies (see Table A1.1), seeing the addition of 57 new measures and 2 new countries since the last version and making up a total of 16% of measures worldwide. While subsidies make up 36% of measures in the region and continue to be the most common, reflecting the global trend, they are closely followed by social assistance measures which comprise 35% of all measures in Sub-Saharan Africa. The remaining measures are made up of tax measures (20%), trade measures (6%), labor market (2%), and finally social insurance (1%).

In terms of program parameters: the region plans to cover 85.5 million individuals¹¹⁷ (8% of the total population in the region) and cost \$34.95 billion¹¹⁸ (1.82% of the total regional GDP). Next, the average daily benefit size of subsidy and social assistance programs in the region tend to be \$1.1, which is 36% of the daily median income.¹¹⁹ The benefits which were provided as one-off in the region were on average at \$166. And, on average, these measures have a duration of 6.9 months. Of the 61 measures with duration information, 12 measures (19.6%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 6.6 months, on average.

Table A1.1. Number of measures and share of total

Component	SSA		World		SSA as a share of the global Response
	No. of Measures	Share of Total	No. of Measures	Share of Total	
Subsidies	79	36%	439	33%	18%
Social assistance	76	35%	409	31%	19%
Tax measures	44	20%	258	19%	17%
Trade related measures	13	6%	75	6%	17%
Labor market programs	4	2%	77	6%	5%
Social insurance	2	1%	75	6%	3%
Total	218	100%	1033	100%	16%

Among the 36 economies implementing subsidies, fertilizer subsidies are the most common with 24 measures recorded across 18 countries,¹²⁰ or 30.4% of all subsidy measures. Following closely are food subsidies which make up 23 measures or 29.1% found in 18 countries¹²¹ and 19 fuel subsidies were implemented among 16 countries,¹²² respectively. Subsidies on fuel and fertilizer can again be categorized as: (i) fuel/fertilizer subsidies that cover part of the cost; (ii) price cap on fuel/fertilizer products. Fuel subsidy measures have almost an equal number of measures pertaining to both the categories, while all fertilizer subsidies measures, except one, relate to the first category (i.e., government covering part of the cost).

Since January 2022, for each liter of diesel purchased at CFA 615 (\$1) in Côte d'Ivoire, the state contributes a subsidy of CFA 469 (\$0.76) and CFA 285 (\$0.46) for each liter of premium gasoline sold at CFA 735 (\$1.20), costing the government CFA 700 billion (\$11,382,148.52; 1.63% of its GDP) as of February 1, 2023. On March 14, 2023, Gabon signed two agreements with Sogara, the Gabonese

Refining Company, and the Professional Petroleum Association to stabilize fuel prices at the pump, spending 212 billion CFA (\$344,716,498.19; 1.89% of its GDP). On April 16, 2022, Nigeria's senate approved NGN 4 trillion (\$8,695,652,173.91; 1.97% of its GDP) for the petrol subsidy in 2022, a substantial increase from the NGN 1.573 trillion (\$3,419,565,217.39; 0.776% of its GDP) that was allocated in 2021. As of January 2023, the government reportedly spent \$10 billion (2.269% of its GDP) on fuel subsidies in 2022 with help of \$2.2 billion (0.499% of its GDP) from its 2021 Eurobond sale and plans to maintain the subsidy until at least mid-2023, costing \$7.5 billion (1.702% of its GDP) which has already been earmarked. Economies in the region also announced or implemented subsidies related to fertilizer to support farmers. In January 2022, Rwanda initiated a subsidy for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK) 17-17-17 fertilizer meaning that potato farmers would pay RWF 882 (\$0.82) per kilogram instead of RWF 1530 (\$1.43). On October 25, 2022, this subsidy increased meaning that potato farmers would be responsible for only RWF 603 (\$0.56) or 39.4% of the cost per kilogram until January 31, 2023, with the state covering the remaining RWF 927 (\$0.87) or 60.5% of the total cost. Similarly, on August 9, 2022, Tanzania launched a fertilizer subsidy program for fiscal year 2022-23 which will cost TZS 150 billion (\$65,285,256.49; 0.096% of its GDP) at an average of TZS 52,000 (\$22.63) per subsidy. As a result, a bag of DAP, typically TZS 131,675 (\$675.06), Urea, normally TZS 124,714 (\$714.05); and NPKs which usually cost TZS 122, 695 (\$53.40), will each cost TZS 70,000 (\$30.47). A bag of CAN, usually priced at TZS 108,156 (\$47.07) will sell at TZS 60,000 (\$26.11).

Following fuel subsidies, food subsidies are the second most-used form of intervention. Food subsidies can be broadly classified into 2 categories: (i) food subsidies that cover part of the cost; (ii) price cap on food products. Less than one third, or 7 measures, are subsidies that cover part of the cost while the rest are related to price control, often price caps on basic essential goods and food stuffs. On April 4, 2022, Gabon announced subsidies for foodstuffs such as flour, estimated to cost CFA 100 billion (\$162,602,121.79; 0.89% of its GDP). On February 24, 2022, Senegal announced several measures totaling CFA 50 billion (\$81,301,060.89; 0.294% of its GDP) to contain the inflationary surge on the cost of basic necessities, reducing the price of a liter of oil by CFA 100 (\$0.16), CFA 25 (\$0.04) on a kilo of "unscented broken" rice and CFA 25 (\$0.04) on sugar. On June 30, 2022, Mauritius decided to impose a maximum profit margin through the Consumer Protection (Consumer Goods) (Maximum Mark-Up) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 on importers of goods like canned fish and tomatoes, certain dairy products, infant formula, cereals and diapers starting from July 1, 2022.

Finally, fee subsidies include 12 measures across 8 economies.¹²³ These fee subsidies are fairly equally spread across fee price control and utility discounts at 3 measures each, followed by transportation and education at 2 measures each, and finally one each between mortgage and housing subsidies. On November 9, 2022, Senegal introduced two new subsidies, one for school tuitions and the other for rents based on rent thresholds, covering 20% of rents under CFA 300,000, 15% for rents between CFA 300,000 and 500,000, and 5% for those above CFA 500,000. On April 5, 2022, Comoros announced that free transportation will be available for farmers to transport local agricultural products to Moroni, Mutsamudu and Fomboni.

Following subsidies, social assistance measures were the most used responses with 35% of the measures (76 responses) implemented across 47 economies. Similar to the global trend, cash measures constitute the majority of transfers (59%; 45 measures). Furthermore, there are 19 in-kind measures, four public works, six measures on school feeding, and two on social pension (non-contributory).

Social assistance programs experienced a variety of evolutions. Some programs experienced only vertical increases, meaning the benefit size increased such as in Mauritius where on June 7, 2022, as part of its third budget speech, for beneficiaries under the Social Register of Mauritius, the monthly child allowance would increase from MUR 957 (\$21.80) to MUR 1046 (\$23.83). Others expanded horizontally, increasing coverage of beneficiaries. On March 31, 2022, Cape Verde announced the increase in the number of beneficiaries of the Social Inclusion Income for families in extreme poverty and absolute poverty, benefitting more than 5,000 households (21,000 individuals; 3.78% of the population). In Mauritania, the Social Safety Net System Project II supported by the World Bank announced a restructuring on June 29, 2022, to support the government's lean season shock response Elmaouna program. The restructuring would deploy \$11.5 million (0.14% of its GDP) to reach 38,000 additional households (250,800 individuals) to bring the total number of households benefitting to 47,000 (286,700 individuals; 6.2% of the population). In some cases, measures were expanded both horizontally and vertically. On November 24, 2022, Ghana increased the benefit size and coverage of its Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) program as part of the efforts to mitigate rising living costs through the 2023 budget, increasing the allocation for LEAP from GHS 197.5 million (\$23,029,384.33; 0.030% of its GDP) in 2022 to GHS 395 million (\$46,058,768.66; 0.059% of its GDP). The expansion doubles the benefit size of the LEAP grant from GHS 45.00 (\$5.25) per household per month to GHS 90.00 (\$10.49) and the government aims to increase coverage to 500,000 extreme poor households (2,500,000 individuals; 8% of the population) by 2024, from the current 344,185 households (1,032,555 individuals; 3% of the population) in 2022.

In terms of in-kind measures, multilateral banks and other international actors played a very important role to support grants in the region. Five measures out of 19 were in-kind food support. In Chad, a project funded by USAID, WFP, and the EU is being implemented by an NGO called Moustagbal to provide in-kind nutritional assistance to 3,719 children aged 6 to 23 months, and 3,226 pregnant and breastfeeding women from these same households with a four-month ration of nutrients (totaling 6945 individuals; 0.04% of the total population). In August 2022, food baskets consisting of rice, beans, pasta, oil, sugar, salt, and fishing materials were distributed to 1,500 flood affected households (6000 individuals; 2.7% of the population) as part of a three-month emergency assistance distribution funded by WFP in São Tomé and Príncipe. Estimated at \$258,500 (0.05% of GDP), the emergency assistance will end by October 2022. The majority of in-kind support measures, equaling 14 measures, provided agricultural inputs to farmers across the region. The African Development Group approved support to Comoros and the Democratic Republic of Congo to provide in-kind agricultural inputs through the Transition Support Facility. More than 14,000 households (75,202 individuals; 8.6% of the population) in Comoros will benefit from a \$5.6 million (0.42% of its GDP) grant providing 270 tons of maize and potato seeds and 300,000 sweet potato vines for more climate resilient outputs, 75 tons each of DAP binary fertilizer, NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) fertilizer and urea fertilizer, as well as phytosanitary products, four tractors and 20 power tillers. In the DRC, it was announced on July 15, 2022, that \$13.48 million (0.025% of its GDP) in mixed financing will provide 22,000 smallholder farming and vulnerable households (116,646 individuals; 0.13% of total population) with improved seeds from agricultural research centers totaling up to 120 tons of rice, 99 tons of maize, 8500 linear meters of cassava along with 2,400 tons of fertilizer to be sown on 11,000 hectares, increasing food security and income. On July 21, 2022, the World Bank signed an agreement with the WFP to provide \$100 million (0.29% of its GDP) in financing to WFP for a new Sudan Emergency Safety Nets Project comprised of both unconditional cash and unconditional food transfers. The food transfers to 17,000 of the most vulnerable households will cost \$3.8 million (0.01% of its GDP) and will provide at least

102,000 individuals (0.23% of the population) in beneficiary households with 240 grams of sorghum, 30 grams of pulses, 15 grams of vegetable oil, and 5 grams of salt per person, per day, equaling roughly \$7.

The region has recorded 44 tax related measures across 23 economies.¹²⁴ The majority of these measures all belong to indirect taxes, making up 89% of tax measures while the rest are direct tax measures. The direct tax measures are all related to income taxes aimed at reducing the tax burden on citizens. On June 7, 2022, Mauritius announced two direct tax related measures; first, the income tax rate for those earning more than MUR 53,846 (\$1,226.73) and up to MUR 75,000 (\$1,708.66) per month would be decreased from 15% to 12.5%; and the second measure increased the travelling allowance deductible from MUR 11,500 (\$261.99) to MUR 20,000 (\$455.64). South Africa also announced two measures related to income taxes on February 22, 2022. The first measure increased the annual tax-free threshold for persons under 65 years old from ZAR 87,300 (\$5,137.25) to ZAR 91,250 (\$5,369.69) and one year later, on February 23, 2023, this was further increased from ZAR 91,250 (\$5,369.69) to ZAR 95,750 (\$5,634.49). The second measure adjusted retirement lump sums withdrawn by 10%, meaning that the tax-free amount that can be withdrawn at retirement increases to ZAR 550,000 (\$32,365.24).

Indirect tax measures can further be categorized as follows: (i) VAT (20 measures); (ii) custom (10 measures); (iii) excise (5 measures); and (iv) others (4 measures). On December 22, 2022, as part of the budget for 2023, Togo announced a VAT exemption on operations carried out by canteens in schools, universities and companies for pupils, students, and staff. The government of Mozambique passed a new law a day later on December 23, 2022, exempting various products such as maize, rice, bread, powdered milk, wheat from VAT starting January 2023. On March 19, 2022, Niger lowered the customs tax of around 3.5% on millet, 35% on flour and 17% on sugar at an estimated cost of CFA 7 billion (\$11,382,148; 0.08% of its GDP) while in Guinea, customs duties were reduced on essential products like rice and consumer sugar on March 24, 2022. Cameroon announced on December 4, 2022, a reduction of excise duty by 30% for beverages which are prepared using domestically produced products as part of its 2023 budget.

Thirteen measures were found related to trade, being implemented across 12 countries.¹²⁵ Ten measures relate to export/import restrictions, while the remaining three relate to easing of trade restrictions. Cereals, maize, and wheat were restricted in several countries including Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Ghana, Mali, and Uganda with both Sudan and Côte d'Ivoire requiring special authorization. Related to easing of trade restrictions, on May 20, 2022, Zimbabwe removed the mandatory production of import licenses on categories of the basic commodities: sugar, milk powder, infants milk formula, petroleum jelly, bath soap, laundry bar and washing powder. On July 20, 2022, Kenya suspended fees and levies on imported maize grain and raw materials for animal feeds for a period of four months, from July 1, 2022, to October 31, 2022, as part of its fifth stimulus package.

East Asia and Pacific (EAP)

In East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region, a total number of 129 measures have been implemented across 17 economies¹²⁶ to help mitigate the effects of the rising fuel and food prices (see Table A1.2). Since the last version of the tracker, 43 new measures have been announced in EAP. Most of the new measures passed in EAP are social assistance and subsidies. The measures passed in EAP region account for 9.7% of total global measures in this version of the tracker.

In terms of program parameters: the region plans to cover 199 million individuals (8% of the total population in the region) and cost 260.5 billion (0.84% of the total regional GDP). Next, the average daily benefit size of subsidy and social assistance programs in the region tend to be \$4.3 excluding one-off benefits, which is 16% of the daily median income. The benefits which were provided as one-off in the region were on average at \$381. And, on average, these measures have an initial program duration of 12 months. Of the 33 measures with duration information, 11 measures (33%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 8.5 months, on average.

Table A1.2. Number of measures and share of total

Component	EAP		World		EAP as a share of the global Response
	No. of Measures	Share of Total	No. of Measures	Share of Total	
Subsidies	46	36%	439	33%	10%
Social assistance	61	47%	409	31%	15%
Tax measures	5	4%	258	19%	2%
Trade related measures	6	5%	75	6%	8%
Labor market programs	10	8%	77	6%	13%
Social insurance	1	1%	75	6%	1%
Total	129	100%	1333	100%	10%

The majority of the new measures (27) that were passed in EAP consist of social assistance programs. Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, and New Zealand tabled their budgets for 2023 which focus on social assistance to help their citizens cope with the rising costs of food and living. Under social assistance, 25 of the new measures that have been passed are cash transfer programs. For example, New Zealand passed a NZD 2 billion (\$1.3 billion; 0.5% of its GDP) comprehensive cost of living package which will support approximately 1.4 million people (27.5% of the population). The package is called “Bread and Support” under which families will receive cash transfers ranging from NZD 20 to NZD 136 (\$14 – 97) to help them cope with rising food prices. Singapore also announced a package termed as “Assurance Package” which will provide monthly cash transfers for the next four years to families with children, students, and elderly citizens ranging from SGD 300 to SGD 650 (\$223-485). In Macao, the “Wealth Partaking Scheme” will continue distributing annual cash handouts to residents. Each permanent resident of Macao will receive MOP 10,000 (\$1250) and non-permanent residents will receive MOP 6,000 (\$750) in cheques. As part of its 2023 budget, Hong Kong has announced to raise the basic child allowance for each child from HKD 120,000 (\$15,484) to HKD 130,000 (\$16,883). For the Chinese New Year, Taiwan announced that it will give cash payout of TWD 6,000 (\$200) to every citizen. In China, the Beijing government gave out a monthly RMB 40 (\$6) cash subsidy to low-income to cushion the impact of rising food prices.

In new measures, social assistance was followed by subsidies with 12 new measures. Within subsidies, the majority (6 measures) were fees subsidies. For example, Japan announced a fee subsidy to cut energy bills which will reduce monthly electricity and gas bills for an average household by around JPY 2,500

(\$23). As part of the budget for 2023, Hong Kong announced four fee subsidies measures. For example, the government will hand out HKD 1,000 (\$129) energy subsidies to eligible residential electricity account holders. High school students' examination fees will be covered for the 2024 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination. Residents in Hong Kong will continue to enjoy the public transport subsidies which was announced in December 2018. This measure will subsidize transportation expenses ranging from HKD 200-HKD 500 (\$26-64). More than 3.5 million commuters (x% of the population) will benefit from this measure monthly. Additionally, the government is also extending the current measure of distributing electricity relief of \$50 a month until the end of 2025.

Europe and Central Asia (ECA)

Response in the ECA region accounts for 45% of the total measures reported in the tracker, with 598 measures adopted across 47 economies (see Table A1.3). In line with the global trend, most of the measures fall under subsidies (32%). This is followed by social assistance (28%), tax measures (19%), social insurance (9%), labor market (7%) and trade-related measures (5%).

In terms of program parameters: the region plans to cover 341.5 million individuals (37% of the total population in the region) and cost \$513.4 billion (2.05% of the total regional GDP). Next, the average daily benefit size of subsidy and social assistance programs in the region tend to be \$10.1, which is 32%% of the daily median income. The benefits which were provided as one-off in the region were on average at \$265. And, on average, these measures have a duration of 7.4 months. Of the 203 measures with duration information, 87 measure 42.8% recorded an extension in initial program duration of 9.4 months, on average.

Table A1.3. Number of measures and share of total

Component	ECA		World		ECA as a share of the global response
	No. of measures	Share of total	No. of measures	Share of total	
Subsidies	192	32%	439	33%	44%
Social assistance	169	28%	409	31%	41%
Tax measures	113	19%	258	19%	44%
Trade related measures	29	5%	75	6%	39%
Labor market programs	41	7%	77	6%	53%
Social insurance	54	9%	75	6%	72%
Grand total	598	100%	1333	100%	45%

In terms of distribution by SP component, subsidies consist of 192 measures in total. Within subsidies, fee subsidy is the most popular, with 137 measures implemented across 34 economies. The majority of fee subsidies belong to utility discounts (65 measures), followed by fee price control (27 measures); while the remaining sub-categories count fewer measures: transportation (11 measures), green energy subsidy (12 measures), housing subsidy (8 measures), mortgages and other loans (4 measures), and education (7 measure).

An example of each of these sub-components is as follows: (i) Utility: effective from March 15, 2023, students enrolled at a German institute of higher education can apply for the one-off EUR 200 energy price allowance. (ii) Fee price control: as part of the Families First Price Rise Response Program, the government of Portugal announced the freezing of urban travel pass prices for 2023. The measure will be effective from January to December 2023 and applies to Urban Pass Holders and CP travel users (for regional and long-distance journeys). (iii) Transportation: the Government of Estonia announced the continuation of the measure that allows use of the A11 Zagreb-Sisak highway without payment of tolls. (iv) Green energy subsidy: on February 24, 2023, Kosovo received EUR 35 million (0.41% of its GDP) from the EU which will be used to help households and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) increase energy efficiency. This package will be distributed to 23,000 individuals (6.58% of the population) comprising the following groups: about 12,000 families residing in private houses or

apartments in social housing to improve thermal insulation (facades, windows, and doors); 10,000 more families to buy energy-efficient appliances; and about 1,000 MSMEs to buy and install energy-efficient heating systems and renewable energy sources, such as solar photovoltaic or thermal panels. (v) Housing subsidy: in July 2022, the government of France announced that housing subsidies will be increased by 3.5%. 5.8 million households (12.9 million individuals; 19% of the population) are expected to benefit from the measure. (vi) Mortgages and other loans: on January 1, 2023, Ireland introduced a new low-cost loan scheme for residential retrofitting. For this purpose, credit institutions will offer loans at reduced interest rates to private homeowners and non-corporate landlords to make home energy efficiency upgrades. (vii) Education: on January 3, 2023, Finland announced that study grants will be increased in line with the National Pensions Index, effective from the start of the new academic year i.e., August 1, 2023. For students aged 18 or over who are living independently, the study grant will be increased from EUR 268.23 (\$286.1) to EUR 279.38 (\$297) per month.

Following fee subsidies, the second most popular measure within subsidies is fuel subsidy which can be classified into 2 categories: (i) fuel subsidies that cover part of the cost; (ii) price cap on fuel. There are 25 of such measures across 17 economies. There is only one newly recorded fuel subsidy measure. In January 2023, Ireland announced that it will increase the income threshold to determine eligibility for fuel allowance from EUR 120 (\$127) to EUR 200 (\$213) above the applicable State Pension (Contributory) rate for people aged under 70. Under this policy, people aged 70 and over can qualify for Fuel Allowance as long as their weekly means (which includes their State Pension) is not above EUR 500 (\$533) per week for a single person and EUR 1,000 (\$1066) per week for a couple. Disablement Benefit and half-rate Carer's Allowance will be disregarded in the means test for Fuel Allowance. Those who are eligible can choose to get the Fuel Allowance paid every week or paid in 2 instalments (lump sums).

In regard to fertilizer and agricultural subsidies, on June 20, 2022, Bulgaria announced that it will provide a subsidy package of BGN 300 million (\$163.6 million) to agricultural producers in the second half of 2022, so as to counteract sharp increases in food prices. Agricultural producers had previously received BGN 143.5 million (\$78.2 million) as emergency aid under the government's measures for alleviating the impact of COVID-19 on businesses. In April 2022, the government said farmers will be supported with state aid and direct payments amounting to some BGN 902 million (\$492 million; 0.6% of its GDP) in total in 2022. As for food subsidies, this can be further categorized into (i) food subsidy and (ii) price control (food). Concerning the former, in Slovakia, on January 1, 2023, the meal allowances for business trips were increased by a measure of the Ministry of Labor. On March 24, 2023, the Government, in accordance with the Travel Reimbursement Act, proposes to increase the amount of meal allowances for employees. The amount of meal allowance will be increased based on travel duration for example for business trip between 5 hours to 12 hours, allowance will be increased from EUR 6.80 (\$7.25) to EUR 7.30 (\$7.80), and for business trip over 18 hours allowance is revised from EUR 15.30 (\$16.32) to EUR 16.40 (\$17.50). An example of price control is the announcement by the government of France on March 6, 2023 regarding its deal with supermarkets to offer basic groceries (products at the discretion of markets) at the "lowest price possible" for the next 3 months. The initiative will be re-evaluated in June 2023.

After subsidies, social assistance measures were the most used responses, with 28% of the measures (169 responses) implemented across 38 economies. With regard to types of social assistance, cash transfers are the majority (83%; 141) of which 137 are unconditional cash transfer measures. This is

followed by 15 in-kind transfer (9%) and 10 social pension (6%) measures. With regard to cash measures, there are 39 newly recorded measures all of which are delivered in the form of unconditional cash transfers. Of these, 8 measures are introduced by Lithuania e.g., increasing child benefit to EUR 136.22 (\$136.22) for large families with low income or families with a disabled child; and automatic payment (separate application is not required) of a single person benefit for the value of EUR 35 (requiring no separate application). This measure is expected to begin in 2023 with an allocation of about EUR 101 million (\$110 million, 0.16% of its GDP). In Tajikistan, as part of the “Social Protection Modernization and Economic Inclusion Project” approved by the World Bank in March 2023, one-off cash transfers of TJS 600 (\$55) per family will be paid to about 110,000 recipients (6.91% of the population) who comprise most vulnerable families.

Within cash measures, 60 measures experienced adaptations. These comprise 45 “vertical only” expansion, 4 “horizontal only”, 4 “horizontal and vertical” expansion, and 6 “admin simplification”. For example, as part of Budget 2023, the Government of Netherlands announced that social benefits and state pension payments linked to the minimum wage will be increased by 10.15 percent. The measure will increase the social benefit payments of three programs, namely, AOW (basic state pension), welfare, and the Wajong (Young Disabled Persons). In Belarus, the amount of benefit under the Family Capital program was increased by 15.2% to BYN 30,000 (\$10,963) as of 1 January of this year. This is paid to families after the birth or adoption of the third or subsequent child.

Examples of other social assistance programs are as follows. There are 15 in-kind measures which can be broadly classified into in-kind distribution (of food and non-food; 7 measures) and voucher (for food and non-food; 8 measures). The newly recorded measures comprise (i) Slovakia’s announcement in March 2023 on the increase in value of meal vouchers provided by employers in conjunction with the decision to increase the value of meal allowance (see more details under ‘subsidies’ category above). According to Slovakia’s Labor Code, the minimum value of a meal voucher is 75% of the meal allowance for work trips; and (ii) Georgia’s program to support smallholder farmers in purchasing goods needed for farming activities. GEL 300 (\$111) will be deposited into special agricultural cards, in the form of subsidy points. The project's budget is GEL 35 million (\$12.9 mil, 0.07% of its GDP) and it is expected to benefit 300,000 farmers (8.08% of the population).

The ECA region has recorded 113 tax related measures across 34 economies. In terms of distribution, the majority of these measures are indirect tax (77 measures) and the remaining are direct tax (36 measures). Indirect taxes can be further categorized as follows: (i) VAT (48 measures); (ii) custom duty (5 measures); (iii) excise duty (17 measures); and (iv) others (7 measures). Examples of these measures are as follows: on January 13, 2023, the government of Poland announced a new VAT refund for households heating with gas, whose average monthly income does not exceed PLN 2100 (\$477) in a single-person household or PLN 1500 (\$340.7) per person in a multi-person household. This measure is expected to benefit approximately 300,000 households (2.23% of the population). In December 2022, the Government of Portugal allocated EUR 612 million (\$652.7 million; 0.26% of its GDP) to support 3 policies aimed at cushioning rising energy prices including extending the reduction of the excise tax on petrol (at the value of EUR 0.3/L (\$0.32/L)). On February 9, 2023, Bosnia and Herzegovina’s government approved an exemption of customs charge for the import of 370,000 tons of mineral fertilizers that will benefit farmers in the country.

Direct taxes can further be sub-classified into: (i) income tax (32 measures); (ii) road tax (2 measure); (iii) property tax (1 measure); and others (1 measure). Examples are as follows: in December 2022, the Government of Lithuania made amendments to the monthly and annual tax-exempt amount (TEA) for employment income of resident individuals. This includes an increase in the monthly TEA to EUR 625 (\$667) for individuals with monthly employment income not exceeding the minimum monthly wage (salary) as of 1 January of the current calendar year, with a maximum annual TEA of EUR 7,500 (\$8,000). The measure is estimated to cost the state EUR 164.3 million (\$175.2 million; 0.27% of its GDP) in lost budget revenue per year. On December 8, 2022, the Government of Albania announced that it will increase the tax-free salary limit for individuals from ALL 40,000 (\$373.6) to ALL 50,000 (\$467). Over 70,000 employees will benefit from this measure.

Next, a batch of 29 measures relate to trade in the form of export/import restriction, being implemented across 13 economies. The newly recorded trade measures include (i) Kazakhstan's announcement on February 8, 2023, that it will impose a 4-month ban on the export of petroleum products including gasoline, and diesel beginning February 14, 2023; (ii) Tajikistan's announcement on January 31, 2023 to ban exports of onions, carrots and potatoes until the stabilization of prices in the market; and (iii) Belarus' decision to stop exporting apples, cabbages, and onions until April 30, 2023.

Finally, there are 54 social insurance measures being implemented across 24 economies. These measures can be categorized as (i) pension increase (38 measures); (ii) social security contribution (10 measures); (iii) unemployment insurance (2 measures); (iv) paid leave (2 measures); and (v) health insurance (2 measures). An example for each category is as follows. The Government of Poland allocated a record PLN 41.8 billion (\$9.4 billion, 1.4% of its GDP) for the indexation of old-age pensions and disability pensions in 2023. Based on the indexation rate for old-age pensions at 13.8 percent, the lowest old-age pension will increase to PLN 1,588.44 (\$360.8) from PLN 1,338.44 (\$304.1). On February 10, 2023, Greece announced that the upper limit of employees' salary for the calculation of social security contributions of employees and employers will be increased from the amount of EUR 6,500 (\$6,933) to the amount of EUR 7,126.94 (\$7601.5). With regard to unemployment insurance, on November 8, 2022, as part of Budget 2023, the Government of Sweden announced that funds will be permanently allocated to keep the unemployment insurance benefit at the same high level as during the pandemic. SEK 5.82 billion (\$558.15 million, 0.09% of its GDP) was allocated for this measure. As for paid leave, on January 1, 2023, Ireland decided to increase the size of maternity, adoptive, and parental benefits to EUR 262 (\$279) in 2023 from EUR 250 (\$267) in 2022. For health insurance, on 26 October 2022, Albanian government announced that it will make an allocation under the 2023 budget to support unemployed mothers with three or more children by providing compulsory health insurance to support child growth for the period of 5 years. In order to be eligible for this benefit, at least one of the children must be under the age of 5 and the family income must not exceed ALL 100,000 (\$1,868).

Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)

Economies in the LAC region have announced or implemented a variety of measures in response to the global price shock. This tracker records 175 measures across 38 economies¹²⁷ within the LAC region (see Table A1.4), representing 13% of the global response. There are 2 newly added economies for this version of the tracker, Montserrat and Trinidad and Tobago. Following the global trend, most of the measures fall under subsidies (36%), followed by tax measures (25%), social assistance (24%), labor market measures (7%), social insurance (4%), and trade-related measures (3%).

In terms of program parameters: the region plans to cover 147.9 million people, (23% of the total population in the region) and cost 40.8 billion, (0.74% of the total regional GDP). Next, the average daily benefit size of subsidy and social assistance programs in the region tend to be \$1.8 excluding one-off benefits, which is 14% of the daily median income. The benefits which were provided as one-off in the region were on average at \$204. And, on average, these measures have an initial program duration of 5.2 months. Of the 70 measures with duration information, 20 measures (28.5%) recorded an extension in the initial program duration of 7.7 months, on average.

Table A1.4. Number of measures and share of the total

Component	LAC		World		LAC as a share of the global response
	N. of Measures	Share of Total	N. of Measures	Share of Total	
Subsidies	63	36%	439	33%	14%
Tax measures	44	25%	258	19%	17%
Social assistance	42	24%	409	31%	10%
Labor market measures	13	7%	77	6%	17%
Social insurance	7	4%	75	6%	9%
Trade related measures	6	3%	75	6%	1%
Total	175	100%	1333	100%	11%

Beginning with subsidy measures, there are 63 such measures recorded across 32 economies within LAC.¹²⁸ This represents a 17% increase in the number of subsidy measures recorded compared to the previous version. Within the category of subsidies, the sub-category of fuel subsidies accounts for just over a third of the total subsidy measures (37%) with 23 measures across 22 economies.¹²⁹ Of these, 12 are price control measures aimed at controlling or freezing the price of fuel at certain target prices. For example, Panama put a price control on fuel on July 18, 2022, freezing the price of regular gasoline at \$3.25 a gallon. The measure was initially set to last until October 2022, but it was extended twice, once in October and again in January 2023 to last until April 2023. This measure was expected to cost the government \$200 million (0.31% of its GDP), however, the actual expenditure was \$320 million (0.5% of its GDP) as of January 2023. The other 11 measures within fuel subsidies correspond to subsidies which aim to reduce the price of fuel for consumers. For example, Guyana announced in October 2022 that it would cut the cost of gasoline by 20% and diesel by 15% through a fuel subsidy to the state-owned Guyana Oil Company Limited with the hope that competitors will subsequently lower their prices.

There are 25 fee subsidy measures recorded for this version across 17 economies.¹³⁰ Of these, 17 are related to utility subsidies and the rest are price controls or health related subsidies. All fee subsidy measures aim to reduce the burden of increasing costs of utilities, primarily electricity and

heating/cooking gas, and health related services and products. For example, in December 2022, the government of Grenada announced an XCD 10 (\$3.70) per month subsidy for all residential consumers consuming up to 99 kWh per month for a total expected cost of XCD 2.4 million (\$888,889 or 0.08% of its GDP). Additionally, the Colombian government announced the *Pacto por la Justicia Tarifaria* in September 2022 in order to reduce electricity costs in the medium and long term. This includes updating the inflation indexation of the controlled electricity monthly rates to include more up to date information in the calculations (currently using 2020 data). This measure also removes the existing minimum increase that rates had to increase by from 0.6% to 0% as well as providing subsidies to electric companies to reduce the cost for consumers. Previously, the Peruvian government added a subsidy to reduce energy and electricity bills by 15% for low-income households.

There are 10 food subsidy measures across 8 economies¹³¹ split into two sub-categories of price controls (7 measures) and general food subsidies (3 measures). For example, two measures in the Dominican Republic aim to control food prices; one measure, which was announced on March 7, is a subsidy of 10% on staple food products (corn, wheat, soy, flour, and vegetable oil), while the second measure is a price freeze on most food products, which was announced on April 9. Similarly, the government of The Bahamas announced on October 12, 2022, a price control on 38 staple food products. Additionally, there have been 5 fertilizer/agriculture subsidy measures recorded across 5 countries (Costa Rica, Ecuador, Haiti, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines). For example, the government of St. Lucia has given a 30% subsidy on inputs for banana farmers to support them in light of the rising costs of production.

The second most-used measures within LAC fall under the tax category with 44 measures across 22 economies, all of which fall under indirect taxes except for one measure. The one direct tax measure is a price freeze for all bridge and highway tolls in Mexico in order to reduce transportation costs. This measure is part of the larger package called the *Acuerdo de Apertura contra la Inflación y la Carestía* (APECIC) and is set to last until the end of February 2023. Of the indirect tax measures, there are 16 recorded for customs duty, 12 recorded for VAT, 11 for excise duty, and 4 recorded as other types of indirect taxes. Most of these tax related measures aim to reduce prices of food, fuel, fertilizer, and fees but instead of a subsidy they remove or reduce existing taxes to lower the prices paid by firms and consumers. For example, St. Vincent and the Grenadines removed the customs tax for cooking fuel for a period of 3 months starting in May 2022. Additionally, Peru removed the general VAT for a basic basket of food products in May 2022 which was set to last until the end of the year. However, it was approved for an extension until the end of 2025 as well as adding fertilizer products to the list.

Next, social assistance measures account for 24% (42 measures) of the total measures in the region, recorded across 18 economies.¹³² Almost all of the social assistance response measures are cash transfers except for 12 other measures of which 7 are in-kind measures, from Anguilla (UK), Belize, Colombia, Guyana, Haiti, and Jamaica. Then, there are 3 non-contributory social pensions in Guyana, Jamaica, and Paraguay. There is one school-feeding measure in Barbados and one public works program in Haiti.

Just over half (16 measures) of the recorded measures in LAC for cash transfers are expansions on existing programs. For example, Chile announced in January 2023 a new vertical expansion to the existing *Subsidio Protege* conditional cash transfer program to working mothers of newborns up to 5 years of age. The benefit amount is CLP 200,000 (\$230.67) a month for three months. Additionally, Uruguay also announced a measure that vertically expands on two existing cash transfer programs by

4%. These two programs are the *Asignaciones Familiares-Plan de Equidad* and the *Tarjeta Social Uruguay*. This measure is expected to reach 850,000 beneficiaries (24.47% of the population). More recently, the government of Argentina announced a new cash transfer aimed at the most vulnerable population to help with the rising cost of food. It is a two-time cash transfer totaling ARS 45,000 (\$254.15) and set to cover at least 514,000 individuals (1.13% of the population).

There are also 13 measures under the labor market category for the region. Ten of them are minimum wage increases. For example, a gradual increase in the minimum wage in Chile that started on May 1, 2022. It will reach a total increase of 14.3% by August 1, 2022, with the option to increase further if inflation reaches higher than 7% by December 2022. There are 2 public sector wage increases in Anguilla (UK) and St. Lucia, and one training measure in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Additionally, there are 7 recorded measures related to social insurance across 5 economies, all of which are measures related to old-age pensions. Of these, 3 are vertical expansions and 2 are horizontal expansions while the other two are one-off transfers that supplement the existing pension. For example, St. Lucia announced in July 2022 a one-off of XCD 500 (\$185.19) for all government pensioners. Additionally, Guatemala implemented in November 2022 a 10% vertical expansion to the *Régimen de Clases Pasivas Civiles del Estado* which is expected to reach some 104,000 retirees for an additional GTQ 50 million (\$6.7 million a month for a total of about Q700 million (\$89.1 million; 0.104% of GDP).

Finally, there are 6 trade-related measures recorded with half of them from Argentina, two from Mexico, and one from the Dominican Republic. Two of Argentina's measures are aimed at soy products, where one temporarily bans exports of soybean meal and soybean oil, while the other increases the tax on the export of soy meal and soy oil. The third measure sets a quota on beef exports that is set to last for 2 years. The Mexican measure recorded in October is a temporary restriction on exports for certain products (white corn, beans, sardines, and aluminum and steel scrap metal) as a part of the larger APECIC package that is set to last until the end of February 2023. Subsequently, Mexico announced a 50% tax on white corn exports in January 2023 that will be in effect until the end of June.

Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

Within the region, economies have announced or implemented a variety of different measures in response to the global price shock. This tracker has recorded 111 measures across 21 economies¹³³ in MENA (see Table A1.5). The majority of the measures fall under social assistance (31%) and subsidies (31%), followed by tax measures (16%), trade related measures (13%), social insurance (7%), and labor market programs (3%).

In terms of program parameters: the region plans to cover 165.3 million individuals¹³⁴ (36% of the total population in the region) and cost \$45.9 billion (1.26% of the total regional GDP). Next, the average daily benefit size of subsidy and social assistance programs in the region tend to be \$12.7, which is 30% of the daily median income. The benefits which were provided as one-off in the region were on average at \$119. And, on average, these measures have a duration of 8.3 months¹³⁵. Of the 40 measures with duration information, 14 measures (35%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 5.6 months, on average.

Table A1.5. Number of measures and share of total

Component	MENA		World		MENA as a share of the global response
	N. of Measures	Share of Total	N. of Measures	Share of Total	
Subsidies	34	31%	439	33%	8%
Social assistance	34	31%	409	31%	8%
Tax measures	18	16%	258	19%	7%
Trade related measures	14	132%	75	6%	19%
Social insurance	8	7%	75	6%	11%
Labor market programs	3	3%	77	6%	4%
Total	111	100%	1333	100%	9.5%

Subsidy measures are one of the most used responses in MENA which follows the global trend. Similar to the SSA region and unlike the global trend, food subsidies are the most common with 17 measures recorded across 12 economies,¹³⁶ making up exactly half of all subsidy measures. Food subsidies can be broadly classified into 2 categories: (i) food subsidies that cover part of the cost; (ii) price cap on food products. Both types of food subsidies have recorded about equal representation in the region. In February 2022, Qatar stabilized prices of essential items through price control mechanism. Another example relates to subsidies on food items from Egypt, where it launched the *Ahlan* (Welcome) Ramadan Initiative to provide key staples and food commodities at low prices nationwide and at least 160 vendors took part in the initiative offering discounts up to 30%.

Apart from food subsidies, MENA recorded 11 fee subsidies, 5 fuel subsidies, and 2 fertilizer/agriculture subsidies. The majority of the fee subsidy measures fall under utility (6 measures). For example, Egypt announced an electricity price freeze (postponing a planned rate hike) in July 2022. In October, the government announced an extension of this measure, keeping the price freeze active until June 2023, and that it would bear the cost of the EGP 10 billion (\$405.1 million; 0.1% of its GDP). Additionally, on October 24, 2022, Malta announced as part of its 2023 budget that families will save an average of EUR 1,300 (\$1,386.50) in electricity savings. There is one measure each from education, price control, and housing subsidies, and two under other types of subsidies. For example, Morocco, on June 9, 2022,

announced a \$1.75 billion subsidy increase (1.32% of its GDP) on cooking gas, besides food items. This is in addition to the \$1.8 billion (1.36% of its GDP) already earmarked in the annual budget.

Subsidies on fuel and fertilizer, can again be broadly classified as: (i) fuel/fertilizer subsidies that cover part of the cost; (ii) price cap on fuel/fertilizer products. For example, Malta, in October 2022, announced that as per government's energy policy in the 2023 budget, families on average will save EUR 700 (\$746.62) in fuel cost. UAE, on July 4, 2022, announced fuel subsidies within its broader relief package of AED 28 billion (\$7.62bn; 2.12% of its GDP). Emiratis will receive an 85 per cent discount on the cost of petrol above AED 2.10 (\$0.57) per liter — the current price is AED 4.6 (\$1.25). The allowance is renewed every month up to 400 liters for the father and up to 500 liters if both of the individuals in the couple have a car. Emirati families with incomes below AED 25,000 per month (\$6,807) will benefit from it. The following example relates to fertilizer subsidies. Oman, on May 31, 2022, announced availability of subsidized wheat kernel for the 2022/2023 season to support farmers in achieving self-sufficiency. The ministry plans to provide one ton of wheat seeds for OMR 300 (\$780.23) for the new season.

Social assistance measures were one of the most used responses, with 31% of the measures (34 responses) implemented across 13 economies.¹³⁷ Similar to the global trend, cash measures are the majority (74%, 25 measures). The remaining 9 measures belong to in-kind (6 measures), school-feeding (2 measures), and social pensions (1 measure).

Most recently in February 2023, Algeria announced a new permanent youth unemployment benefit to support the purchasing power of low-income people. This cash transfer is a monthly allowance of DZD 13,000 (\$96) which began in March and has reached 580,000 individuals (1.32% of the population) between the ages of 19 and 40. This benefit amount accounts for almost two thirds of the monthly minimum wage of DZD 20,000 dinars (\$142). Previously, Malta, on October 24, 2022, as part of its 2023 budget, announced that parents who stopped working in order to take care of an adult child with severe disabilities will receive up to EUR 4,500 (\$5,323) and it will be paid every three months for the year of 2023. On July 2022, Saudi Arabia has allocated \$5.33 billion (0.64% of its GDP) to dampen the effects of rising prices from which \$532 million will be distributed as an additional one-time payment to social security beneficiaries.

Within cash measures, there are ten programs which have been adapted (vertical/horizontal expansion and admin simplification). For example, Egypt, in March 2022, announced the expansion of *Takafol* and *Karama* social protection program coverage to include an additional 450,000 households (1.86 million individuals; 1.82% of the population) with an estimated budget of EGP 2.7 billion (\$172.58 million; 0.04% of its GDP). This program has since been adapted several times, beginning on July 26, the government gave directives to expand the number of families benefiting from the program by adding an additional one million families to the program, taking the number of the beneficiaries to more than 20 million citizens nationwide (19.54% of the population). Again, in August the government decided to horizontally expand the program once again to 5 million families and added an additional EGP 3 billion (\$121.5 million) to the budget. This brings the total to some 5 million households or 20.6 million individuals (20.18% of the population). Finally, in March 2023, the government decided to alter the program through a vertical expansion of the transfers by 25%, making the monthly transfers between EGP 406.25-686.25 per household, depending on the size.

Another example of a cash transfer, although not an expansion, is Iran, which, in May 2022, announced that it will provide cash compensations for an increase in bread prices by paying monthly around IRR 4 million (\$95) to the bottom 30 percent of the population, around IRR 3 million (\$71) to the next 60 percent of the population and no money to the top 10 percent of the population. An example of an in-kind measure comes from Iraq where the government directed to distribute sacrificial meat throughout the year.

The region has recorded 18 tax related measures across 9 economies.¹³⁸ Of these measures, 11 are indirect taxes and 7 are direct tax measures, including one measure from Egypt on income tax. The measures in the indirect taxes can be further categorized as follows: (i) VAT (5 measures); (ii) custom (4 measures); and (iii) excise (2 measures). For example, on October 24, 2022, Malta announced that parents who send their children to sports, art, or cultural activities will benefit from a tax deduction of EUR 300 (\$319.98). Israel introduced a plan to remove custom duties on beef, fish, seafood, canned tuna, sausages, sauces, dried fruits, cakes and cookies, and flour. Oman, in March 2022, added more food commodities to the list of food items which were subject to Value Added Tax (VAT) at zero rate. The items include barley, corn, flour, beans and some animal feed. Next, Morocco, on June 2, 2022, exempted customs duties on sunflower, soybean, and rapeseed. To provide another example, Israel, on April 5, 2022, reduced the excise tax on fuel and hence fuel prices reduced by NIS 0.50 (\$0.14) per liter. On July 31, 2022, the government further cut the tax by the same amount for a duration of one month, resulting in a total reduction in tax by NIS 1 (\$0.28) per liter. By the end of August, prices were expected to go up again by NIS 0.50 (\$0.14) (i.e., the same as the initial tax cut) and this tax cut was expected to continue until the end of January 2023.

Next, there are 14 measures related to trade, being implemented across 10 economies.¹³⁹ Of which, 13 measures relate to export/import restriction, while one measure relates to easing of trade restriction and it comes from Iraq. For instance, Kuwait, on March 20, 2022, banned the export of grains and vegetable oil to other countries until the end of December 2022; while Iraq, in April 2022, suspended the import restriction (in the form of import licenses) on some goods, including food items, consumables, and medicines, until June 8, 2022.

There are 8 social insurance measures recorded in Egypt, Israel, Malta, Saudi Arabia, and UAE. Most of the measures are related to pensions (5 measures). For example, on July 4, 2022, Saudi Arabia allocated SAR 532 million (\$141.8 million; 0.017% of its GDP) to be distributed as an additional one-time pension payment to social security beneficiaries during the 2022 fiscal year. Additionally, there are 2 measures recorded under unemployment insurance, both in UAE, and one under social security waiver/contribution in Israel.

North America (NA)

The North American region implemented 71 measures across Bermuda, Canada, and the U.S., accounting for only 5% of the global response. The majority of the measures in the region belong to tax related measures (29 measures), accounting for 41% of the regional response. These are followed by social assistance (23 measures), accounting for 32% of the regional response. Next, subsidy measures with 12 measures (17% of the regional response), followed by labor market measures and social insurance, with 5 measures (7% of the regional response) and 2 measures (3% of the regional response), respectively (see Table A1.6).

In terms of program parameters: the region plans to cover 53 million individuals¹⁴⁰ (14% of the total population in the region) and cost \$43.5 billion¹⁴¹ (0.17% of the total regional GDP). Next, the average daily benefit size of subsidy and social assistance programs in the region tend to be \$11.4, which is 20% of the daily median income.¹⁴² And, on average, these measures have a duration of 6.1 months.¹⁴³ Of the 14 measures with duration information, 4 measure (29%) recorded an extension in initial program duration of 5.8 months, on average.

Table A1.6. Number of measures and share of total

Component	NA		World		NA as a share of the global Response
	No. of Measures	Share of Total	No. of Measures	Share of Total	
Subsidies	12	17%	439	33%	3%
Social assistance	23	32%	409	31%	6%
Tax measures	29	41%	258	19%	11%
Trade related measures	-	-	75	6%	-
Labor market programs	5	7%	77	6%	6%
Social insurance	2	3%	75	6%	3%
Total	71	100%	1333	100%	5%

Tax measures are primarily income tax related (19 such measures) that are mainly tax rebates being distributed. Of these, 12 are within states of the U.S., 6 in Canada, and 1 in Bermuda. For example, on October 5, the government of the province of Newfoundland and Labrador announced a one-off payment to all eligible residents of up to CAD 500. This would be issued based on 2021 tax returns and sent out to all residents 18 or older as of December 2022 who make under CAD 125,000 a year, those making under CAD 100,000 will receive the full transfer of CAD 500 with the others receiving between CAD 250-500. This cash transfer is expected to reach 392,000 residents (75% of the province's population) and is expected to cost \$194 million. Earlier, Bermuda announced a similar measure but targeted the rebate to lower income tax filers, with higher income tax filers receiving less (\$100) than lower income tax filers (\$250). Additionally, there were 4 excise tax measures, all in the U.S. and all related to lowering fuel prices. Bermuda recorded the only 2 customs duty related measures, one looking to reduce prices for food products and the other for fuel prices. Finally, 1 property tax measure was recorded and 3 other tax related measures, all in the U.S.

Social assistance programs from the region are mainly cash assistance (19 measures; 83% of social assistance measures) and in-kind food distribution (4 measures; 17%).

Of the 19 cash transfers, 11 measures are from Canada, 6 from the U.S., and 2 from Bermuda. Almost all of these measures are one-offs with an average transfer size of \$499 (three measures in Canada have a duration of 3 months, 12 months and 24 months). For instance, on September 20, the New Mexico state government announced that starting on September 26 it would accept applications for economic relief assistance in the form of a one-off cash transfer for eligible low-income households. The minimum transfer is \$400 per household and the total amount depends on income level and other factors. A total of \$10 million is available for this measure (0.01% of the state's GDP). Earlier, on October 7, California began a cash transfer program for inflation relief named the *Middle-Class Tax Refund*. It is a one-off direct deposit for families making less than \$150,000 a year. The transfer amount can be up to \$1,050 and is expected to reach up to 23 million individuals (roughly 60% of the state's population). It is expected to cost \$9.5 billion or 0.3% of the state's GDP.

With regard to in-kind measures, two recorded measures come from Canada, one from Bermuda and one from the U.S. For example, on October 18, 2022, benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), commonly referred to as food stamps, have increased 12.5 percent for fiscal year 2023. This equates to \$104 more per month to spend on groceries, for a total of \$939 per month as compared to \$835 received previously. Earlier, Bermuda announced as part of a \$15 million relief package, an in-kind transfer of LED lightbulbs to families in order to use less energy and save on high energy costs.

Next, out of 12 subsidies implemented in the region, 5 measures have been implemented in Canada while the other 7 are from the United States. All these measures have been fee subsidies except for one fertilizer/agriculture subsidy in the United States. For example, in the U.S., as a part of the Inflation Reduction Act, the government is providing an agriculture subsidy to 13,100 farmers (0.004% of the U.S. population) so far in the form of loan forgiveness. On January 19, 2023, the NY State Government announced that it is also backing a \$200 million plan for to help offset electric bills for more than 800,000 New Yorkers (4% of the state's population) who earn less than \$75,000, but are not eligible for the current utility discount program. In Connecticut, on November 29, 2022, the fare-free bus service that was introduced in April 2022 in response to inflation was extended through March 31, 2023. This is a second extension. The first extension was announced in June 2022 (the program to last until December 2022). The service costs the state about \$2.7 million a month.

There are 5 labor market related measures from the region. Four comes from the U.S. and one from Canada's British Columbia, and it pertains to the wage increase sub-category. For instance, in California, the Government announced that effective January 1, 2023, the minimum wage is \$15.50 per hour for all employers. Some cities and counties have higher minimum wages than the state's rate.

South Asia (SAR)

In the South Asia Region (SAR), a total number of 31 measures have been recorded across 5 economies¹⁴⁴ to reduce the impact of the rising fuel and food prices across the region (see Table A1.7). Only two new measures have been introduced in SAR since the last version of the tracker. The economies in SAR are cutting down on previously announced measures due to monetary issues. Most measures in SAR region belong to subsidies (13 measures), followed by trade related measures (7 measures), tax related measures (5), social assistance measures (4) and labor market and social insurance programs (1). Measures passed in the SAR region account for just 2% of the total global responses.

In terms of program parameters: the region plans to cover 946 million individuals (51% of the total population in the region) and cost \$75.7 billion (1.85% of the total regional GDP). Next, the average daily benefit size of subsidy and social assistance programs in the region tend to be \$0.2 excluding one-off benefits, which is 5% of the daily median income. And, on average, these measures have an initial program duration of 3.1 months. Of the 7 measures with duration information, 2 measures (28%) recorded an extension in the initial program duration of 9 months, on average.

Table A1.7. Number of measures and share of total

Component	SAR		World		SAR as a share of the global Response
	No. of Measures	Share of Total	No. of Measures	Share of Total	
Subsidies	13	42%	439	33%	3%
Social assistance	4	13%	409	31%	1%
Tax measures	5	16%	258	19%	2%
Trade related measures	7	23%	75	6%	9%
Labor market programs	1	3%	77	6%	1%
Social insurance	1	3%	75	6%	1%
Total	31	100%	1333	100%	8%

The two new measures announced in SAR are under the subsidies category, one falling under fees subsidy and the other under food subsidy. For example, under the fee subsidy measure, in March 2023, the Indian state of Punjab announced an allocation of INR 778 crores (\$105 million) for electricity subsidies. Under the budget for fiscal year 2023-2024, 7.6 million people, 87% of the domestic consumers in Punjab, are benefitting from the energy subsidy by receiving free electricity. For the food subsidy measure, in March 2023, Government of Pakistan announced a INR 4.99 billion (\$22 million; 0.006% of its GDP) subsidy on 19 essential food items for the holy month of Ramadan. Under this package, subsidies were given on food items such as tea, flour, ghee (butter), sugar, milk, cooking oil and etc.

Besides the new measures, six measures saw extensions in South Asia. India extended three trade measures that it had announced previously. For example, on May 24, 2022, the government had imposed export restrictions on sugar (raw, refined and white sugar) by setting a cap of 10 million tons on exports to ensure domestic availability. In October 2022, the government announced an extension of one year for this measure. On May 13, 2022, India had announced an export ban on wheat which was extended in February 2023. Bangladesh extended two of its previous tax measures. For example, in March 2022, Bangladesh had announced to reduce the value added tax (VAT) on edible oil imports to 5% from 15%. This measure was coming to an end in June 2022, but it has been extended three times since then in July 2022, October 2022, and January 2023. Pakistan also extended a food subsidy measure it had in place since May 2022 where the Utility Stores Corporation in Pakistan was ordered by the government to

reduce the price of flour bags. It was supposed to come to an end by December 2022, but the program was extended in January 2023 to continue providing discounted flour.

Annex 2. Classification of measures

Policy category		
SP Areas	SP Category	SP Sub-category
1. Social assistance	1.1. Cash transfers	1.1.1. Unconditional cash transfers
		1.1.2. Conditional cash transfers
	1.2. Social pensions (non-contributory)	1.2.1. Old age social pensions
		1.2.2. Disability pensions
	1.3. In-kind transfers	1.3.1. Food vouchers (quantity or value-based)
		1.3.2. In-kind food distribution
		1.3.3. Health kits and other in-kind transfers
		1.3.4. Other in-kind vouchers (quantity or value-based)
	1.4. School feeding	1.4.1. School meals (on-site school feeding)
		1.4.2. Take-home rations
	1.5. Public works	1.5.1. Cash for work
		1.5.2. Cash for services
		1.5.3. Food for work
2. Social insurance	2.1. Pensions	2.1.1. Old age pensions
		2.1.2. Disability pensions
		2.1.3. Survivors pensions
	2.2. Social security contributions waivers	2.2.1. Individual retirement accounts and social contributions for individuals
		2.2.2. Social security contributions for firms
	2.3. Paid leave	2.3.1. Sickness and population at risk
		2.3.2. Maternity/Paternity
	2.4. Health insurance	2.4.1. Health insurance
	2.5. Unemployment insurance	2.5.1. Out-of-work income support
	3. Labor market programs	3.1. Training & intermediation
3.1.2. Training (vocational, life skills, cash for training, others)		
3.2. Wage subsidies		3.2.1. Wage subsidy with reduced work time (including zero working hours)
		3.2.2. Wage subsidy without reduced work time (include waivers/payments of social security)
		3.2.3. Subsidies for job creation that are targeted on newly created jobs
3.3. Labor regulatory adjustment and enforcement		3.3.1. Hiring flexibility
		3.3.2. Dismissal procedures
		3.3.3. Working conditions/methods
		3.3.4. Leave policies

Policy category		
SP Areas	SP Category	SP Sub-category
		3.3.5. Relaxation of cooling-off periods
		3.3.6. Labor inspector interventions including occupational health and workplace safety measures
		3.3.7. Other regulatory adjustment
	3.4. Wage increase	3.4.1. Minimum wage increase
		3.4.2. Public sector wage increase
4. Subsidies	4.1. Fuel subsidies	4.1.1. Fuel subsidy
		4.1.2. Price control (fuel)
	4.2. Food subsidies	4.2.1. Food subsidy
		4.2.2. Price control (food)
	4.3. Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	4.3.1. Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies
		4.3.2. Price control (fertilizers)
		4.3.3. Changes regulation in using fertilizers
	4.4. Fees subsidies	4.4.1. Education (fee waivers/vouchers)
		4.4.2. Health (fee waivers/vouchers)
		4.4.3. Housing (rent support)
		4.4.4. Utility discount (e.g., Water, electricity, heating, cooking gas)
		4.4.5. Transportation
		4.4.6. Money transaction fees
		4.4.7. Mortgages and other loans
4.4.8. Exemption/reduction on taxes (VAT, excise duty)		
4.4.10. Other		
4.4.11. Price control (fees)		
4.4.12. Green energy subsidies (e.g., EV subsidies)		
5. Trade related measures	5.1. Export/import restriction or easing	5.1.1. Export/import restriction
		5.1.2. Export/import easing
6. Tax measures	6.1. Direct taxes	6.1.1. Income Tax
		6.1.2. Property tax
		6.1.3. Road tax
		6.1.4. Others
	6.2. Indirect taxes	6.2.1. VAT
		6.2.2. Excise duty
		6.2.3. Custom duty
		6.2.4. others

Annex 3. Coverage methodology

Coverage definition. Coverage is defined as the number of beneficiaries (individuals) for the highest coverage program in each economy, regardless of the duration of the program (i.e., one-off or multiple). One limitation of this definition is that it does not account for the duration of the programs as it does not differentiate between programs that offer only one-off benefits and programs that provide multiple benefits.

Coverage calculation. If programs target individuals, then we consider the individuals as the direct beneficiaries. For programs that target households, the analysis considered all households' members as direct beneficiaries. Therefore, all programs where the beneficiary's unit is households were converted into individuals to get the direct beneficiaries. Converting households into individuals was done using economies' average household size acquired from the UN Database on Household Size and Composition.¹⁴⁵ One caveat with this conversion method is that using the average household size of the economy, and not of the program, can overestimate the coverage.

Aggregating. To avoid the risk of duplication (counting beneficiaries more than once), only the highest coverage per economy is used. Once the risk of duplication is eliminated and beneficiary units are unified (i.e., all beneficiary units, irrespective of households or individuals are converted into individuals), then they are aggregated at the global level. However, using the highest coverage per economy will result in conservative coverage since beneficiaries of smaller programs are not counted.

Illustrative example. The procedure for how coverage is calculated is shown below. Suppose economy A's highest coverage program is supporting 300 households, and economy B's highest coverage program is supporting 1000 individuals, with economy A's average household size being 2, while economy B's is 3.

Type of coverage	Calculation	Final coverage
Coverage for economy A	300 hhs*2	600 individuals
Coverage for economy B	1000 ind	1000 individuals
Aggregate coverage		1600 individuals

Final coverage count. Applying this methodology resulted in over half a billion people being reached by the global response (see table A2.1). Two-thirds of the global coverage (347 million) will be covered by subsidies, while one-third (172.4 million) will be supported through social assistance (mostly cash transfers except for Romania and Slovenia). These figures are conservative given that only the highest coverage per economy is used.

Looking at the highest coverage per instrument per economy, social assistance programs reached 367 million in 26 economies, while subsidy programs reached 347 million beneficiaries in 15 economies. However, 6 economies have coverage information on both social assistance and subsidies.¹⁴⁶ In all of these 6 economies, coverage for subsidies was larger, therefore, only the subsidy coverage was included in the aggregate coverage. This is why the sum of the social assistance coverage (367 million) and subsidies coverage (347 million) does not equal 519.4 million.

Annex 4. Social assistance and subsidies: descriptive statistics

Social Assistance	Planned Coverage (individual)	Planned Coverage (% of Population)
LED bulb program (Bermuda)	84,836	100.00%
MOP 8,000 living subsidy e-voucher (Macao)	667,000	100.00%
EUR 300 energy tax-relief payment (Germany)	83,240,525	100.00%
Chinese New Year CT (Taiwan)	23,310,000	98.90%
Cash Transfers for Bread (Iran)	75,591,000	90.00%
Emergency Food Security Support law (Iraq)	35,000,000	87.02%
Energy voucher €150 (Slovenia)	1,751,854	83.42%
Fuel Pass 1 and 2 (Greece)	6,300,000	58.79%
One-off energy vouchers (France)	38,000,000	56.39%
Electricity Allowance (Poland)	19,710,664	51.94%
EUR 200 one-off bonus (Italy)	28,641,179	48.09%
Philippines Targeted Cash Transfer Program (Philippines)	52,410,600	47.83%
Bono Alimentario (Peru)	15,759,165	47.80%
Bono Gas (Dominican Republic)	4,869,106	44.89%
Assurance Package (AP) (Singapore)	2,500,000	43.97%
Auxílio Gás dos Brasileiro (Brazil)	84,774,139	39.88%
Bono Chile Apoya de Invierno (Chile)	7,500,000	39.23%
New Relief Package Benazir Income Support Program (Pakistan)	85,000,000	38.48%
฿800 cash assistance (Thailand)	26,500,000	37.97%
Exceptional aid to neediest families and pensioners (Egypt)	37177718.25	36.33%
Compensatory payment for fuel (Sweden)	3700000	35.74%
UCTs to SWF beneficiaries (Yemen)	10,009,020	33.56%
VFP-COVID-19 UCT (São Tomé and Príncipe)	64,000	29.20%
Bansos BBM (Indonesia)	79,697,698	29.14%
Senegal Direct Cash Aid Program (Senegal)	4,763,902	28.45%
Cost of living payment (United Kingdom)	18,774,862	27.93%
Bread and Butter Support (New Zealand)	1,400,000	27.54%
Multiphase one-off Cash transfer (Uzbekistan)	8,900,000	26.00%
One-off contribution to vulnerable households (Portugal)	2,676,409	25.97%
Additional Support for electricity Bill (Seychelles)	25,200	25.59%
Asignaciones Familiares-Plan de Equidad and Tarjeta Social Uruguay (Uruguay)	850,000	24.47%
Vouchers to Pensioners and vulnerable citizens (Romania)	4,700,000	24.37%
Nigeria National Social Safety Net Program Scale-Up Project (Nigeria)	49,994,572	24.25%
Kwenda (Monetary Social Transfer Program) (Angola)	7,743,577	23.56%
One-off EUR 200 CT (Spain)	10,817,142	22.84%
The Familienbeihilfe (Austria)	1,800,000	20.19%

One-off EUR100 to child subsidy (Slovakia)	1,100,000	20.15%
Emergency Food Security Support Project (Guinea-Bissau)	387,070	19.67%
Social Cash Transfer (SCTs) (Comoros)	165,000	18.97%
Energy supplement for pensioners (Croatia)	696,000	17.20%
Quebec CAD 500 one-off CT (Canada)	6,400,000	16.84%
WFP-School meals (Cape Verde)	90,000	16.19%
One-off supplementary Budget to Pensions (North Macedonia)	328,840	15.78%
One-off CT (Tajikistan)	1,498,284	15.71%
Assistance Voucher Programme (Guyana)	121,446	15.44%
Cost-of-living adjustment grant for vulnerable people (Malta)	80,000	15.23%
Heating Cheques (Denmark)	879,900	15.09%
One-off grant to Czech Children (Czech Republic)	1,600,000	14.95%
Baxnaano program (Somalia)	2,250,000	14.16%
Cash to Retirees and Pensioners (Argentina)	6,100,000	13.44%
Food Stamp (United States)	42,000,000	12.75%
Fuel Subsidy Mechanism (Jordan)	1,169,000	11.46%
After Care Funds (Fiji)	98,000	10.93%
Climate Smart enhanced Public Works Program (CS-EPWP) (component of Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project) (Malawi)	1,961,379	10.25%
Food assistance to vulnerable people (Djibouti)	93,300	9.44%
Cash assistance -- AMAN (Lebanon)	632,100	9.26%
Single person benefit (Lithuania)	240,000	8.59%
Support for small landholder farmers (Georgia)	300,000	8.08%
Beneficio por Inflacion (Costa Rica)	383,675	7.53%
The Social Cash Transfer (Zambia)	1,374,500	7.48%
Child Grant Program (Lesotho)	129,602	6.05%
LEAP (Ghana)	1,746,443	5.62%
Uy-bulogo komok (UBK) program (Kyrgyz Republic)	360,000	5.46%
Emergency Food Production Programme (South Sudan)	600,000	5.36%
Back to School Grants (Jamaica)	150,000	5.07%
Increase in minimum child allowance (Mauritius)	62,555	4.94%
Senior Citizen's Food Vouchers Programme (Anguilla (UK))	700	4.67%
Burkina Faso Social Safety Net Project (Burkina Faso)	971,000	4.65%
People in Need Moldova (Moldova)	115,551	4.41%
UCT -- Sudan Emergency Safety Nets Project (Sudan)	1,900,000	4.33%
Basic child allowance (Hong Kong)	324,000	4.33%
Paraguay Non-Contributory Old-Age Pension (Paraguay)	278,632	3.91%
One-off grant to low-wage earners (Israel)	300,000	3.25%
Agri support to small farmers (Côte d'Ivoire)	800,000	3.03%
Social Cash Transfers (Liberia)	148,371	2.93%
Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 (Niger)	692,271	2.86%

Responding to Food Insecurity Linked to Global Price Hikes (Mauritania)	125,416	2.70%
One-off grant to children (Belarus)	225,000	2.39%
Seed distribution (Central African Republic)	100,000	2.07%
Child benefits (Iceland)	7,540	2.06%
Cost of Living Support for Emiratis (United Arab Emirates)	198,660	2.01%
Assistance to low-income vulnerable groups (Oman)	97,000	1.90%
Programme multisectoriel pour l'apaisement et la réinsertion sociale des groupes vulnérables (Haiti)	214,667	1.88%
Youth unemployment benefits (Algeria)	580,000	1.32%
Hot School Meals (Ireland)	64,500	1.29%
Productive Safety Net Program (Ethiopia)	1,400,000	1.22%
LIPW -- Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis Project (Cameroon)	167,000	0.63%
Reducing Rural Poverty and Malnutrition Project (Lao PDR)	42,743	0.59%
Cash to poor and vulnerable (Chad)	69,303	0.42%
Seed distribution (Burundi)	47,500	0.40%
Summer Nutrition Program (SUN) (Barbados)	1,000	0.35%
Student Training grant (Andorra)	249	0.32%
Agri support to smallholder farmers (Congo, Dem. Rep.)	116,645	0.13%
Eat is first program (Colombia)	29,389	0.06%
\$6 monthly cash to low-income residents (China)	300,000	0.02%

Social Assistance	Actual Coverage (individual)	Actual Coverage (% of Population)
Philippines Targeted Cash Transfer Program (Philippines)	39,307,950	35.9%
Fuel Pass 1 and 2 (Greece)	2,963,261	27.7%
Heating Cheques (Denmark)	840,000	14.4%
Vouchers to Pensioners and vulnerable citizens (Romania)	2,500,000	13.0%
Auxílio Gás dos Brasileiro (Brazil)	19,703,364	9.3%
Senior Citizen's Food Vouchers Programme (Anguilla (UK)	857	5.7%
The Social Cash Transfer (Zambia)	1,021,000	5.6%
Burkina Faso Social Safety Net Project (Burkina Faso)	997,998	4.8%
Kwenda (Monetary Social Transfer Program) (Angola)	1,512,116	4.6%
LEAP (Ghana)	1,202,199	3.9%
People in Need Moldova (Moldova)	93,885	3.6%

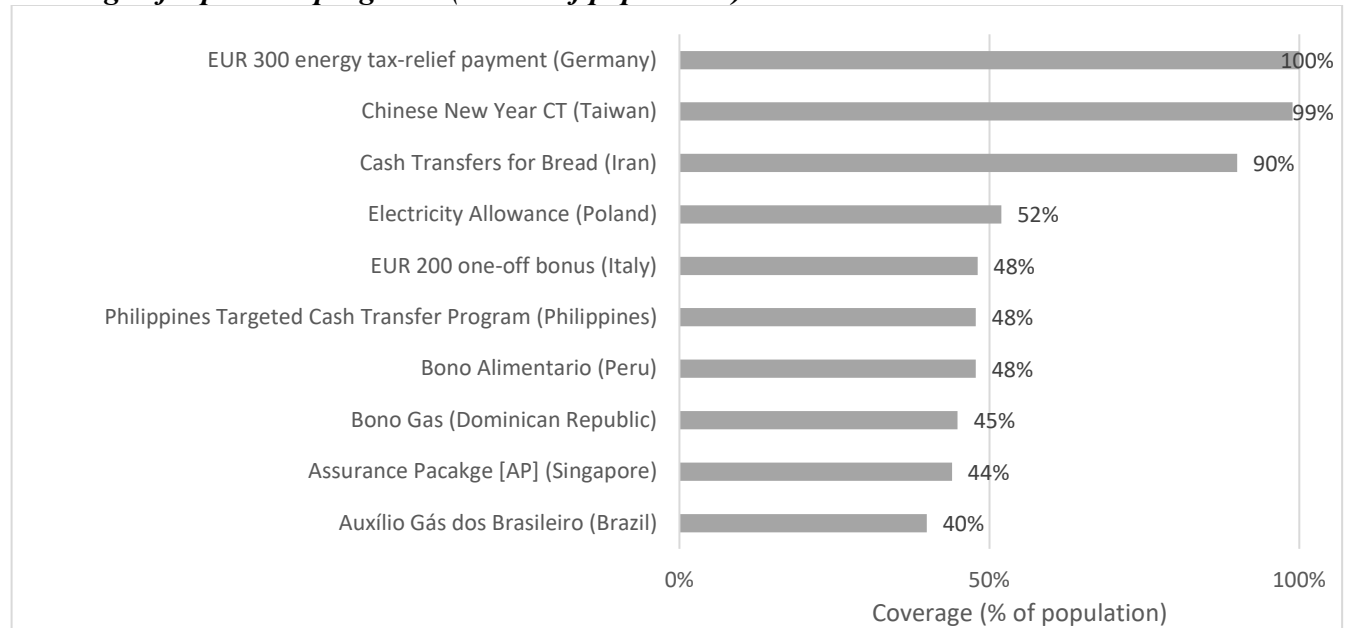
Subsidies Program	Planned Coverage (individual)	Planned Coverage (% of Population)
Electricity credit payment (Ireland)	6,134,911	100.00%
HK\$1,000 electricity subsidy (Hong Kong)	7,936,929	100.00%
Electricity subsidy (Cyprus)	1,238,674	100.00%
Energy Bills Support Scheme (United Kingdom)	6,8058,874	100.00%
Subsidy for high energy bills (Moldova)	2,591,641	99.00%
Food subsidy (Greece)	9,108,216	85.00%
Electricity subsidy (Romania)	16,003,125	82.98%
Electricity price cap (Poland)	28,158,091	74.20%
Fortalecimiento del Aporte Social de la Tarifa Eléctrica (Guatemala)	12,237,000	72.59%
Household Utilities Credit (Singapore)	3,949,721	69.47%
Energy subsidy for low-income households (Estonia)	873,056	65.59%
Ehsaas Riyayat Ration Scheme (Pakistan)	136,089,573	61.61%
Food Grain Subsidy (India)	800,000,000	57.97%
Energy Support Package (Kosovo)	1,016,000	57.23%
Utility discount for low-income households (Grenada)	63,000	55.99%
Price freeze on public transportation fee (Chile)	9,500,000	49.70%
Energy subsidies (Italy)	29,000,000	48.70%
Electricity support subsidy (Jamaica)	1,401,247	47.32%
Compensatory payment for electricity for households in Area 3 & 4 (Sweden)	4,400,000	42.50%
Energy subsidy (St. Vincent and the Grenadines)	47,000	42.36%
Electricity Payments Programme (Anguilla (UK))	6,000	39.99%
Price freeze on propane tank gas (Uruguay)	1,000,000	28.79%
Registry of Access to Energy Subsidies (RASE) (Argentina)	13,000,000	28.65%
Fuel discount by TotalEnergies (France)	17,000,000	25.23%
Bread subsidies (Syria)	4,000,000	22.86%
Welfare Card Scheme (Thailand)	14,500,000	20.77%
EUR 80 Energy check (Belgium)	2,323,455	20.11%
Agri subsidies (Mali)	2,997,103	14.80%
Housing benefits (Iceland)	43,680	11.92%
Transportation subsidies (Uzbekistan)	3,000,000	8.76%
Fertilizer subsidy program - for long rain season (Kenya)	4,300,000	8.00%
Electricity subsidy (St. Lucia)	14,000	7.62%
Tarifa Social de Energia Eléctrica - Gas Bottles (Portugal)	762,320	7.40%
Fuel Allowance for Employees (France)	1,200,000	6.53%
Special food subsidy (Bangladesh)	10,000,000	6.07%
Rental price cap (Denmark)	336,000	5.76%
Housing benefit (Germany)	4,277,623	5.14%
Heating subsidies (Lithuania)	110,000	3.94%

Thermal energy subsidy (Croatia)	159,000	3.93%
Subsidies for solar panel (Albania)	72,591	2.56%
Housing rent subsidy (Taiwan)	50,0000	2.12%
Scholarship programs (Spain)	1,000,000	2.11%
Fertilizer subsidy (Burundi)	231,849	1.95%
Energy bill discount (North Macedonia)	25,900	1.24%
Agri subsidies for farmers (Sierra Leone)	67,000	0.84%
Childcare subsidies (Israel)	60,000	0.65%
Urea subsidy for small and medium agricultural producers (Ecuador)	100,000	0.57%
Diesel subsidies for transport professionals (Morocco)	180,000	0.49%
Adaptation on housing rent (Andorra)	330	0.43%
Programme multisectoriel pour l'apaisement et la réinsertion sociale des groupes vulnérables (Haiti)	45.000	0.39%
NY state assistance to pay off unaffordable outstanding utility bills (United States)	1,242,800	0.38%
Fuel subsidy to public utility vehicle (PUV) drivers (Philippines)	377,000	0.34%
Fertilizer subsidy project (Uganda)	3,3082	0.07%
Agriculture subsidies for small-scale farmers (Costa Rica)	490	0.01%
Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ) Inputs Subsidy (Ghana)	45	0.00%

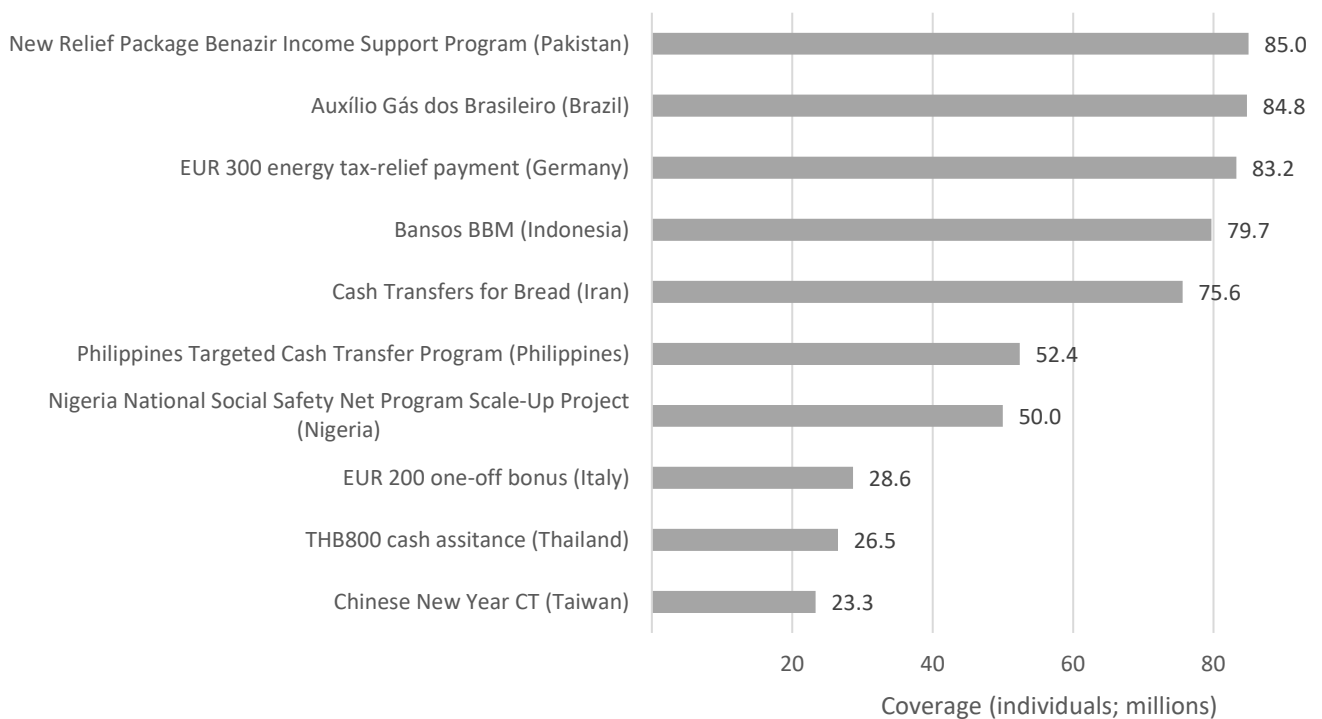
Subsidies Program	Actual Coverage (individual)	Actual Coverage (% of Population)
Subsidy for high energy bills (Moldova)	1,733,279	66.2%
Fortalecimiento del Aporte Social de la Tarifa Eléctrica (Guatemala)	10,000,000	59.3%
Electricity Payments Programme (Anguilla (UK))	6,100	40.7%
Price freeze on propane tank gas (Uruguay)	363,421	10.5%
Heating subsidies (Lithuania)	95,000	3.4%
Energy bill discount (North Macedonia)	24,050	1.2%
farmers' subsidies for autumn crops (Azerbaijan)	44,423	0.4%
Fuel subsidy to public utility vehicle (PUV) drivers (Philippines)	87,500	0.1%
The Patient Assistance Transport Scheme (PATS) (Australia)	13,000	0.1%

Annex 5. Coverage of top 10 CT programs & Regional coverage

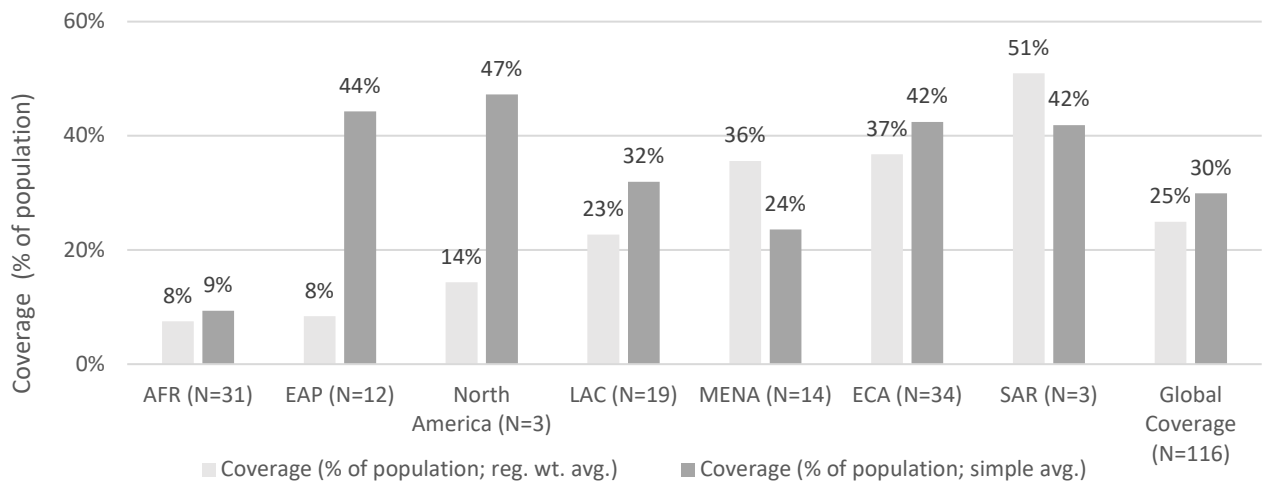
Coverage of top 10 CT programs (as a % of population)



Coverage of top 10 CT programs (in terms of number of direct individual beneficiaries)



Regional coverage (% of population – weighted average by population in the region and simple average)



Annex 6. Spending

Economies	Social assistance		Social insurance		Labor market programs		Subsidies		Tax measures		Grand Total	
	\$ million	% of GDP	\$ million	% of GDP	\$ million	% of GDP	\$ million	% of GDP	\$ million	% of GDP	\$ million	% of GDP
Albania			33.63	0.18%			200.03	1.10%	91.00	0.50%	324.66	1.78%
Andorra	0.48	0.01%			7.47	0.22%	22.83	0.69%			30.77	0.92%
Anguilla (UK)	0.37	0.13%			1.78	0.62%	6.26	2.17%	1.16	0.40%	9.57	3.32%
Argentina	261.42	0.05%					31.00	0.01%			292.42	0.06%
Australia							30.49	0.00%			30.49	0.00%
Austria	6435.86	1.35%					479.97	0.10%	2559.84	0.54%	9475.67	1.99%
Azerbaijan							12.71	0.02%			12.71	0.02%
Bangladesh							1616.16	0.39%			1616.16	0.39%
Barbados								17.85	0.36%		17.85	0.36%
Belarus	7.31	0.01%									7.31	0.01%
Belgium							751.95	0.13%	1996.14	0.33%	2748.09	0.46%
Belize	0.75	0.04%					0.50	0.03%	8.50	0.47%	9.75	0.54%
Benin							17.89	0.10%	112.20	0.63%	130.08	0.73%
Bermuda	1.43	0.02%						13.20	0.19%		14.63	0.21%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	74.66	0.33%					0.76	0.00%			75.43	0.33%
Botswana							46.95	0.27%			46.95	0.27%
Brazil	26312.46	1.64%							3200.00	0.20%	29512.46	1.83%
Bulgaria	1199.76	1.49%					1691.66	2.11%			2891.42	3.60%
Burkina Faso	7.50	0.04%									7.50	0.04%
Burundi	5.40	0.19%									5.40	0.19%
Cambodia	962.97	3.57%					100.00	0.37%			1062.97	3.94%
Cameroon	149.69	0.33%					2048.79	4.53%			2198.47	4.86%
Canada	5267.51	0.26%					6542.67	0.33%	3818.28	0.19%	15628.46	0.79%
Cape Verde							89.17	5.23%			89.17	5.23%
Central African Republic	5.39	0.21%									5.39	0.21%
Chad	5.69	0.05%									5.69	0.05%
Chile							55.00	0.02%			55.00	0.02%
China	944.75	0.01%					13511.45	0.08%	14314.34	0.08%	28770.54	0.16%
Colombia							2.16	0.00%			2.16	0.00%
Comoros	15.10	1.14%									15.10	1.14%
Congo, Dem. Rep.	13.48	0.02%					890.00	1.65%			903.48	1.67%
Costa Rica	33.44	0.05%					0.01	0.00%			33.45	0.05%
Côte d'Ivoire	533.61	0.76%					1138.21	1.63%			1671.82	2.40%
Croatia	519.19	0.77%	28.16	0.04%			1475.94	2.18%	327.77	0.48%	2351.06	3.47%
Curaçao								15.08	0.60%		15.08	0.60%
Cyprus	1.60	0.01%					394.64	1.42%			396.24	1.43%
Czech Republic	344.89	0.12%					7942.80	2.81%			8287.69	2.94%

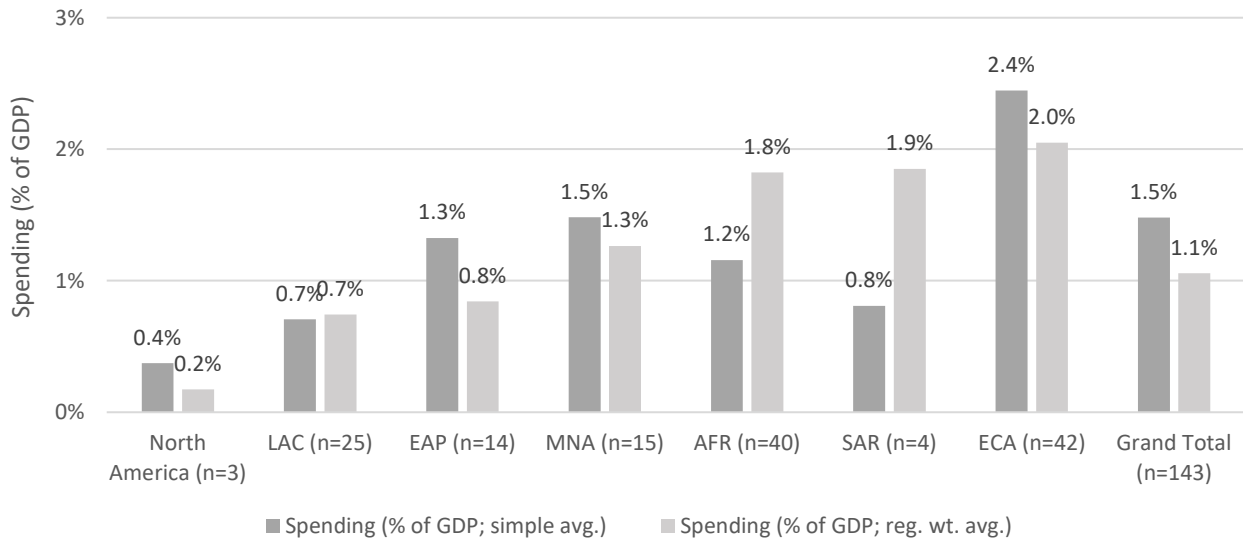
Denmark	986.73	0.25%					6452.93	1.62%	570.12	0.14%	8009.78	2.02%
Djibouti	22.00	0.65%									22.00	0.65%
Dominican Republic	165.42	0.18%					336.79	0.36%	4.73	0.01%	506.95	0.54%
Ecuador							3377.00	3.18%			3377.00	3.18%
Egypt	2543.60	0.63%	9943.54	2.46%	567.04	0.14%	405.03	0.10%			13459.22	3.33%
El Salvador									28.30	0.10%	28.30	0.10%
Estonia	555.70	1.53%	262.17	0.72%	291.50	0.80%	738.94	2.04%			1848.31	5.10%
Eswatini							2.34	0.05%			2.34	0.05%
Ethiopia	37.50	0.03%					304.92	0.27%			342.42	0.31%
Fiji	8.12	0.18%									8.12	0.18%
Finland	446.16	0.15%					5.65	0.00%	999.40	0.33%	1451.22	0.49%
France	5119.68	0.17%			7466.20	0.25%	8602.13	0.29%	12799.20	0.44%	33987.21	1.16%
Gabon							507.32	2.78%			507.32	2.78%
Gambia, The							36.81	1.77%			36.81	1.77%
Georgia	12.95	0.07%					7.40	0.04%			20.36	0.11%
Germany	13332.50	0.32%					94714.08	2.24%	14185.78	0.34%	122232.36	2.89%
Ghana	89.06	0.11%					98.00	0.13%			187.06	0.24%
Greece	1065.32	0.49%	639.96	0.30%			10100.06	4.67%	1584.97	0.73%	13390.31	6.19%
Grenada							0.89	0.08%	15.61	1.39%	16.50	1.47%
Guatemala			89.13	0.10%			610.95	0.71%			700.09	0.81%
Guinea-Bissau	0.01	0.00%									0.01	0.00%
Guyana	8.63	0.12%									8.63	0.12%
Honduras							208.07	0.73%			208.07	0.73%
Hong Kong	426.61	0.12%			5648.05	1.53%	887.68	0.24%			6962.35	1.89%
Iceland	42.95	0.17%	105.60	0.41%			74.63	0.29%			223.18	0.88%
India							72328.48	2.28%			72328.48	2.28%
Indonesia	3157.46	0.27%					2015.13	0.17%			5172.59	0.44%
Iran	10000.00	4.32%									10000.00	4.32%
Iraq	3852.00	1.85%									3852.00	1.85%
Ireland	1066.60	0.21%					1706.56	0.34%	957.81	0.19%	3730.97	0.75%
Israel	71.04	0.01%					42.63	0.01%	1352.66	0.28%	1466.33	0.30%
Italy	744.49	0.04%	6932.90	0.33%	19.90	0.00%	1292.51	0.06%	2399.85	0.11%	11389.65	0.54%
Jamaica	26.12	0.19%	8.28	0.06%			13.24	0.10%			47.64	0.35%
Japan	75386.36	1.53%					#####	2.20%			183942.71	3.73%
Jordan	42.25	0.09%									42.25	0.09%
Kenya							1369.01	1.24%			1369.01	1.24%
Kosovo							80.00	0.89%			80.00	0.89%
Kyrgyz Republic	17.50	0.20%									17.50	0.20%
Latvia							175.87	0.45%			175.87	0.45%
Lebanon	220.00	1.22%									220.00	1.22%
Lesotho	5.00	0.20%					10.59	0.42%			15.59	0.62%
Liberia	49.50	1.42%									49.50	1.42%

Lithuania	137.16	0.21%	113.38	0.17%	1725.76	2.63%	1188.19	1.81%	285.10	0.44%	3449.60	5.27%
Macao	6.35	0.02%									6.35	0.02%
Madagascar	150.00	1.02%									150.00	1.02%
Malawi	156.00	1.24%									156.00	1.24%
Malaysia	618.50	0.17%			4685.02	1.26%	6752.78	1.81%			12056.30	3.23%
Mali							89.27	0.47%			89.27	0.47%
Malta	20.48	0.12%	69.33	0.40%							89.81	0.52%
Mauritania	13.50	0.16%									13.50	0.16%
Mauritius	0.33	0.00%					101.19	0.91%			101.52	0.91%
Mexico									5150.84	0.40%	5150.84	0.40%
Moldova							10.67	0.08%			10.67	0.08%
Morocco							4516.69	3.40%			4516.69	3.40%
Mozambique							50.00	0.31%			50.00	0.31%
Netherlands	7999.50	0.79%	3413.12	0.34%			25475.74	2.50%	5439.66	0.53%	42328.02	4.16%
New Zealand	1267.03	0.51%					454.86	0.18%			1721.89	0.69%
Niger	70.50	0.47%							11.38	0.08%	81.88	0.55%
Nigeria	800.00	0.18%					17500.00	3.97%			18300.00	4.15%
North Macedonia	27.68	0.20%	1313.89	9.47%			60.28	0.43%	426.64	3.07%	1828.48	13.17%
Norway	9407.38	1.95%					7530.20	1.56%			16937.57	3.51%
Oman	1050.91	1.22%					910.27	1.06%			1961.18	2.28%
Pakistan	1623.63	0.47%					29.98	0.01%			1653.62	0.48%
Panama							320.00	0.50%			320.00	0.50%
Paraguay			3.41	0.01%							3.41	0.01%
Peru	402.20	0.18%									402.20	0.18%
Philippines	605.84	0.15%					219.11	0.06%			824.96	0.21%
Poland	6202.01	0.92%	15062.02	2.23%			38292.81	5.68%	5679.49	0.84%	65236.33	9.68%
Portugal	3878.16	1.55%			1407.91	0.56%	4076.55	1.63%	970.61	0.39%	10333.22	4.14%
Romania							6537.78	2.30%			6537.78	2.30%
Rwanda							53.05	0.48%	49.50	0.45%	102.55	0.93%
São Tomé and Príncipe	4.76	0.87%									4.76	0.87%
Saudi Arabia	2162.13	0.26%	141.87	0.02%							2304.00	0.28%
Senegal	209.06	0.76%					243.90	0.88%	255.29	0.92%	708.25	2.56%
Serbia									181.57	0.29%	181.57	0.29%
Seychelles	8.85	0.67%									8.85	0.67%
Sierra Leone							2.00	0.05%			2.00	0.05%
Singapore	7139.67	1.80%			2379.89	0.60%	0.46	0.00%			9520.02	2.40%
Slovakia	1072.79	0.93%	332.14	0.29%			6399.60	5.57%			7804.53	6.79%
Slovenia	236.79	0.38%			651.69	1.06%	31.78	0.05%			920.26	1.50%
Somalia	143.00	1.96%									143.00	1.96%
South Africa	6473.05	1.54%							353.08	0.08%	6826.12	1.63%
South Sudan	8.10	0.07%									8.10	0.07%
Spain	575.96	0.04%					255.98	0.02%	799.95	0.06%	1631.90	0.11%

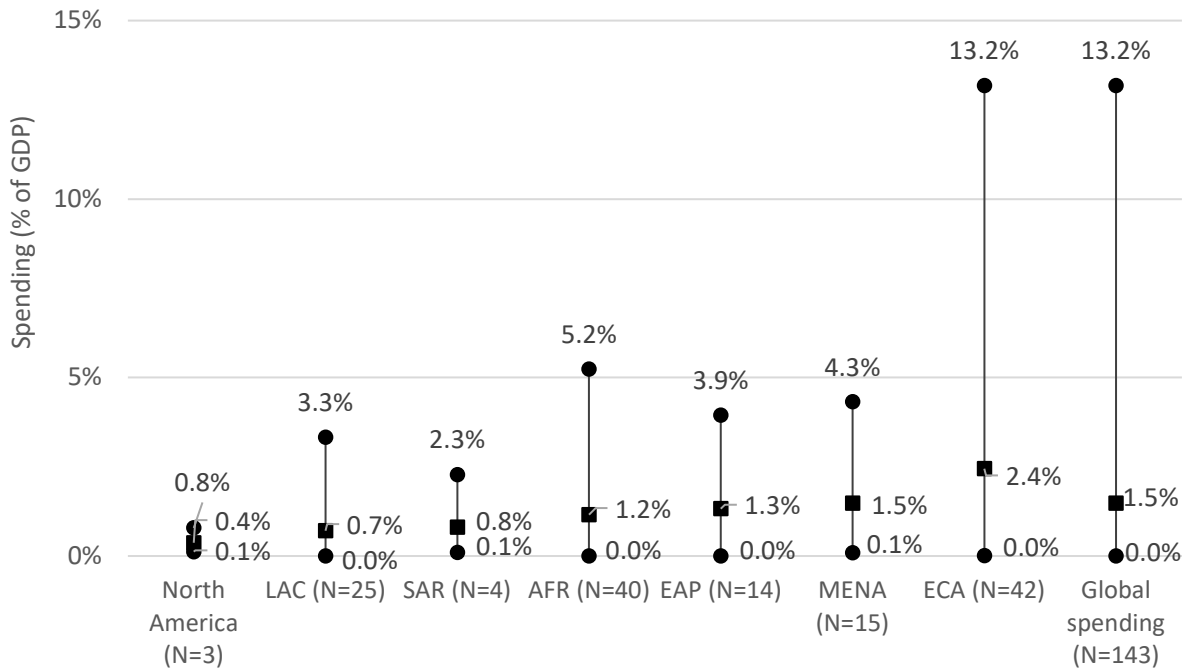
Sri Lanka							79.83	0.09%			79.83	0.09%
St. Lucia			2.04	0.12%	1.67	0.09%	15.11	0.86%			18.81	1.07%
St. Vincent and the Grenadines					0.37	0.04%	0.30	0.03%	0.56	0.06%	1.22	0.14%
Sudan	76.40	0.22%									76.40	0.22%
Sweden	855.45	0.14%	1939.14	0.31%					1123.01	0.18%	3917.60	0.62%
Switzerland			3032.76	0.37%							3032.76	0.37%
Syria							36.33	0.33%			36.33	0.33%
Taiwan	4559.07	0.58%					976.94	0.12%			5536.02	0.70%
Tajikistan	79.40	0.91%									79.40	0.91%
Tanzania							108.81	0.16%	52.23	0.08%	161.04	0.24%
Thailand	792.54	0.16%					3960.08	0.78%	86.80	0.02%	4839.42	0.96%
Togo	19.19	0.23%			36.59	0.43%	120.49	1.43%			176.26	2.10%
Tunisia							130.00	0.28%			130.00	0.28%
Turkey							55584.64	6.82%			55584.64	6.82%
Turks and Caicos Islands	12.00	1.27%									12.00	1.27%
United Arab Emirates							7600.00	2.12%			7600.00	2.12%
United Kingdom	14481.60	0.45%	7240.80	0.23%			38225.39	1.20%	8930.32	0.28%	68878.11	2.16%
United States	19274.80	0.08%					4186.40	0.02%	4399.00	0.02%	27860.20	0.12%
Uruguay							18.00	0.03%			18.00	0.03%
Uzbekistan	577.80	0.83%	749.46	1.08%			17.40	0.03%	190.60	0.28%	1535.26	2.22%
Yemen	269.00	1.28%									269.00	1.28%
Zambia	204.61	0.96%									204.61	0.96%
Total												144

Annex 7. Spending Regional and income level average (% of GDP & per capita)

Social protection and labor spending by region (% of GDP)



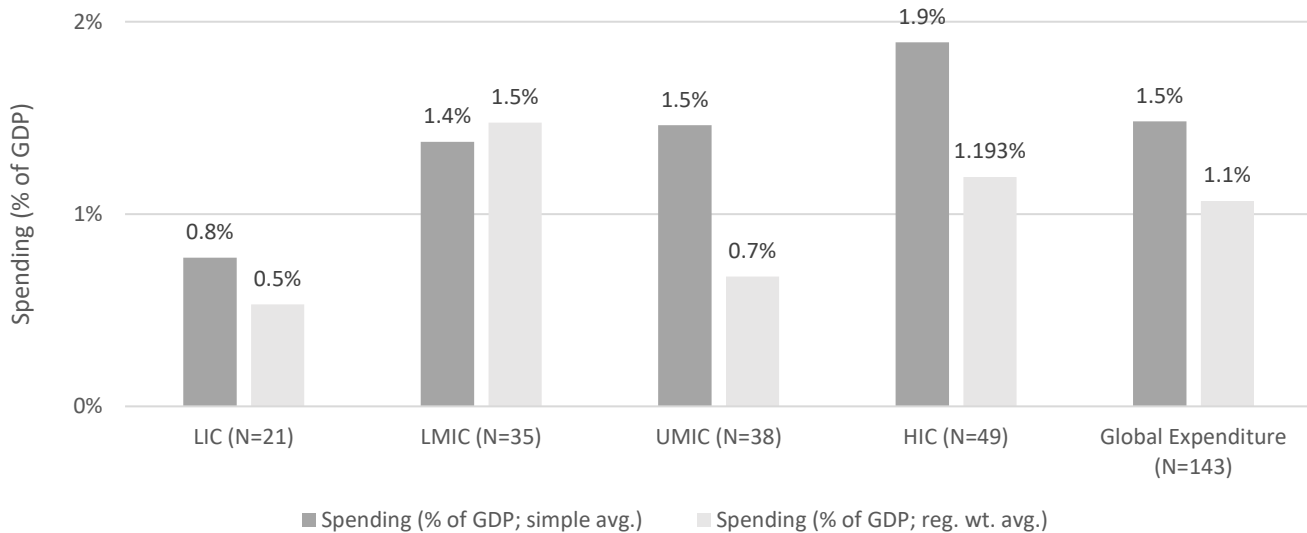
Social protection and labor spending by region (% of GDP)



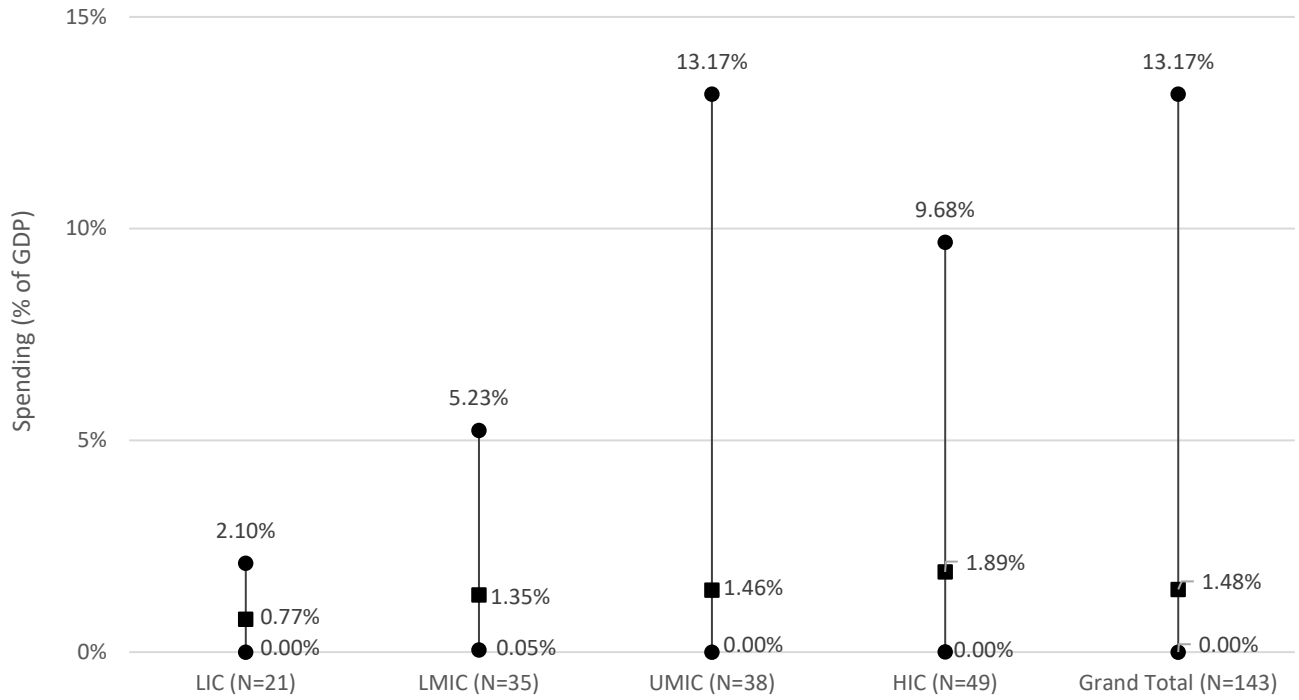
Social assistance and subsidies spending by region (% of GDP)



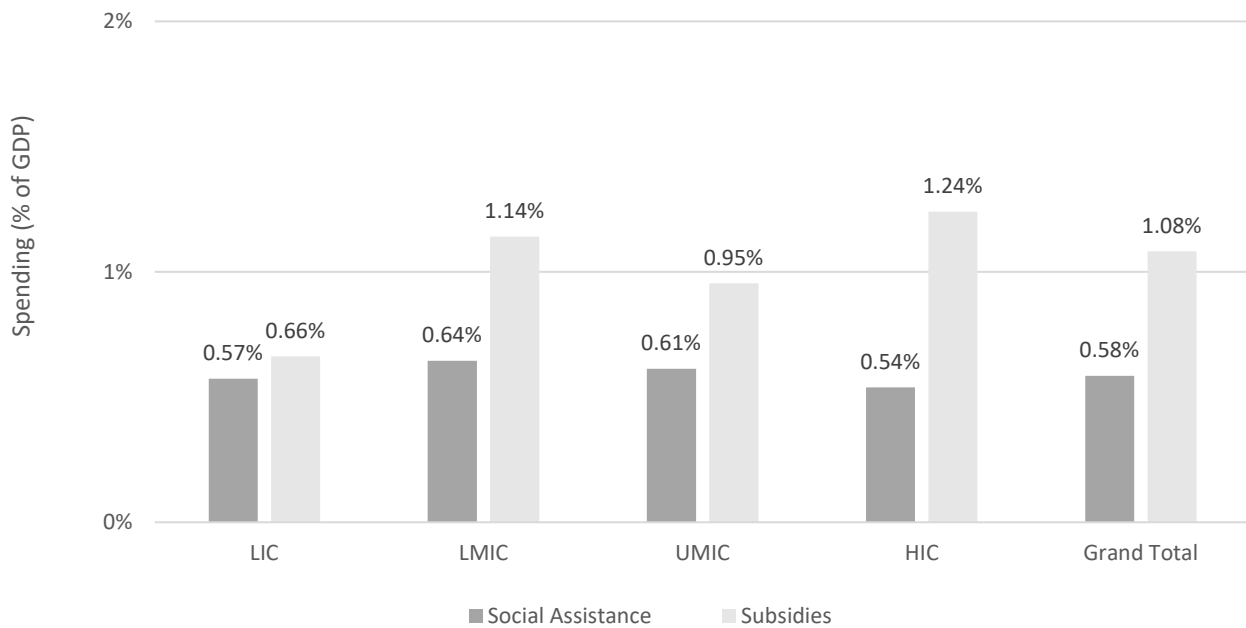
Social protection and labor spending by income group (% of GDP)



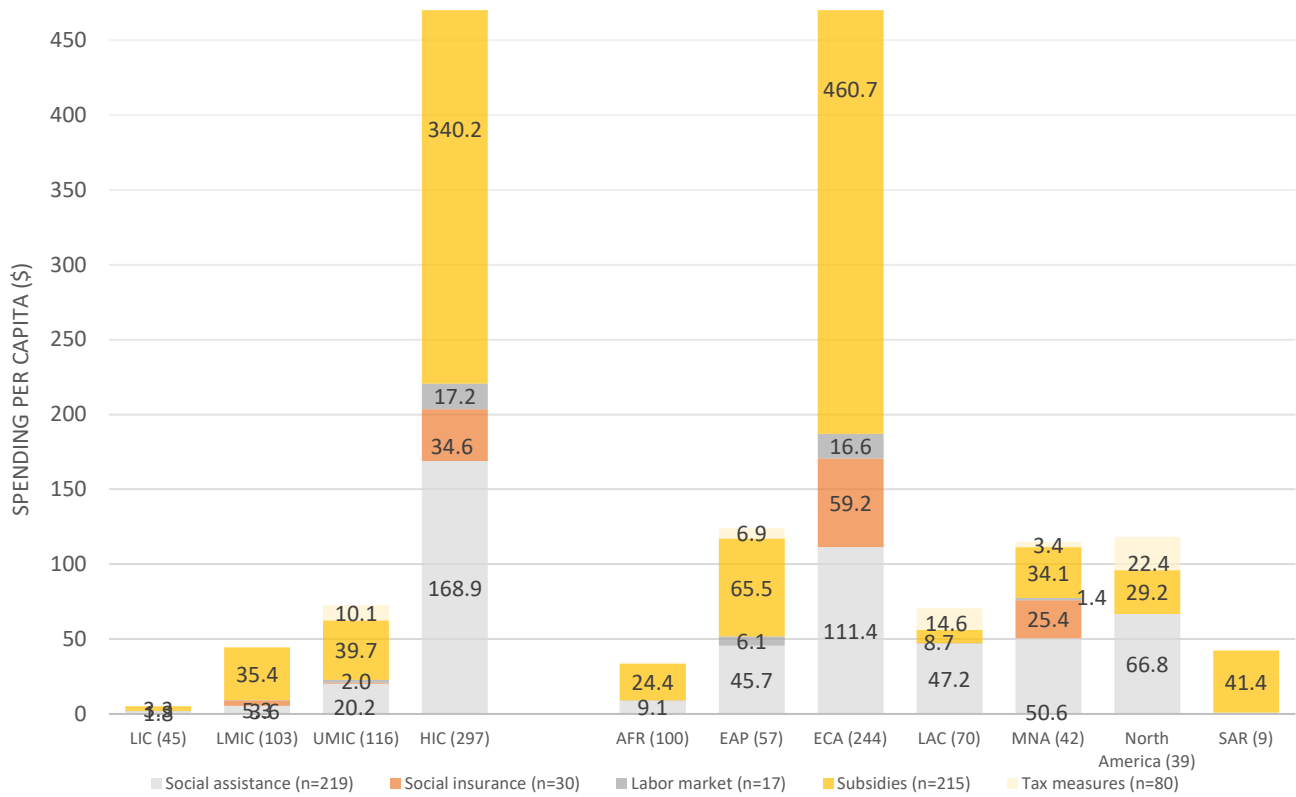
Social protection and labor spending by income group (% of GDP)



Social assistance and subsidies spending by income group (% of GDP)



Social protection spending per capita by income groups and regions (n = 561 programs)



Annex 8. Methodology for adequacy calculation

Adequacy is derived by comparing cash transfers from each economy with the 2019 median income or expenditure. Direct and indirect transfers are provided in various durations (e.g., one-off, daily, monthly). Therefore, for the analysis to be comparable and given that the median income/expenditure is available in daily rates, cash transfers were converted into daily rates. For example, if a program provides benefits monthly, it is divided by 30 to get the daily rate. The same rule applies to other duration frequencies (e.g., bi-monthly and quarterly). However, when a program provides a one-off benefit, it was not included in the main analysis due to its large benefit size, instead a separate analysis was performed focusing on the programs with one-offs.¹⁴⁷ One caveat is that the median income is not adjusted for price changes over time (inflation) and price differences between economies (expressed in international \$). In contrast, the transfers are all converted using normal exchange rates. The exchange rates used are “National currency per U.S. Dollar, end of period 2021/2022” from the IMF’s *International Financial Statistics* (IFS) database¹⁴⁸ and UN *Operational Rates of Exchange* database.¹⁴⁹ Finally, median income/expenditure is acquired from *Our World in Data* database.

Annex 9. Adaptations of cash transfer measures

Country	Program name	Adaptation type
Albania	Economic benefits for families in need	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Andorra	Student Training grant	2.2. Horizontal expansion & admin simplification
Angola	Kwenda	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Argentina	Prestación Alimentar	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Bermuda	Food allowance program	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Brazil	Auxílio Brasil	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
Brazil	Auxílio Gás dos Brasileiro	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso Social Safety Net Project	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
Cambodia	Monthly support to the equity card holding poor and vulnerable	4.1. Admin simplification (flexible time of collection, postponement of recertification, etc.)
Canada	British Columbia Family Benefit	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Cape Verde	Social Inclusion Income	2.5. Horizontal expansion (new targeted multiple payments)
Côte d'Ivoire	Housing allowance	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
Côte d'Ivoire	Transport and family allowance	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Côte d'Ivoire	Family allowance	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Croatia	Cash to vulnerable energy consumers	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
Croatia	Housing, communal fees, heating and water services	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Croatia	Scholarship program	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
Czech Republic	Contribution for housing	4.1. Admin simplification (flexible time of collection, postponement of recertification, etc.)
Czech Republic	Living and subsistence minimum	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Denmark	Heating Cheques	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion

Dominican Republic	Alimentate (component of Superate program)	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
Dominican Republic	Bono Gas	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
Egypt	Takafol and Karama	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)
Estonia	Child benefits	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Estonia	Family benefits	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Estonia	Single parent allowance	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Ethiopia	Productive Safety Net Program	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)
Finland	Private day care allowance	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Finland	Child increase	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Finland	Basic amount of social assistance for children	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Finland	Provider supplements	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Finland	Housing allowance for pensioners	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)
Finland	Meal allowance for students	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Finland	Single-parent supplement	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
France	Active solidarity income (RSA)	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
France	Activity bonus to low-income workers.	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Germany	Payments for poor children	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Germany	One-time heating cost allowance	2.3. Horizontal expansion (new targeted one-off)
Germany	Child maintenance allowance	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Germany	Child benefits	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Ireland	Christmas Bonus	4.3. Advanced payment
Ireland	Children Income	1.2. Vertical expansion (one-off)
Ireland	One-off double monthly payment for SUSI maintenance grant beneficiaries	1.3. Vertical expansion (one-off)

Jamaica	Special Economic Relief Programme (SERP)	1.2. Vertical expansion (one-off)
Kosovo	Social Assistance payments	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Kyrgyz Republic	Uy-bulogo komok (UBK) program	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Liberia	REALISE Project	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)
Liberia	Social Cash Transfers	2.5. Horizontal expansion (new targeted multiple payments)
Malawi	Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project - SCTP	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)
Malawi	Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project CT	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)
Malawi	Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project for shock responsive safety nets	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
Malaysia	Bantuan Keluarga Malaysia (BKM)	3.3. Time extension
Malaysia	Bantuan Keluarga Malaysia (BKM)	3.3. Time extension
Malaysia	Bantuan Keluarga Malaysia (BKM)	3.3. Time extension
Malaysia	Bantuan Keluarga Malaysia (BKM)	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Mauritania	Elmaouna program	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)
Malta	Carers Grant	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Malta	Rent benefit	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Malta	Child allowance	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Malta	Student annual stipend	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Netherlands	Healthcare allowance	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Netherlands	Child allowances	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Netherlands	Subsidy for higher education students	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Niger	Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)
Nigeria	Nigeria National Social Safety Net Program Scale-Up Project	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)

Norway	Housing allowance	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
Pakistan	BRACE - BISP	2.1. Horizontal expansion (Existing programs)
Peru	Juntos	1.2. Vertical expansion (one-off)
Peru	Pensión 65	1.3. Vertical expansion (one-off)
Peru	Contigo	1.2. Vertical expansion (one-off)
Portugal	Social Support Index (IAS)	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Portugal	Child Benefit	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Portugal	Minimum existence rules	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Singapore	GSTV – Cash Special Payment	1.2. Vertical expansion (one-off)
Singapore	Pre-University Bursary	1.3. Vertical expansion (one-off)
Slovakia	Child allowances	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Somalia	Baxnaano program	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion
South Africa	SASSA Social Relief of Distress Grant	4.1. Admin simplification (flexible time of collection, postponement of recertification, etc.)
South Africa	Child support grants (CSG)	1.2. Vertical expansion & admin simplification
Sri Lanka	Samurdhi program	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
St. Kitts and Nevis	Income and Disabilities Support program	3.3. Time extension
Sweden	Climate bonus	4.1. Admin simplification (flexible time of collection, postponement of recertification, etc.)
Sweden	Extra child allowance	1.2. Vertical expansion (one-off)
Sweden	Housing supplement	1.3. Vertical expansion (one-off)
United Kingdom	Winter Fuel Payment	4.1. Admin simplification (flexible time of collection, postponement of recertification, etc.)
United Kingdom	Universal Credit taper	4.1. Admin simplification (flexible time of collection, postponement of recertification, etc.)
Uruguay	Asignaciones Familiares-Plan de Equidad and Tarjeta Social Uruguay	1.1. Vertical expansion (multiple payments)
Zambia	The Social Cash Transfer	3.1. Horizontal expansion & vertical expansion

Annex 10. Classification of trade measures, by restrictions type

Export/import restriction			
Economy	Commodity category	Restricted items	Type of restriction
Afghanistan	1. Food	Wheat	1. Ban
Algeria	1. Food	Sugar, pasta, oil, semolina and all wheat derivatives	1. Ban
Algeria	1. Food	Sugar	1. Ban
Argentina	1. Food	Beef meat	2. Quota
Argentina	1. Food	Soyabean meal and soyabean oil	1. Ban
Argentina	1. Food	Soyabean meal and soyabean oil	3. Tax increase
Azerbaijan	1. Food	Flour-grinding industry goods, starch, wheat gluten, oilseeds and other seeds, medicinal and industrial crops, and feeds	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
Belarus	1. Food	Apples, cabbages, and onions	1. Ban
Bangladesh	1. Food	Aromatic rice	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
Bulgaria	1. Food	oil products	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
Burkina Faso	1. Food	Millet flour, corn flour, sorghum flour	1. Ban
Cameroon	1. Food	Cereal, vegetable oil	1. Ban
Chad	1. Food	Cereals and groundnuts	1. Ban
China	2. Fertilizers	Fertilizers	4. Restriction (additional permission requirement, letter requirement, inspection, etc.)
China	1. Food	Corn starch	1. Ban
Côte d'Ivoire	1. Food	Plantain banana, yams, local rice, cassava and its derivatives (e.g., Attiéké), and maize and its derivatives.	4. Restriction (additional permission requirement, letter requirement, inspection, etc.)
Dominican Republic	1. Food	Flour	1. Ban
Egypt	1. Food	Lentils, pasta, wheat, flour, fava beans, vegetable oil, and corn	1. Ban
Ethiopia	1. Food; 3. Other	Furniture, perfumes, make-up, artificial flowers, headgear;	

		artificial jewellery, carpets; umbrellas, watches and clocks, soaps, fireworks, human and artificial hair, and bags and wallets. Food items include canned fruit, sweet biscuits and waffles, seafood, chocolate, alcoholic drinks, water and non-alcoholic drinks, and fruit juices.	
Ghana	1. Food	Maize, soybean, and rice	1. Ban
Georgia	1. Food	Wheat and barley	1. Ban
Hungary	1. Food	Wheat, rye, barley, oats, corn, soybeans, and sunflower seed	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
India	1. Food	Wheat, Wheat flour, Maida, semolina.	1. Ban
India	1. Food	Sugar	2. Quota
Iran	1. Food	Tomatoes, potatoes, eggplants, and onions	1. Ban
Jordan	1. Food	Ice, sugar, dried milk, dry legumes, fodder, wheat and by-products, flour, fodder maize, fodder concentrates, as well as ghee and vegetable oils of all kinds (corn oil, sunflower oil, palm oil and soybean oil).	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
Kazakhstan	4. Fuel	Petroleum	1. Ban
Kazakhstan	1. Food	Sunflower seeds	3. Tax increase
Kazakhstan	1. Food	Wheat and wheat flour, and Sunflower by-products	2. Quota
Kazakhstan	1. Food	Sugar (white and cane), and Live cattle	1. Ban
Kosovo	1. Food	Wheat, corn, flour, vegetable oil, salt, and sugar	1. Ban
Kuwait	1. Food	Eggs	1. Ban
Kuwait	1. Food	Grains, Vegetable oils, Chicken meat	1. Ban

Kyrgyz Republic	2. Fertilizers	Mineral fertilizers	1. Ban
Kyrgyz Republic	1. food	Wheat and meslin, wheat flour, rice, macaroni products, vegetable oils, eggs, sugar and almost all types of feed for agricultural animals.	1. Ban
Lebanon	1. Food	Fruits and vegetables, milled grain products, sugar, and bread	1. Ban
Libya	1. Food	All types of fish	1. Ban
Malaysia	1. Food	Chickens	1. Ban
Mali	1. Food	Cereals, including rice, maize, millet and sorghum	1. Ban
Mexico	1. Food	White Corn	3. Tax increase
Mexico	1. Food; 3. Other	White corn, beans, sardines, and aluminum and steel scrap metal	1. Ban
Moldova	1. Food	Wheat, corn, and sugar	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
Morocco	1. Food	Tomato	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
Namibia	1. Food	Beetroot, butternut, cabbage, English cucumber, colored pepper, green pepper, onion, pumpkin, sweet potato, and round and jam tomatoes.	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
North Macedonia	1. Food	wheat, barley, corn, wheat flour	1. Ban
Pakistan	1. Food	Sugar	1. Ban
Serbia	4. Fuel	Diesel	1. Ban
Serbia	1. Food	Wheat, corn, flour, and oil	1. Ban
Sudan	1. Food	Wheat	1. Ban
Syria	1. Food	Food items include garlic, onions, potatoes, butter, oils, eggs, among other products.	1. Ban
Tajikistan	1. Food	Onions	1. Ban
Tunisia	1. Food	Fruits and vegetables	1. Ban
Turkey	1. Food	Grains, oilseeds, cooking oil, shipments,	1. Ban

		margarine, red lentils, and dry beans, and a few other agricultural commodities	
Turkey	1. Food	Cattle, sheep and goat meat	2. Quota
Uganda	1. Food	Maize, soybeans, rice, and wheat	3. Tax increase
Uzbekistan	1. Food	Onions	1. Ban
Uzbekistan	1. Food	Vegetable oils and oilseeds, including cottonseed oil and sunflower oil, sunflower seed and other oilseeds	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
Vietnam	2. Fertilizers	Fertilizers	3. Tax increase
Export/import easing			
Economy	Commodity category	Restricted items	Type of restriction
Belarus	1. Food	Salt, sugar, flour (buckwheat flour, wheat flour), certain types of cereals (buckwheat, rice, semolina, oats, oat flakes, millet).	2. Quota
Ethiopia	1. Food	wheat, rice, sugar, edible oils, and instant baby milk	6. Removal of Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
Indonesia	1. Food	Palm oil	4. Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
Iraq	1. Food	Food and medicine	5. Removal of restriction
Kazakhstan	1. Food	Potatoes, and carrots	2. Quota
Kenya	1. Food	maize grain and raw materials for animal feeds	6. Removal of Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)
North Macedonia	1. Food	Sunflower oil	5. Removal of restriction
Pakistan	3. Others	non-essential and luxury items	5. Removal of restriction
South Korea	2. Fertilizers	Urea	5. Removal of restriction
Turkey	1. Food	Butter, Olive oil	5. Removal of restriction
Zambia	1. Food; 3. Others	sugar, milk powder, infants milk formula, petroleum jelly, bath soap, laundry bar and washing powder	6. Removal of Restriction in the form of additional permission (e.g., license requirement, inspection, etc.)

Annex 11. Measures by countries and territories

Afghanistan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	May 20, 2022, Afghanistan has banned export of wheat to other countries. ¹⁵⁰
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Albania

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On March 12, 2022, to support public transportation in the country, Albania will allocate 500 million Albanian lek to pay for the differences in ticket prices, so that the ticket prices for the citizens do not change.¹⁵¹</p> <p>On March 12, 2022, Albania will add 20 billion Albanian lek to the financing which goes to the payment of electricity bills for households and small businesses.¹⁵²</p> <p>On September 8, 2022, the government announced to increase the energy support for the blind, paraplegic and tetraplegic.¹⁵³</p> <p>[October 2022] The government has launched the first stage of a process to help households install solar panels to heat water, thus helping keep energy costs low for lower-income families. The Ministry would cover 70% of the cost for 2,000 families to equip their homes with solar thermal connectors. [10 January 2023] Albania's infrastructure and energy Ministry said that the government will provide 8 million euro (\$8.6 million) in subsidies to households this year for the installation of solar water heaters. The government aims to help 20,000 local families to equip their homes with solar water heaters.¹⁵⁴</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On March 12, 2022, the government will compensate 3,000 Albanian lek monthly for three months in a row as a compensation for all retirees, vulnerable groups and those who benefit from the economic scheme that receive less than the minimum wage.^{155,156}</p> <p>On September 8, 2022, the government announced a new package of measures, including a 10% increase in economic</p>

		benefits for families in need with an extra boost (i.e., 20%) for women-headed households with two or more children. ^{157,158} [August 2022] Albanian farmers who grow wheat on their land will receive financial assistance to the tune of 30,000 ALL (€256) per hectare in a bid to stimulate local production as prices rise, causing many bakeries to shutter. Applications will be open until September 2022 and beneficiaries will be both individual farmers and Agricultural Cooperation Associations, as well as natural and legal persons. ^{159, 160}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	On September 8, 2022, the government announced a new package of measures, including a 7.5% indexation increase in disability payments. ^{161, 162}
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	[26 October 2022] The Ministry of Health stated that the 2023 budget will support unemployed mothers with three or more children with a monthly family income of up to 100,000 ALL (where one child is up to 5 years old) by providing compulsory health insurance for the 5 years of the child's growth. ¹⁶³
	Pensions	On March 12, 2022, the government allocated 3.6 billion Albanian lek (around 32 million U.S. dollars) to index all pensions nationwide. The measure is effective for all pensioners starting from April. [September 8, 2022] Pensions are being re-indexed to the new inflation rate, bringing the annual indexation to 9.5% for the country's 678,000 pensioners. [26 December 2022] Pensions will also be reviewed in 2023. They will increase as much as inflation, between the level of 3-6%. ^{164, 165, 166, 167}

		[September 2022] Other measures unveiled by the government include a review of pensions which will be adjusted by 6%. ¹⁶⁸
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	<p>Starting from April 2022, the minimum wage in the country will increase to 32,000 Albanian lek from the current minimum wage of 30,000 Albanian lek. [Update] On September 8, 2022, the Government announced a new package of measures, including an increase in the minimum wage to ALL34,000 (€290). [1 March 2023] From April 1, 2023 the minimum wage will increase to 40,000 Albanian lek, effective May 1, reflecting a 17.6% from current wages.^{169, 170, 171}</p> <p>On September 8, 2022, the Government announced a new package of measures, including pay rises for the police and civil servants.¹⁷²</p> <p>[26 December 2022] Teachers and doctors will benefit from a salary increase of up to 5,900 ALL next year, while nurses and educators in kindergartens and kindergartens will receive 3,500 ALL more than today. The decision is expected to be taken in 2023, according to the program specified by the budget with the increase at the level of 7%. In 2022, salaries were already raised for 31,000 teachers.¹⁷³</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	Starting from April, Albania will implement the law which stipulates the zero tax for salaries up to 40,000 Albanian lek,

		<p>halving the tax for salaries up to 50,000 Albanian lek, and reducing the tax for salaries from 150,000 to 200,000 Albanian lek. 360,000 employees across the country will benefit from it. [8 December 2022] For individuals, the tax-free salary limit will increase from ALL 40,000 to ALL 50,000. Over 70,000 employees whose salary pertains to this interval will be affected by the aforementioned changes.^{174, 175}</p>
	<p>Indirect tax</p>	<p>On March 12, 2022, the government of Albania has allocated an additional amount of \$5 million to increase its tax-free oil support scheme to over 1.4 billion lek or \$14 million for farmers throughout the country under the most recent Social Resistance Package. For a second consecutive year, farmers cultivating wheat, corn, maize, beans, sunflower, oats, rye, aromatic-medicinal plants, etc benefit from tax-free oil under the government's subsidies scheme. [September 8, 2022] The government also plans to increase financial support for farmers by providing tax-free oil. [9 November 2022] The 2023 budget will allocate 55.1% to farmers (worth 66 million euro). This is more than 10% higher than the average direct allocation between 2012 and 2022.^{176, 177, 178}</p>

Algeria

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On February 16, 2022, Algeria announced a new permanent youth unemployment benefit to support the purchasing power of low-income people. The allowance of 13,000 dinars (\$92), equivalent to nearly two-thirds the minimum wage of 20,000 dinars (\$142), will begin in March. This was made to 580,000 young jobseekers aged between 19 and 40. This expenditure for youth allowance is earmarked in the budget. The new benefits have attracted more than 1 million applications, which the employment agency says are still being assessed. To qualify, an applicant needs to prove they've never had a work contract with a company and are actively looking for employment. They also need to show they haven't received benefits from another state aid program, haven't rejected more than two job offers, and -- if married -- that their spouse has no income. ^{179, 180, 181}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	

	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On 13 March 2022, Algeria imposed ban on exports of all consumer products that Algeria imports, including sugar, pasta, oil, semolina and all wheat derivatives. This ban is applicable until the end of December 2022.¹⁸²</p> <p>On 13 March 2022, Algeria imposed ban on exports of all consumer products that Algeria imports, including sugar. This ban is applicable until the end of December 2022. On 6 December 2022, Algeria lifted the ban on sugar.^{183, 184, 185, 186, 187}</p>
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On February 13, 2022, Algerian abolished/freezes taxes, fees and other on certain food items until further notice.¹⁸⁸</p> <p>On February 13, 2022, Algerian abolished/freezes taxes, fees and other on certain food items until further notice.¹⁸⁹</p>

Andorra

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>April 30, 2022, Andorra has approved an extraordinary budget of 1.5 million euros for the Renova Plan. This aims to subsidies the switch to more efficient heating systems, installation of photovoltaic solar panels and the replacement of windows. It will be awarded though a bidding process and is for residential dwellings, where 70% of the dwellings are the primary residence, either owned or rented, with a maximum surface area of 130m².¹⁹⁰</p> <p>April 30, 2022, Andorra made criteria for accessing housing aid more flexible, as applications may now be submitted after 3 years of residence, whereas before it was 5 years. [2 June 2022] The income ceiling to be able to apply for the aid goes from 1.2 to 1.3 times the personal or family Economic Threshold of Social Cohesion (LECS). It is also foreseen to increase the percentage of participation of the aid in the amount of the monthly income from 35% to 40% for priority groups, and from 30% to 35% for the rest of the population. The new criteria with the LECS will allow that 65 families can now access the aid, plus another one hundred that will also be able to access the new call for applications. In total, the Andorran Government has granted 1,471 rental subsidies for a little more than 3 million euros, 7.16% more than the amount stipulated for last year.^{191, 192}</p> <p>On April 30, 2022, Andorra created a free monthly season ticket for all residents and to lower the price of school transport to benefit more families. This will promote mobility and encourage citizens to use public transport over private.¹⁹³</p> <p>[29 November 2022] In the case of rentals, there is a difference between extended contracts and those that are in force. In the</p>

		<p>first case, the increase may be a maximum of 5%. In the case of contracts in force, the increase will be a maximum of 2%. The Ministry pointed out that the purchasing power of the most vulnerable families will not be substantially affected, given that the increase in the rent increase will always be lower than the salary increases.¹⁹⁴</p> <p>[11 October 2022] The Government has planned a series of measures to support citizens with a total budget allocation of EUR16.9 M. One of the most important aspects is families, for this reason the government has informed that the Executive will develop a heating aid for households that meet the condition of having incomes lower than 1.3 times the LECS. The amount of the aid will be EUR150 per household, with the intention of supporting citizens in paying the increase in the price of energy during the winter.¹⁹⁵</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[April 2022] Training grants are intended for students in both higher and compulsory education. The associated text proposed to increase income so that more students could benefit from them. [2 June 2022] With regard to education aid, Andorra has increased the subsidy thresholds for compulsory and higher education. 18,720, which will result in an additional expenditure of 176,000 Euros for the Administration to benefit 210 students in expenses for materials, meals, school transport and extracurricular skiing, and maintenance and registration for the necessary studies outside the Principality. As for higher education, the aid threshold increases from 16,502 to 18,720 euros, which implies an additional budget of 273,000 euros and the possibility of benefiting 39 more student.^{196, 197}</p>
	<p>Conditional cash transfers</p>	
	<p>Social pensions</p>	
	<p>Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)</p>	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[June 2022] Social security pensions with monthly amounts below the minimum inter-professional wage will be increased by 3.67% from 1 June. This relates to retirement pensions, widows' and widowers' pensions, disability pensions due to non-occupational and occupational accidents, and pensions for common or occupational illnesses, and will be applied when the individual concerned has contributed for at least 25 years. The law also stresses that the total cost will not be assumed by social security but by the Andorran government, so as not to affect the CASS (Andorran Social Security Fund) pension system. ¹⁹⁸
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[May 2022] The first major governmental social measure is to increase the lowest salaries, the cost of which will be borne by employers. The government has introduced a statutory increase for salaries below the average figure of €27,130.44 per year. The increase is 3.3%, which corresponds to the CPI for December 2021. It came into effect from 1 June and is intended for employees who did not receive this wage increase in the last 12 months. [1 January 2023] The government of Andorra raised the country's minimum wage by 7.1% on 1 January 2023. As a

		<p>result, the new hourly minimum wage will be € 7.42. The monthly minimum wage will be set to € 1,286.13. The government plans to invest a total of 10 million euros in the purchasing power plan.^{199, 200}</p> <p>[May 2022] The minimum wage has also been raised to €1,200 per month. This change represents an increase of 7% in 4 months, thanks to the annual increase in January, corresponding to the CPI in December (3.3%), and a second in April (+3.67%). It was implemented in May as an emergency measure. Indirectly, wage increases have an impact on other social security contributions and the recovery of taxes.²⁰¹</p> <p>[28 October 2022] The Government called a meeting to address the current situation of the labor market, taking into account the inflation, and to agree on measures related to the wage increase of the workers for next year. During the meeting, both the unions and the employers have established that there may be an agreement between the parties as regards the increase that could be applied to the minimum wage next year linked to the CPI, provided that this CPI is at a level of 5%.²⁰²</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On April 30, 2022, Andorra announced that General Indirect Tax (IGI; also known as VAT) on baby-related items such as nappies and feminine hygiene products is being reduced from 4.5% to 1%.²⁰³</p>

Angola

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	In 2022, the government proposed an increase in the value of the cash transfer program "Kwenda" to account for inflation from 8,500 kz to 11,000 (US\$18.2) per month per beneficiary household. The increase in the benefit value is still to be implemented. ²⁰⁴
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	Angola, on May 24, 2022, announced that it would increase pensions by 10%. With, this adjustment, the minimum pension would be fixed at 48,272 Kwanzas and the max will be 607,874. ²⁰⁵
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	

Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	Angola, on December 14, 2021, announced reduction of the Value Added Tax (VAT) rate, from 14% to 7% for consumer goods (certain food products). ²⁰⁶

Anguilla (UK)

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>[December 15, 2022] The government of Anguilla announced a new subsidy program that will cover 100% of the cost of coverage of medical treatment at the Health Authority of Anguilla (HAA) facilities for individuals 70 years and older starting March 2023. This would cover both primary and secondary care services on the island including access to medical, surgical, diagnostic and prescription drug coverage. This proposal is limited to public sector health services in the first instance as the Government of Anguilla presently sets the pricing of services at the HAA. Thus, HAA pricing is less susceptible to volatile pricing that may exist in the private market. The estimated cost of this program is expected to be between EC\$5.1 and EC\$7.1 million. Further, projected expenditure is anticipated to rise yearly due to an increasing number of eligible persons and consideration of service fee increases that may occur. The Ministry of Health recommends starting the subsidy eligibility for persons 70 years and older from 2023. Subsequently, further evaluation may then permit the enrollment of the younger age group.²⁰⁷</p> <p>[June 23, 2022] The Anguilla government announced a grant to households to help with the rise of energy costs. This will act as a fee subsidy for electricity payments made to the energy supplier ANGLEC. This is called the Electricity Payments Programme and will provide EC\$1,000 credit in two tranches to an estimated 6,000 accounts. The expected expenditure is EC\$6 million. [November 17, 2022] The government of Anguilla announced an extension of this measure by providing an additional EC\$1000 for the same accounts. The coverage, which was estimated to be 6,000, ended up being 6,100. This extension will have three tranches instead of two, EC\$ 500 distributed</p>

		December 1, 2022, EC\$ 250 on December 31, 2022, and another EC\$ 250 on January 31, 2022. The extension is expected to cost an additional EC\$6.1 million. ^{208 209}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On January 2022, it was reported that the government proposed an increase in the value of the cash transfer program "Kwenda" Monetary Social Transfer Program to account for inflation from 8,500 kz to 11,000 (US\$18.2) per month per beneficiary household. The increase in the benefit value is still to be implemented. This program was started during COVID with a 3-year duration (ending in Dec 2023) and In Jan 2022, the government is planning institutionalize by continuing it beyond its initial end date of (Dec 2023). ^{210 211 212}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	[June 23, 2022] The Anguilla ministry of finance introduced a one-off food voucher program targeted to the elderly (individuals who are 70+ as of 31st of December 2022). The benefit size of the food voucher is EC\$500. The expected expenditure for this program is EC\$250,000. This program is being called the Senior Citizen's Food Vouchers Programme (SCFVP). [November 17, 2022] This program was extended and came with an increase expenditure due to a second one-off. As of November, the actual coverage was 857 individuals (from the introduction of the program in June to November) and actual expenditure was EC\$428,000, with an additional EC\$450,000 expected. As of December 2022, EC\$1 million had been spent on this program, there is no update on latest actual coverage although Anguilla's 70+ population was estimated to be around 700 individuals as of the latest census. ^{213 214}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	

	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	[December 16, 2022] The government of Anguilla announced a proposal to increase the wages of public servants beginning in 2023. There has not been a wage increase for public sector employees since 2010 and so this measure aims to increase wages as a response to inflation and to compensate public employees appropriately. This will not be a one-time increase, but a reinstatement of regular yearly progressions and increments. An EC\$4.8 million has been allocated to all the ministries and departments for this measure. ²¹⁵
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On April 28, 2022, the Ministry of Finance announced the removal of excise taxes on fuel imports for a duration of 6 months. The excise tax was EC\$0.35 per liter. [December 15th, 2022] This measure was extended until March 31st, 2023. As of December 2022, the expenditure so far was EC\$ 2.3 million in foregone taxes on fuel. This extension is expected to cost an additional EC\$0.84 million. ^{216, 217, 218}

Antigua and Barbuda

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On March 18th, a new fuel subsidy went into effect that would reduce the cost of fuel for registered fisherman and those in the public transportation industry (primarily bus and taxi drivers). It is intended to reduce the cost of fuel for these individuals up to 25% and therefore keep the costs of fish and public transportation low for the general consumer. This measure has a duration of 30 days with the option to extend by the Cabinet. For bus drivers this an adaptation from a similar subsidy implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic. ^{219, 220}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[November 2022] Antigua & Barbuda to increase minimum wage to EC\$9. “The change in the minimum wage level does not affect many of the workers in the system. We are really speaking about those workers who are not represented by unions; (...) the floor has been moved upwards to ensure that the cost of living increases that we would have seen that they are at least able to maintain parity”. The new minimum wage looks set to take effect on New Year’s Day with the proposed EC\$9 rate to be taken to Parliament where it will be debated before becoming law. A commitment was also made by Cabinet to review the minimum wage biannually. [January 2023] The Minister responsible for Labor has ordered a basic minimum wage of nine dollars (\$9.00) per hour for employment in Antigua and Barbuda, effective January 1, 2023. ^{221, 222}
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	[September 2022] The Cabinet reiterated that taxes on flour have been eliminated in order to keep the cost of bread at a very low and stable price. ²²³

Argentina

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	As of March 26th, 2022 Argentina's energy subsidies are expected to rise in 2022. These include subsidies for gas, along with electricity. Energy subsidies made up 2.3% of GDP in 2021 and are now expected to be 3% of GDP for 2022, or from USD \$11 million in 2021 to an estimated USD \$20 million in 2022. This expectation of an increase is based on the existing subsidy formula as calculated from the rising prices of fuel on March 26th. ^{224, 225, 226, 227}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	As of March 26, 2022, Argentina's energy subsidies are expected to rise in 2022. These include subsidies for electricity, along with gas. Energy subsidies made up 2.3% of GDP in 2021 and are now expected to be 3% of GDP for 2022, or from USD \$11 million in 2021 to an estimated USD \$20 million in 2022. This expectation of an increase is based on the existing subsidy formula as calculated from the rising prices of fuel on March 26th. [Update] On August 2nd, the Secretariat of Energy announced a new update to existing calculations for the price of electricity to homes (utility). This measure also includes a similar breakdown for the price of water (utility). This update of an existing measure, rolls back the subsidies that were in place only for certain groups and means that for these groups there will be an increase in the price of electricity. These groups include those categorized as level 1, or households with high incomes, as well as households of any other level who did not fill out the Registry of Access to Energy Subsidies (RASE) form that would allow them to maintain the subsidies. the subsidy will remain in place for a targeted group who qualify, majority will be low income. This phasing out of subsidies will come in three phases that will gradually reduce subsidies and increase prices for electricity until the users are paying the full price of electricity by the end of 2022. The first phase begins August

		<p>31st, 2022 and the final phase is set to be in December. The final phase will show a significant increase in what these groups will pay for gas that will depend on the region. As of Monday August 1st, 9 million households had filled out the RASE and are eligible to maintain the subsidy. However, this number can grow as there is no deadline to fill out the RASE and new households can be added at any time.^{228, 229, 230, 231}</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>On April 6, 2022, the government announced an increase of 50% to the existing cash transfer program aimed at low-income families to help buy food under the Alimentar program. The expected coverage is 4.1 million. Before the announced increase, the program made a monthly deposit to a special Alimentar card for each qualified family of between 9,000 and 18,000 pesos (roughly USD \$76 and \$153) depending on the number of children in the family, this amount will now increase by 50%. [November 22, 2022] The government has announced a further vertical expansion of 40% for the same Alimentar program to go into effect in December. The new transfers range between 12,500 and 25,000 pesos per family depending on the number of children. This is expected to reach 4,046,899 children and an expected additional cost of 38,519 million pesos.^{232, 233, 234, 235}</p> <p>On October 18th, the government announced a new food booster aid would be handed out to the most vulnerable population who do not already receive state aid to help with the rising cost of food. This will be a two time cash transfer of 22,500 pesos each, for a total of 45,000 pesos. The first payment is set to be handed out on November 14th and the second date has not been announced yet. So far 514,000 people have signed up for this cash transfer. [December 2022] The second transfer was handed out in December, 2022.^{236, 237, 238}</p> <p>On August 11th, the government announced a monthly cash transfer for retirees and pensioners to go along with the</p>

		<p>announced vertical expansion. This monthly cash transfer was set to last for three months, from September to November. The maximum transfer amount is 7,000 pesos and the minimum is 4,000 pesos. This is a measure will reach almost 6.1 million retirees and pensioners.²³⁹</p> <p>In May 2022, the world bank as part of the “Social Safety Nets for Vulnerable Populations in the Province of Buenos Aires” financed cash transfers for food, called Programa Más Vida, to households at risk of not meeting their nutritional needs, covering 142,000 beneficiaries in February 2022, including pregnant women, children up to six years old, elderly people and individuals with preexisting conditions. The drop in beneficiaries of this program compared to the baseline (188,000 beneficiaries in 2020, when the program was initially added as a covid-19 response to this WB project as part of restructuring and was allocated US\$25m) is due to the implementation of the national program Tarjeta Alimentar whose target population partially overlaps with the Programa Más Vida. Programa Más Vida is a long-standing food assistance program of the Ministry of Community Development (MoCD) in the PBA. The program’s core benefit is provided through a debit card that can be used to purchase food. Although Programa Más Vida focuses mainly on support to pregnant women and young children, it also targets groups with specific nutritional needs like those with celiac, disabilities, the immune suppressed, and the elderly. Eligibility criteria includes pregnant women, children below six years old, single-headed households facing deprivations according to a social assessment, or the prevalence of health conditions in the case of specific groups. In the case of children and pregnant women as beneficiaries, this program covers those who are not entitled to the national food program, AlimentAR. In August 2020, around 188,000 beneficiaries were receiving Programa Más Vida. In terms of the program expenditure, in May 2022, the World Bank provided US\$6 million additional funds to the</p>
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		program and in September 2022, the world bank allocated an additional US\$37.875 million to Mas Vida Program (Programa Más Vida Grants) to finance cash transfers for food. So, in total US\$43.875 million was spent in response to price shock. ²⁴⁰
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	On August 11th, the government announced a vertical expansion to the existing pension payments for old age and retired pensioners. This increase will be 15.53% for all pensioners, reaching roughly 16 million people. This was expected to begin taking effect in September. [March 2023] The Argentine government announced a vertical expansion of 17.04% for old age and retired pensioners that goes into effect as of March 2023. The new number for coverage is closer to 17 million, this is the new number of eligible beneficiaries. There was no change to eligibility criteria, population has changed. ^{241, 242, 243}
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	On August 22nd, the Argentina government announced a new timetable for increasing the monthly minimum wage. Starting on September 1st, the new minimum wage will increase by 7% to \$51,200 (Argentine peso). In October it will increase again to

		\$54,550 and in November to \$57,900. [November 22,2022] The government announced another increase in the minimum wage that will see a steady increase over the course of 4 months: 7% in December of 2022, 6% in January 2023, 4% in February, and 3% in March. The final increase will leave the new minimum wage at 69,500 pesos, this reflects a 110.5% increase from the minimum wage of the previous year. ^{244, 245, 246}
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On January 3, 2022, Argentina has imposed a two-year restriction (in the form of quota) on beef exports. It announced a limitation on the export of seven cuts (body parts) of meat in fresh, chilled or frozen form until the end of December 2023.²⁴⁷</p> <p>On March 13, 2022, Argentina has banned exports of soybean meal and soybean oil until further notice. [March 28, 2022] The government has lifted the ban and increased the export tax rate to 33% (up 2% from 31%). The added revenue from the increased tax was planned to be used for flour subsidies. Additionally, in September of 2022, there was a large export boom of soy products which led to increased USD reserves.^{248, 249, 250, 251}</p> <p>March 19, 2022, Argentina has raised the export tax rate on soy oil and meal by two percentage points, thereby making it 33% until the end of the year in measure to combat domestic inflation.^{252, 253}</p>
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Armenia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	[22 December 2022] From January 1, 2023, in addition to rural parents who are on maternity leave, non-working urban mothers will also receive benefits for the care of a child under 2 years. If the child was born on or after January 1, 2023, and the mother is not working, then instead of the current AMD 28,600 per month will be paid AMD 31,600. If the mother works but is on maternity leave, she will receive an allowance of AMD 37,500, and if she decides to return to work after the maternity leave, the monthly payment of AMD 31 600 will be maintained. Rural parents on maternity leave will receive AMD 69,100 per month and if they return to work, they will receive AMD 63,300. ²⁵⁴
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	[24 August 2022] The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs introduced the draft stating that minimum pension will be set at 30,500 drams instead of 28,600 drams starting September 1, 2022. ²⁵⁵ [July 2022] Government officials have said that pensions will also rise next year. But they have not yet specified the extent of the promised increase. [24 August 2022] The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs introduced the draft stating that labor pensions will be set at 21,000 drams instead of 18,000 drams starting September 1, 2022. ^{256, 257}
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[July 2022] Government officials have said that pensions will also rise next year. But they have not yet specified the extent of the promised increase. ²⁵⁸

		<p>[24 August 2022] The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs introduced the draft stating that military pension will increase to 20,000 drams instead of 18,000 drams starting September 1, 2022.²⁵⁹</p> <p>[24 August 2022] Military disability pensions will also rise: -from 43,000 to 45,000 drams for a disabled person of the first group -from 33,000 drams to 35,000 drams for a disabled person of the second group -from 30,000 drams to 32,000 drams for a disabled person of the third group²⁶⁰</p>
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	<p>[July 2022] The Government decided to raise the national minimum wage by 10 percent, to 75,000 drams (\$182). The measure will take effect in January 2023. [January 3, 2023] New legislation entered into force on January 1, 2023, which raised the minimum wage by 10% from AMD 68,000 to AMD 75,000. The Department of Labor and Employment at the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, said that the raise in the minimum wage will lead to an average of 30% increase of salary in private and public sectors. The new legislation also increases the minimum hourly remuneration.^{261, 262}</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>[1 February 2023] Armenia reduced the individual income tax rate from 21% to 20% with effect from 1 January 2023. Further, employee pension contributions are as follows from 1 January 2023: - Monthly gross salary not exceeding AMD 500,000 - 5% on gross monthly salary Monthly gross salary not exceeding AMD 500,000 - 10% on gross monthly salary, minus AMD 25,000</p>

		In any case, the maximum pension contributions basis is equal to 15 times the minimum monthly salary, or AMD 1,125,000 considering the increase in the minimum monthly salary from AMD 68,000 to AMD 75,000 from 1 January 2023. ²⁶³
	Indirect tax	

Aruba

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On April 14, 2022, the government of Aruba announced an expansion of price controls of a variety of products, primarily food products. [September 30, 2022] The government announced an increase to the number of products on the list to be regulated. It now includes some medicine and health related products in addition to other food products. The list has 31 products for which the price is being regulated, this list is published every two weeks in the official Gazette. ^{264, 265, 266}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Australia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On Jan 6, 2023, The Government of South Australia announced the first major increase to the Patient Assistance Transport Scheme (PATS) in more than 20 years, the Labor Government is doubling the fuel subsidy from 16c per kilometre to 32c per kilometre for eligible medical appointments. The Patient Assistance Transport Scheme (PATS), which offers fuel subsidies to South Australians who need to travel more than 100km each way to access specialist health appointments, increased from 0.16c per kilometres to 0.32c per kilometre on January 1. Last year more than 13,000 South Australians received financial support through PATS. For example, the fuel subsidy for a return trip from Port Lincoln to Adelaide has increased to around \$417, compared to roughly \$208 last year. A return trip from Whyalla to Adelaide can now receive a subsidy of around \$247, up from \$123, while Port Augusta patients can get around \$200, up from \$100, and Renmark residents can receive around \$166, up from \$82. ^{267, 268}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	Electric vehicle subsidies extended in Victoria. A further \$7.2 million has been allocated to increase the uptake of electric cars in Victoria. ²⁶⁹ On July 1, 2022, Queensland has become the latest Australian state to announce a subsidy on electric vehicles, as the price of petrol hits new highs. The Queensland Zero Emission Vehicle Rebate Scheme will provide a rebate of \$3,000 for eligible new Zero Emission Vehicles priced under \$58,000 and purchased after 16 March 2022. The policy kicked off on July 1st. This will cost \$45 million scheme. ²⁷⁰
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	

	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Austria

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On December 14, 2022 the Austrian government has agreed on additional aid to cushion high heating costs, with the payout being distributed by the provinces. The coalition government announced an additional aid earmarking €450 million for the program and leaving it up to the provinces to arrange the cash distribution. The total amount will be transferred to the regions based on population to add to existing local subsidies. The federal aid would amount to between €200 to €400 extra per household. The heating subsidy is intended for lower-income families, minimum pensioners and welfare recipients. It will be available whether they heat with gas, electricity, pellets or another fuel.²⁷¹</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On August 2, 2022, Austria’s federal government announced the first of many one-off payments to cushion the effects of rising inflation in the country. A €180 per child “special family payment” is ready to be sent out to families in Austria, according to ÖVP government members. As of August 3rd, the finance offices will transfer the amount per child “directly to the account” of families. The Familienbeihilfe is a social benefit paid monthly to every child resident in Austria until they turn 24 – with some exceptions. The amount depends on the child’s age but can reach €165.10 monthly for one child. Furthermore, since every child is registered for this benefit, the bonus payment can be made automatically.²⁷²</p> <p>On July 14, 2022, the Austrian government presented a 6-billion-euro anti-inflation package. The package includes short-term measures that will provide immediate relief to the population and long-term structural changes. In September, 300 euros will be paid to low-income people, such as welfare recipients, the unemployed, and minimum pensioners.²⁷³</p>

		<p>On July 14, 2022, as part of the 6 billion Euros package, in parallel with the introduction of the CO2 price, 250 euros in climate bonus plus another 250 euros in the cost-of-living compensation will flow in October. This means that all adults living in Austria will receive 500 euros. According to the latest source, all adults who have residence in Austria for 6 months and make less than 90,000 Euros a year, will receive 500 Euros. Update: On 20 October, 2022. After seven weeks of payments, the first round of Austria's Klimabonus (a climate and anti-inflation payment) scheme is now complete with €4 billion paid out to residents.^{274, 275, 276}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On Feb 25, 2022, Austria announced it will issue one-off payments aimed at offsetting rising inflation costs in the country. Almost every Austrian who earns no more than €5,670 per month will receive a voucher for €150 euros to cushion the increased energy bill. Pensioners on minimum incomes, long-term recipients of sickness and rehabilitation benefits, the unemployed and unemployment assistance recipients will receive €150. Separately, households that receive minimum income or social assistance and students with study grants will receive €300. For retired people receiving supplementary allowances, there will be two payments of €150.²⁷⁷</p>
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	

	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	On March 21, 2022, Austria has unveiled a €2 billion relief package to fight rising cost of living. The package includes a 50 percent increase in the commuter allowance and an increase in the “commuter euro,” which reduces income tax levies by €2 per kilometer distance between the place of residence and workplace. These should cost €400 million. ²⁷⁸
	Indirect tax	On March 20, 2022, Austria increases energy subsidies to offset high gas prices. Austria announced energy subsidies worth 2 billion euros (\$2.2 billion), including tax cuts and employee compensation, in an effort to ease the burden of rising costs on the economy. The latest measures include a 90% cut to natural gas and electricity tariffs through mid-2023, at a cost of 900 million euros. ²⁷⁹

Azerbaijan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>On April 20, 2022, Agrarian Credit and Development Agency under the Azerbaijan's Ministry of Agriculture paid subsidies in the amount of 21.6 million manat (\$12.7 million) to 44,423 farmers for autumn crops on April 19, 2022.²⁸⁰</p> <p>On July 19, 2022, Azerbaijan's Ministry of Agriculture announced that it will provide additional subsidies to farmers. A meeting on the implementation of Azerbaijani President's decree "On number of measures to increase level of self-provision with food wheat" dated July 19, 2022, was held at the Baku Business Center, Trend reports via the Ministry of Agriculture. The exact amount on the subsidy is yet to be announced.²⁸¹</p>
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On March 19, 2022, Azerbaijan has put in place a temporary regulation on the grain export through the customs territory of Azerbaijan until December 31, 2022. The restriction is imposed on the export of flour-grinding industry goods, starch, wheat gluten, oilseeds and other seeds, medicinal and industrial crops, feed. Customs officers will be permitted to release grain crops with an authorization letter from the Economy Ministry. ²⁸²
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Bahamas, The

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On October 12th, the government announced price controls on 38 key staples, mainly food products. This measure will limit price increases to 15% for wholesalers and 25% for retailers. This measure is set to last for 6 months. [December 2022] The government is still negotiating with retailers over the implementation of this measure, there has been some back and forth over the list. In December, the government announced that it would enforce the new law. The 6 months of the measure were supposed to begin November 1st, 2022, however since this measure was still being debated, it has not been reported to have been implemented yet. ^{283, 284}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	

	Wage increase	On October 12th, the government announced an increase to the minimum wage from \$210 a week to \$260 a week, a 24% increase which begins retroactively in July for public sector workers and will begin in January, 2023 for private sector workers. ²⁸⁵
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Bahrain

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	<p>On April 3, 2022, Bahrain announced that it would closely monitor the prices of all food products in the local markets to ensure there is no price rise during the Holy month of Ramadan. The prices of all basic food products including fruits and vegetables are being monitored.</p> <p>286</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	

Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On April 3, 2022, Bahrain announced that it would closely monitor the prices of all food products in the local markets to ensure there is no price rise during the Holy month of Ramadan. The prices of all basic food products including fruits and vegetables are being monitored. ²⁸⁷
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	

Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Bangladesh

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On March 20, 2022, Bangladesh launched a nationwide special food subsidy program to counter Ukraine-Russia war induced rise in prices of cooking oil, lentils and other staples. It would provide food at reduced prices to 10 million poor people and will run until the end of Ramadan. It is mostly targeted at rural areas. On June 9, 2022, the government decided to increase food subsidy to Tk 5,965 crore in the budget for fiscal year (FY) 2022-23 for the implementation of the programmes conducted by the food ministry. On the other hand, the original subsidy allocation for the sale of food products through the TCB is Tk 11,300 crore for FY23. On April 2023, Commerce Minister said that operations under the 2nd phase of this 10 million family card program would continue till April 15 and the cards are being transformed into smart cards to reach essential items to low-income group people at their affordable costs. ^{288, 289}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On June 9, 2022, the government decided to increase fertilizer subsidy to Tk16,000 crore in the budget for fiscal year (FY) 2022-23, aiming to boost domestic food production. The government wants to avoid price hikes as a stimulus to the farmer to ensure more crop production and control the price of food items in the local market. In FY 2021-22, Tk12,000 crore was spent on fertilizer subsidy. ²⁹⁰
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
	Paid sick leave	

Social Insurance	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On June 29, 2022, Bangladesh announced the export restriction on aromatic rice after it failed to control the price in the local market. In this effort, the government has cancelled the aromatic rice export permission of 41 companies. ²⁹¹
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On March 16, 2022, Bangladesh reduced percent value added tax (VAT) on edible oil imports to 5 per cent from 15 per cent to give some relief to consumers. The expected to expire on 30 June 2022. On July 5, 2022, it is reported that the government has extended it until September 30, 2022. On Oct 6, 2022, The government has extended the time for a reduced rate of value-added tax on soya bean oil and palm oil at the import stage till December 31. On Jan 4, 2023, The deadline for VAT exemption on import of soybean oil and palm oil has been extended by four months till 30 April in order to keep stable the price of such edible oil.^{292, 293}</p> <p>On June 23, 2022, Bangladesh has announced to cut customs tariffs and duty on rice until October 31, 2022, in order to encourage imports to increase supply of the staple grain in the domestic market and cool its prices, according to a notification. Importers will be able to bring the grain by paying a total of 25 percent import duty, down from 62.5 percent. On August 28, 2022. According to the updated SRO, importers can import rice only by paying nearly 15 per cent import duties till December 31, 2022. On Dec 7, 2022, The National Board of</p>

		Revenue (NBR) has extended the scope for traders to import rice at reduced tariff by three months to March 31, 2023 to facilitate increased supply of the staple food and contain its prices in the local market. ²⁹⁴ , ²⁹⁵ ,
	Indirect tax	

Barbados

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On March 14, 2022, Barbados announced a cap on the Value-added tax payable for gasoline and diesel that went into effect on March 16, 2022 and is set to last for 6 months. The price of gasoline was set at \$3.99 per liter and diesel at \$3.32 per liter (Barbados dollar). This is expected to cost the government \$25.2 million in lost revenue. [Extension] This measure was extended so that it would be in effect at least until January 31st, 2023. The extension was announced on August 15th and went into effect on August 19th. The cap places the VAT for diesel at 26 cents less and 22 cents less for gasoline per liter. This is the amount that the VAT is reduced by as a result of the measure and which consumers are experiencing as a decrease in the overall price of gasoline and diesel.^{296, 297}</p> <p>On August 16th, the government announced a new price cap on fuel to be put in place until at least January 31, 2023. Gasoline will be capped at BDS\$4.48 (USD\$2.24) per liter and diesel will be capped at BDS\$4.03 (USD\$2.01).²⁹⁸</p>
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	<p>On July 14th, Barbados announced a new package to ease the burden of rising costs. One of the measures in this package was the school meals program that aims to provide lunch to school children during the summer months, starting July 25th and lasting until September 2nd.^{299, 300, 301}</p>
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	

	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On July 14, 2022 Barbados announced a new package to ease the burden of rising costs. One of the measures in this package was a reduction in the VAT for electricity bills from 17.5% to 7.5% for the electricity charged up to the first 250 kWh. This is expected to benefit 63% of all households in Barbados and is expected to cost the government BDS\$ 1.527 million a month or an expected BDS\$ 10.5 million between August 1st and January 31st, 2023..^{302, 303}</p> <p>On July 14th, Barbados announced a new package to ease the burden of rising costs. One of the measures in this package was the addition of 44 food items to a list for which no VAT is charged. In addition to this, duties will be removed for all citrus products imported into Barbados. This measure went into effect on July 21st and is set to last until January 31st, 2023..^{304, 305}</p> <p>On March 14, 2022, Barbados announced a cap on the Value-added tax payable for gasoline and diesel that went into effect on March 16, 2022 and is set to last for 6 months. The price of gasoline was set at \$3.99 per liter and diesel at \$3.32 per liter (Barbados dollar). This is expected to cost the government \$25.2 million in lost revenue. [Extension] This measure was extended so that it would be in effect at least until January 31st, 2023. The extension was announced on August 15th and went into effect on August 19th. The cap places the VAT for diesel at 26 cents less and 22 cents less for gasoline per liter. This is the amount</p>

		that the VAT is reduced by as a result of the measure and which consumers are experiencing as a decrease in the overall price of gasoline and diesel. This measure has now ended as of February, 2023. ^{.306, 307}
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Belarus

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	The Government directive imposes a ban as from 6 October 2022 on price increases, except in cases determined by the chairmen of the regional executive committees, the Minsk City Executive Committee together with the Ministry of Antimonopoly Regulation and Trade and sectoral ministers. ³⁰⁸
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	[13 January 2023] The amount of the family capital has been increased by 15.2% to total Br30,000 as of 1 January of this year. It is assigned to families after the birth or adoption of the third or subsequent children. In total, over 13,000 accounts were opened under the Family Capital program last year. The program was launched 7 ago. The sum is indexed annually. More than 64,000 families used family capital accounts ahead of schedule. 55,000 of them for housing issues, over 6,000 for medical services, about 5,000 for education and 4,000 for the purchase of goods for the disabled. As of 1 February 2023, a total of 122,897 deposit accounts were opened for large families under Belarus' family capital program. ^{309, 310, 311}
	Conditional cash transfers	[August 2022] A one-off grant is given out to more than 225,000 children from 111,500 families, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection informed, to pay for school materials. The first payments have already been made. Financial assistance is provided once and is not dependent on the family income. The subsidy is part of the national program “Health of the people and demographic security.” More than 20 million Belarusian rubles have been set apart for this campaign. ³¹²
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	

	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[1 January 2023] The minimum wage has been revised in Belarus, from 01 January 2023. The monthly minimum wage has increased from BYN483.17 to BYN554 per month. Since the beginning of the 2022, the monthly minimum wage has been increased by a total of 15.6%, and on 1 January it will rise by another 14.7%. ^{313, 314}
Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On February 5, 2023, Belarus stopped exporting apples, cabbages, and onions until April 30th, 2023.^{315, 316}</p> <p>On March 28, 2022, Belarus extended the temporary export ban on 254 products, including rice, wholemeal flour, flour from rye, barley, pasta. The ban was introduced in April 2021 and extended on 26 August 2021, for an additional period of six months. The measure is taken in order to prevent shortages and to ensure food security within the country. The measure is in force between 28 March 2022 and 16 June 2022. At the same time, prohibited goods may still be exported with a one-time license issued by the Ministry of Antimonopoly Regulation and Trade (MART) with an approval of the regional executive committee and the Minsk City Executive Committee. Subsequently, on April 14, government relaxed the restriction by imposing a quota of upto 1 kg on salt, sugar, flour (buckwheat flour, wheat flour), certain types of cereals (buckwheat, rice, semolina, oats, oat flakes, millet). The export restriction announced in March applies until September 2022. On 26 September 2022, Belarus extended the ban on exporting a number of grains for another six months, according to a government resolution. In addition, on 18 November 2022, the Belarussian authorities have unofficially banned poultry exports in a bid to curb food inflation amid the worsening economic situation.^{317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322}</p>
	Export/import easing	On March 28, 2022, Belarus imposed a temporary export restriction on rice, whole meal flour, flour from rye, barley, pasta. The measure is being taken in

		order to prevent shortages and to ensure food security within the country. The measure is in force between 28 March 2022 and 16 June 2022. At the same time, prohibited goods may still be exported with a one-time license issued by the Ministry of Antimonopoly Regulation and Trade (MART) with an approval of the regional executive committee and the Minsk City Executive Committee. Subsequently, on April 14, the government relaxed the restriction by imposing a quota of up to 1 kg on salt, sugar, flour (buckwheat flour, wheat flour), certain types of cereals (buckwheat, rice, semolina, oats, oat flakes, millet
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Belgium

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On 2 October 2021, Belgium's Federal Energy Ministry proposed extending the social energy tariff introduced during the pandemic until the end of March 2022, costing €208 million and targeting nearly 500,000 households. On March 14, 2022, an extended social tariff benefitting one in five households was extended until September 30, 2022. The extension of the social tariff for energy to 880 thousand families (or around 16% of all Belgian households) will cost for the State €600 million for Jan-Sep 2022 (almost double that of 2021). On June 18, the federal government decided to extend the social tariff until the end of 2022. [September 2022] The target group for the social rates (helping one million households) is increased and the federal government has decided to extend the measure until the end of the winter (until 31 March 2023).^{323, 324, 325}</p> <p>March 15, 2022, Belgium has also announced that households that heat with fuel oil (propane or butane) will benefit from an automatic reduction of € 200 on their bill. A one-time refinancing of the social fuel oil fund (max. 17 million euros) is also planned.^{326, 327}</p> <p>March 15, 2022, Belgium has also announced that households that heat with fuel oil (propane or butane) will benefit from an automatic reduction of € 200 on their bill. A one-time refinancing of the social fuel oil fund (max. 17 million euros) is also planned. [September 2022] The federal government has decided to extend the measure until the end of the winter (until 31 March 2023) and the earlier benefit of 225 euros, introduced on August 31, has been increased to 300 euros.^{328, 329, 330}, https://economie.fgov.be/fr/themes/energie/prix-de-</p>

		<p>lenergie/mesures-gouvernementales-et/octroi-dune-allocation-de-300</p> <p>February 1, 2022, Belgium provided every household with a €100 cheque (in the form of refund) and will roll-out further charge-reductions for low-income families. 21 May 2022: Families in Belgium will start receiving the first checks from the government to ease the burden of their energy bills in late May 2022. Households will receive the premium automatically before 31 July 2022, though the exact date depends on the energy supplier.³³¹</p> <p>On 12 October, 2021, a €16 million Fund for Gas and Electricity was established to support households in need that are not eligible to receive the social tariff.³³²</p> <p>31 Oct 2022: Belgium announced that the most vulnerable citizens are benefitting from an €80 energy check to be deducted from their bill. The budget for this energy check will amount to €72 million. One million households in Belgium could be granted the cheque during the 4th quarter of this year.³³³, ³³⁴</p> <p>[September 16, 2022] The government will provide households with support of up to €135 (\$135) for gas and €61 for electricity per month in November and December. Eligibility will be based on income and energy contract conditions.³³⁵</p> <p>16 Sept 2023 - Due to higher energy prices, the Belgian government is also offering a "pellet check" worth 250 euros for those who mainly heat their homes with pellets. [29 January 2023]Those who are eligible can submit an application to the FPS Economy from 1 February. [Update]: 1 March 2023 - According to Belgium's FPS Economy, SMEs, Middle Classes, and Energy, the pellet premium of 250 euros net: (i) is awarded once and at a fixed rate;</p>
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		<p>(ii) is intended for households that use pellets to heat their main residence;</p> <p>(iii) is intended for households that received a delivery of pellets in bulk from a company between 1 June 2022 and 31 March 2023;</p> <p>(iv) concerns at least 500 kg of pellets supplied by a company via a blower truck or on pallets;</p> <p>(v) is not available for citizens who receive the heating allowance of 300 euros (fuel oil/propane), the basic gas package or the social rate for gas.^{336, 337}</p> <p>On September 16, 2022, the federal government decided to extend existing measures to support rising energy bills and to introduce new support measures. The new measures are: (i) a basic energy package for gas (270 euros) and basic package for electricity (122 euros). [Update] 24 March 2023: According to Belgium's FPS Economy, SMEs, Middle Classes, and Energy, the basic gas package granted for the months of November and December 2022 (based on the situation prevailing on September 30, 2022) has been extended. It is renewed for the months of January, February and March 2023, on the basis of the situation prevailing on December 31, 2022. The basic gas package will be automatically granted to consumer (or deducted) by the gas supplier on consumer bills or paid directly to consumer bank account before January 18, 2023. Similarly, the basic package for electricity previously available for the months of November and December 2022 is also extended. It is renewed for the months of January, February and March 2023, based on the situation on December 31, 2022 using the following premium rate:</p> <p>(i) 122 euros for November and December 2022 (the reference date is September 30, 2022)</p> <p>(ii) 183 euros for January to March 2023 (the reference date is December 31, 2022)</p>
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		<p>These amounts will be deducted from the deposit or settlement invoices or will be paid directly into the bank account.^{338, 339, 340}</p> <p>7 Feb 2023: Following the expiry of social energy tariff in March 2023, the government announced that it will introduce a similar policy by third quarter 2023 but this will be status-based, meaning only those who receive benefits will be entitled to them. This is expected to halve the number of eligible households from currently one million recipients. The “modalities of implementation” will be discussed within the government if electricity and gas prices exceed €250 and €100/MWh respectively, before implementation on 1 April.³⁴¹</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	<p>[March 2022] The federal government confirms the extension of temporary unemployment, now called "force majeure" unemployment. This measure has been decided to allow SMEs to cope with rising prices. The temporary unemployment will be active until June 30, 2022. From 01.02.2020 to 30.06.2022 inclusive, the worker receives an allowance corresponding to 70% of his or her average salary with a ceiling (from 01.03.2022, the ceiling is set at €2,955.69 per month), regardless</p>

		of the reason for the temporary unemployment. From 01.03.2020 to 30.06.2022 inclusive, all workers temporarily unemployed for reasons of force majeure (except for medical force majeure) will receive, in addition to the unemployment benefit, a supplement of €5.98 per day (amount applicable from 01.03.2022) at the expense of the NEO. Until the end of June 2022, a reduced withholding tax of 15% will be deducted from the benefits. [16 September 2022] The temporary unemployment scheme will be extended once again. Employers will be able to put employees in unemployment, whereby they receive 70% of their wage + a premium of €6.10 per day. ^{342, 343}
	Social security contributions waiver	[September 2022] For the self-employed, one of the measures is the postponement of the deadline for the payment of employers' social security contributions and tax. ³⁴⁴
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 15, 2022, Belgium reduced excise duties on diesel and gasoline to €0.175 per liter, which means a saving of almost €10 for the consumer who is filling up with 60 liters. The reverse ratchet system will also be used from €1.7/liter. An evaluation is planned for mid-June 2022, followed by monthly monitoring. On June 18, the federal government decided to extend the reduction in excise duties on fuels until the end of 2022. [September 2022] The federal government has decided to extend the measure until the end of the winter (until 31 March 2023). ^{345, 346, 347, 348, 349}

		<p>On March 15, 2022, concerning gas, electricity and fuel oil, Belgium also announced VAT reductions and direct reductions on bills. The VAT on gas will be reduced to 6% from April 1 until September 30, 2022. VAT on electricity had already been reduced to 6%, a measure that will be extended until September 30, 2022. On June 18, the federal government decided to extend the 6% VAT on gas and electricity. [September 2022] The federal government has decided to extend the measure until the end of the winter (until 31 March 2023). [Update] 1 Apr 2023: After the Belgian Chamber of Representatives gave green light to the permanent VAT reduction from 21% to 6% on supplies of gas and electricity to private individuals on 16 March 2023, the law has now also been published in the Official Gazette. This reform entered into force on 1 April 2023 and simultaneously introduces a special regime for excise duties. By doing so, households' energy bills will be aligned in case of possible price fluctuations. The changes will be implemented in two stages: From 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023, there is a transitional period during which the (temporarily) reduced VAT rates for electricity, gas and heat will continue to apply in the same way as currently implemented. From 1 July 2023, the reduced VAT rate for gas and electricity will be linked to the 'non-business use' criterion from the excise legislation.^{350, 351, 352, 353, 354}</p>
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Belize

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	[April 2022] The Belize Cabinet has approved a blended alternative consisting of a fuel subsidy for bus operators and an increase in bus fares to minimize the impact of high prices on commuters. Effective April 15th. The Government of Belize will be providing a monthly fuel subsidy to bus operators traveling in excess of 13 miles (one-way) for the number of gallons used. The fuel subsidy was approved for a six-month period with a cap on diesel at \$12.50 which will represent over \$1 million in savings to commuters. ³⁵⁵
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	[April 2022] The government of Belize announced that eligible tour operators will be beneficiaries of a capped fuel subsidy jointly funded by the Government of Belize and the Belize Tourism Board in the sum of \$1.5 million for a period of up to six months starting in July, 2022. This will be carried out through a fuel voucher or card to some 185 bust tour operators. ^{356, 357}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
Social Insurance	Public works	
	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
Labor Market	Social security contributions waiver	
	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[December 22, 2022] The government of Belize announced an increase in the Minimum Wage Increases for All Categories of Workers. It has increased to \$5.00 per hour effective January 1, 2023. ³⁵⁸
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 24th, the price of regular gasoline was at \$13.50 (Belize dollar). It was kept at this level through the decrease of levies of 29 cents. For diesel, the government reduced the tax by \$1.71, this accounts for an anticipated annual budget revenue loss of \$17 million. ³⁵⁹

Benin

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	Benin, on 23 March, 2022, announced to constitute a stock of diesel and maintain its sale price at the pump at 600 FCFA until June 30, 2022. However, less than a month later, a readjusted was made to the price and was revised upwards for diesel, oil and domestic gas. Only the price of gasoline remained unchanged following the readjustment of hydrocarbon prices. Diesel, oil and gas prices increased by 68 francs, 186 francs and 65 francs respectively. They were sold at the following price from April 21, 2022: 668 francs /L for diesel; 795 francs/kg for domestic gas; 851 francs/L for oil. On April 21, 2022, the measure is costing the government 11 billion CFA francs including 9.5 billion for diesel. ^{360, 361}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>Benin, on 23 March, 2022, announced the exemption of VAT on (1) Vegetable oils imported or produced locally, (2) Wheat flour imported or produced locally. The measure has a duration of 3 months^{362, 363}</p> <p>In January 2022, the Benin government decided to exempt VAT on imported rice. On 23 March 2022, Benin extended the duration of free flat rate of VAT on imported rice for another 3 months. This exemption helps reduce the retail price of imported rice from XOF20,500 to XOF18,450 per 50-kg bag.³⁶⁴</p> <p>On March 23, 2022, Benin Implemented a 50% discount on the shipping costs to be used for the calculation of the customs value of goods imported by sea. Similarly, customs value of goods imported by air, air freight costs will be reduced by two-thirds.³⁶⁵</p> <p>Benin decided on 23 March 2022 to suspend the implementation of the readjustment of electricity tariffs until the end of 2022.³⁶⁶</p>

Bermuda

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On July 15th, Bermuda announced a \$15 million relief package that includes a one-off cash transfer of \$150 for each student enrolled in public school to be given to parents and guardians. This is to help with the added cost of going back to school. As of November 9th, 2022, the government has distributed 2,299 cash transfers out of 2,521 approved applications. Therefore, actual expenditure so far has been \$344,850.³⁶⁷</p> <p>On July 15th, Bermuda announced a \$15 million relief package that includes a vertical expansion to the budget of the food allowance program under the Department of Financial Assistance by 15% to help families in need of food assistance. The government allocated \$931,651 for this program.^{368, 369}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On July 15th, Bermuda announced a \$15 million relief package that includes an in-kind transfer of LED light bulbs to families to assist with the high cost of energy. The LED light bulbs will use 85% less energy and save money for families. [February, 2023] The government announced that it is now ready to begin distributing the LED lightbulbs after it has procured 150,000 A19 LED bulbs at a cost of \$1.59 per bulb. The government plans to target seniors and households of lower incomes in this first phase, then evaluate afterwards if a second phase should occur. At 4 bulbs per family, 37,500 families/households are planned to be covered. At \$1.59 per bulb, the expected cost is \$238,500. However, \$500,000 was allocated for this measure.^{370, 371, 372}</p>

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	On July 15th, Bermuda announced a \$15 million relief package that includes a one-off direct cash transfer in the form of a payroll tax rebate for workers making less than \$96,000 a year (makes up 75% of Bermuda's workforce). For those making under \$60,000, the transfer size will be \$250 and for those making between \$60,000 and \$96,000 will receive \$100. Applications opened in September, actual coverage depends on who gets accepted but 75% of the workers are eligible to apply. [December 30] The government of Bermuda announced an update to this program, stating that the application window closed on December 15th, having received 5,116 applications. Of these, 3,625 have already recieved their transfer for a total of approximately \$700,000. ³⁷³
	Indirect tax	On July 15th, Bermuda announced a \$15 million relief package that includes reducing the price of staple goods and foods through the reduction in import taxes for these products. A list of

		<p>21 products will have an import duty of 0% after the introduction of this measure. In an update in October, 2022, the government announced that the measure is expected to cost \$3 million. It went into force in November, 2022.^{374, 375, 376}</p> <p>In April, the government announced a price freeze on fuel at the pump, keeping prices at February 2022 levels. This measure has been extended multiple times, most recently on July 15th as part of the second part of the relief package. The price freeze is being carried out through a decrease in import tax on fuel and the fuel companies absorbing the extra cost. The cost of this decrease in import tax for fuel is expected to be \$6.4 million for the current fiscal year. [January, 2023] The government announced the end of the measure as the real price of fuel has dropped below the price freeze, rendering the measure unnecessary. The measure officially ended on January 17th, 2023.^{377, 378, 379, 380}</p>
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Bosnia and Herzegovina

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	[22 December 2022] The Council of Ministers of BIH took the Ministry of Security-proposed decision in approval of current reserves funds from the 2022 Budget of Bosnia and Herzegovina Institutions and International Obligations to the State Investigations and Protection Agency (SIPA) in the amount of KM 400.000. The funds were intended for the financing of reimbursements for the employees for food in work time for employees in BIH Institutions and for the reason of an increase of fuel prices at global market in the course of the current year. ³⁸¹
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	May 19, 2022, Bosnia and Herzegovina's Federation approved a program to subsidies citizens for the purchase of new electric and hybrid vehicles. The subsidy for the acquisition of electric vehicles will stand at 10,000 marka. A subsidy of 5,000 marka will be provided for the acquisition of plug-in hybrid vehicles with carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions of up to 50 grammes per kilometer or full hybrid vehicles with CO2 emissions of up to 130 grammes per kilometer. Citizens can apply for the subsidies by December 12 or until the amount budgeted is spent. ³⁸²
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	[7 February 2023] EU signs €70 Million Financing Agreement for Energy Support Package for BiH. Of the EUR 70 million in immediate assistance allocated to Bosnia and Herzegovina, EUR 50 million has been earmarked to mitigate the impact of high prices. The most vulnerable families should receive a cash payment through the FBiH, RS and Brcko District institutions that are responsible for social welfare. ³⁸³
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[March 2022] Extraordinary indexation of pensions. This will be possible once a year if the increase in nominal GDP in the previous year is higher than 3%, and if the FBiH budget in the previous year did not accumulate a deficit. The increase will be capped at the percentage of nominal GDP increase in the previous year, and will not be applied to the highest pensions if the amount of the minimum pension is less than 1/5 of the highest pension (set at KM2,174.48 or €1,115). [1 February 2023] The Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina made a decision to increase pensions in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by 11.1 percent. The January pensions, increased by 11.1 percent, will be paid on time. This is the largest individual increase of pensions in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina so far.. ^{384, 385}
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	On 27 January 2023, the parliament of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) reportedly approved amendments to the law on social security contributions to amend and extend the reduced social security contributions basis for employees of labor-intensive industries, such as mining, textile, and leather industries. As amended, the reduced basis applies for employees whose salary is less than 85% of the average net salary in the FBiH (up from 60%) and is equal to 35% of the average monthly gross salary paid from January to September in the previous year (up from 29%). Previously scheduled to expire at the end of 2022, the reduced basis as amended will now apply until a new law is adopted (i.e., indefinitely). ³⁸⁶
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[20 February 2023] The Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina has adopted a Decision on establishing the lowest salary for the period 01.01.2023 to 31.12.2023 in the net amount of 596 KM (approx. 300 EUR), which represents an increase of 9.85% compared to the lowest salary established for 2022. The adjustment is made on the 50% of the sum amount of the increase in consumer prices and 50% of the increase in the gross domestic product in the Federation for the period January to September, and according to the data of the Federal Bureau of Statistics. ³⁸⁷
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	[9 February 2023] The Council of Ministers of BIH took the Ministry of Foreign trade and economic relations-proposed decision to open temporary tariff quotas for import of mineral fertilisers, as a support to farmers due to global supply market disturbances and price growth. The decision approves a free of customs charge import of 370.000 tonnes of mineral fertilisers classified in seven tariff marks, until the decision-set quantities are spent, however by December 31, 2023 at latest, and the basic criterion for the free of customs charge import of mineral fertilisers is have farmers in Bosnia and Herzegovina as end users. A facilitation measure for farmers is being continued, after the Council of Ministers enabled free of customs charge import of 100.000 tonnes of mineral fertilisers last March. ³⁸⁸ [21 December 2022] The Council of Ministers of BIH took the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations-proposed Decision on temporary suspension and temporary decrease of

		<p>customs rates for import of certain goods, until December 31, 2023. The Council of Ministers adopts at annual level, in line with the Law on Customs Tariffs, such temporary measure, in support to domestic economy, its more concrete and mote favourable business making, and keeping of the existing jobs and new employment. Its decision taking is of a great significance for many economic operators for maintaining production process, considering a strong blow to the economy during the recent pandemics, and it refers to 40,000 workers. The decision covers 63 tariff marks in sectors of textile, foot wear, chemical, metal, food processing, and graphic industries, including electro industry.³⁸⁹</p>
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Botswana

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On 29 March 2022, it was reported that Botswana announced to continue its support to Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) with a revenue grant which is meant to cushion consumers against what would otherwise be exorbitantly high electricity tariffs, this yearly cash injection through the Ministry of Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security, goes a long way in keeping the corporation afloat. For the FY 2022-23, BPC will receive P600 million. ³⁹⁰
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On 27 July 2022, Botswana announced a temporary reduction in the standard VAT rate and other economic measures to address the impact of rising inflation and economic stress in Botswana. The new measures were published in the official gazette on 1 August 2022 and generally are effective as of 3 August 2022. In which cooking oil and liquified petroleum gas (LPG) are reduced to 0% (from 14%). The duration of the program was for 6 months and in Jan 2023, this measure was not extended. ^{391, 392, 393, 394}</p> <p>On 27 July 2022, Botswana announced a temporary reduction in the standard VAT rate and other economic measures to address the impact of rising inflation and economic stress in Botswana. The new measures were published in the official gazette on 1 August 2022 and generally are effective as of 3 August 2022. In which cooking oil and liquified petroleum gas (LPG) are reduced to 0% (from 14%). ^{395, 396}</p>

Brazil

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On March 11, 2022, Brazil has announced that under the same bill, a USD\$60 a month cash transfer subsidy will be distributed to low-income homes out of a USD\$600 million fund. This brings the total estimated cost of the bill to USD\$3.8 billion.³⁹⁷</p> <p>On March 10th, the government announced the Auxílio Gasolina program which grants an additional R\$100 to those under the Auxílio Brasil program. This new cash transfer is aimed at mitigating the costs of purchasing fuel for transport. In addition to those under Auxílio Brasil, beneficiaries of this program will include self-employed drivers and app-based drivers and riders (for example Uber). An estimated R\$3 billion is expected for this program.^{398, 399}</p> <p>[August 2022] The government announced a vertical expansion to the existing Auxílio Gás dos Brasileiros cash transfer program. This program was initially announced in November 2021, to help families pay for the rising cost of liquified petroleum gas (cooking gas). The initial transfer amount was set to be varied depending on half of the national average cost of a 13kg cylinder can. Currently a full can is listed at R\$110.49. This amount was set to be decided every 6 months as the price changed. However, starting in August 2022, the amount was increased to the cost of a full can. Every two months, eligible families will receive a transfer amount equal to the cost of a full can of cooking gas. Currently, 5.6 million families are being covered by this program. The government plans to add all members of the existing Auxílio Brasil program by September</p>

		<p>2023, roughly over 20 million families. [March 15, 2023] The Brazilian government announced that this program is beginning to be merged into the Bolsa Familia program (Auxílio Brasil). The latest coverage indicates 5.95 million families as of the February 2023 payment. This number is likely to change as the program is combined with Bolsa Familia. The latest data indicate that the full value of a cylinder can is R\$108..^{400, 401, 402, 403}</p>
	<p>Conditional cash transfers</p>	<p>On May 19th, Brazil announced an extension to the Auxílio Brasil social program that provides cash transfers to low-income families replacing the Bolsa Familia program in 2021. The extension makes this a permanent program (originally made to assist with the adverse economic effects of COVID-19) and raises the minimum transfer to R\$400 a month. The exact number depends on the incomes of the families. The initial investment into this program by the Ministry of Citizenship is R\$7.3 billion. The government was paying about R\$47.5 billion a year, with the new increase this will add an additional R\$41 billion a year. [Update] The Auxílio Brazil program was updated in August to include an additional 2.2 million families to bring the total coverage to just over 20 million. It also increased the monthly minimum cash transfer to R\$ 600. [November 11, 2022] The Brazilian government announced that the program will return to being called the Bolsa Familia. In 2022 total government expenditure amounted to 116.27 billion BRL and covered 18.32 million households as of February 2023.^{404, 405, 406, 407, 408}</p> <p>[November 11, 2022] The Brazilian government announced a new transfer to be added to the newly renamed Bolsa Familia program (Auxilio Brasil). This is a conditional cash transfer program that will transfer an additional 150 reales for every child in the family 6 years or younger and 50 reales for every child between 7 and 18 years of age. This specific add-on to the existing program is expected to cover 8.8 million children and cost an additional 18 billion reales.⁴⁰⁹</p>

	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	March 11, 2022, Brazil announced a change to the tax on fuel calculation from a percentage to a fixed value so as to try and reduce fuel prices for consumers. It also will freeze the ICMS state goods and services tax on refined products. The tax policy change is estimated to cost states USD \$3.2 billion in potential revenue. On June 15, 2022, this bill was passed in the lower House of Congress.[January 2, 2023] The Brazilian government announced that this measure would be extended for a period of one year for diesel and biodiesel and for 2 months for gasoline

		<p>and ethanol. [February 27, 2023] The government announced that this measure will end and the regular tax on fuel will be reinstated due to fiscal reasons. ^{410, 411, 412, 413, 414}</p> <p>On March 22, 2022, Brazil announced the suspension of its 18% import tax on ethanol imports for the rest of 2022 in an inflation-cutting efforts to reduce fuel prices domestically. [February 4, 2023] The government of Brazil announced that this measure will end and that the import tax on ethanol will be reinstated at 16% for 2023 and will go up to 18% in 2024. ^{415, 416, 417}</p>
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British Virgin Islands

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On September 19th, the government announced a fuel subsidy for residential electricity bills starting on October 1st. This subsidy will be 50% of the fuel oil surcharge on residential electricity bill for the months of October and November. For December, the subsidy will be 100% of the fuel surcharge. This program was not extended and so it has ended. The last month that it covered was the electricity consumption of November, 2022. ^{418, 419}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On April 14, 2022, the government announced that all customs duties on imports that are above 5% will be reduced to 5% starting on April 15, 2022, and is set to last for three months. As part of this measure, import duties on propane, fossil fuels, and cement are reduced by 50%. [Extension] On July 22, 2022, it was announced that this measure was extended for another three months as of July 15, 2022. ^{420, 421}

Bulgaria

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	Bulgaria earlier in May approved a 2 billion leva (\$1.1 billion) package aimed at shielding companies and low-income consumers from the surge in energy and food prices caused by the Ukraine conflict. The government will also offer a discount of 0.25 leva per litre of petrol, diesel and liquefied petroleum gas and methane from July until the end of the year. [December 2022] The discount of 25 stotinki per liter of fuel at gas stations in Bulgaria for individual consumers will remain in force next year as well, Ministry of Economy announced. The reduction in the price will now be financed by the excess profit of the oil company Lukoil and not by the state budget. The company has contributed BGN 90 million in advance tax to the budget. ^{422, 423, 424, 425}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	[20 June 2022] Bulgaria will provide a subsidy package of 300 million leva (\$161.3 million/153.4 million euro) to agricultural producers in the second half of 2022, so as to counter sharp increases in food prices, the agriculture ministry said. In the last few days, agricultural producers received 143.5 million leva as emergency aid under the government's measures for alleviating the impact of COVID-19 on businesses. In April, the agriculture ministry said that the government will back the farmers with state aid and direct payments amounting to some 902 million leva in total in 2022. ⁴²⁶
	Fees subsidies	On December 16, 2021, Bulgaria lawmakers voted to freeze power regulated electricity and heating prices until the end of March for households. The moratorium prevented the independent energy regulator from increasing power prices by an average 11.5% and heating prices by about 30%, bringing them more in line with the market prices power companies pay for electricity and natural gas. ^{427, 428} On May 18, 2022, Bulgaria intends to reduce the interest rate for overdue payments to the state, municipalities, utilities and others

		by up to eight per cent. This measure will enter into force on 1 January 2023. ^{429, 430}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>[May 2022] The government will increase the annual quota for food vouchers for employees from one billion to 1.2 billion leva.⁴³¹</p> <p>[May 2022] The government will increase the annual quota for food vouchers for employees from one billion to 1.2 billion leva. [February 2023] One year after the value of food vouchers was increased to BGN 200 (this happened on 4.03.2022 with the publication by the Ministry of Finance of an Order to determine the size of the individual quota and the total number of individual quotas for 2022), there have been no changes. The maximum monthly amount remains up to BGN 200 per employee. The size of the individual quota for one employer is BGN 4 million. The annual quota for vouchers is BGN 1 billion. This year too, food vouchers will not be subject to VAT and there will be no additional taxes or charges for employers and employees.^{432, 433}</p>
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[May 2022] The government decided to increase pensions from July 2022. Each pension will be recalculated compared to 2008 with 100% of the growth of the average insurance income or 100% of inflation, depending on which is more favourable. The

		<p>minimum pension in Bulgaria is equal to the poverty line in the country – about €210 but will now be increased to €240. The maximum pension will increase from EUR 766 to EUR 1,022. [September 2022] A total of 894,249 recipients of work-contingent pensions granted until the end of 2021 will have their pensions increased by an average of 15.2%, effective October 1, 2022. Their average monthly pension will rise by BGN 123.71, from BGN 813.84 to BGN 937.55. The ceiling for pensions will become BGN 3400. This is the third pension revision within less than 10 months, after an average rise of 12% as from December 25, 2021 and a 10% increase effective July 1, 2022.^{434, 435, 436}</p> <p>[May 2022] The 60 leva a month “Covid supplement” for pensioners will be incorporated into pensions on a permanent basis, while there will be individual adjustments for categories of pensioners. The measure was originally supposed to end by June 2022.^{437, 438}</p>
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	As of 1 January 2023, the minimum monthly salary is increased to 780 Bulgarian lev (BGN) (from BGN 710 for 2022). ⁴³⁹
Trade	Export/import restriction	28 July, 2022, Bulgaria set up a working group between the Customs Agency and the National Revenue Agency to limit the export of Russian oil products starting from December 5, 2022. ⁴⁴⁰
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	<p>Bulgaria, on May 1, 2022, announced an increase in the amount of personal income tax relief for children with retroactive effect from 1 January 2022 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - one child - increased from BGN 4,500 to BGN 6,000 per year - two children - increased from BGN 9,000 to BGN 12,000 per year - three or more children - increased from BGN 13,500 to BGN 18,000 per year - children with disabilities - increased from BGN 9,000 to BGN 12,000 per year.⁴⁴¹ <p>Bulgaria, on May 18, 2022, announced that families will receive a €300 tax rebate for each child.⁴⁴²</p>
	Indirect tax	<p>Bulgaria, on May 18, 2022, reduced VAT rate of 9% on central heating and natural gas supplies until July 1, 2023.^{443, 444, 445}</p> <p>Bulgaria, on May 18, 2022, introduced a zero VAT rate on the supply of bread and flour for one year. [January 2023] The zero VAT rate for bread and flour will apply until 31 December 2023 (instead of until 1 July 2023). The measure, announced as a counter inflationary, was initially introduced for an year starting 1st of July 2022.^{446, 447}</p> <p>Bulgaria, on May 18, 2022, as part of the anti-crisis measures included raising the bar for mandatory VAT registration from 50,000 to 100,000 leva effective January 1, 2023. The special measure will apply until December 31, 2024.^{448, 449, 450}</p> <p>Bulgaria, on May 18, 2022, as part of the anti-crisis measures included raising the bar for mandatory VAT registration from 50,000 to 100,000 leva.^{451, 452}</p> <p>Bulgaria, on May 18, 2022, reduced VAT rate of 9% on central heating and natural gas supplies for one year.⁴⁵³</p> <p>On December 16, 2021, Bulgaria scraps excise duties on natural gas, electricity and methane. [July 5, 2022] An exemption from</p>

		excise duty (0% rate) on qualifying electricity (generally from renewable sources), liquefied petroleum gas, and natural gas until 30 June 2025. ⁴⁵⁴
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Burkina Faso

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	Burkina Faso, on 4 April 2022, announced that it will open show shops to offer cereals at subsidized prices, up to 6,000 FCFA per 50 kg bag, for the benefit of disadvantaged people. ⁴⁵⁵
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	Burkina Faso announced on April 4, 2022, the opening of show shops and the subsidy of more than 50 thousand tons of fertilizer. ⁴⁵⁶
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	In 2022, the World Bank approved restructuring of social safety net project in Burkina Faso which includes horizontal expansion of the regular CT and shockresponsive CT beneficiaries by roughly 14,000 households. Regular cash transfers are provided quarterly basis with CFA Francs 35,000 (~ US\$65) each in March, June, September, and December over a three-year cycle. In addition, the component provides shockresponsive transfers responding to food insecurity during the yearly lean seasons. These are being provided to existing beneficiaries of the regular transfers through a vertical expansion. The vertical expansion plans to provide two additional cash transfers in the same amount each in July and August to complement the tackling of chronic poverty with a response to short-term food security needs. So far the project has reached 997,998 individuals with cash transfers exceeding its target of 880,000. Based on the restructuring the planned coverage has been increased from 880,000 to 971,000 individuals. The horizontal expansion costs: USD7.5 million, which has been moved from LIPW to CT. ⁴⁵⁷
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On March 13, 2023, food assistance project for the homeless was held in Ouagadougou, capital of Burkina Faso. The project was funded by China's Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund (GDSSCF) in cooperation with the United

		Nations' World Food Programme (WFP). The Chinese government worked closely with the WFP and the interim government of Burkina Faso to provide emergency humanitarian food assistance for 170,000 local refugees, to help relieve their food crisis. ⁴⁵⁸
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	To safeguard domestic food supplies and contain upward pressure on cereal prices, the Government of Burkina Faso announced a ban on exports of millet, maize and sorghum flours on 23 February 2022. ^{459, 460}
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Burundi

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On July 15, 2022, the African Development Bank approved a grant of \$5.4 million to Burundi to finance an emergency agricultural production project. In addition to seed procurement, the project will provide farmers with plant-protection products subsidized at 60 percent of their cost to help them counter plant pests and diseases. The financing will help in procurement of 1660 tons of fertilizer through the organo-mineral fertilizer subsidy system to increase soil fertilization and agricultural productivity and increase grain production: An additional 9000 tons of maize and 28,000 tons of rice will be produced. More than 48,000 households or about 255,000 people, including about 153,00 women, living in 14 of the country's provinces will directly benefit from the program. ⁴⁶¹
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On July 15, 2022, the African Development Bank approved a grant of \$5.4 million to Burundi to finance an emergency agricultural production project. The financial support is intended to improve the food security of the population. The Emergency Agricultural Production Project is intended to strengthen the national seed production system by providing technical assistance on climate-resilient seed multiplication. Thus, 200 seed multipliers -- of whom 60 percent are women -- will be helped to produce 200 tonnes of rice seed by the end of the project. 32,000 rice farmers – or almost 20,000 women -- will benefit from selected resilient seeds. In addition, 700 tonnes of

		resilient, high-yield hybrid maize seed will be procured for 15,800 producers including nearly 10,000 women. ⁴⁶²
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Cambodia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On July 7, 2022, Cambodian government announced that it is subsidizing more than \$100 million to the state-owned Electricité du Cambodge (EDC) in 2022 to stabilize electricity tariffs. The government said the Russia-Ukraine conflict and the sanctions and embargoes imposed by certain Western countries on Russia have driven a sharp rise in global energy price, affecting all countries around the world. ⁴⁶³
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On July 30, 2022, the Cambodian government announced that it is considering to extend the cash transfer program, set to come to an end in September, to the end of this year because of the economic uncertainty caused by the Russia-Ukraine War and food price hike. The Royal Government has transferred roughly \$744 million to more than 680,000 poor and vulnerable households under the cash transfer program in 25 months. Started on June 24, 2020, the program was designed to provide monthly financial support to the poor and vulnerable households who hold the equity cards in both urban and rural areas across the country to help them in the hard times of the COVID-19 pandemic. On October 25, 2022, the government has spent \$837.05 million on its cash transfer programme to support poor and vulnerable people due to the impacts of Covid-19, with the scheme recently extended again for another three months. The programme has now reached its 10th round with 706,060 households as beneficiaries who have received financial support through 28 month-long distribution periods since it kicked off in June 2020. A qualified household living in a rural area receives 200,000 riel (\$50) per month, while in the capital and other urban areas they receive on average between \$80 and \$100 monthly. On February 25, 2023, Cash Transfer program has been extended for another round of payments. The government has spent more than \$960 million on the cash transfer

		programme for poor and vulnerable families affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, benefiting nearly 2.8 million people. As of February 24, twelve rounds of support have been authorised with \$962.97 million paid to those holding ID poor cards. A total of 2,783,591 people from 705,613 households have benefitted from the programme. Among them are 110,025 children under five years old; 378,097 people over age 60; 60,692 people with disabilities and 2,037 people living with HIV/AIDS. The second payment of the 12th round will be available from February 25 to March 24. ^{464, 465, 466}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Cameroon

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On March 30, 2022, the government announced to support CFA 672 billion in terms of annual subsidies for super, diesel and kerosene, 70 billion for domestic gas. Subsequently on 29 July, 2022, the Cameroonian government announced it will approve CFA780 billion in fuel subsidy to keep pump prices unchanged. This new figure way higher than the CFA480 billion initially approved in the collective budget, and the CFA672 billion projected by the Minister of Commerce during a press conference held on March 30, 2022. As per the budget 2023, the government has decided to continue its usual fuel subsidy by financing CFA480 billion. ^{467, 468, 469}
	Food subsidies	Cameroon's Minister of Commerce signed two decrees on April 14, 2022. First one makes compulsory the prior filing of price lists for certain consumer products and agree on price scale to be set for the final consumer. These goods include pasta, sardines, margarine, alcohol and spirits, detergents and household soaps, packaging, electrical cables and wires, paints, and tiles. Next, the second decrees sets the list of prices for products and services whose prices and tariffs are subject to the prior approval procedure, before any sale on the national market. These are milk, rice, fish, crude palm oil, refined vegetable oils, cooking salt, sugar, bread and pastries, flours, mineral water, beer and drinks, domestic gas, cement, concrete iron, roofing sheets, services of the auxiliaries of the maritime transport, port services, and public transport. As reported in December 12, 2022, using extra-budgetary mechanism, this measure has been extended for 2023. ^{470, 471}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On 15 July 2022, African Development Fund approved a loan of €62.99 million to Cameroon. In addition to the seed distribution, small farmers will also have access to agricultural inputs – nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium fertilisers and urea – with subsidies representing 30% of the market price. The main benefit of the programme will be to farmers, input importers and

		distributors, companies in the oilseeds and cereals sectors and the Cameroonian population as a whole. ⁴⁷²
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	In Cameroon, on October 2022, the restructuring of "Cameroon Social Safety Nets" will enable provision of additional cash transfers to 15,000 households currently enrolled in cash transfer programs (regular and emergency) in the cities of Douala, Yaoundé, Bafoussam and Ebolowa to help mitigate shocks due to the rising prices of food and other basic necessities. Each beneficiary household will receive an additional amount of 90,000 FCFA in two installments of 45,000 FCFA. In addition, 10,000 households have been enrolled among refugees and host communities in the municipalities in the East and Adamawa regions which have received a large number of refugees. Each beneficiary household will receive an amount of 180,000 FCFA in two installments of 90,000 FCFA. The implementation of the proposed additional activities is expected to increase the development impact of the project by supporting an augmented total number of beneficiaries and providing them with additional support against the backdrop of rising cost of basic necessities. ⁴⁷³
	Conditional cash transfers	On 2 May 2022, the World Bank approved a credit from IDA in the amount of \$100 million for “Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis Project.” It has several components, of which Sub-component 1.1 pertains to provision of emergency food and nutrition assistance costs US\$23.6 million. Sub-component 1.1 will finance a set of activities to support poor and vulnerable households in project targeted areas. First, CCTs to extremely vulnerable households for early recovery activities. This activity will focus on rapid deployment of food assistance through CCTs. A total of 33,490 duly registered beneficiaries will be covered with CCTs (60 percent women). Vulnerable refugees, returnees, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and host communities will be targeted. Cash transfers will be linked to participation in economic empowerment activities. These include micro, small,

		<p>and medium enterprises (MSME) and petty food trade. Also, establishment of backyard/home garden and small household livestock and fishing units adapting climate smart practices (composting, production of organic, low-carbon food, school woodlots/windbreaks, recycling of waste, solar power as a source of energy, promoting energy efficient equipment and cooking stoves known as foyer amélioré au Cameroun).⁴⁷⁴</p>
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On 15 July 2022, African Development Fund approved a loan of €62.99 million to Cameroon. The funding will enable the country to increase production of major agricultural crops (rice, maize, sorghum, millet, soybean, potato, palm oil and garden crops) in order to mitigate the impact of the food crisis caused by the war between Russia and Ukraine. The main focus of the program will be to make seeds available to producers. For example, 1,720 tonnes of seed rice, 2,500 tonnes of maize seed, 130 tonnes of sorghum seed, 2,400 tonnes of seed potatoes, 1.12 million pregerminated oil-palm seeds, 132 tonnes of soya seeds, 4 tonnes of garden crop seeds (tomato) and 67 tonnes of wheat seeds will be distributed. In addition to providing seeds, the program will involve in the digitalisation of the distribution of agricultural inputs. The main benefit of the program will be to farmers, input importers and distributors, companies in the oilseeds and cereals sectors and the Cameroonian population as a whole. The pilot phase is currently being rolled out in the coffee and cocoa sectors, but it will be extended to the foodstuff sectors.⁴⁷⁵</p> <p>On 2 May 2022, the World Bank approved a credit from IDA in the amount of \$100 million for “Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis Project.” It has several components, of which Sub-component 1.1 pertains to provision of emergency food and nutrition assistance costs US\$23.6 million. Sub-component 1.1 will finance a set of activities to support poor and vulnerable households in project targeted areas. Third, support for</p>

		<p>prevention of acute malnutrition will target 30,000 children and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and focus on: (a) emergency nutrition response to address acute malnutrition in conflict-affected areas; (b) resilience nutrition response delivering integrated malnutrition preventive package while promoting locally owned solutions for addressing undernutrition particularly stunting; and (c) carrying out social behavior communication for promotion of essential nutrition and other family practices.⁴⁷⁶</p> <p>On 2 May 2022, the World Bank approved a credit from IDA in the amount of \$100 million for “Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis Project.” It has several components, of which Sub-component 2.1: Support for food production for farmers and agri-food processors (US\$24.5 million). Sub-component 2.1 will contribute to increasing the sustainable productive capacity of 100,000 eligible farming and agri-food processing beneficiaries, 60 percent of whom are women. It will finance the following activities: (i) the provision of inputs such as improved drought resistant seed varieties, fertilizer, and basic tools for primary production; including small scale-irrigation; (ii) supply of post-harvest and value-addition equipment with a focus on solar powered equipment; and (iii) development of community post-harvest infrastructure like storage facilities. Reducing post-harvest losses contribute to climate adaptation and mitigation while promoting food security.³⁵ This sub-component will include technical assistance to promote CSA techniques to strengthen producers’ resilience to climate change. These include optimal use of improved seeds and other inputs, sustainable irrigation and water harvesting, bio-intensive vegetable and fruit farming, and post-harvest management to reduce production/food losses.⁴⁷⁷</p> <p>On 2 May 2022, the World Bank approved a credit from IDA in the amount of \$100 million for “Emergency Project to Combat</p>
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		<p>the Food Crisis Project.” It has several components, of which Sub-component 2.2 Support to pastoralists and fishermen, and related processing (US\$17.5 million). Sub-component 2.2 will support the development of livestock and aquaculture sub-sectors through climate resilient and sustainable practices. Support will be provided to 50,000 small-scale pastoral and fishing beneficiaries for primary production activities, as well as to 9,000 beneficiaries for post-harvest management and related processing, 60 percent of whom are women. The sub-component will finance (i) the acquisition and distribution of climate-smart inputs, equipment, and infrastructure specific to the two sub-sectors; (ii) support for the development of pastoral and fisheries postharvest management and processing; (iii) technical assistance in sustainable management practices for improving rangeland and grassland quality, reducing deforestation, and promoting sustainable aquaculture. Resources in pastoral activities will increase climate smart production and access to fodder to improve sustainable livestock feeding practices. They will also support the provision of cows and small animals (like piglets and day-old chicks). Support will also be provided for the establishment of a milk collection cold chain network with energy efficient storage and distribution. Inputs, support services, and off-farm activities will increase climate resilience and reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions in addition to increasing meat and dairy production for improved food and nutrition security.⁴⁷⁸</p>
	<p>Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)</p>	<p>On 2 May 2022, the World Bank approved a credit from IDA in the amount of \$100 million for “Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis Project.” It has several components, of which Sub-component 1.1 pertains to the provision of emergency food and nutrition assistance for a cost of US\$23.6 million. Sub-component 1.1 will finance a set of activities to support poor and vulnerable households in project targeted areas. Second, the sub-component will finance emergency and home-grown school feeding (HGSF). Through this activity the scale up of HGSF will</p>

		be supported to benefit 50 schools and 35,000 children in IPC3+ communities. Schools will be matched with smallholder farmers – mostly women cultivating communal gardens and small breeding (table eggs) – to provide safe, diverse, and nutritious local food. These farmers will be introduced to CSA practices/technologies to increase their resilience to climate change. ⁴⁷⁹
	Public works	On 2 May 2022, the World Bank approved a credit from IDA in the amount of \$100 million for “Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis Project.” It has several components, of which Sub-component 1.2: Labor-intensive public works (LIPW) for resilience (US\$11.4 million). Sub-component 1.2 will support 33,400 able-bodied laborers who support some 167,000 household members, 60 percent of whom are women. These laborers will be mobilized to participate in high labor intensity community public works programs. This will build resilience in response to droughts and floods that degrade soils, creates run off, severely reduces availability of water, and generate loss of tree cover and forest degradation. The combination of impacts contributes to loss of agricultural livelihoods and food sources. Beneficiaries will receive income transfers for work done based on defined outputs. Activities under this subcomponent will include: (i) providing temporary employment for LIPW; (ii) payment of transfer fees and (iii) providing LIPW beneficiaries with tools, equipment and raw materials to implement selected subprojects. ⁴⁸⁰
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	To curb price increases and ensure adequate supplies of these staple commodities in the domestic market, Cameroon's Customs Department issued a memorandum announcing the immediate temporary suspension of exports of locally produced cereals and vegetable oils from far North Region on 27 December 2021. Companies exporting cereals and vegetable oils produced locally in Cameroon will no longer be able to supply abroad until further notice. Subsequently, on 22 April 2022, the Ministry of Commerce of Cameroon suspended exports of wheat flour, rice, vegetable oil and other locally produced cereals from the East Region, in order to ensure adequate availabilities in the domestic market. ^{481, 482, 483}
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On December 4, 2022, Cameroon as part of its 2023 Budget announced a reduction of VAT on the purchase of pesticides, fertilizers, and inputs, as well as equipment and materials for agriculture, livestock and fisheries. This is done to encourage the local production to meet the demand.⁴⁸⁴</p> <p>On 4 December 2022, Cameroon as part of its 2023 Budget announced a reduction of excise duty by 30% for beverages which are prepared using domestically produced products.^{485, 486}</p>

Canada

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>April 6, the Government of Canada announces changes to the Advance Payments Program to support farmers ahead of planting season to allow farmers to access 100% of their 2022 cash advance through the waiving of timed installments. This will improve cash flow and allow farmers to purchase fuel, fertilizer, and seeds. [Update] On June 23rd, the government announced a temporary increase to the interest free limit for advances under the Advance Payments Program. The limit will be increased from CAD\$ 100,000 to CAD\$250,000 for 2022 and 2023.^{487, 488}</p> <p>On June 16, 2022, Canada announced a new package called the Affordability Plan which is estimated to cost a total CAD\$8.9 billion. Within this package, is included the measure Affordable Early Learning and Childcare which will cut childcare fees in all 13 provinces for an average of 50%.⁴⁸⁹</p> <p>On September 7th, the government of British Columbia, Canada announced new measures to help people with the high cost of living due to global inflation. One measure is a 2% cap on rent increases for 2023. This means that instead of allowing rent to increase at or more than the rate of inflation, it is being capped at a 2% increase so as to help renters in the province have more money in their pockets.⁴⁹⁰</p> <p>On March 28, 2023: six provinces and territories in Canada are set to reduce child care fees to \$10-a-day or less by April 2, 2023. All other provinces and territories remain on track to achieve \$10-a-day child care by 2026.⁴⁹¹</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Social Assistance</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>On March 8, Prince Edward Island announced CAD \$20 million package to address the rise in cost of living for the low income population. This package includes a one-time cash transfer payment of CAD \$150, worth a total of CAD \$1 million.⁴⁹²</p> <p>On March 22nd, Quebec announced a one-off cash transfer of CA\$500 to every resident making less than CA\$100,000. For those making more, they will still receive a transfer but it will be a smaller amount. This will be a direct transfer to a banking account after the residents submit their 2021 taxes. The CA\$500 cash transfer is expected to cover 6.4 million Quebec residents. Therefore, the total cost will be CA\$3.2 billion. 25 Nov 2022: the Government announced that the distribution of the one-time payments to 6.5 million Quebecers to fight the effects of inflation will begin by the start of December.⁴⁹³</p> <p>On March 24th, Nova Scotia provincial government says it is providing \$13.2 million to help vulnerable Nova Scotians address the impact of rising fuel prices. As part of it, a one-time payment of \$150 to all currently eligible recipients of the heating assistance rebate program will be made.⁴⁹⁴</p> <p>On March 24th, Nova Scotia provincial government says it is providing \$13.2 million to help vulnerable Nova Scotians address the impact of rising fuel prices. As part of it, a one-time payment of \$150 is planned to be paid to all current income assistance recipients, including disability support program participants receiving income support.⁴⁹⁵</p> <p>On June 16th, the Canadian government announced a new package called the Affordability Plan which is estimated to cost a total CAD\$8.9 billion. Within this package, there is a measure which enhances the existing Canada Workers Benefit to provide support to an estimated 3 million workers. The total cost of this</p>
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		<p>added benefit is expected to be CAD\$1.7 billion. Single workers are set to receive up to an additional CAD\$ 1200 and for couples up to CAD\$ 2400. This will be received through the 2021 tax return.⁴⁹⁶</p> <p>On July 28th, Nova Scotia announced an additional CAD\$250 in aid as a one-off transfer for eligible seniors who make under CAD\$37,500 a year. This would be on top of the one-off cash transfer of CAD\$500 previously approved in March.⁴⁹⁷</p> <p>On September 20th, Canada introduced new measures to build on the existing Affordability Plan aimed at helping Canadians with rising prices. These new measures come in the form of two new bills, the second is the Cost of Living Relief Act, No 2 which includes a direct cash transfer under the Canada Dental Benefit. The aim of the cash transfer is to help pay for dental care for children under 12 years old. Up to CAD \$650 could be given to each eligible child per year for a duration of two years, meaning each child can receive up to CAD \$1300. This is a targeted program to lower income families, only families making under CAD \$90,000 a year with children will be eligible. The expected coverage is 500,000 Canadian children and the expected cost is of CAD \$938 million. The measure will be implemented on December 1st, 2022 and can cover dental costs retroactively starting on October 1st.^{498, 499, 500}</p> <p>On September 20th, Canada introduced new measures to build on the existing Affordability Plan aimed at helping Canadians with rising prices. These new measures come in the form of two new bills, the second is the Cost of Living Relief Act, No 2 which includes a payment under the Canada Housing Benefit. This measure is housing support in the form of a one-off CAD \$500 payment to low income renters in Canada. It is expected to reach 1.8 million renters, including students, who are struggling with the cost of housing. The cost is expected to total CAD \$1.2</p>
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		<p>billion, with \$475 million committed in the budget for 2022.^{501, 502}</p> <p>On September 7th, the government of British Columbia announced new measures to help people with the high cost of living due to global inflation. One measure is a vertical expansion of the existing B.C. Family Benefit for the period January to March of 2023. This existing measure is a monthly cash transfer for families with children under the age of 18. It is targeted to lower income families with the transfer size being progressively less and less for higher and higher income brackets. The vertical expansion will be up to CAD \$58.33 per month per child for three months. This measure which only captures the temporary increase or vertical expansion is expected to cost CAD \$100 million.^{503, 504}</p> <p>March 28, 2023: The Budget 2023 proposes to enhance student financial assistance for the school year starting August 1, 2023. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Increasing Canada Student Grants by 40 percent—to provide up to \$4,200 for full-time students; (ii) Raising the interest-free Canada Student Loan limit from \$210 to \$300 per week of study; and, (iii) Waiving the requirement for mature students, aged 22 years or older, to undergo credit screening in order to qualify for federal student grants and loans for the first time.⁵⁰⁵
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On March 24th, Nova Scotia provincial government says it is providing \$13.2 million to help vulnerable Nova Scotians address the impact of rising fuel prices. As part of it, \$1 million is planned to be provided to Feed Nova Scotia to distribute among its 140 food banks provincewide.⁵⁰⁶</p>

		On March 24th, Nova Scotia provincial government says it is providing \$13.2 million to help vulnerable Nova Scotians address the impact of rising fuel prices. As part of it, \$200,000 is being planned to be distributed to local food banks across the province that are not part of the Feed Nova Scotia network. ⁵⁰⁷
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	July 2022: The Government increasing Old Age Security (OAS) benefits for seniors age 75 and older by 10 per cent as of July 2022, which is providing more than \$800 in additional support to full pensioners. ⁵⁰⁸
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	Starting on June 1, British Columbia is increasing the minimum wage by 45 cents to CAD\$15.65 an hour in order to support workers. The increase is tied to the rate of inflation for B.C., which was 2.8 per cent last year. 5 April 2023: The Government announced that minimum-wage workers in British Columbia will see a pay bump from \$15.65 to \$16.75 an hour starting June 1. ^{509, 510}
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	On September 20th, Canada introduced new measures to build on the existing Affordability Plan aimed at helping Canadians

		<p>with rising prices. These new measures come in the form of two new bills, the first is the Cost of Living Relief Act, No. 1 which includes a cash transfer in the form of a tax credit. It is a doubling of the existing Goods and Services Tax Credit, set to last for 6 months. This is expected to provide CAD \$2.5 billion in additional targeted support to an expected 11 million individuals and families who are already receiving the tax credit (9 million single people and 2 millions couples). Single Canadians without children are set to receive up to an extra CAD \$234, couples with two children would receive up to CAD \$467, and seniors would receive on average an extra CAD \$225. The actual amount will depend on income level, this is a targeted measure to more vulnerable income groups as the transfer size decreases as income increases.^{511, 512, 513}</p> <p>On September 7th, the government of British Columbia announced new measures to help people with the high cost of living due to global inflation. One measure is a vertical expansion of the existing Climate Action Tax Credit which is a cash transfer for British Columbia tax payers. The existing program is a quarterly cash transfer for low and middle income residents of the province with funds coming from the province's carbon tax. However, this measure enhances only one of the payments, therefore this measure is a one-off adaptation in the form of a vertical expansion. The payment set for October is the one that will see a one-time vertical expansion. The vertical expansion will be up to an additional CAD \$164 for each adult and \$41 per child. 28 Feb 2023: to support British Columbians with the rising cost of living, the October 2022, January 2023 and April 2023 BCCATC payments include a one-time affordability credit.^{514, 515, 516}</p> <p>On October 5th, the government of the province of Newfoundland and Labrador announced a one-off payment to all eligible residents of up to CAD \$500. This will be issued based</p>
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		<p>on 2021 tax returns and will be sent out to all residents 18 or older as of December 2022 who make under \$125,000 a year, those making under \$100,000 will receive the full transfer of \$500 with the others receiving between \$250-\$500. This cash transfer is expected to reach 392,000 residents and is expected to cost \$194 million.⁵¹⁷</p> <p>28 March 2023: The Budget 2023 proposes to introduce a one-time Grocery Rebate, providing \$2.5 billion in targeted inflation relief for 11 million low- and modest-income Canadians and families. The Grocery Rebate will provide eligible couples with two children with up to an extra \$467; single Canadians without children with up to an extra \$234; and seniors with an extra \$225 on average. [Update] 6 April 2023: They will be delivered through GST rebate i.e., a one-time payment from the Canada Revenue Agency as soon as possible following the passage of legislation. The government has dubbed this measure a “grocery rebate” as Canadians continue to deal with high food prices, though the GST rebate can be spent however Canadians desire.⁵¹⁸</p> <p>March 28, 2023: The Budget 2023 introduces measure to automatic tax filing for low-income Canadians. This will make sure that they receive the benefits to which they are entitled.⁵¹⁹</p> <p>Nov 7, 2022: As part of the measures to tackle the rising cost of living in the country, the Government announced that it plans to provide advance payments on the Canada Workers Benefit (CWB), targeted at the lowest-paid workers. Currently, it’s delivered through tax returns, which means workers need to wait until the tax year is over to receive the payment.⁵²⁰</p>
	Indirect tax	

Cape Verde

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On March 31, 2022, Cape Verde announced the stabilization of the prices of fuel. On 20 June 2022, the Cape Verde declared a social and economic emergency in the country due to the impacts of the war in Ukraine, announcing more mitigation measures, above all to contain the rise in energy and food prices, at a cost in excess of EUR 80 million. Please note this expenditure is for all the measures relating to food and fuel.⁵²¹</p> <p>On April 1, 2022. Cape Verde's Multisectoral Economics Regulatory Agency updated the fuel prices that came into force in the country as of April 1st: Butane Gas, Diesel for Electricity, Fuel oil 180 and 380. Cape Verde declares the temporary suspension, for three months, from April to June, of the application of mechanisms for fixing fuel prices. The update on the maximum selling prices to the public referring to the month of April, remain fixed, at the current levels, in force starting March, for some products, such as butane and fuels for electricity production. Maintaining fuel prices through state intervention is estimated at 400 million escudos (3.6 million euros). On 20 June 2022, the Cape Verde declared a social and economic emergency in the country due to the impacts of the war in Ukraine, announcing more mitigation measures, above all to contain the rise in energy and food prices, at a cost in excess of EUR 80 million. Please note this expenditure is for all the measures relating to food and fuel.^{522, 523, 524}</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>On March 31, 2022, Cape Verde announced the stabilization of the prices of wheat, corn, rice, cooking oil and powdered milk. On 20 June 2022, the Cape Verde declared a social and economic emergency in the country due to the impacts of the war in Ukraine, announcing more mitigation measures, above all to contain the rise in energy and food prices, at a cost in excess of EUR 80 million. Please note this expenditure is for all the measures relating to food and fuel.⁵²⁵</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	

	Fees subsidies	On 31 March 2022, Cape Verde increased the discount on the social tariff for water and electricity from 30 to 50% for the poorest families. On 20 June 2022, the Cape Verde declared a social and economic emergency in the country due to the impacts of the war in Ukraine, announcing more mitigation measures, above all to contain the rise in energy and food prices, at a cost in excess of EUR 80 million. Please note this expenditure is for all the measures relating to food and fuel. ⁵²⁶
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On 31 March, 2022, Cape Verde announced the increase in the number of beneficiaries of the Social Inclusion Income for families in extreme poverty and absolute poverty. More than 5,000 households are benefiting from it. ^{527, 528}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	On March 31, 2022, Cape Verde announced the extension of the period of offering meals in school canteens. ⁵²⁹ On 24 September 2022, in Cape Verde, under a Limited Emergency Operation, WFP will purchase and transport food for school meals to 90,000 children, using existing procurement platforms to cost-effectively source the food, while ensuring that national food quality standards are met. WFP will also provide advisory services to the government on programme monitoring, advocacy and evidence generation in food security and nutrition, while working to boost resource mobilization and partnerships with the government, International Financial Institutions, the private sector and other development actors. ⁵³⁰
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	

	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 31, 2022, Cape Verde reduced VAT on electricity from 15 to 8%. On June 20, 2022, the Cape Verde declared a social and economic emergency in the country due to the impacts of the war in Ukraine, announcing more mitigation measures, above all to contain the rise in energy and food prices, at a cost in excess of EUR 80 million. Please note this expenditure is for all the measures relating to food and fuel.⁵³¹</p> <p>On July 6, 2022, Cape Verde reduced rates for the special consumption tax (ICE) of gasoline and diesel due to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. It includes the following: (i) Lowering ICE to CVE 6 per liter of gasoline from 10% ; (ii) Lowering the direct tax rate of gasoline from 20% to 10%; (iii) Lowering the direct tax rate of fuel 180 and 380 from 5% to 0%. The reduced ICE rates are valid till December 31, 2022. On June 20, 2022, the Cape Verde declared a social and economic emergency in the country due to the impacts of the war in Ukraine, announcing more mitigation measures, above all to contain the rise in energy and food prices, at a cost in excess of EUR 80 million. Please</p>

		note this expenditure is for all the measures relating to food and fuel. ^{532, 533}
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Cayman Islands

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On July 1st, the government announced a temporary fuel cost credit to electricity bills of residents consuming between 101 kWh and 2,000 kWh a month, named the Fuel Factor Relief Programme. This effectively acts as a price control as it will try to keep the price at CI \$ 0.20 per kWh, therefore the credit that will be credited to electricity bills will vary depending on the market price in order to keep the cost for consumers at \$0.20 per kWh. This is set to impact 80% of utility customers on Grand Cayman and almost 90% on the Sister Islands. This measure will impact energy consumption from July to September and for the bills from August to October. On October 26th, this measure was extended for an additional 3 months, now set to last until the end of the year. Additionally, the government announced that as of October 26th, the measure had reached 22,000 households.^{534, 535}</p> <p>On July 1st, the government announced a temporary program to contribute up to CI\$ 0.05 per kWh to eligible electricity utility customers named the Electricity Assistance Relief Programme. This measure works alongside as the Fuel Factor Relief Programme and so it also has covered 22,000 households as of October 26th. It was also initially set to last three months and has been extended until the end of the year.⁵³⁶</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Central African Republic

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On July 14, 2022, African Development Bank Group approved a grant of \$5.39 million to the Central African Republic. The grant will assist the production of an additional 32,000 tons of foodstuffs and enhance food security for 100,000 people. It will also help the Central African Republic to implement an emergency food program to tackle the surge in food prices exacerbated by the war between Russia and Ukraine. The grant will help increase agricultural productivity and production in the Central African Republic, especially rice, maize and cassava. The grant will provide for the procurement of 1.8 tons of maize seed, 1.2 tons of rice seed and 75,0000 linear meters of cassava for the benefit of farmers. This will comprise pre-basic seed (seed produced by agricultural research centers) and basic seed (seed produced by approved seed bodies, with the assistance of research technicians of State technical services). The project will also procure from local seed producers 130 tons of maize seed, sufficient to sow 4500 hectares; 30 tons of paddy rice seed, sufficient for 700 hectares, and 5 million linear meters of cassava, for planting in 1800 hectares. In addition, the program will procure, via a tendering process, 750 tons of fertilizer, consisting of 500 tons of NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium) and 250 tons of urea, to cover the fertilizer 5200 hectares (4500 hectares of maize and 700 hectares of rice). To enable producers to master growing techniques, part of the grant</p>

		will be used to train workers in three national institutions active in the field of agriculture. A vehicle and office equipment and materials will be made available for this purpose. ⁵³⁷
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Chad

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On March 29, 2022, it was reported that Chad government imposed price control on the foodstuffs at the market. ⁵³⁸
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	It is reported that on October 17, 2022, in Chad, a cash assistance was planned to be provided to 11,996 poor and vulnerable households (or 71,976 beneficiaries) for a duration of four-month. It is expected to cost of 1,007,664,000 CFA francs. The assistance project is funded by USAID, WFP and the European Union, and it will be implemented by the NGO Moustagbal. ⁵³⁹
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On 15 July 2022, African Development Bank Group granted US\$4.05 million to Chad, to enable it to implement its agricultural sector and response to the food crisis. This financial assistance comes from the Transition Support Facility, a rapid financing mechanism of the African Development Bank Group. The objective of which is to improve food security and the resilience of poor and vulnerable households, by increasing agricultural production in the country. The project includes the acquisition of certified seeds adapted to the climate and fertilizers of the NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium) and urea type, in order to increase productivity and compensate for the cereal deficit in the country. A total of 18,000 input kits (seeds plus fertilizer) will be distributed to smallholder farmers, 60% of whom are women and young people.⁵⁴⁰</p> <p>It is reported that on October 17, 2022, in Chad, an in-kind nutritional assistance is provided to 3,719 children aged 6 to 23 months, and 3,226 pregnant and breastfeeding women from these same households will receive a four-month ration of nutrients. The transfer would be worth 166.68 tons in total. The</p>

		assistance project is funded by USAID, WFP and the European Union, and it will be implemented by the NGO Moustagbal. ⁵⁴¹
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On January 8, 2022, Chad announced ban on the export of cereals and groundnuts, except for sesame to address food insecurity. ⁵⁴²
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Chile

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On May 3rd, Chile announced an increase of US\$40 million to the fuel stabilization fund in order to maintain lower prices on fuel. ⁵⁴³
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On April 12, 2022, Chile announced a new package, “Chile Apoya, Plan de Recuperación,” as a new set of measures expanding upon the existing “Chile Apoya” social programs. This package is set to cost a total of US\$ 3.726 million. Within this package, there is a price control for electricity (utility) that went into effect on May 16, 2022. This measure will cap the price of electricity for consumption up to 350 kWh of usage. Consumption between 350 and 500 kWh will see a maximum 5% increase in the cost and for above 500 kWh, a maximum of 15% increase in the total cost. The Chilean congress approved the measure and stated that the expected cost is of USD\$15 million in 2022 and USD\$20 million every subsequent year. This measure is set to last at least 10 years.^{544, 545}</p> <p>[January 25, 2023] The government of Chile announced the extension of a price freeze on all public transportation fees. This measure began in 2022. For adults this will last at least the first half of the year, whereas for students and the elderly it will last the entire year. This is expected to cover 9.5 million beneficiaries.^{546, 547}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On April 25th, the government announced an expansion of cash transfers to eligible beneficiaries with the social programs: Subsidio Único Familiar (SUF) and Asignación Familiar (AF). The new program is called Canasta Básica Protegida and will be a monthly transfer between May and December of 2022. This program is set to add an additional CLP \$6,410 to each beneficiary within a household on top of what they already received under either of the two existing programs (SUF or AF). However, this number is set to change based on a calculation of

		<p>the rising prices of a basket of goods that changes monthly. This program is expected to reach 3.1 million beneficiaries.^{548, 549}</p> <p>On July 12th, the government announced a one-off cash transfer under the name “Bono Chile Apoya de Invierno”. This transfer will be CLP120,000 and is expected to cover 7.5 million people.^{550, 551}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	[January 11, 2023] The government of Chile announced a vertical expansion to the to the existing Subsidio Protege conditional cash transfer program aimed at providing cash transfers to working mothers of newborn children up to 5 years of age. The benefit size of CL\$200,000 per month for three months. The window for application closed March 31, 2023. ^{552, 553}
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	On April 25th, the government announced an increase in the minimum wage by 14.3% to try and keep up with rising inflation. Starting May 1st, the monthly minimum wage will be

		\$380,000 (Chilean peso) and will rise to \$400,000 on August 1st. Additionally, if inflation rises by more than 7% by December of 2022, then the monthly minimum wage will increase to \$410,000 starting January of 2023. [January 2023] The inflation rose above 7%, therefore the minimum wage has been set at CL\$410,000 a month. ^{554, 555}
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

China

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>On March 6, 2022, China's Finance Ministry has allocated an additional \$6.59 billion in agricultural subsidies. China will allocate 41.639 billion yuan (\$6.59 billion) in subsidies in 2022 for agricultural insurance premiums, up 30.8% from a year earlier, the finance ministry said in another report.^{556, 557}</p> <p>On May 5, 2022, China pledged US\$1.5b in grain farmer subsidies to offset soaring production costs. The one-off subsidy aims to support summer harvest and autumn sowing. Spring planting disruptions caused by Covid-19 curbs and war in Ukraine weigh on Chinese wheat output forecasts.⁵⁵⁸</p> <p>On June 16, 2022, The Central Government allocated 673 million yuan of disaster relief funds for agricultural production. The funds are mainly used to support 25 provinces (autonomous regions and municipalities) including Jilin, Heilongjiang, Jiangxi, Fujian, Hunan, Guangdong, Guangxi, etc., to purchase pesticides, pesticides, and insecticides required for the prevention and control of rice and corn diseases and insect pests, locusts in agricultural areas, and red fire ants. Appropriate subsidies will be given to medical equipment and supplies and services for the development of unified defense and governance operations.⁵⁵⁹</p> <p>On April 25, 2022, The Ministry of Finance issued 1.6 billion yuan of funds for agricultural production and water conservancy disaster relief, and implemented the new wheat "one spray and three prevention" subsidy policy to support 22 provinces (autonomous regions and municipalities) including Hebei, Jiangsu, Anhui, Shandong, and Henan. Subsidies are given to "one spray and three prevention" measures such as spraying insecticides, fungicides, plant growth regulators, and foliar</p>

		<p>fertilizer mixtures during the wheat growth period to prevent crop diseases and insect pests, prevent dry hot wind, and prevent premature aging, and promote stable and increased wheat production.⁵⁶⁰</p> <p>On March 11, 2022, the central government allocated a total of 30 billion yuan in two installments to provide one-off subsidies and one-off subsidies for agricultural materials to farmers who grow grains. An additional 10 billion RMB has been decided to be provided on August 24.^{561, 562, 563}</p>
	Fees subsidies	<p>On May 2, 2022, China announced that EV buyers will receive subsidies from local governments aiming to bolster the industry. People who retire a car registered in the city more than 1 year ago and purchase a new energy vehicle by the end of 2022 will receive a subsidy of as much as 10,000 yuan (\$1,499). On Feb 1, 2023, the Shanghai municipal government announced the extension of its EV subsidy program launched last May in the wake of a months-long city-wide lockdown. Consumers will continue to receive rebates of RMB 10,000 (\$1,482) per car for any trade-in of internal combustion vehicles for EVs until June 30, as part of a stimulus package aimed at propping up the local economy.^{564, 565}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On Feb 20, 2023, Beijing government announced that it will will give out a \$6 monthly cash subsidy to low-income residents to cushion the impact of rising food prices. More than 300,000 people on low incomes will each receive a cash payment of 40 yuan (about \$6) per month. The first payment will be given out later this month and it's unclear for how long they will continue.⁵⁶⁶</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	On May 18, 2022, The National Development and Reform Commission, in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance, has announced that the central government will invest 6.6 billion yuan in cash-for-work in 2022, leveraging various local funds of about 1.2 billion yuan, and supporting the implementation of more than 1,800 cash-for-work projects in various regions, which will drive more than 130,000 people. It is expected that the local people participating in the construction of the project will receive more than 10,000 yuan per capita for labor services. ⁵⁶⁷
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On October 11, 2021, China has tightened regulations on fertilizer exports. There is a new requirement of inspection before exporting the fertilizers. ^{568, 569} On 2 October 2022, China imposed export ban corn starch. ⁵⁷⁰
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On August 19, 2022, the government decided that new EV purchase tax policy, which has been postponed twice and

		expired at the end of 2022, will be exempted. The implementation will be postponed until the end of 2023, and an additional 100 billion yuan of tax exemption is expected. ⁵⁷¹
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Colombia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	Colombia already has energy subsidy measures in place for the more vulnerable populations dating back several years. The Ministry of Energy and Mining announced on March 4, that it had already given 600 million Colombian Pesos in subsidies for energy. This shows a significant increase in the amount of subsidies so far this year. In 2021, 1.4 billion was administered as subsidies. [Update] In June, the government announced the new budget and indicated that it would gradually raise prices for gasoline by removing subsidies in order to minimize the fiscal deficit. This indicates a reduction in government spending on fuel subsidies. The dismantling of fuel price subsidies is the result of the fiscal pressure that this mechanism is generating in the government's finances. [January 2023] The government of Colombia announced the total expenditure on fuel subsidies through the stabilization fund called FPEC. In 2022 the government spent 10.3 billion Colombian pesos. This measure is still ongoing but the government is attempting to limit government spending so the subsidy is being gradually diminished. ^{572, 573, 574, 575}
	Food subsidies	[August 11] The "Law against Hunger" seeks to make food available to the vulnerable population at 50% of its commercial price through a subsidy (monetary transfer) for the purchase of a series of selected foods. "The initial basket of products is proposed: rice, precooked flours, eggs, vegetable oil, pasta, and panela. Later: powdered milk, sliced bread, and potato, short-circuit products such as bananas, fresh vegetables, fresh milk and fruits" (it occurred in the inflationary context, but its purpose is not that). ⁵⁷⁶
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On September 16th, the government announced a short and long term plan to reduce electricity utility bills for consumers. This plan is called Pacto por la Justicia Tarifaria. In the short term, this involves extending periods of payment for loans and machinery on the part of electric companies, and giving electric

		generating and electric distributing companies the option to renegotiate contracts in the interest of lowering prices for consumers. In the long term, this involves the controlling of rate increases so as to allow for rates to increase by less than 0.6% or decrease (before the rates had to increase by at 0.6%), and update rates with more current inflation rate information (currently using 2020 data). The long term plan will go into force in 5 months. ⁵⁷⁷
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>[August 29] The "Eat is first" program of the Antioquia compensation fund consisted of the delivery of a bonus of about 43,000 COP to about 17,000 families in the same region. The last transfer is set to be distributed January 27th, 2023. This money can only be used for the purchase of certain food products at participating grocery stores. This is a Comfama private initiative.⁵⁷⁸</p> <p>[December 15, 2022] The government of Colombia announced a 20% increase in the transportation subsidy which acts as a cash transfer for those making minimum wage. This is intended to supplement the minimum wage. This transfer is of 140,000 colombian pesos and will be added to the minimum wage so that the "actual" minimum wage is at 1,300,000 colombian pesos.⁵⁷⁹</p>
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	

	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[December 15, 2022] The government of Colombia announced an increase of 16% to the minimum wage to go into effect in 2023. The new minimum wage will be \$1,160,000 colombian pesos. ⁵⁸⁰
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On June 4, 2022, Colombia announced the reduction of customs duties on some 200 products to try and reduce the cost of necessary imported goods. This is done by removing the value of the ships and cargo from the calculation of the customs duty. This reduction of the import tax is set to last for six months. ⁵⁸¹

Comoros

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On 5 April, 2022, Comoros issued an order to limit the prices of certain food item, such as sugar, flour, condensed milk, oil, sardines, concentrated tomato, mineral water, beef, and chicken, are subject to a floor price and a ceiling price. ⁵⁸²
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On 5 April, 2022, Comoros announced that free transportation will be available for farmers to transport local agricultural products to Moroni, Mutsamudu and Fomboni. ⁵⁸³
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On Oct 22, 2022, African Development Bank Group has approved a €5.76 million (US\$5.6m) grant to the Comoros to increase food production and enhance the resilience of its food system. The grant funds will come from the African Development Bank's Transition Support Facility, a mechanism to help fragile African states consolidate peace, build resilient institutions, stabilize their economies, and lay the foundations for inclusive growth. Under the Emergency Agricultural Production Support Project, the grant will support intensified production of maize, potatoes, and sweet potatoes through the use of climate resilient certified seeds and varieties. The funding will also help boost poultry production and the supply of eggs and chicken for consumption. Agricultural producers in the country will receive 270 tons of maize and potato seeds and 300,000 sweet potato vines. They will also receive 75 tons each of DAP binary fertilizer, NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) fertilizer and urea fertilizer, as well as phytosanitary products. Under the project, farmers will also take delivery of four tractors and 20 power tillers. Sixteen laying and broiler

		<p>houses will be built to house 160,000-day-old chicks (broiler and laying). More than 14,000 households, about 70,000 people, living on the country’s three islands—Grande-Comoros, Anjouan and Mohéli – will benefit from the project.⁵⁸⁴</p> <p>On November 18, 2022, the World Bank provides a grant of US\$9.5 million to Comoros to mitigate the effects of the economic shocks from food and fuel price increases on poor and vulnerable urban and rural households through temporary income support. It would provide Social Cash Transfers (SCTs) to support poor and vulnerable households avoid a significant erosion of their living conditions and human capital, given the adverse effects of decreasing purchasing power and consumption. Temporary income support will be provided in the form of UCTs, fixed at the current safety net amount equivalent of 25,000 KMF (around US\$55) per household per transfer, for an estimated maximum period of twelve months, and paid quarterly through mobile money or through a microfinance institution, to the extent possible. The coverage is expected to reach a total of 165,000 beneficiaries which represent 33,000 households, of which around 45 percent are in urban areas and 55 percent in rural areas. A combination of geographical, community-based and Proxy-Means Test (PMT) mechanisms will be used in a complementary way to identify beneficiaries and minimize exclusion and inclusion errors. Validation of enrolled beneficiaries will be done through community visits, processing of potential complaints, and public meetings. Households targeted in this component will benefit from a multi-faceted Accompanying Measures (AMs) package to complement cash transfers.⁵⁸⁵</p>
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	

	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	On Oct 22, 2022, African Development Bank Group has approved a €5.76 million (US\$5.6m) grant to the Comoros to increase food production and enhance the resilience of its food system. Besides the inkind agricultural inputs, about 10,780 producers will receive training in the production, processing and conservation of maize, potatoes, and sweet potatoes. Further, 3,220 poultry farmers will be trained in breeding techniques and poultry management. Lastly, the project will establish a guarantee fund for producers of agricultural inputs and feed importers. ⁵⁸⁶
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Congo, Dem. Rep.

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	An audit of the price structure is planned, along with gradual adjustments to fuel price and targeted social transfers. Raising fuel prices and eliminating the subsidy to foreign airline companies will reduce arrears build up in 2022, at set the subsidy at 0.5 percent of GDP in 2022. The 2022 subsidies projections are estimated to be contained at about US\$300 million (0.5 percent of GDP). ⁵⁸⁷
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On July 15, 2022, the African Development Bank Group approved \$13.48 million in mixed financing to shore up food production in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), under the African Emergency Food Production Facility. The funds, comprising a loan of \$7.56 million and a \$5.94 million grant from the Transition Support Facility, will be used to acquire seeds and fertilizers for 22,000 vulnerable farming and rural households whose livelihoods have been impacted by the collateral effects of the war in Ukraine. The project will increase agricultural yields and help build the capacity of key research institutions involved in the seed sector. It will provide 22,000 smallholder farmers with fertilizers and improved seeds that are resistant to climate change. The project will positively impact the food security of 22,000 farming households by enabling 11,000 hectares to be sown with rice, maize and cassava. It will also help to strengthen the resilience of households by increasing incomes and improving living conditions of smallholder farmers.

		The project will provide seeds from agricultural research centers, including 99 tons of maize, 120 tons of rice and 8500 linear meters of cassava, as well as 2,400 tons of fertilizer to improve crop yields on 11,000 hectares of land (4,800 hectares for maize, 4,800 for rice and 1,400 hectares for selected smallholders producing cassava). The project will be implemented in 11 provinces of the DRC: Haut-Lomami, Kasai, Kasai Central, Kasai Oriental, Lomami, Kongo Central, Kwilu, Maniema, Nord-Kivu, Sud-Kivu and Tshopo. ⁵⁸⁸
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Congo, Rep.

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	<p>March 30, 2022, Congo, Rep. announced the establishment of a resilience fund to subsidize the import of certain basic products not manufactured in the country.⁵⁸⁹</p> <p>The government announced control of the prices of necessities.⁵⁹⁰</p> <p>On October 12, 2022, Congo's Ministry of Finance released a note saying that it had paid around \$430 million in fuel subsidies but still needed to settle bills amounting to \$160 million to avoid nation-wide fuel shortages that hit the country in September. It also mentioned that for each liter of petrol purchased, the state pays 1,700 Congolese francs (\$0.83).⁵⁹¹</p> <p>In December 2022, in response to the rise in food prices in the Republic of Congo announced a price control on basic necessities.⁵⁹²</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	

	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 4, 2022, Democratic Republic of Congo announced VAT reduction to 8% for essential food items (from standard 18%).⁵⁹³</p> <p>On March 4, 2022, Democratic Republic of Congo announced VAT exemption for fuel oil market supplies.⁵⁹⁴</p> <p>In October 2022, in response to the rise in food prices in the Republic of Congo exempted customs duties on imported items.⁵⁹⁵</p>

Costa Rica

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On May 22nd, the government announced new measures to try and reduce the price of gasoline and diesel in Costa Rica. One of these measures is to change the calculation of the price for diesel. This will result in a decrease of 5.5 per cent for the price of diesel per liter. ⁵⁹⁶
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On July 6th, the government announced a new agriculture subsidy for small scale rice farmers (less than 100 hectares) worth 3 million colones in total. This will help boost production for rice and reduce costs for consumers as well as help small scale farmers compete with big companies. ⁵⁹⁷
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	To cushion the impacts of inflation on the poor, the government of Costa Rica has announced a temporary cash transfer program directed to families that are not benefiting from regular cash transfers; classified as poor or extreme poor by the national social registry (SINIRUBE); and have at least one member in the following categories: person with disability, elderly, underage children and/or are female headed households. The transfer will equal 60,000 colones per household per month – approximately \$95- (which equals the value of the monthly per capita food basket used to measure extreme poverty) for a period of three months, to an estimated number of 111,000 households. The Government is considering an extension of two additional months if inflation persists, depending on the country’s fiscal capacity (the estimated cost of the first three months of implementation is of 20,000 million colones (\$31.5 million), equivalent to about 3 percent of social expenditure). ^{598, 599}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On July 6th, the government announced the reduction in the import tax for milled rice from 36% to 5% in order to keep prices lower for consumers.⁶⁰⁰</p> <p>On August 3rd, the government announced a new price ceiling for fuel through the reduction of taxes. The price ceiling proposal is of 900 colones for one liter of gasoline and 800 for a liter of diesel.⁶⁰¹</p> <p>[November 9, 2022] The government of Costa Rica announced a new reduction on VAT for a variety of products within a basic basket of goods. This will see the reduction from the established 13% VAT to 1% for these products. This includes some 235 different products. It went into effect on February 1, 2023. This</p>

		measure changes the list from an existing measure established in 2019, 58 new products are being added and 35 are being dropped from the list. ⁶⁰²
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Côte d'Ivoire

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	Since early 2022, Côte d'Ivoire has been subsidizing prices at the pump. In Cote d'Ivoire, for each liter of diesel purchased at 615 CFA francs, the state contributes 469 CFA francs. The subsidy is 285 CFA francs for each liter of premium gasoline sold at 735 CFA francs. On February 1, 2023, the government announced that the fuel subsidy costed it 700 billion CFA francs since Jan 2022.. ⁶⁰³ , ⁶⁰⁴
	Food subsidies	March 9, 2022, In order to contain the rise in certain consumer products and preserve consumer purchasing power, Côte d'Ivoire has increased the number of products and services whose prices are regulated from 4 to 21. The government capped the prices of 21 products, including consumer products, for a period of three months both at production and at distribution. These products concerned are bread flour, baguette, beef, pork and mutton, refined table oil, local rice. The government, still under the measures, also decided to establish the principle of prior information and consultation, before any increase in the price of consumer goods, for a period of 6 months. On November 2022, as part of the budget, the government extends the price control on a range of products such as rice, sugar, milk, tomato paste, pasta, beef and palm oil. ⁶⁰⁵ , ⁶⁰⁶
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	March 9, 2022, Côte d'Ivoire capped the prices of building materials, transport rates, house rents in social housing, public water and electricity tariffs and internet service access tariffs. The program is valid for 3 months. ⁶⁰⁷
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	August 6, 2022, Côte d'Ivoire announced extension of the list of housing allowance beneficiaries to include every civil servant and state personnel. The housing allowance has also been increased to XAF20,000 (US\$31) monthly. The measures announced on 6 August 2022, represents an additional effort by the State of approximately CFAF 227 billion per year to improve the working conditions of civil servants, State agents, and the

		<p>Defense Forces and security. N.B. the expenditure here only represents the delta and not the total.^{608, 609}</p> <p>August 6, 2022, Côte d'Ivoire announced monthly transport and family allowance has also been increased from XOF2,500 (US\$3.8) to XOF7,500 (US11.6) per child for every civil servant and state personnel. The measures announced on 6 August 2022, represents an additional effort by the State of approximately CFAF 227 billion per year to improve the working conditions of civil servants, State agents, and the Defense Forces and security. N.B. the expenditure here only represents the delta and not the total.^{610, 611}</p> <p>August 6, 2022, Côte d'Ivoire increased family allowance to XOF5,000 (US\$7.7) per child for state pensioners.⁶¹²</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On April 7, 2022, as part of the strengthening of the fight against the high cost of living, Côte d'Ivoire provided agricultural inputs to women in the agricultural sector from the Marahoué region. It included seeds from market gardeners and rice, fertilizer, ricycles, trucks, tractors, mini-harvesters, and thresher-winnowers. The expenditure on the measure is over 2 billion CFA francs.⁶¹³</p> <p>On July 15, 2022, AfDB has granted a loan of €151.18 million to Côte d'Ivoire to implement its Emergency Food Production Plan. The plan is also supported by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to the tune of €68.14 million. This funding will enable Côte d'Ivoire to increase its national production of rice, maize and cassava, to cope with soaring food prices. Certified climate-resilient hybrid seed varieties will be obtained from local seed producers and distributed to the country's farmers. The program will also offer support for</p>

		supervisory opportunities, access to information and the establishment of an agro-climatic early warning system in flood-prone areas. Besides seed distribution, the program will also support the procurement of 56,096 tons of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium fertilizers and 28,048 tons of urea. The program will also strengthen access to financing mechanisms to improve the accessibility of agricultural inputs and good farming practices through its dissemination services. The program will benefit approximately 800,000 small farmers of whom 30% are women, including rural and vulnerable populations, young people, aggregators, distributors and vendors of agricultural inputs. ⁶¹⁴
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	March 9, 2022, Côte d'Ivoire imposed the requirement of prior authorization for the export of any food product to foreign countries. In particular the plantain banana, yams, local rice, cassava and its derivatives, in particular attiéké, and maize and its derivatives. ⁶¹⁵
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Croatia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development announced that the government would adopt a directive on April 17 to buffer the fuel price hike by doing away with the obligation for distributors to mix biofuel with diesel and petrol until the end of the year. The government assessment was that it would enable distributors to reduce prices by about HRK 0.50.⁶¹⁶</p> <p>On 17 October 2022, the government adopted a new Regulation establishing the highest retail prices of petroleum products at the level as it has been for the previous two weeks: eg HKR 10.72 (€1.42)/liter for gasoline; HKR 12.3 (€1.6)/liter for diesel; HKR8.49 (€1.18)/liter for blue diesel. [2 January 2023] The government determined that the highest retail prices are calculated according to the base price of fossil fuel in the previous 14-day period, with a limited margin of 0.0995 EUR/l (0.75 kn/l) for diesel and gasoline fuel, and 0.0531 EUR/l (0.40 kn/l) for blue diesel, and in the amount of 0.8229 EUR/kg (6.20 kn/kg) for the mixture propane - butane for bottles, or 0.3716 EUR/kg (2.80 HRK/kg) for large containers.^{617, 618}</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>[8 August 2022] Basic food staples also saw a price regulation by the Croatian government, like oil, flour, sugar, pork, chicken and milk, lowering current prices by 30% and capping it at that price.⁶¹⁹</p> <p>[8 September 2022] Support for student centers so that students meals price remain unchanged from HRK 6.50. Value of the measure: HRK 75 million (EUR 9.95 million)⁶²⁰</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>[8 September 2022] Aid for rising costs to fisherman, growers and processors in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. Number of users is 700 and the value of the measure amounts to HRK 240 million (EUR 31.9 million).⁶²¹</p>

		<p>[15 March 2023] Aid to compensate for rising costs for more than 55 thousand agricultural producers. Value of measure: 26 million euro.⁶²²</p>
	<p>Fees subsidies</p>	<p>In late February, Croatia government presented a €636 million package to mitigate the growth of energy prices. The package aims to contain energy price increases to 9.6 percent for electricity and 20 percent for gas.⁶²³</p> <p>[8 September 2022] Cheaper electricity is provided at the level of universal service for household with an average price of €62/MWh. Applies to: kindergartens, schools, colleges, institutes, libraries, museums, hospitals, health institutions, homes for the elderly and infirm, etc., associations, religious communities, parish offices, etc., municipalities, cities, counties, utility companies - water and drainage systems. The value of the measure is HRK 1 billion (EUR 132.7 million).⁶²⁴</p> <p>[8 September 2022] The amount of support directly on the bill is 10 Lipa per kWh, which is about 20% of the projected price of €66 per MWh, and the discount is shown on the bill as a separate item. The suppliers send the request for compensation for the discount to the Ministry of Economy, which settles it every month from April 2022 to March 2023. [15 March 2023] Direct discount on the bill for households that use gas: 0.0133 €/kWh (13.30 €/MWh). The measure is valid from April 1, 2023 until March 31, 2024, for a cost of 95 million euro.^{625, 626, 627}</p> <p>[8 September 2022] For half-yearly consumption of up to 250,000 kWh (from October 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023), cheaper price of electricity at a single tariff is HRK 0.5295/kWh. For half-yearly consumption above 250,000 kWh, according to the single tariff, the price of HRK 1.356210/kWh was determined and the average price is €180/MWh.⁶²⁸</p>

		<p>[8 September 2022] Unchanged unit price of thermal energy for all thermal systems in the 2022-2023 heating season. For households and entrepreneurs in central (CTS) and closed (ZTS) thermal systems, the price per kWh does not change. The measure covers 159,000 customers and over 98% of delivered thermal energy. Value of the measure: HRK 1.475 billion (EUR 195.8 million).⁶²⁹</p> <p>[8 September 2022] Limited prices of liquefied petroleum gas (propane-butane). Due to the increase in prices, margins will be limited next week and the price of liquefied petroleum gas will be reduced. [January 2023] Extended until 31 January 2023. [March 2023] The support amount is set at 0.0351 €/ L for fuel oil.^{630, 631}</p> <p>[8 September 2022] Measures related to energy efficiency of houses and apartment buildings. Performance of improvement works: thermal outer envelope; installation of modern energy systems; increase in earthquake and fire resistance of the house; accessibility for disabled people; charging stations for electric vehicles. For family houses the number of users is 10,000 and the amount of the measure is up to HRK 500 million. For multi-apartment buildings, the number of users: 300 and the amount of the measure is up to HRK 500 million.⁶³²</p> <p>On 8 September 2022, the government announced a 21 billion kuna (€2.8 billion) package that introduced a cap on energy prices. From 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023, households will pay €59/MWh, or €88/MWh when consuming above 2,500 kW. The value of the measure is HRK 3.108 billion (EUR 412 million).^{633, 634}</p> <p>[March 2023] It is extended the compensation for the cost of purchasing firewood for households in the amount of 20% of the price per square meter. Users of guaranteed minimum compensation</p>
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		<p>have priority in supply. 35,000 users are covered by this measure at a cost of 4 million euro.⁶³⁵</p> <p>[15 March 2023] Subsidies for the use of renewable energy sources for farmers. The goal is to increase energy independence and reduce production costs by investing in renewable energy sources to meet one's own needs for electricity or heat. Eligible users are: an agricultural holding with an economic size of €3,000 – €250,000; micro, small and medium enterprises registered for the processing of agricultural products. The amount of support amounts to: 15 thousand to 300 thousand euros up to 65% of eligible costs; up to 80% for young farmers. Value of the measure: 10 million euro.⁶³⁶</p> <p>[March 2023] 69,000 people in the status of an endangered energy buyer will have the right to settle the costs of electricity, gas or thermal energy. The status of an endangered energy buyer is held by beneficiaries of personal disability benefits, guaranteed minimum benefits (ZMN), national benefits for the elderly, financial benefits for unemployed Croatian veterans. The monthly fee is increased from April 1, it will be €70 (it was €66). Cost of measure: 36 million euro.⁶³⁷</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[8 September 2022] The coverage of persons in the status of an endangered buyer of energy products has been increased from 65 to 70 thousand (users of the guaranteed minimum compensation, personal disability benefits and other groups). For vulnerable buyers of energy products and foster parents, the previously increased monthly fee from HRK 200 (€26.54) to HRK 400 (€53.09) is increased to HRK 500 (€66.36). Until March 31, 2023.⁶³⁸</p> <p>[8 September 2022] Beneficiaries of the guaranteed minimum benefit will be provided with the cost of housing, communal fees, heating and water services, until March 31, 2023.⁶³⁹</p>

		<p>[8 September 2022] One-time fee for pensioners. Energy supplement for 690,000 pensioners with a pension of up to HRK 4,360 (€578.67). Average transfer amount is 102.55 euro. Amount of the measure: HRK 450 million (€59.7 million).</p> <p>[March 2023] One-time financial aid for pensioners, an allowance for nearly 696,000 pensioners with a pension of up to HRK 4,360. Average benefit of 80 euro. Cost of measure: 64.2 million euro. ⁶⁴⁰, ⁶⁴¹</p> <p>[8 September 2022] Payment of monthly cash income for unemployed persons on 1 September 2022 of HRK 250 per month (€33.18). Duration of the measure is for October, November and December 2022. Value of the measure: HRK 65.8 million (EUR 8.7 million).⁶⁴²</p> <p>[8 September 2022] Payment of special cash income for beneficiaries of child allowance, with average transfer size of 92.88 euro depending on number of children (from 39.8 eur for one child to 145.99 eur for 5+ children). Beneficiaries caught in the payment of child allowance in September exercise their right 2022, and those whose rights exercise procedure is ongoing. The financial support will be paid in October 2022. Estimated number of users: 130 thousand users. Estimated amount of the measure: HRK 62 million (EUR 8.2 million). [15 March 2023] 230,000 children will receive a special financial compensation. The amount of the allowance will vary according to the number of children in the household, from a minimum of 45 euro to a maximum of 160 euro. Cost of measure: 9 million euro. The financial support will be paid in April. ⁶⁴³, ⁶⁴⁴</p> <p>[8 September 2022] Larger scholarships and support for student centers. Student scholarships based on socio-economic status. 2,000 additional scholarships: (total 12,000 instead of 10,000). Scholarship increase to HRK 1,506.90 (EUR 200), instead of</p>
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		<p>HRK 1,200 (159 euros). Value of the measure: HRK 45 million (EUR 5.97 million).⁶⁴⁵</p> <p>[22 December 2022] One-time financial aid for the unemployed: EUR 100 one-time compensation for 60,000 unemployed persons. It is intended for persons registered in the register of unemployed persons of the Croatian Employment Service on March 1, 2023 in order to mitigate the increase in the cost of living. Cost of measure: 6 million euro.^{646, 647}</p> <p>[22 December 2022] The government announced the continuation of the package of measures that have lasted for almost two years, including the use of the A11 Zagreb-Sisak highway without paying tolls.⁶⁴⁸</p> <p>[15 March 2023] One-time monetary compensation of 150 euro covering 167,000 vulnerable buyers of energy products and recipients of allowances for assistance and care, beneficiaries of financial compensation for unemployed Croatian veterans. Cost of measure: 25 million euro.⁶⁴⁹</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>[March 2022] Transfers to vulnerable groups: coupons for energy to elderly poor, pensioners. The package from Croatia government aims to address the most vulnerable energy customers, estimated to be over 90,000. This extends the number of eligible people who receive vouchers for both electricity and gas bills. For them social transfers were increased from HRK 200 to 400. The annual amount of costs for this measure is about HRK 300 million. [8 September 2022] For vulnerable buyers of energy products and foster parents, the previously increased monthly fee from HRK 200 (€26.54) to HRK 400 (€53.09) is increased to HRK 500 (€66.36). Until March 31, 2023.^{650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655}</p>

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[8 September 2022] Increase in the lowest pension. Regular adjustment of all pensions twice a year of 3% for more than 278,000 beneficiaries from January 1, 2023. Value of the measure: HRK 199 million (EUR 26.4 million). ⁶⁵⁶
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[1 January 2023] The minimum wage has been revised in Croatia, with effect from 01 January 2023. The minimum wage has increased from HRK 4,687.50 to HRK5,274.15 per month. ⁶⁵⁷
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	[8 September 2022] Higher tax-free amount of receipt. Recognizing the needs of young people, we have already made a decision to increase the tax-free amount of income for pupils and students from HRK 15,000 to HRK 24,000 (for 60%) who, during their education, want to join the labor market and want to gain work experience, as well as additional income. The mentioned measure also includes realized receipts in 2022. Value of the measure: HRK 246 million (EUR 32.6 million). ⁶⁵⁸

		<p>[8 September 2022] Non-taxable receipts. These measures open up space for entrepreneurs to stimulate employees through an increase in tax-free receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) occasional awards by 66.67% ii) monetary awards for work results by 50% iii) a gift for a child in kind and a gift up to 15 years of age by 66.67% (individually) iv) food allowance for employees by 20% v) allowance for the use of a private car for official purposes by 50% vi) future pensioners where tax-free income increases by 25% <p>Value of the measure: HRK 580 million (EUR 76.9 million).⁶⁵⁹</p>
	<p>Indirect tax</p>	<p>March 7, 2022, Croatia decided to lock margins on petroleum product transactions and to temporarily reduce excise duties on diesel and gasoline in order to lower fuel prices. Amendments to legislation on excise duties have reduced excise duties by HRK 0.20 per liter of unleaded gasoline for 90 days, and the reduction for diesel is HRK 0.40 per liter. [2 January 2023] The adoption of a new Regulation continues the further application of the measure to reduce the amount of excise duty, which the Government, through amendments to this Regulation, lowered on nine occasions during 2022 in order to moderate the increase in the retail price of energy products. [15 March 2023] To continue with the reduction in excise duties, the support amount is 0.1063 €/ L for unleaded motor gasoline and 0.0531 €/ L for diesel. The cost of the measure is 133 million euro.^{660, 661, 662}</p> <p>March 20, 2022, Croatia has permanently reduced VAT on gas from 25 to 13 percent. In addition, the rate for gas will temporarily fall to 5 percent, in the period from the beginning of April this year to the end of March 2023. [15 March 2023] 5% reduction has been extended until 31 March 2024, for a cost of 35 million euro.^{663, 664, 665}</p>

		<p>On July 28, 2022, Croatia adopted guidelines for saving energy in the Republic of Croatia for the period from August 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023, which, among other things, propose cheaper electricity tariffs (i.e., VAT).⁶⁶⁶</p> <p>[8 September 2022] In order to encourage the transition to renewable energy sources, VAT is abolished for the delivery and installation of solar panels. Users: households and the non-profit sector. Value of the measure: HRK 25 million (EUR 3.3 million).⁶⁶⁷</p> <p>[8 September 2022] In order to achieve energy security for the delivery of heating from thermal stations, VAT is reduced to 5%, which includes fees for the delivery of firewood, pellets, briquettes and wood chips until March 31, 2023. Users: households and entrepreneurs. Value of the measure : HRK 200 million (EUR 26.5 million). [March 2023] The measure is extended until March 31, 2024, for a cost of 35 million euro.⁶⁶⁸,⁶⁶⁹</p>
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Curaçao

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	In May 2022, the government announced the introduction of a fuel subsidy of 24 cents per liter. On August 15th it was extended and set to last for 3 months. On November 13, 2022 a decision will be made on whether to extend it further or make any changes. [November, 2022] This was extended again another 3 months to last until February 12, 2023. It has now ended as no new extension has been announced. ⁶⁷⁰ , ⁶⁷¹
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	

	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	April 5th, the government announced a reduction in the excise fuel tax by 25% in order to reduce the price of fuel paid by residents. Additionally, it will remove a cumulative OB sales tax. These two tax reductions will cost the government NAF \$27 million this year. ⁶⁷²

Cyprus

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On May 26, 2022, Cyprus is increasing grants up to 50 percent for households that put thermal insulation and solar panels on their roofs in a 20-million euro (\$21.39 million) scheme to push energy efficiency. This measure pertains to helping homeowners reduce electricity costs that have soared in the aftermath of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.⁶⁷³</p> <p>On July 28, 2022, Cyprus said that the state would absorb a sizeable chunk of cost increases in energy to buffer anticipated rises of up to 25 per cent in bills for households and businesses to the tune of €50 million in the autumn. The scheme will cover the period September-December, applying to electricity consumption on EAC bills from July through to October. The new package comes in addition to the packages already implemented, the cost of which exceeded €300 million. Petrides said the subsidy would cover both residential, commercial and industrial users of bi-monthly tariffs, thus supporting 449,000 households and 111,500 businesses. On February 22, 2023, subsidies for electricity bills were extended for another two months in a bid to tackle inflationary pressures. The budget amounts to €30 million for the bills expected in March and April, and concern energy consumption for the period of January and February. In an announcement, the ministry said that it had spent €400m so far as part of targeted interventions to mitigate the effects of the energy crisis and inflationary pressures.^{674, 675, 676}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	On April 2022, The Cyprus Council of Ministers approved a 1.5-million-euro subsidy scheme this week for purchases of solar

		power batteries, charging stations electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid cars and the installation of photovoltaic systems at homes. Apart from purchase of photovoltaic systems and EV charging stations, the scheme also covers the purchase of batteries to store energy generated by solar panels. Individuals who own EVs or plug-in hybrid cars are eligible. The subsidy is €750 per kilowatt covering the installation or the extension of an existing photovoltaic system, with a maximum amount of €1,500 per vehicle. The grants amount to €600 for the purchase of an EV or plug-in hybrid charging station, €450 for the upgrade of a home's electric installation, and €750/KW for the purchase or installation of a battery with a maximum amount of €2,000. ⁶⁷⁷
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Czech Republic

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>In June 2022, the government announced to be setting aside €1.1 bln to assist households with the energy bills during the heating season. The mechanism to pass these fundings to consumers will be for the State to pay in full the renewables surcharge from October to December 2023.⁶⁷⁸</p> <p>On March 6, 2022, Czech Republic planned to cap prices for petrol, diesel and other energy. [Update] On 27 September 2022, the government approved the new draft budget law that allocates CZK 100 billion (€4 billion) to cap the price of electricity and gas. For households prices are capped at 6 CZK (€0.24) per KWh of electricity (corresponding to €200/MWh) and 3 CZK (€0.12) for gas, and the changes should be implemented from November deposit payments. [Update] On 21 December 2022, the government also decided to cap the regulated part of the price of electricity and gas. According to the materials of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the compensation will amount to 22.6 billion crowns. The caps apply January 2023-end 2023.^{679,680, 681}</p>
	Food subsidies	On March 6, 2022, Czech Republic planned to cap prices for food and other raw materials. ⁶⁸²
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>June 1, 2022, Czech Republic has decided to introduce a so-called energy-saving tariff starting 1 October. This is intended to provide households with a fixed amount of support in order to enable them to pay their energy costs. A total of 30.5 bn crowns (approx. €1.3 bn) has been earmarked for this in the budget. [October 2022] This allowance will be reflected as a discount on the bill from the energy company. The final amount consumers pay depends on the energy consumption usage within each household, but the average amount of savings per heating season is expected to be around CZK 15,000 (€ 610).⁶⁸³</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>[June 2022] A one-time payment for children of 5,000 crowns (approx. €200) was approved in June. This regulation applies only to families whose annual gross income is less than 40,000 crowns (approx. €1,600). According to the ministry, 1.1 million households</p>

		<p>are entitled to the benefit. About 1.6 million children could receive it. Starting on 14 August 2022, families can apply online or at Czech Points. Expenditures should amount to about 7.8 billion crowns.^{684, 685}</p> <p>[June 2022] Households that use electricity for lighting, heating or cooking can receive a one-off support of up to CZK 11 000 from the state.⁶⁸⁶</p> <p>[1 April 2022] The government approved an increase in the living and subsistence minimum in response to the current household situation of high inflation and rising energy prices. The living and subsistence minimum increased by 10 % and affects some other social benefits. More money will also be given to those, who receive subsistence allowance, housing allowance, foster care allowance or extraordinary immediate assistance. The subsistence minimum is increased from CZK 2,490 to CZK 2,740 and the living minimum is increased from CZK 3,860 to CZK 4,250.⁶⁸⁷</p> <p>[August 2022] The contribution for housing will complement the subsidised energy tariff over the 2022-2023 heating season. You are entitled to a housing allowance if your housing costs (rent, electricity, gas, water, etc.) are higher than 30% (35% in Prague) of your net income. You can apply for it up to three months in advance and the average amount distributed is CZK 4,100 (about €168) per month.^{688, 689}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	

	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>[August 2022] The aid packed includes a 2,500-crown increase in pensions. [January 2023] All pensions have increased from January 2023 through regular valorisation. The average old-age pension increased by 825 crowns. With these adjustments, the average retirement pension reached the value of CZK 19,500. Due to the still high inflation, which in the period from July 2022 exceeded the 5% limit mainly thanks to the high inflation value in January 2023, pensions will be increased again from June 2023. The pension indexation formula calls for automatic increases if consumer prices since the last indexation have increased by more than 5 percent. After this extraordinary increase, the average old-age pension should already exceed the 20,000 CZK mark. 2.84 million pensioners are currently paid in the Czech Republic. More than 27% of the population receives some form of pension, of which the majority (83%) is the payment of old-age pensions.^{690 691}</p> <p>From 1 January 2023, Act No 323/2021, which introduces the so-called child-raising, enters into force. This increases the percentage amount of the retirement pension by a fixed amount of CZK 500 for each child that the (pensioner) insured has raised. The increase for each child, the so-called child-rearing allowance, will cover both retirement pensions awarded after 31 December 2022, as well as old-age pensions already being paid. Women will be informed of the increase in the percentage amount of the already paid old-age pension for child-raising together with the information on pension valorization from 1 January 2023. For men, an application must be submitted. Child-raising becomes part of the percentage amount for the old-age pension, which will subsequently be increased as a whole as part of future valorizations.⁶⁹²</p>
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
Labor Market		

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	From 1 January 2023, the minimum wage in the Czech Republic will increase by CZK 1,100 to CZK 17,300 per month. This applies to employees with a weekly standard working time of 40 hours. The minimum hourly wage will increase from CZK 96.40 to CZK 103.80. The average monthly wage will increase from CZK 38,911 to CZK 40,324 in 2023. ⁶⁹³
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On March 6, 2022, Czech Republic planned to provide discount for the taxpayer.⁶⁹⁴</p> <p>On April 25, 2022, it is reported that Czech Republic cancelled road taxes for cars, buses and trucks up to twelve tons for the whole 2022. The government sees this measure as helping small and medium-sized companies in particular, and the cancellation is intended to be permanent, and no payment obligation arises for these vehicles retrospectively for the whole year 2022. The legal advance payment waiver applies to all vehicles regardless of their weight.^{695, 696}</p> <p>[June 8, 2022] There has been some relief for haulers using vehicles weighing more than 12 tons. This support is only in the form of the option to defer the payment of the road tax, as the amendment abolished the tax only for low-weight vehicles. If the deferral is used, the road tax on these vehicles will only be paid on the basis of the road tax return to be filed for the entire year by 31 January 2023.⁶⁹⁷</p>
	Indirect tax	On March 6, 2022, Czech Republic planned to reduce excise duty or VAT on the prices of petrol, diesel and other energy, food and other raw materials. [July 2022] The Czech government has approved the lowering of excise duties on petrol and diesel by 1.50 CZK a liter. At present the tax on petrol is CZK 12.84 a liter and the tax on diesel is CZK 9.95 a liter. The new measure will be in place from the start of June to the end of September. [September 2022] Excise duty rates on

		<p>unleaded petrol, diesel and LPG have been reduced sharply from 1 April this year to cushion high fuel prices. This is a temporary measure that will expire at the end of this year. The government now proposes to maintain these reduced rates until 30 June 2023 as energy prices are still very high. The reduction is 17.3 cents for unleaded petrol, 11.1 cents for diesel and 4.1 cents per litre for LPG. From 1 July 2023, half of that reduction will be maintained. The increase in diesel excise duty provided for in the climate agreement will be postponed until 1 July 2023.^{698, 699, 700}</p>
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Denmark

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>In early September 2022, the Government announced a proposed intervention in the electricity market. The plan is to allow consumers to delay payment on their upcoming energy bills over a 5-year period for anything exceeding the level of their bills from last autumn. This loan scheme will create credit lines costing 6.05 billion euro for the Danish government. On Nov 1, 2022, the government announced that households and businesses can freeze their electricity bill payments for 12-months. When the freezing period of 12 months has expired, an interest-free year follows. Customers can then choose whether to pay the excess amount to the energy company, or whether to pay it off over a period of four years.^{701, 702}</p> <p>On August 26th, Denmark capped rent increases to 4% a year over the next two years to apply to existing and new rental agreements as well as rents that have been raised in recent months. Under law, landlords are allowed to raise rents up in line with inflation. Expected to affect 160,000 households who were going to have their rent increased.^{703, 704}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On September 08, 2022, Denmark adopted a bill to offset rising energy costs. Included is a second installment of DKK 2,500 tax-free to pensioners for a one time measure.⁷⁰⁵</p> <p>On September 08, 2022, Denmark adopted a bill to offset rising energy costs. Included is a one-off amount of DKK 2,000 tax-free to SU recipients who receive SU disability allowance or SU dependent allowance as single parents to be paid out by October 2022.⁷⁰⁶</p> <p>On September 08, 2022, Denmark adopted a bill to offset rising energy costs. Included is a one-off amount of DKK 2,000 tax-free to those receiving withdrawal benefits to be paid out at the beginning of 2023.⁷⁰⁷</p>

		<p>On March 30, Denmark approved one-off cash payout to families hard hit by high heating bills as a result of the energy crisis. The amount was increased from 3,750 to 6,000 DKK, and the amount of households to receive it increased from 300,000 to 419,000. The ‘heating cheques’ are set to arrive in August or September. This is an increase from a previous similar program from February. On the 10th of August, the heating check agreed in February was paid out to 400,000 households. This increased the cost of the measure by €190 million, to €320 mm. To receive the money, the homes had to be primarily gas heated and under a specified total income level (Households with a collective pre-tax income of under 706,000 kroner)^{708, 709, 710}</p> <p>On June 24, 2022, Danish lawmakers have agreed a cash handout to the elderly and other measures totaling 3.1 billion Danish crowns (\$439 million) to cushion the impact of soaring inflation and high energy prices, the finance ministry said on Friday. Elderly people on low incomes will each receive a tax-free handout of 5,000 crowns.</p> <p>On February 23, Denmark announced a winter inflation help package that provides 300 million kroner for low-income families with children, an existing subsidy, known as børnetilskud, set to expire March 1. This subsidy was introduced in 2019 and is given to low-income families such as those receiving the lowest form of unemployment benefit, kontanthjælp. The børnetilskud subsidy provides between 563 and 717 kroner per child per month, depending on the benefits received by parents. It is unknown whether families who lose the børnetilskud on March 1 will receive the new subsidy. Although it replaces the earlier scheme, criteria for its distribution are changed although families who received the old subsidy will also qualify for the new one, the government said.</p> <p>Families who receive the cash benefit are families in which one or both parents received benefits via the basic system of unemployment benefit, kontanthjælp, in January. Alternatively, parents who were under the connected return-to-work benefit ressourceforløbsydelse in January can also qualify.</p>
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	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	

	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On 24 June 2022, Denmark will temporarily reduce tax on electricity starting from the fourth quarter of this year as a means of "compensation to citizens for its rising energy prices". The tax cut will reduce the electricity tax by 4 ore (0.57 U.S. cents) per kilowatt hour (kwh) in the October-December period to 72.3 ore (10 U.S. cents), according to a cross-party agreement released Friday on the website of the Danish Ministry of Finance. The new policy will remain valid next year, slashing the electricity tax by 4.3 ore (0.61 U.S. cents) per kwh to 68.8 ore (9.8 U.S. cents). The agreement acknowledges that lower electricity tax will cost the state 475 million Danish kroner (67.4 million U.S. dollars) in revenue. On September 23, 2022, the government announced another reduction of tax on electricity. The measure, a part of a larger package, lowers the electricity tax from 69.7 øre per kilowatt-hour to 0.8 øre – equivalent to the minimum rate permitted by the EU – for the first six months of 2023. This measure alone is estimated to cost the Danish state 3.5 billion kroner, while the total cost of the package to the government is around five billion kroner.^{713, 714, 715}</p>

Djibouti

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On March 10, 2022, Djibouti implemented a subsidy on necessities and, control of the prices at which they are sold on the market. ^{716, 717}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On June 29, 2022, the World Bank allotted a grant of \$30 million to protect Djibouti's poor and vulnerable communities and to increase resilience to economic shocks. Out of which component 1 costs \$22 million and will support the horizontal scale-up of the national safety net program by providing targeted transfers in cash and in-kind to the poor and vulnerable households affected by drought, food, and fuel price increases. New coverage is expected to reach a total of 86,200 new beneficiaries (15,000 households) and 2,200 students. Of these, about 28,733 beneficiaries (approximately 5,000 are new urban households) who have access to bank accounts and will receive benefits through the account. A combination of geographical, community-based, categorical and Proxy-Means Targeting mechanisms will be used in a complementary way to identify beneficiaries and minimize exclusion and inclusion errors that may arise from inadequate coverage of the social registry and biases that result from community beneficiary identification. Support to target households will be provided for an estimated maximum of eight calendar quarters equivalent to 24 months and paid quarterly. The benefit level is fixed at the current safety net amount equivalent to Djiboutian Francs (DJF) 10,000 (approximately US\$56) per household per month for cash transfers. ⁷¹⁸
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	

	<p>Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)</p>	<p>On March 10, 2022, it was reported that Djibouti provided food support for the benefit of 10,000 families from the most modest community fringe of the society.^{719, 720}</p> <p>On June 29, 2022, the World Bank allotted a grant of \$30 million to protect Djibouti’s poor and vulnerable communities and to increase resilience to economic shocks. Out of which component 1 costs \$22 million and will support the horizontal scale-up of the national safety net program by providing targeted transfers in cash and in-kind to the poor and vulnerable households affected by drought, food, and fuel price increases. New coverage is expected to reach a total of 86,200 new beneficiaries (15,000 households) and 2,200 students. Of these, 57,467 beneficiaries (approximately 10,000 households) are located in rural households areas where the impacts of the crisis have been disproportionate and the delivery of benefits will be in-kind (in form of food) to respond to current emergency needs for consumption. A combination of geographical, community-based, categorical and Proxy-Means Targeting mechanisms will be used in a complementary way to identify beneficiaries and minimize exclusion and inclusion errors that may arise from inadequate coverage of the social registry and biases that result from community beneficiary identification. Support to target households will be provided for an estimated maximum of eight calendar quarters equivalent to 24 months and paid quarterly. The benefit level is fixed at the current safety net amount equivalent to US\$73 for in-kind transfers.⁷²¹</p>
	<p>Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)</p>	<p>On June 29, 2022, the World Bank allotted a grant of \$30 million to protect Djibouti’s poor and vulnerable communities and to increase resilience to economic shocks. Out of which component 1 costs \$22 million and will support the horizontal scale-up of the national safety net program by providing targeted transfers in cash and in-kind to the poor and vulnerable households affected by drought, food, and fuel price increases. New coverage is expected to reach a total of 86,200 new</p>

		beneficiaries (15,000 households) and 2,200 students. Of which, the 2,200 are students from extremely rural areas where providing meals at university sites remains challenging and sustaining studying without meals is of high concern. A combination of geographical, community-based, categorical and Proxy-Means Targeting mechanisms will be used in a complementary way to identify beneficiaries and minimize exclusion and inclusion errors that may arise from inadequate coverage of the social registry and biases that result from community beneficiary identification. Support to target households will be provided for an estimated maximum of eight calendar quarters equivalent to 24 months and paid quarterly. The benefit level is fixed at the current safety net amount equivalent to US\$73 for in-kind transfers. ⁷²²
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Dominica

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On September 6th, the government announced new price controls for fuel. This is accomplished through two measures, one being a government subsidy to the landing cost of gasoline and diesel of EC \$0.85 per gallon and EC\$0.21 per gallon respectively. ^{723, 724}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	

	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On July 27, 2022, Dominica announced a new budget which includes the elimination of VAT for electricity starting on August 1. This new measure sees an increase in the energy usage that will be considered free from VAT from an existing 100 kWh to 150 kWh. Usage above 150 kWh will still be charged a VAT. This applies to all users who get their electricity from Dominica Electricity Services (DOMLEC).^{725, 726}</p> <p>On September 6th, the government announced new price controls for fuel. This is accomplished through two measures, one is the waiving of the customs service charge (customs duty) on fuel.^{727, 728}</p>

Dominican Republic

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On March 7th, the President announced various measures to stabilize prices. One of these is a price freeze on all gasoline products to March 4th prices through the use of a subsidy. This will apply for as long as the price of a barrel of oil is between US\$85 and US\$115 according to the West Texas Index (WTI). This measure will last for a duration of 4 months and is expected to cost the government between 9.6 billion and 16 billion pesos for the 4 months. [February, 2023] This measure is still active, even though there is no recorded official extension, the measure is ongoing. As long as the world price remains high, the government intends to maintain this measure as active. As of February 2023, 35.5 billion pesos were reported to have been spent in 2022 on this measure alone. ^{729, 730}
	Food subsidies	On March 7th, the President announced various measures to stabilize prices. One of these measures is a subsidy on certain imported food items of up to 10%. These include: corn, wheat, soy, flour, and vegetable oil. This is set to last for 6 months. This is expected to cost the government 3 billion pesos. ⁷³¹ On April 9th, the government announced that there will be a price freeze on most food products so as to ensure everyone can afford it. ⁷³²
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	[27 February 2022] The government plans to incorporate 400,000 new households to the gas (LPG) cash transfer component (Bono Gas), reaching around 1.4 million households in 2022 and to top up the size of this benefit to RD\$470 per month per household (from RD\$228). This measure is estimated to cost RD\$ 4,382.14 million (US\$ 79.5 Million). ^{733, 734}
	Conditional cash transfers	[27 February 2022] Under the umbrella of the social assistance strategy and program (SUPERATE), the government plans to

		incorporate 300,000 new households to the conditional cash transfer nutrition and food component (Alimentate) due to higher food prices. The size of the transfer is RD\$1650 per month per household, up from RD\$825, according to SUPERATE administrative resolution 0023-2022 reaching around 1.65 million households by the end of 2022 with this cash transfer. This measure is estimated to cost RD\$ 4,950 million (US\$ 89.76 Million). ^{735, 736}
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	[December 11, 2022] The government of the Dominican Republic announced a temporary measure to restrict the export of flour for a period of one month in order to keep supply domestically and to try and lower the price. This is in the wake of a substantial increase of flour exports during the course of 2022 compared to 2021. ^{737, 738}
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>[April 27, 2022] The government of the Dominican Republic announced that it would reduce to 0% the customs duties for imports of a basket of goods (refined oil, butter, milk powder, canned goods, chicken, garlic, etc.) for a period of 6 months. This was negotiated with the private sector and reached an agreement for implementation starting in June of 2022 for 67 different products. This was expected to cost the government 267 million pesos. In October, it was announced that the measure would not be extended.^{739, 740}</p>

Ecuador

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On May 19th, Ecuador’s president announced a new price freezing mechanism for fuel which will keep the price of gasoline at US\$1.75 per liter and diesel at US\$1 per liter.⁷⁴¹</p> <p>In response to the demands of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) in the context of the indigenous protests of 2022, on June 30, 2022, the president signed the Decree 467 that establishes maximum fuel retail prices of up to USD 2.40 per gallon for Extra and Extra con Etanol and up to USD 1.75 for Diesel 2 and Diesel Premium. This represents a price reduction of USD 0.15 for each type of the fuels. The cost of the subsidy increases by USD 350 million, meaning that the total fuel subsidy (including domestic gas) will reach at least \$3.35 billion for the year 2022.⁷⁴²</p> <p>In response to the demands of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) in the context of the indigenous protests of 2022, on June 18, 2022, the president of Ecuador announced the signing of Decree 456 which establishes the subsidy of 50% of the cost of urea for small and medium agricultural producers as of July 1, 2022. The government is investing USD 27 million between July and December 2022 in the subsidy for the 50 kg bag of urea, which has an average price of more than USD 54. More than 100,000 farmers are expected to benefit from this measure.^{743, 744}</p>
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>In response to the demands of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) in the context of the indigenous protests of 2022, on June 18, 2022, the president of Ecuador announced the signing of Decree 456 which establishes the subsidy of 50% of the cost of urea for small and medium agricultural producers as of July 1, 2022. The government is investing USD 27 million between July and December 2022 in</p>

		the subsidy for the 50 kg bag of urea, which has an average price of more than USD 54. ⁷⁴⁵
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Egypt

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	<p>On March 21, 2022 Egypt’s Armed Forces, under the directives of the President, has launched a nationwide campaign to provide low-cost food commodities to help reduce the burden of hiking prices on Egyptians ahead of the holy month of Ramadan. The food commodities are available for purchase at 1,200 mobile outlets, 212 fixed outlets and 62 major outlets across the country. The Armed Forces distributed 1.5 million food ration boxes in the market with a discount reaching up to 60 percent as part of their continued efforts to supply basic food commodities at reasonable prices to meet the demands of the Egyptian people. (Update, July 2022), The President announced enhancing food security for poor families, mothers and children, by expanding the delivery of subsidized food commodities at half the cost, at a rate of 2 million boxes per month, to be distributed at the armed forces outlets. This is applicable for 6 months..^{746, 747}</p> <p>On March 22, 2022, the Egyptian government fixed the price of 1 kilogram of bread to 11.5 Egyptian pounds (\$0.63). The regulation applies to non-subsidized bakeries. Violators could face fines between \$5,500 and \$275,000 if caught. Egypt’s wheat supply has been significantly affected by the Russian-Ukraine crisis. Prior to the war, Egypt received around 80% of its wheat from the two countries, and prices have since skyrocketed. Egypt is one of the biggest wheat importers in the world.⁷⁴⁸</p> <p>The government launched Ahlan (Welcome) Ramadan Initiative to provide key staples and food commodities at low prices nationwide. They are 160 vendors taking part in this initiative offering discounts up to 30%. On January 15, 2023, the government opened the Ahlan Ramadan Initiative 3 months ahead of Ramadan and will last until the end of Ramadan towards the end of March^{749, 750}</p>

		On January 16, 2023, the government announced that it would provide pre-loaded cards for Egyptians who don't qualify for subsidized bread to buy 90 gram bread loaves at a discounted price (less than 1 EGP/\$.03 USD). ^{751, 752}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On March 21, 2022, the cabinet granted wheat farmers an incentive of an additional EGP 65 for each ardeb (1 ardeb is equivalent to 150kg) to encourage them to increase the quantities they sell to the supply ministry. ⁷⁵³
	Fees subsidies	On June 15, 2022, the government postponed a decision to increase electricity hikes starting July 1 by 6 months. On October 26, 2022, Government announced another freeze on electricity price hikes through June 2023. The government would bear the 10 billion EGP (\$533.9 million) cost of postponing the electricity price rises, Madbouly said, in addition to the cost of commodity price rises. Residential electricity bills had been set to rise by as much as 21% last July, as per the government's six-year roadmap (pdf) to restructure electricity prices by 2025. ^{754, 755}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>Egypt's National Alliance for Civil Development Work (NACDW) has allocated around EGP 2.4 billion to support 400,000 impoverished families on a monthly basis over one year amid the current global economic crisis. The NACDW will continue its social protection Wasl El-Khair initiative to provide nutritional, medical, and social care as well as economic empowerment opportunities to around five million families in 2022. On August, 3, 2022, the government allocated an additional EGP 1 billion.^{756, 757}</p> <p>On October 27, 2022, the government announced that it should distribute an EGP 300 bonus in November to public employees and pensioners. The amendment, approved by the House's Manpower Committee on Sunday, will cost the state treasury</p>

		EGP 48.4 billion in disbursements (about EGP 16.4 billion for state employees and EGP 32 billion for pensioners). ^{758, 759}
	Conditional cash transfers	On March 2022, the government announced the expansion of Takafol and Karama social protection program coverage to include an additional 450,000 households (around 2 million people) with estimated budget of EGP2.7 billion (around US\$150 million). On July 26th, 2022, the government gave directives to expand the number of families benefiting from the program by adding an additional one million families to the program, taking the number of the beneficiaries to more than 20 million citizens nationwide. On August 31, 2022, the government increased the number of families benefiting to 5 million families (around 22 million citizens) instead of 4.1 million families, an increase of 920,000 families, costing an additional EGP 3 billion. On March 2, 2023, Sisi also announced 25% increases to social safety net cash payments under the government's Takaful and Karama programme. Monthly payments for the programme's beneficiaries vary between EGP 406.25-686.25 per household, depending on the size.. ^{760, 761, 762, 763, 764}
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	[July 2022] The President gave directives to the Ministry of Awqaf, in partnership with the Ministry of Social Solidarity, to distribute sacrificial meat throughout the year. ⁷⁶⁵ In July 2022, the GoE announced disbursing exceptional aid to 9 million families at a total cost of about one billion pounds per month for the neediest families and pensioners, who receive a monthly pension of less than 2,500 pounds, as well as workers in the state's administrative apparatus who receive a salary of less than 2,700 pounds per month starting September 2022 for the next 6 months. The monthly disbursement is 100 EGP per month loaded onto ration cards and for the next six months in the form

		of rationed commodities. On August 31, 2022, Government ordered tripling of amount to 300 EGP monthly. ^{766, 767, 768, 769}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>On March 21, 2022, the government announced the allocation of EGP 190.5 billion to increase pensions by 13% (with a minimum of EGP 120 per pensioner). This will take effect in April instead of July. On March 3, 2023, the government announced that it will increase pensions by 15% as of April 2023 benefitting nearly 11 million people, at an estimated cost of EGP 55 billion. Pensions will be increased by a minimum of EGP 170 to a maximum of EGP 1,635.⁷⁷⁰</p> <p>In July 2022, the GoE announced disbursing exceptional aid to 9 million families for the next 6 months, at a total cost of about one billion pounds per month for the neediest families and pensioners, who receive a monthly pension of less than 2,500 pounds, as well as workers in the state’s administrative apparatus who receive a salary of less than 2,700 pounds per month.⁷⁷¹</p>
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	<p>In march 2022, minimum wage for public sector employees increased from EGP 2000 to EGP 2400, again in July 2022, from EGP 2400 to 2700 and in october 2022, from EGP 2700 to EGP 3000. On march 5, 2023, the government announced another increase in public sector wages starting April 1, all</p>

		<p>public sector employees will receive at least EGP1k minimum , and the monthl minimum wage will rise by at least 17% to 3.5k. Minimum wage for employees with MAs will get at least EGP 6k per month and PhDs, at least EGP 7k. The estimated annual cost of increasing the minimum wage for state workers and private cadres amounts to EGP 14bn.^{772, 773, 774}</p> <p>In January 2022, the government increased the minimum wage for private sector employees from EGP 2000 to EGP 2400. On December 29,2022, minimum wage for private sector employees increased to EGP 2700 (\$109) starting January 2023⁷⁷⁵</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On March 10, 2022, Egypt announced to ban the export lentils, pasta, wheat, flour and fava beans for a duration of three months starting from March 11, 2022. On June 8, 2022, Egypt extended this ban for another 3 months. The ban was lifted on September 14th, 2022.^{776, 777, 778}</p> <p>On March 12, 2022, Egypt announced to ban the exports of all kinds of vegetable oil and corn for three months starting from March 12, 2022. On June 10, 2022, Egypt decided to extend this ban for another 3 months. Ban was lifted on September 14th, 2022.^{779, 780}</p>
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On March 21, 2022, Egypt announced that income tax exemption limit has been increased by 25 percent from EGP 24,000 to 30,000 per individual. On March 19, 2023, Egypt raised the income tax exemption limit to 36,000 EGP.^{781, 782, 783}</p>
	Indirect tax	

El Salvador

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On April 4th, Congress approved a new fuel subsidy aimed at creating a price control for gasoline and diesel that is set to last two months. [September 28, 2022] the government announced a change in the price while maintaining a price control. The range will be between \$4.11 and \$4.30 depending on geographic location. ^{784, 785}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	On July 1st, the government announced a plan to increase the minimum salary by 20% starting in August. This plan is still awaiting full approval. ⁷⁸⁶

Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 14, 2022, El Salvador implemented various measures to curb the rising prices. One of these was the elimination of various taxes related to fuel. One of which was the Fondo de Estabilización para el Fomento Económico (FEFE) which was US\$0.16 per gallon of gasoline and is set to last for 3 months. The elimination of this tax alone is estimated to cost the government US\$11.5 million in lost revenue.⁷⁸⁷</p> <p>On March 11th, the government announced a package of measures set to reduce the effects of rising prices. One of these was the elimination of customs duties for some 20 basic necessity products, mainly food and fertilizer. This measure was set to last one year and expire in March of 2023. In June, the government added beef and cow meat products to the list of products that will have 0 customs duties until March 2023. As of September 6th, the government has lost USD \$16.8 million in potential revenue due to the waiving of the custom duty for these products.^{788, 789, 790}</p>

Estonia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	[January 2022] The natural gas price cap measure for household customers applied to January, February and March, with the cap set at 6.5 cents per kWh on gas consumption up to 2.75 mWh per month. The portion of bills exceeding this cap was compensated. [22 September 2022] Consumption of natural gas is capped at 2.6 MWh per household – above this threshold they would not receive any compensation. ^{791, 792, 793}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On October 14, 2021, Estonia announced an energy price subsidy for low-income families, worked out by the Ministry of Finance. The measure was designed to compensate 80 percent of the price increase of a specific energy type — either electricity, gas or heat — for families earning up to the average monthly wage. If the price of electricity would go above 60 euros per MWh, then that difference will be compensated directly to these families. Initially expected to reach 70,000 households with funds coming from the sale of CO2 emission credits, this was extended at the end of 2021 to include a wider group of households, bringing the number of beneficiaries to 380,000 and the total cost to 79 million euros. As of April 20th, Estonia has spent around 170 million euros in compensation for high energy prices. This sum is for some 7 measures which were implemented starting in October 2021 and were extended and expanded throughout this period. As of April 2022, nearly €10.5 million in support has been paid out for this measure in particular. [22 September 2022] The government announced that the draft state budget for 2023 considers an energy subsidy equal to €50/MWh of electricity for household consumers, and that it would cover 80% of price increases that go above €80/MWh (consumption of natural gas is capped at 2.6 MWh per household – above this threshold they would not receive any compensation). For gas and central heating people will be compensated for 80% of the price increases. There is no need to make any application for this. People will automatically have their bills reduced by this subsidy from October 2022. The measure is meant to run until the end of March 2023 and its cost is estimated at €4.158 million for the month of October 2022 alone and EUR 200 million for the entire period..^{794, 795, 796, 797}</p> <p>[January 2022]The compensation of electricity network fees proved the most expensive measure for the state. While the measure initially covered half the cost of network fees for all users, beginning in January, network fees were paid in full for institutions and</p>

		<p>businesses, bringing the total price tag of the measure, which expired at the end of March, to €103.7 million. Under this measure, a total of €12 million was paid out in October, €13 million in November, €15 million in December, and more than €20 million each month from January through March. Another €21.4 million was spent on compensating gas network fees for both household customers and business consumers. Gas network fees were covered in full for all users from December through March. Network fees were highest in December, costing a total of €6.4 million.⁷⁹⁸</p> <p>For the months of February and March, household customers received support in the total amount of €13.5 million, or €6.8 million and €6.7 million, respectively, to cover the increase in the cost of district heating. Household customers' district heating bills were compensated in the amount of 65 percent of the portion of heating bills to exceed October 2021 figures.⁷⁹⁹</p> <p>On 20 January 2022, the Estonian government approved a cap on electricity for households. The state paid €9.3 million in support to compensate for increased electricity costs during the months of January, February and March. The cap stood at 12 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) plus VAT for electricity consumption up to 650 kWh per month. This meant that if the cost of electricity either on the market or within a fixed-price package exceeded 12 cents per kWh, the state would compensate the rest. [February 2022] Household electricity consumers are also compensated for the average monthly price which exceeds 8 cents per kWh (exclusive of VAT), up to a maximum of 5 cents per kWh..^{800, 801}</p> <p>[February 2022] The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications devised a total of six measures, including district heating compensation for household customers. For the months of February and March, household customers received support in the total amount of €13.5 million, or €6.8 million and €6.7 million, respectively, to cover the increase in the cost of district heating. Household customers' district heating bills were compensated in the amount of 65 percent of the portion of heating bills to exceed October 2021 figures. [February 2023] Domestic consumers of district heating are also compensated for 80 percent of the cost of the electricity over and above €80 per megawatt-hour (exclusive of VAT). Compensation paid out to cover district heating costs amounted to €10.9 million between October and December 2022, and is forecast to rise to €16.2 million including VAT between January and March.^{802, 803}</p>
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		<p>[22 September 2022] In the 2023 national budget, the Government has included energy subsidies, which is EUR 50 per megawatt-hour of electricity for domestic consumers, 80% of which the Government will compensate for the price increases, which will go above EUR 80 per megawatt-hour.⁸⁰⁴</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[22 September 2022] The Government is increasing child benefits (the first and second child allowance and single parent's child allowance) to EUR 80, starting January 1st 2023. For this, in 2023 an additional approximately 164 million euros will be invested in increasing family benefits. By 2026, the added cost of family allowances will increase to approximately 226 million euros – a total estimated cost of 521 million euros..^{805, 806}</p> <p>[22 September 2022] The Government is increasing large family benefits by a full 50%. The monthly allowance for a family with many children will increase to 600 euros for 3–6 children, and 800 euros for 7 or more. Furthermore, the gradual discontinuation of the allowance for a family with many children as the children reach age 24 will go into effect on January 1st 2023, and this allowance will be indexed similarly to state pensions starting from April 2024. For a family with three children, the total amount of family allowances will be 860 euros per month next year.^{807, 808}</p> <p>[September 2022] The “universal service” for electricity is a form of direct support to households, SMEs that allows these groups to buy power at a fixed regulated price (currently ca. 154 euros/MWh.). All household consumers were eligible from 1 October 2022, and micro and SMEs, self-employed, foundations and non-profits from 1 November 2022. The program is designed to last until the end of April 2026. As of the end of December, Eesti Energia had 149,000 universal service customers.^{809, 810}</p> <p>[17 October 2022] In 2023, the state will invest 40 million euros in improving the availability and quality of general care services provided both institutionally as well as at home. The amount contributed from the state budget to local governments for general care services will be close to 57 million euros in 2024, and will increase to 62 million euros by 2026. Starting in July next year, there will be an option of offsetting care home accommodation cost by the average pension. Estimates for 2023 show that</p>

		<p>the average care home accommodation cost for a person with severe care needs will be 1300 euros/month, of which half will be paid by the local government, and the other half by the person themselves from the approximately 700-euro average pension estimated for April. Each family with a person requiring care will thereby save 6000 euros per year on average.⁸¹¹</p> <p>[17 October 2022] Starting in 2023, the state will invest an additional 12.3 million euros to support persons with special needs and children requiring foster care; this will be used to improve availability and to help service providers with the increased costs, including increased labor costs. Furthermore, the added funds will support increased quality of foster care and the training of adopting families, foster families and other foster care providers.⁸¹²</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>[22 September 2022] Pensions will increase significantly: next year, with the extraordinary pension increase and indexation, pensions should rise by more than €100, and the average pension will be exempt from income tax. [February 2023] The Ministry of Social Affairs has proposed an index value of 1.139 for the state pension in 2023 for approval starting from April 1. Indexing pensions will cost the state €245,8 million this year. [Note: the pension increase will benefit 323,000 retirees].^{813, 814, 815}</p>
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	<p>[22 September 2022] The government announced that teachers' salaries will rise by 23%. And the estimated average teacher's salary will be more than €2000. The jump in teachers' minimum salary is from €1,412 to €1,749. [18 January 2023] The minimum salary for preschool teachers' assistants will rise from €850 to €1050 from February 1, 2023. Heads of kindergartens and hobby schools in Tallinn can also expect a 15 percent average pay increase beginning on February 1, 2023.^{816, 817}</p> <p>[22 September 2022] Salaries are also going up in other priority areas, such as rescuers, social workers, police officers. The salary of a frontline worker and rescuer, which currently stands at a minimum of €1,190, will rise to €1,620. This means a pay rise of 36% and at least €430 more per month for every frontline rescuer next year. The pay rises for the emergency services, where staff will be paid EUR 1,631. In the police, the current minimum frontline wage of €1,575 will rise to €1,849. This means a 17% pay rise. This will ensure that next year the minimum wage of a police officer will be the Estonian average, i.e. the wage increase will be €274 per month, and in essence a police officer will receive at least two extra monthly salaries next year. There will be a significant increase in salaries in the Academy of the Interior, on average 25%.⁸¹⁸</p> <p>[17 October 2022] Estonia has included funding in the budget of the Estonian Health Insurance Fund for a future collective agreement, in order to provide a salary increase of at least 15% to healthcare workers next year. The increase in social tax collections and the contributions for non-working pensioners will provide approximately 273.3 million euros of extra healthcare funding.⁸¹⁹</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	[22 September 2022] As of 1 January, the income tax-free minimum will be €654 per month. This will also help the lowest earners. ⁸²⁰
	Indirect tax	

Eswatini

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On 28 July 2022, Eswatini announced payments for the input subsidy for farmers starting from 1 August 2022. Payments shall be done when the target has been reached or by the end of October 2022, whichever comes first. The payments shall be done at Eswatini bank and EPTC. The average projected cost for the packages is approximately E14000 for maize, E12000 for beans and E7000 for sorghum. These packages will cover an area equivalent to one hectare. The farmer is expected to contribute 35% and government will contribute the balance of 65%. N.B. that this shall only apply to this current season and from next year farmers are expected to contribute the normal 50%. Also, farmers can pay up to 3ha maximum compared to the 1ha maximum that was used in the past years. The prices are as follows: 1. Maize – E4900 (Farmer) and E9100 (Government); 2. Beans – E4200 (Farmers) and E7800 (Government); 3. Sorghum – E2450 (Farmer) and E4550 (Government). ⁸²¹
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Ethiopia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	In 2022, Ethiopian government provided 15 billion birrs (about 280 thousand USD) as fertiliser subsidies to farmers. ⁸²²
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On September 20th, 2022, the World Bank approved the Additional Financing of (\$37.5 million from CRW) for the Strengthening Ethiopia’s Adaptive Safety Net (SEASN) to alleviating unprecedented levels of food insecurity across Ethiopia due to multiple shocks including drought, conflict, desert locust infestation, floods, inflation and the impact of the war in Ukraine. Started in 2005, the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) – which the SEASN project supports - is the largest safety net program in Sub-Saharan Africa. It provides transfers (cash and food) to around 8 million chronically food insecure people during a normal year (when there are no large-scale shocks). It is co-financed by the Government of Ethiopia, the World Bank and nine other Development Partners including USAID and the European Union. The PSNP has proven to be an effective vehicle for scaling up safety net transfers vertically (extending duration of support to program beneficiaries) and horizontally (adding new transitory food insecure people who are not consistently covered by the program) through its shock response mechanism. Through the CERC, an additional 1.4 million beneficiaries will receive between three and four rounds of assistance (provided in monthly intervals). A total of 5.5-million-person months of transfer will be financed through this AF. Subsequent months of transfer will be supported by other financing sources (and possibly other operators). The resources will be used in Somali region (Siti, Fafan, Dollo, Korahe, Shebele, Afder, Liban, Dawa), Oromia region (West Hararghe, East Hararghe, Guji, West Guji Borena), SNNPR (South Omo) and in Afar (Zones 1 and 2). Direct beneficiaries of the Additional Financing will be vulnerable households affected by drought shocks who are included in the program on a temporary basis. ⁸²³
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	<p>On April 8, 2022, Ethiopia passed a directive allowing franco-valuta imports of essential food commodities without foreign exchange permits. With the new decision, the government lifted the foreign exchange permit conditions imposed previously — a minimum import threshold of \$250,000 and verification of the source of foreign currency with the National Bank of Ethiopia -- in April 2021. But now the food commodities approved for direct importation through the franco-valuta scheme are wheat, rice, sugar, edible oils, and instant baby milk. It now removed the foreign exchange permit requirements for franco-valuta imports amidst a shortage of essential food commodities and rising inflation in the country.⁸²⁴</p> <p>825</p> <p>On Oct 26, 2022, Ethiopia banned the import of 38 non-essential items for an indefinite period. The banned list includes furniture; perfumes; make-up; artificial flowers; headgear; artificial jewellery; carpets; umbrellas; watches and clocks; soaps; fireworks; human and artificial hair; and bags and wallets. A number of food and beverage products are also targeted, such as canned fruit; sweet biscuits and waffles; seafood; chocolate; alcoholic drinks; water and non-alcoholic drinks; and fruit juices.⁸²⁶</p>

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	In September 2021, Ethiopia removed tariffs and taxes levied on imports of food commodities such as wheat, sugar, rice, and edible oils to stabilize the rising food inflation in the country. The tariff and tax removal will stay in effect for an unspecified period from the date of public announcement. ⁸²⁷

Fiji

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On July 18, 2022, To help cope with rising prices, Fiji’s 2022-2023 budget includes a child benefit payable to parents with a combined annual income of less than \$50,000 and with children under the age of 18, in the amount of \$180 per child (only for children below 18 years) over a 6-month period, or \$30 per month per child, to be paid out in two phases. An online platform will be developed through which parents can apply. Applications will be verified through the Birth Registration Number (BRN) to ensure the applicant and child details are correct. All applicants currently receiving Energy Fiji Limited subsidy, Water Authority of Fiji subsidy, and students on transportation assistance will automatically qualify as they are already assessed to be earning less than \$50,000 annual income: all other applicants will have to go through an additional process of income verification via FRCS and FNPf; and those in the informal sector will have to do so via statutory declaration.⁸²⁸</p> <p>On July 22, 2022, Government pensioners and After Care Fund recipients will receive a direct additional top-up of \$180 to their accounts on August 31, 2022 (aligned with their next pension payment date). Similarly, all social welfare recipients will also receive a direct additional top-up of \$180 to their accounts on September 5, 2022 aligned to their next welfare payment date. Approximately \$18 million will be paid to more than 90,000 social welfare recipients and around 8,000 Government pensioners and After Care Fund recipients.⁸²⁹</p> <p>On July 29, 2022, The Ministry for Women, Children, and Poverty Alleviation (MWCPA) has further announced a revised Bus Fare Allowance Payment Schedule. The bus fare allowance refers to the subsidy scheme of the Fijian Government that assists older persons (aged 60+) and persons living with disabilities (approx. 51,700 individuals altogether). As per the Fijian Government Budget Announcement in July 2022, MWCPA will continue to pay the Busfare Top Up as a lump sum to cover 3 months travel allowance. This payment will be made by the 5th date of every quarter. The next quarterly payment of \$75 will be paid by August 5, 2022.⁸³⁰</p>

	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Finland

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>[1 September 2022] Finland proposed that early childhood education fees be reduced permanently by EUR 70 million.⁸³¹ 832</p> <p>On January 3, 2023, it was announced that study grants will be increased in line with the National Pensions Index, but the increase will not take effect until the start of the new academic year on 1 August 2023. For students aged 18 or over who are living independently, the study grant will go up from 268.23 euros to 279.38 euros per month.^{833, 834}</p> <p>On March 2, 2023, the government announced a lump sum reimbursement for electricity bills. The reimbursement will be paid automatically to the consumers entitled to it as a deduction to their electricity bill made by the electricity company. The reimbursement does not cover transmission of electricity. The retroactive reimbursement for electricity costs will be paid per metering point to those end users whose electricity price in their electricity contract exceeds 10 cents per kilowatt-hour, and to those end consumers who have an electricity contract based on spot prices. The reimbursement will be paid over four winter months for 50 per cent of the part of consumers' electricity bills that exceeds the threshold of EUR 90/month. The maximum reimbursement is EUR 700 per month. The first instalment of the reimbursement will be based on electricity consumption in November–December 2022. The second instalment will be based on consumption in January 2023. In the second instalment, January consumption will be doubled, which means that the reimbursement will be paid for four months altogether.⁸³⁵</p> <p>On March 2, 2023 the government announced the ability to extend payment deadlines. At the customer's request, retail sellers of electricity must extend the payment period of consumption-related electricity bills from 1 January to 30 April 2023. The extension does not apply to transmission of electricity. Consumer customers will be granted an extended payment period of up to 120 days from the original payment date of the bill. The request to extend the payment period must be submitted before the payment date of the bill. No costs may be charged for</p>

		<p>extending the payment period and no interest may be charged for the extended payment period. Businesses may be granted an extended payment period of up to 60 days. The electricity company may charge an annual interest rate of 1.53 per cent from a business for the extended payment period.⁸³⁶</p> <p>On March 2, 2023, the government announced that it is preparing a model similar to the lump-sum reimbursement for consumers to support limited liability housing companies that use electricity for heating and cover the costs of the electricity used for heating.⁸³⁷</p> <p>On August 5, 2022, it was proposed in the health budget for 2023 that reimbursements for travel costs paid from health insurance and the maximum price of taxi journeys are increased for the period of 1 July–31 December 2022 due to the increased fuel prices. This will increase government expenditure by EUR 5.3 million.⁸³⁸</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[1 September 2022] The private day care allowance consists of a care allowance and a care supplement. The care supplement is linked to income and its amount is affected by family size and gross income. Under the Government’s proposal, the full rate of the care supplement to the private day care allowance would be increased by 100 euros starting 1 March 2023. The increase would be permanent. Private day care allowances will also be index adjusted upwards on 1 January 2023. The maximum care supplement will go up from 155.24 euros to 161.69 euros per month starting 1 January 2023, and further to 265.85 euros per month starting 1 March 2023.⁸³⁹</p> <p>[1 September 2022] A child increase is paid to unemployment benefit recipients who provide for a minor child. Under the proposal, the child increase would be raised by 20%. The child increases to labour market subsidies and basic unemployment allowances will be raised by an additional 4.2% as an index adjustment measure. The new rates of the child increases starting 1 January 2023 would be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for one child, up from 5.61 euros to 7.01 euros per day - for two children, up from 8.23 euros to 10.29 euros per day - for three or more children, up from 10.61 euros to 13.26 euros per day⁸⁴⁰

		<p>In September 2022, the following was proposed and on December 27, 2022, it was announced that changes would be made to the Kela benefit. It was confirmed that the basic amount of social assistance for persons under 18 will be raised by 10% for the duration of 2023. The aim of this is to support the purchasing power of families with children at a time of rising prices. Thus, the rate of the basic amount of social assistance for children will vary between 327.51 euros and 421.88 euros per month in 2023. It varies both by the age of the child and the number of siblings.^{841,842}</p> <p>In September 2022, the following was proposed and on December 27, 2022, it was announced that changes would be made to the Kela benefit. The provider supplement to the study grant will be raised by 10 euros per month for the duration of 2023. Study grants can include a provider supplement if the recipient provides for a child under 18. Provider supplements will also be index adjusted upwards on 1 August 2023. The rates of the provider supplement will go up from 107.17 euros to 117.17 euros per month starting 1 January 2023, and further to 122.05 per month starting 1 August 2023.⁸⁴³</p> <p>In September 2022, the following was proposed and on December 27, 2022, it was announced that the supplementary budget proposal for the autumn will propose that an additional month of child benefit be paid towards the end of 2022 without it affecting the level of income support. The effect of this measure on expenditure is estimated at about EUR 112 million.⁸⁴⁴</p> <p>In September 2022, it was proposed and announced March 2, 2023 that as an income tax measure, the Government will also prepare and introduce a separate financial support for electricity that will be available to households which are unable to make full use of the fixed-term tax credit. A variable appropriation of EUR 300 million will be reserved for the purpose. People can receive assistance with electricity costs they have large electricity bills but are ineligible for the full tax credit for electricity due to low annual income for electricity costs incurred in a permanent dwelling for the period 1 January to 30 April 2023.^{845,846}</p>
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		<p>[1 September 2022] The expenditure norm of the heating category for the housing allowance for pensioners will be raised as of 1 January 2023 under existing legislation. The increase that the rising energy prices is expected to generate is estimated at 57 per cent. The expenditure norm of the heating category for the general housing allowance and the expenditure norm of the maintenance category for single-family houses will be raised by a corresponding percentage as of 1 January 2023. The additional costs for 2023 are estimated at approximately EUR 6.3 million.⁸⁴⁷</p> <p>[1 September 2022] The meal allowance for students will be raised by EUR 0.25 per meal.⁸⁴⁸</p> <p>[1 September 2022] Child benefits can include a single-parent supplement if the recipient is not married, cohabiting or legally separated. The supplement is paid for each child eligible for a child benefit. Under the proposal, the single-parent supplement would be increased by 5 euros from its current amount of 63.30 euros per month to 68.30 euros per month starting 1 January 2023. The benefit will go back down to 63.30 euros starting January 2024.^{849,850}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On February 18, 2022, the Finnish government announced measures to offset high energy prices with subsidies and tax cuts. As part of it, a mileage allowance for commuting expenses when using one's own car will be temporarily increased to EUR 0.30/km (previously EUR 0.25/km). This is provided in the form of tax exempt, as the commute to work will not be regarded as travel for tax purpose. [1 September 2022] The increase in the deduction for commuting expenses will continue; in 2023 the deduction will be thirty cents per kilometer. The earned income deduction for people over 60 years of age will be increased in stages.^{851, 852}</p> <p>On February 18, 2022, the Finnish government announced measures to offset high energy prices with subsidies and tax cuts. As part of it, the maximum deduction for travel expenses between home and the workplace will be temporarily increased from EUR 7,000 to EUR 8,400 in taxes for 2022. This is provided in the form of tax exempt, as the commute to work will not be regarded as travel for tax purpose. The own-liability threshold for commuting and travel expenses is €750 in 2023 (and 2022). The maximum deduction to be granted is €8,400 for tax year 2022 (and 2023). This means that you get the maximum deduction when you have paid €9,150 for travel or commuting in the course of the year (€8,400 is the maximum cost in 2022). The changes to the deduction for commuting expenses will impact the taxation of approximately 570,000 taxpayers.^{853, 854, 855}</p> <p>On February 18, 2022, the Finnish government announced measures to offset high energy prices with subsidies and tax cuts. As part of it, a mileage allowance for commuting expenses when using one's own car will be temporarily increased to EUR 0.30/km (previously EUR 0.25/km). This is provided in the form of tax exempt, as the commute to work will not be regarded as travel for tax purpose. [1 September</p>

		<p>2022] The increase in the deduction for commuting expenses will continue; in 2023 the deduction will be thirty cents per kilometre. The earned income deduction for people over 60 years of age will be increased in stages. On November 16, 2022, the basic allowance was increased to 53 cents per kilometre for 2023. The changes to the deduction for commuting expenses will impact the taxation of approximately 570,000 taxpayers.^{856, 857, 858}</p> <p>In September 2022, it was proposed and announced March 2, 2023 that as an income tax measure, the Government will prepare and implement a fixed-term tax credit for electricity. The fixed-term tax credit for electricity will be in force for four months, and it will be prepared in such a way that its estimated impact on tax revenue is EUR 300 million. People are entitled to the tax credit if the electricity bills exceed EUR 2,000 between 1 January and 30 April 2023. The tax credit does not cover the cost of electricity transmission. The tax credit is 60 per cent of those electricity expenses that exceed EUR 2,000.⁸⁵⁹</p> <p>[1 September 2022] An index adjustment will be made to the bases for earned income tax at all income levels, which will reduce central government tax revenue by EUR 637 million on an annual basis. The aim of the index adjustment is to avoid an increase in the tax burden as a result of the progressive tax system and general increase in the income level.⁸⁶⁰</p>
Indirect tax		<p>In September 2022, the following was proposed and on December 27, 2022, it was announced that changes would be made to the Kela benefit. The Government proposes that the value-added tax on passenger transport be dropped to zero between January and April 30, 2023. The temporary exemption from VAT applies to passenger transport services between 1 January and 30 April 2023.^{861, 862}</p> <p>[In September 2022, it was proposed and announced March 2, 2023 that as an income tax measure, the Government proposes that the value-added tax rate on electricity be lowered to 10 per cent for the period from December 2022 to April 2023.^{863, 864}</p>

France

<p style="text-align: center;">Subsidies</p>	<p>Fuel subsidies</p>	<p>From April 1, 2022 and for four months, a discount of €0.18 will be introduced at service stations to curb the rise in fuel prices. This aid, announced on 12 March, concerns private individuals and companies and is valid on all types of fuel. In Corsica, where VAT is lower, the discount will be €0.17. In the French overseas territories, where there is no VAT on petroleum products, it will be €0.15. The cost to the state is estimated at €3 billion. [25 April 2022] A targeted device will replace the 18-cent discount in the summer. The future device on the price of fuel should take into account the level of income, the type of vehicle, its consumption or the kilometers traveled. [July 2022] The current state-financed rebate of 18 cents per liter will be increased to 30 cents in September and October. [October 2022] The government’s 30-cent-per-litre discount on petrol and diesel in France is to be extended into November.^{865, 866, 867, 868}</p> <p>On March 17, 2022, the government announced that for the period from March 17 to March 31, 2022, a subsidy covering fuel costs for fishermen would be provided. The aid corresponds to a discount of 35 centimes per liter of fuel; The subsidy was extended and reduced from April 1 to August 31, 2022, to a discount of 20 cents per liter of fuel. On July 29, it was announced that there would be a second extension from September 1 to September 30, 2022, with a reduced the subsidy to 10 cents per liter of fuel. The third extension from November 16 to December 31, 2022, increased the subsidy to 16.67 cents per liter of fuel. The fourth extension from January 1 to February 15, 2023, increased the subsidy to 25 centimes per liter of fuel. On Feb 15, a fifth extension was announced with a gradual reduction of the subsidy from 25 cents to 15 cents in from March 15 to April 15, and 10 cents until May 15. On February 25, 2023, a sixth extension was announced that the subsidy would be 30 cents per liter until mid-October of 2023. This represents a financial commitment by the French state that could come to as much as €20 million, in addition to the €45 million already budgeted.^{869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875}</p> <p>The “Fuel allowance for employees" (of between 300 and 500 euros, depending on income and the distance to the workplace), which will apply to half of all people in the lower income bracket, or some 12 million households. From October this will take the form of a discount of 18 cents at the pump, to be progressively reduced until December. The total cost from now until the end of the year will be 4.6 billion euros.⁸⁷⁶</p>
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		<p>[July 2022] "fuel allowance for employees" (of between 300 and 500 euros, depending on income and the distance to the workplace), which will apply to half of all people in the lower income bracket, or some 12 million households. From October this will take the form of a discount of 18 cents at the pump, to be progressively reduced until December. The total cost from now until the end of the year will be 4.6 billion euros. Finally, on December 7, 2022, the government announced a one-time transfer of 100 euros per vehicle for low income working professionals to offset fuel costs for the whole year. This initiative opened for applications on January 27, 2023, and closed on March 31, 2023. The initiative is anticipated to benefit around 10 million low income working professionals who drive to work.^{877, 878, 879, 880}</p> <p>From April 1, 2022 and for four months, a discount of €0.18 will be introduced at service stations to curb the rise in fuel prices. This aid, announced on 12 March, concerns private individuals and companies and is valid on all types of fuel. In Corsica, where VAT is lower, the discount will be €0.17. In the French overseas territories, where there is no VAT on petroleum products, it will be €0.15. The cost to the state is estimated at €3 billion. [25 April 2022] A targeted device will replace the 18-cent discount in the summer. The future device on the price of fuel should take into account the level of income, the type of vehicle, its consumption or the kilometers traveled. [July 2022] The current state-financed rebate of 18 cents per liter will be increased to 30 cents in September and October. [October 2022] The government's 30-cent-per-litre discount on petrol and diesel in France is to be extended into November. The discount ended in December 2022.^{881, 882, 883, 884}</p> <p>[September 2022] Support of up to € 200 is also provided for French people heating with oil or wood.⁸⁸⁵</p> <p>[September 2022] An average increase limit in bills of around €25 per month for households heating with gas and an average increase limit in bills of around €20 per month for households heating with electricity. The cost is estimated at €1.8 billion for the energy bill support.⁸⁸⁶</p> <p>[October 2022] On 6 October 2022, the government officially presented the "Energy Sobriety" plan. The package provides financial support to households to change heating</p>
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	systems through the MaPrimeRenov program. The State will mobilize a total of €2.5 billion in 2023 to finance the MaPrimeRénov. ⁸⁸⁷
Food subsidies	On March 6, 2023, the government announced a deal with supermarkets to offer basic groceries (products at the discretion of markets) at the "lowest price possible" for the next 3 months. The initiative will be re-evaluated in June 2023. At Carrefour, 200 items will be offered at less than 2 euros, from March 15, and the price would be frozen until June 15. Smaller rival Casino (CASP.PA) on Monday also said it would offer its a selection of 500 low-cost items at less than one euro from March 15 with prices frozen for three months. ⁸⁸⁸
Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On March 16, 2022, the government announced that it is implementing an exceptional measure by paying part of the additional cost of feed. With a budget of up to 400 million euros, this measure is targeted at farms that are heavily dependent on feed purchases and that will experience losses due to this increase. This aid will last for four months from April 1, 2022 with the first payments to be made within two months. [Note: This first system, born of extensive consultation with stakeholders, and validated by the European Commission on May 10, could benefit more than 100,000 breeders this summer. ⁸⁸⁹
Fees subsidies	[July 2022] The government set a price cap to limit rent increases to 3.5% until June 30, 2023. ^{890, 891} On July 7, 2022, it is reported that France announced a 20-billion bill which also maintains a price cap on gas. [September 2022] On 14 September 2022, the government announced that the tariff shield, already extended until December 2022 for gas, will be renewed in 2023. The package includes capping the increase in gas prices at 15%. The cost is estimated at €11 billion for the gas price cap. ^{892, 893} On December 30, 2021, France announced that the increase in electricity prices has been limited to 4% in 2022. [September 2022] . The package includes capping the increase in electricity prices at 15%. The cost is estimated at €5 billion for the electricity price cap. On 14 September 2022, the government announced that the tariff shield, already extended until 1 February 2023 for electricity, will be renewed through 2023. The tariff shield is a saving of around 160 euros per month for the French who heat themselves with electricity and a saving of around 175 euros per month for the French who heat

		<p>themselves with gas. 15% price cap on gas and electricity will cost 45 billion euros in 2023 but special levies will bring net cost to 12 billion euros.^{894, 895}</p> <p>[October 2022] Total Energy offers a bonus between ranging from €30 to €120, depending on the energy savings achieved for households heating with electricity that reduce their electricity consumption by at least 5% between 31 November 2022 and 1 March 2023.⁸⁹⁶</p> <p>[September 2022] Support of up to € 200 is also provided for French people heating with oil or wood. 100 euros will be sent to households with income levels between 10,800 euros and 20,000 euros and 200 euros will go to those under 10,800 euros a year. Checks will be paid out in November 2022.^{897, 898, 899}</p> <p>In July 2022, from this start of the 2022-2023 school year, student grants based on social criteria will be increased by 4%, this measure will benefit 750,000 students.⁹⁰⁰</p> <p>[July 2022] The government increase housing subsidies by 3.5%. 5.8 million households will benefit from the measure.⁹⁰¹</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[April 2022] The Ministry of Solidarity and Health has announced that the regulatory increase from April 1 for several social benefits will be 1.8%. This concerns the active solidarity income (RSA) which will therefore be 575.32 euro per month for a single person without children.⁹⁰² [July 2022] The active solidarity income will be increased by 4%. This measure was voted in the package of measures for purchasing power, and was formalized in the Official Journal on July 17. Thus, an RSA beneficiary without children who received €575.52 per month will receive around €23 more, or €598.⁹⁰³</p> <p>[April 2022] The Ministry of Solidarity and Health has announced that the regulatory increase from April 1 for several social benefits will be 1.8%. This concerns the activity bonus paid to the most precarious workers (563.68 euros per month for a single person). [July 2022] The bill approved in July includes a 4% increase in the activity bonus for low-income workers. The amount varies according to income and family composition. Already revalued twice this year, the bonus crossed 1300 euros net on 1er May. In March, it concerned 4.6 million households, for a budget close to 10 billion euros.^{904, 905}</p>

		<p>[May 2022] Private sector employees will benefit from the permanent tripling of the ceiling of the so-called "Macron" purchasing power bonus without taxes or charges. The bonus has been renewed in 2021 and can be paid until March 31st, 2022. It allows employers to pay a bonus exempt from income tax and social contributions to employees whose salary does not exceed a certain threshold. [July 2022] The bill approved in July extends this measure. [August 2022] The bonus, now renamed as the value sharing bonus (prime de partage de la valeur – PPV) was made permanent with some changes. From July 1, 2022, through 2023, employees earning below three times the SMIC may be paid an annual PPV of up to €3,000 (doubled if profit sharing is in place or there are under 50 employees), not subject to income tax or social security contributions. From 2024, all employees may be paid a PPV, up to the same limits, subject to income tax but not social security contributions. The PPV may be paid in up to four quarterly installments, to prevent it from replacing salary increases. Similar to the Macron bonus, companies that choose to pay a PPV must do so for all employees, though the amounts may vary by employee based on objective criteria (e.g., salary, job classification, working time).^{906, 907, 908, 909, 910}</p> <p>[July 2022] The new bill also includes up to 4% on disability allowance, family benefits and scholarships for students.⁹¹¹</p> <p>[July 2022] The new bill envisions a 100-euro grant for the start of the school year (plus 50 euros per child) for 8 million households.⁹¹²</p> <p>On September 14, 2022, the government announced exceptional energy checks. This aid will concern the 12 million poorest households, i.e. 4 out of 10 households, and its amount will be 100 or 200 euros depending on income. 200 euros to incomes 10,800 or less and 100 euros to households with incomes between 10,800 and 17,400 euros per year.^{913 914}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	<p>[April 2022] The Ministry of Solidarity and Health has announced that the regulatory increase from April 1 for several social benefits will be 1.8%. This concerns the disabled adult allowance (AAH), disability pensions and all family benefits.⁹¹⁵</p>

		<p>On 2022, as part of the measure to combat inflation, the government conducted an exceptional revaluation of all rights and social benefits, revaluing them +4% from July in addition to the revaluation that took place in January 2022 for pensions (1.1%) and in April 2022 for social benefits (1.8 %).</p> <p>This measure in favor of purchasing power will benefit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 million families receiving family benefits 18 million pensioners 4.5 million households benefiting from the activity bonus 1.9 million households benefiting from the active solidarity income (RSA) 1.2 million recipients of the allowance for disabled adults (AAH) 1.6 million holders of a work accident or permanent illness pension (AT-MP) 800,000 recipients of a disability pension 600,000 beneficiaries of the minimum old age 300,000 beneficiaries of solidarity allowances (ASS, AER and ATA) paid by Pôle emploi.⁹¹⁶
	<p>Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)</p>	<p>On 15 September 2021, the government announced plans for a one-off €100 payment to the 5.8 million households that already receive energy vouchers. In October, the government augmented the number of beneficiaries of the voucher to everyone earning less than €2.000 per month net, that is, around 38 million people.^{917, 918}</p> <p>On 15 September 2021, the government announced plans for a one-off €100 payment to the 5.8 million households that already receive energy vouchers. In October, the government augmented the number of beneficiaries of the voucher to everyone earning less than €2.000 per month net, that is, around 38 million people.^{919, 920}</p> <p>[March 2022] The government is considering giving special cheques to poor households to compensate for increased food prices. The introduction of the food voucher was discussed and then voted on in Parliament in July 2021. The food voucher should range between 50 to 60 euros per month per household. A 4 to 6 billion euros of cost for the State. The food check should concern more than 8 million French people. [July 2022] The food voucher or rather the exceptional back-to-school of 100 euros plus 50 euros per additional dependent child will be paid as of October 1, 2022, to students with scholarships and recipients of minimum social benefits in an attempt to combat the rise in inflation, which is detrimental to the purchasing power of the most modest. This time, the exceptional back-to-school aid will be more targeted, 8 million households will be</p>

		concerned, which represents nearly 14 million French people. The aid will be paid automatically, without any action required from the beneficiaries. A transfer will be made to their bank account. The measure is estimated at 1 billion euros for the State. ^{921, 922}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[May 2022] The Ministry of Labour stated that the executive wanted to index retirement pensions to inflation from July. If inflation at 4% is considered, for a pension of 1,200 euros, it is a gain of 45 euros per month. It should be noted, however, that this indexation will only be applied to retirement pensions from the general scheme. The contours of this measure remain unclear, particularly regarding the eligibility of retirees to benefit from a larger pension. ⁹²³ [July 2022] The new 20-billion bill approved in July also includes increased pensions. ⁹²⁴
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	[May 2022] The self-employed will benefit from a permanent reduction in their contributions, which will generate a gain of 550 euros per year at the level of the minimum wage. ⁹²⁵
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	[May 2022] To protect employment in France, the long-term partial activity scheme (APLD) will be extended. [August 2022] The APLD allows a company facing difficulties to reduce the working hours of its employees. This temporary arrangement may apply until 31 December 2022. The employer shall pay the employee compensation equivalent to 70% of his gross salary by nonworking time or 84% net hourly wage. The employer receives an allowance equivalent to 60% of the employee's gross hourly earnings. ⁹²⁶
	Wage increase	On 15 March 2022, the French government announced that it will raise the salaries of civil servants to compensate for the sharp increase in inflation due to energy prices. ^{927,}

		<p>⁹²⁸ This review could be completed before the summer.⁹²⁹ [July 2022] A 3.5% increase in the civil service salary indexation benchmark as of July 1.⁹³⁰</p> <p>[May 2022] Public officials will benefit from the increase in the value of the index point for their remuneration, which will be agreed with the trade unions. [June 2022] The Ministry of Transformation and the Civil Service announced on June 28, 2022 the 3.5% increase in the index point for civil servants. This increase is effective from July 1, 2022 for all civil servants. [October 2022] On Tuesday, October 18, 2022, it was confirmed that the annual salary negotiations in the civil service will be opened in early 2023.^{931, 932}</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On January 25, 2022, France announced plans for a further cut of 10% in its tax on transport costs for commuters.⁹³³</p> <p>[October 2022] The Sustainable Mobility Package granted to employees is exempt from social security contributions up to 700€ per year and can be combined with reimbursement of public transport up to €800.^{934, 935}</p>
	Indirect tax	<p>On December 30, 2021, France announced the possibility of reducing the rate of excise duty levied on natural gas for individual consumers only. This possibility applies only for those months in which the condition provided for would be met, i.e. if the natural gas supply costs for a given month of the year 2022 exceed those of October 2021. This provision completes the freezing of regulated natural gas sales tariffs at their October 2021 levels. This freeze was in effect from October 1, 2021 to November 1 2021. It was extended to July 2022, again to December 31, 2022, and then again for all of 2023 at the frozen tariff and price cap of 15% starting January 2023. The possible reduction of the excise tax levied on natural gas, which may not result in a rate lower than the European minimum set for private individuals (i.e. 1.08 €/MWh in gross calorific value), will be established by decree. The tariff shield is a saving of around 160 euros per month for the French who heat themselves with electricity and a saving of around 175 euros per month for the French who heat themselves with gas. 15% price cap on gas and electricity will cost 45 billion euros in 2023 but special levies will bring net cost to 12 billion euros.^{936, 937, 938, 939}</p> <p>On December 30, 2021, France announced the possibility of reducing the rate of excise duty levied on natural gas for individual consumers only. This possibility applies only for those months in which the condition provided for would be met, i.e. if the natural gas</p>

		<p>supply costs for a given month of the year 2022 exceed those of October 2021. This provision completes the freezing of regulated natural gas sales tariffs at their October 2021 levels. This freeze has been in effect since November 1, 2021 and may continue to apply until a date between April 30, 2022 and December 31, 2022. The possible reduction of the excise tax levied on natural gas, which may not result in a rate lower than the European minimum set for private individuals (i.e. 1.08 €/MWh in gross calorific value), will be established by decree. Since January 1, 2022 and given the increase in the quantities of biomethane injected into the network, this normal tariff is now €8.41/MWh, as provided for in the order of September 8, 2021.^{940, 941, 942, 943}</p> <p>On January 30, 2022, France announced that it would reduce the electricity tax (i.e, the Excise Tax on Final Electricity Consumption) from €22.50 per megawatt hour to €1 for households starting from February 2022 to January 2023.⁹⁴⁴</p> <p>On January 30, 2022, France announced that it would reduce the electricity tax (i.e, the Excise Tax on Final Electricity Consumption) from €22.50 per megawatt hour to €1 for households starting from February 2022 to January 2023. On December 15, 2022, the government announced that the measure would be extended through January 31, 2024.^{945, 946}</p> <p>On May 11, 2022, France announced that contribution to public broadcasting will be permanently abolished this year and the financing of public broadcasting will be ensured in compliance with the constitutional objective of pluralism and independence of the media. The abolition of this tax will return purchasing power to the tune of 138 euros per year (figure for metropolitan France) to nearly 23 million households liable. The law passed on August 17, 2022.^{947, 948}</p>
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Gabon

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On March 14, 2023, Gabon signed two agreements with Sogara and the Professional Petroleum Association to stabilize fuel prices at the pump. The government will spend 212 billion FACFA so that prices at the pump do not increase. ⁹⁴⁹
	Food subsidies	On 4 April, 2022, the Gabonese state subsidized the price of foodstuffs such as flour. The subsidies on food items are expected to cost the government about 100 billion FCFA. ^{950, 951}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 16, 2022, the Gabon abolished taxes and customs duties on imports of 23 basic goods. ⁹⁵²

Gambia, The

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	As of September 3, 2022, Gambia said the government has expended D1.3 billion on fuel subsidies in 2022 alone and another D5.6 million will be spent for this month to keep the prices within the means of Gambians. The price stabilization was stressed as the reason behind these subsidies. [Update] On March 6, 2023, The President disclosed that his government spent over D1.6 billion on fuel subsidies. ^{953, 954}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On June 15, 2022, Gambia reduced fertilizer price from D2,500 To D2000. ⁹⁵⁵ On July 22, 2022, the African Development Bank Group has approved a grant of \$3.5 million from the African Development Fund's Transition Support Facility as additional financing for a rice value chain transformation project in the Gambia. The Rice Value Chain Transformation Program was started in December 2018, with total grant financing of \$7 million from the African Development Fund, the Bank's concessional lending window, and the Transition Support Facility. The project's goal is to improve farm incomes, rural livelihoods, food and nutrition security in the country. Thus, it targets the production, processing, and marketing of rice in the Gambia, as well as reducing imports. The additional financing will focus on providing subsidized inputs as well as policy reforms destined to scale up food production. This includes providing climate-resilient inputs at subsidized rates to smallholder farmers and enhancing the existing farmers' registration database for smart delivery of subsidies and targeted extension services. The additional financing project builds on the existing seed and fertilizer distribution systems in the Gambia, developed by the Bank, and will explore digital approaches to delivering smart subsidized inputs to farmers and vulnerable groups such as women and youth. ⁹⁵⁶
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Georgia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	[October 2022] The government decided to encourage and support farmers and individuals involved in hazelnut production, by subsidizing equipment necessary to cultivate/grow hazelnuts. To this end, at the initial stage, the government will allocate 20 million GEL. ⁹⁵⁷
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On April 18, 2022, the government announced a program to support smallholder farmers in purchasing goods needed for farming activities. "The size of subsidies for agricultural lands will be set at 300 GEL per hectare, and subsidies will be issued to the owners of lands, also co-owners and beneficiaries, with an area of 0.25 through 1.25 hectares. This assistance will be deposited on their special agricultural cards, in the form of subsidy points that they will be able to use to purchase goods necessary for agricultural activities. It will be very important assistance to apply to about 300,000 farmers. The project's budget is 35 million GEL, and I believe this will have a positive impact on reducing the capital cost of products." ^{958, 959}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
Public works		
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	

	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On June 2, 2022, The Georgian government decided to impose a one-year ban on exports of locally produced wheat and barley from July 4, 2022. The ban is introduced to avoid a shortage of these agricultural products inside the country. The ban will be in effect until July 1, 2023. ⁹⁶⁰
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Germany

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On March 24, 2022, the “9 for 90” scheme announced by the government will offer public transport tickets for €9 per month for 90 days (so €27 in total for three months) in a bid to encourage people to opt for public transport over driving. The initiative is projected to cost transport associations in Germany around €2,5 billion, a sum that will be entirely covered by the federal government. This money will be transferred to the federal states, who are responsible for public transport, and so will be the ones to implement the scheme. It would allow people to use their local bus, tram, U-Bahn and train network at a heavily discounted price – monthly travel tickets in Germany typically cost around €80 to €100.^{961, 962, 963}</p> <p>[21 October 2022] The approved €200-billion energy relief plan includes a price cap on gas. Private households could benefit from a price cap of 80% of their usual consumption starting in March. The price cap is to be financed by the Economic Stabilization Fund (WSF), which was originally set up to cushion the economic and social impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on the economy. [Update] Germany’s energy support measures that will de-facto come into effect on 1 January 2023 and last until April 2024. Germany will spend 83.3 billion euros (\$83 billion) to finance a cap on gas and power prices in 2023.^{964, 965, 966}</p> <p>[November 2022] The electricity price brake is to provide relief for customers from 1 January 2023. The price per kilowatt hour will be capped at 40 cents for consumers, as well as small and medium-sized companies. The reduced rate applies for 80 percent of last year’s consumption. In addition, network charges are to remain stable in 2023.⁹⁶⁷</p> <p>[November 2022] The 49-euro ticket per month is coming, ideally from 1 January 2023. For this purpose, the Federal Government will be providing loss compensation to the amount of 1.5 billion euros per year from 2023. The Länder Governments agreed to contribute the same amount. So far, the 49-euro price tag has only been confirmed as an “introductory offer”, which will initially last two years. At this point, the price would be adjusted in line with inflation.^{968, 969}</p>

		<p>[November 2022] The Federal Government is going to pay another heating cost subsidy in order to provide relief for those hit particularly hard by higher heating costs. All those who receive housing benefit are eligible to receive this subsidy.⁹⁷⁰</p> <p>[November 2022] In Germany, Housing benefit is a rent subsidy that is designed to relieve people whose income is too low to cover the high ancillary costs. Owing to the housing benefit reform, the number of people entitled to housing benefit will increase considerably from 1 January: around 2 million households will be eligible to receive housing benefit in future.⁹⁷¹</p> <p>[November 2022] An emergency aid measure will be realised this year, as the gas price brake will not become effective until next year and relief for citizens is required sooner: the Federal Government is going to cover the advance payments in December.⁹⁷²</p> <p>March 15, 2023, Students can apply for the one-off 200 EUR energy price allowance from March 15, 2023. It is available to all students who were enrolled at a German institute of higher education on the cut-off date of December 1, 2022, and who had their domicile or habitual residence in Germany on that date.⁹⁷³</p> <p>On 17 March 2023, Parliamentarians voted to approve plans to introduce a €49-a-month ticket covering regional rail, metro, trams and bus travel across Germany. The vote in parliament cleared the way for the national government to cover half of the scheme's annual cost of €3bn for the next three years, with the other half paid for by Germany's 16 federal states.⁹⁷⁴</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[24 March 2022] One-off energy tax-relief payment of €300 (\$330). It will be paid to people through their wages and those on social benefits will also receive a top-up of €100. Families who receive child support benefits will also see a one-off payment of €100 per child.^{975, 976} [22 August 2022] Workers in Germany will start to receive a €300 payment from next month.⁹⁷⁷</p> <p>The package approved on February 24 included €135/person for students and citizens who receive support for paying their rent.⁹⁷⁸</p> <p>The package approved on February 24 increased payments for poor children (+€20/month per child).⁹⁷⁹</p>

		<p>The package approved on February 24 gave welfare recipients (Hartz IV) €100 per person.⁹⁸⁰</p> <p>[February 2022] The first package included a one-time heating cost allowance. People who receive a housing allowance and trainees and students who receive funding under the Federal Training Assistance Act (BAföG) will receive a one-time heating cost allowance of 270 euros (€) (about US\$284) and €230 (about US\$242), respectively. The amendment will enter into force on June 1, 2022, and automatically expire on May 31, 2032.⁹⁸¹</p> <p>[November 2022] The Inflation Compensation Act is going to raise the the maximum maintenance amount, child benefits and the child tax allowance. From January 1, 2023, the monthly payment of the child maintenance will increase to €404 (for children aged 0 to 5), to €464 (for children aged 6 to 11), to €543 (for children aged 12-17).^{982, 983}</p> <p>[November 2022] As part of its relief plan, child benefits are increased. Families are set to receive €250 per month for their first and second child and €275 per month for their third child from January 2023. This marks an increase of €31 per month for the first and second child, and an increase of €25 for the third child. Child benefit for any additional children will remain unchanged at €250 per month.⁹⁸⁴</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[April 2022] Pensions in states that made up the former West Germany, where there was no increase last year, are to receive an increase of 5.35% from July 1 — the

		biggest hike for the region since 1983. In the former states of East Germany, where there was a slight rise of 0.72% pensions in 2021, pensions will rise by 6.12%. That represents the highest increase since 1994. [November 2022] According to an official estimate, statutory retirement pensions are to go up by around 3.5 percent in West Germany and 4.5 percent in East Germany next July 2023, for approximately 21 pensioners living in Germany. ^{985, 986}
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[February 2022] The first package raised the employee standard allowance by €200 (about US\$210) to €1,200 (about US\$1,260). ⁹⁸⁷ [September 2022] The minimum wages are revised in Germany from 1 October 2022. The minimum wage has increased from €10.45 to €12.00 per hour. ⁹⁸⁸
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	On February 24, 2022, Germany announced a package including an increase in the commuter allowance (+3ct to 38 ct/km). This allowance was previously 35 cents per kilometer from the 21st kilometer and an increase was originally planned for 2024 – this increase was bumped up by 2 years to help relieve taxpayers. ^{989, 990} On August 10, 2022, a 10-billion package was approved to raise base tax-free allowance as well as bring up the level from which the top income tax rate of as 42% will apply. Families will also benefit from higher tax exemptions for dependent children. It is announced that 48 million Germans would have faced higher taxes had the tax relief not been announced. The tax free allowance will rise to 10,632 euros next year and 10,932 in 2024 from 10,347 euros currently. Meanwhile, the top tax rate will kick in from an income of 61,972 euros next year and 63,515 euros in 2023 compared with 58,597 euros currently. ⁹⁹¹

	Indirect tax	<p>On March 24, 2022, Germany introduced a three-month reduction in the tax on fuel for vehicles by €0.30 per liter for gasoline and by €0.14 per liter for diesel.⁹⁹²</p> <p>In 2022, the Erneuerbare-Energien-Gesetz (EEG), a levy on the price of electricity, fell from 6.5 to 3.723 cents per kilowatt hour of electricity. That is a reduction of around 43 percent. This was announced by the four transmission system operators Amprion, 50Hertz, TransnetBW and Tennet on October 15, 2021. At the start of February 2022, Germany called for a further reduction of the EEG surcharge, before 2023, which would relieve households by an average of €300. The government plans to cover the outstanding levies by using €3.3bn collected by the treasury via carbon taxes. At the end of April 2022, the Bundestag passed a law to eliminate the EEG surcharge altogether from July this year.^{993, 994, 995}</p> <p>[August 18, 2022] Germany will temporarily cut sales tax (VAT) on natural gas to 7% from 19% to ease the burden on households and companies suffering due to surging energy costs and hit by a new levy taking effect in October, until March 2024.^{996, 997}</p>
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Ghana

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>[On April 21, 2022] The Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ) Inputs Subsidy Program promotes food security, employment, and poverty reduction through transformation of the agricultural sector. The implementation of PFJ is based on five main pillars: (i) seed access and development, (ii) fertilizer access and fertilizer systems development, (iii) extension services, (iv) marketing, and (v) e-Agriculture. The program is expected to enhance public private partnership, raise productivity and farm incomes, and create jobs along the different value chains. Specifically, PFJ aims to encourage the adoption of technologies (such as improved seeds and fertilizers) by providing incentives and appropriate training to farmers, and to improve access to markets through extensive use of information and communication technology. Owing to the perceived success of the PFJ, its implementation was extended beyond 2020. In 2021, the Ghana spent an amount of \$70 million to fund the program but at a reduced input subsidy rate of less than 30%. And this year (2022), the government is spending \$98 million on the program, an increase in funding of 40% over that of 2021. The Ministry procured and distributed 19,280mt of improved seeds of cereals, legumes, and vegetables – comprising 10,446mt of maize, 6,005mt of rice, and 2,829mt of legumes and vegetables. In addition, 151,861mt of organic and inorganic fertilizers were procured and distributed to farmers enrolled under the PFJ which enhanced food security across the country. On 24 November 2022, as part of the budget 2023, the Ministry will procure a total of 36,360mt of various improved seeds and 366,435mt of organic and inorganic fertilizers for distribution. In addition, a total of 3,750 small ruminants (3,450 ewes and 300 rams) were procured and distributed to livestock breeding stations and 45 farmers. This intervention is expected to increase livestock population by 24,103 within two years. In 2023, the Ministry will continue to implement the Rearing for Food and Jobs module of the PFJ by procuring 2 million broiler day old chicks and 8,000 improved breeds of pigs for distribution to out-grower poultry and pig farmers.^{998, 999}</p>
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>[14 April 2023] The GoG has requested Additional Financing to safeguard protecting the poor and vulnerable during this economically challenging time. The</p>

	<p>Additional Financing proposes to scale-up existing Ghana Productive Safety Net Project 2 (GPSNP 2) safety net programs and systems. Specifically, the requested financing has the following goals: (i) scale up existing social safety net components to additional beneficiaries (PI and LIPW). The current closing date of GPSNP 2 on December 31, 2025, will not be extended. Scale up of component 1, the Productive Inclusion (PI), to 25,000 beneficiaries (additional to the 35,000 under the Parent project) and raise the adequacy level of the productive grant in line with inflation, to a ceiling of US\$300 equivalent for the cash grant per beneficiary. The Productive Inclusion (PI), Complementary Livelihood and Asset Support Scheme (CLASS) program provides training, productive grants and coaching to beneficiaries from LEAP households and has so far reached over 21,000 beneficiaries with its livelihoods package (80 percent of which were women). Cost of program at origin: USD 15 million.¹⁰⁰⁰</p>
Conditional cash transfers	<p>On 24 November 2022, as part of the budget 2023, Ghana increased the benefit size and coverage of its Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) program. As part of the government 2023 budget, to mitigate the impact of increasing cost of living, the government will double the benefit size of the LEAP grant from GH¢45.00 per household per month to GH¢90.00. In addition, the government is committed to expanding coverage of LEAP to 2,500,000 extreme poor individuals (500,000 households) by 2024, from the current 344,185 households in 2022. This measure will increase the current budget on LEAP from GHs197.5 million in 2022 to GHs395 million. LEAP is a cash transfer program introduced in 2008, for extremely poor and vulnerable households which have the following three categories of eligible members: Orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC) or, Persons with severe disability without any productive capacity and Elderly persons who are 65 years (and above).¹⁰⁰¹</p>
Social pensions	
Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
Public works	<p>[14 April 2023] The GoG has requested Additional Financing to safeguard protecting the poor and vulnerable during this economically challenging time. The Additional Financing proposes to scale-up existing Ghana Productive Safety Net</p>

		Project 2 (GPSNP 2) safety net programs and systems. Specifically, the requested financing has the following goals: (i) scale up existing social safety net components to additional beneficiaries (PI and LIPW). The current closing date of GPSNP 2 on December 31, 2025, will not be extended. Scale up component 2, the Labor-Intensive Public Works (LIPW), to 35,000 beneficiaries (additional to the 60,000 under the Parent project) and increase the wage rate in line with increases of the national minimum wage, and inflation. The Labor-Intensive Public Works (LIPW) program commenced in 2010 and has since supported over 200,000 unskilled beneficiaries with income-earning opportunities. Cost of program at origin: USD 28 million. ¹⁰⁰²
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On April 11, 2022, Ghana banned export of maize and soya beans as part of measures to ensure food security and increase local poultry and livestock production from 1 April to 20 September 2022. The ban of maize and soybean exports affected eight countries: Niger, Sierra Leone, the Republic of Congo, the United Kingdom, Qatar, the United States, Italy and Canada. This is an extension of the already existing ban, which was put in place in September 2021. The ban which took effect in September 2021, was due to expire at the end of March. It will now run until September 2022. ^{1003, 1004}
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	

	Indirect tax	On 24 November 2022, as part of the budget 2023, Ghana reduced the Electronic Transfer Levy (e-levy) to 1%, from 1.75% in 2022. This will be effective from January 2023. ¹⁰⁰⁵
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Greece

	Fuel subsidies	<p>[September 2022] The 2023 budget includes the continuation, if circumstances allow, of the subsidy for heating oil by about 0.25 euro/liter into 2023, beyond its current expiration at the end of 2022. [28 December 2022] In 2023 and specifically from January 1 to the end of March, the subsidy will only be 15 cents per liter including VAT.^{1006, 1007}</p>
Subsidies	Food subsidies	<p>[November 2022] The so-called “household basket” with controlled and reduced prices for based goods will be introduced in Greece on November 2, 2022. The list of 51 items for the household basket will be updated every week and will be reportedly in force until the end of March 2023.¹⁰⁰⁸</p> <p>[19 December 2022] Starting next February, the state will cover 10 percent of each household’s purchases for six months in supermarkets and food businesses. The Finance ministry explained that the subsidy would relate to a maximum food bill of 220 euros per month for a single-member household, with the bill margin increased by 100 euros for every additional member (maximum 1,000 euros in food bills per family per month). Included in the measure is shopping in supermarkets and other food retailers such as bakeries, minimarkets, grocers, butchers, fishmongers, dairy stores, and so on. The measure is for households with an income of no more than twenty-four thousand euros per couple, with an additional five thousand euros for each child. The funds from the subsidy are estimated at around 650 million euros (\$690.82 million) and will be raised from a windfall tax on its two oil refineries. The subsidies will be credited through a debit card valid only in supermarkets and food retailers, unless a consumer chooses to have the subsidy deposited in a bank account, in which case it will be credited every three months in addition to being reduced to 80% of the subsidy per case. According to the government, the program would cover 85% of the population. On day 1, over 175,000 Greek citizens have signed up for a government program.^{1009, 1010, 1011}</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On May 5th, the government announced a rebate of up to 60%, with a maximum of 600 euros, for high energy prices starting from December, 2021 until May, 2022. Only those making up to 45,000 euros a year are eligible for this rebate. It will come as a direct cash transfer to beneficiaries’ bank accounts. For May and June, households will receive a 50% rebate for any increase in consumption above 300kWh. [July 2022]</p>

		<p>On July 5th, Greece announced it will be extending the subsidies for the month of July, costing the government more than 700 million euros. These subsidies award 200 euro per megawatt hour to households to cover some 84% of the rising energy bills. [August 2022] On August 24th, Greece extended its sweeping energy bill subsidies, with households and farmers receiving 639 euros per megawatt hour covering 94% of the rise in energy prices. The total cost for the month of September is estimated to be 1.9 billion euros. [September 2022] On September 21st, the government said it would pay out an additional 1.1 billion euros. For households with monthly consumption up to 500 kilowatt hours, the value is 436 euros per megawatt hour. This constitutes the majority of Greek households, and compensates consumers for about 90% of the rise in energy bills. For households consuming above 501 kilowatt hours per month, the subsidies will compensate for about 70-80% of the rise in prices. In addition to these benefits, a 50 euro per megawatt subsidy is further offered to consumers who cut their average daily consumption by 15% year on year.^{1012, 1013}</p> <p>Plans were announced on 14 September 2021 to offer subsidies on the electricity bills to the majority of Greek households and small businesses by the end of the year and were then expanded in mid-October. The value of the subsidy was initially €9 for the first 300 kilowatt-hours (KWh) consumed per month and was later increased to €18 for low voltage consumers and €24 for the beneficiaries of the social household tariff (CTO). On 7 January 2022, the subsidy for households was then raised to €42 for the first 300KWh and €65/MWh for businesses. For households included in the CTO the subsidy would amount to 180 €/MWh, ie 90% of the increase. The government-owned Public Power Corporation also expanded its existing discount policy to fully cover the price rise for the average household with a consumption of up to 600 kWh per month. Reuters reported in May 2022 that Greece spent some €2.5 billion in power and gas bill subsidies since September and detailed additional aid of €1.1 billion of upcoming help, which includes a fuel rebate for low-income households (fundings coming from utility bills that citizens already paid - profits off RES charges in utility bills, ~0.35bn in late 2021, ~0.7bn in early 2022 -). [July 2022] On July 5th, Greece announced it will be extending the subsidies for the month of July, costing the government more than 700 million euros. These subsidies award 200 euro per megawatt hour to households to cover some 84% of the rising energy bills. [August 2022] On August 24th, Greece extended its sweeping energy bill subsidies, with households and farmers receiving 639 euros per megawatt hour covering 94% of the rise in energy prices. The</p>
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		<p>total cost for the month of September is estimated to be 1.9 billion euros. [September 2022] On September 21st, the government said it would pay out an additional 1.1 billion euros. For households with monthly consumption up to 500 kilowatt hours, the value is 436 euros per megawatt hour. This constitutes the majority of Greek households, and compensates consumers for about 90% of the rise in energy bills. For households consuming above 501 kilowatt hours per month, the subsidies will compensate for about 70-80% of the rise in prices. For businesses with consumption over 2000 kilowatt hours, 398 euros are promised per megawatt hour, with agricultural businesses, namely farmers, receiving 436 euros per megawatt hour. In addition to the energy subsidies, a 50 euro per megawatt subsidy is further offered to consumers who cut their average daily consumption by 15% year on year. [23 December 2022] Greece will increase subsidies on energy bills to 840 million euros (\$892.08 million) in January to continue supporting households and businesses against soaring energy prices. The support – double the subsidies allocated in December – will be funded by a windfall tax on power producers and carbon emission rights. For customers using up to 500 kilowatt hours of electricity per month – which accounts for about 90% of Greek households – the subsidy will reach 330 euros per megawatt hour, absorbing up to 87% of the increase. [January 2022] Greece has reduced the subsidies extended to consumers to 95 million euros (\$ 102.9 million) in February 2023. [24 March 2023] Greece’s Energy Ministry announced on Friday that the electricity subsidy for the month of April will be drastically decreased to 15 euros per MWh. The subsidy for the Social Domestic Tariff was set at 5.4 cents per kilowatt hour or €54 in total and the subsidy for farmers at 1.5 cents or 15 euros. The Energy Ministry reportedly does not foresee any subsidy for commercial consumers and special industry sectors as was the case in the previous months. The amount to be paid in subsidies in April is 24.4 million euros, while in the last 20 months, more than 9 billion euros have been allocated in total.^{1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018}</p> <p>[August 2022] Anyone who replaces their old air conditioner with a new, energy-efficient unit will be reimbursed half of the purchase price by the state. Subsidies are also available for the purchase of new refrigerators and freezers. According to the government, around 200,000 households will receive such subsidies, saving €150 to €300 per family household per year.¹⁰¹⁹</p> <p>[February 2022] Anyone who replaces their old air conditioner with a new, energy-efficient unit will be reimbursed half of the purchase price by the state. Subsidies are</p>
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		<p>also available for the purchase of new refrigerators and freezers. According to the government, around 200,000 households will receive such subsidies, saving €150 to €300 per family household per year. [18 September 2022] The original deadline of 16 September 2022 was extended to November 2022 due to high demand, with additional funds of 140 million euro.^{1020, 1021, 1022}</p> <p>[23 December 2022] About 700,000 households that use natural gas will also get a monthly 20-euro subsidy per megawatt hour. In addition, the State-owned company DEPA provides a EUR 20 per thermal MWh discount for March. In April, the government subsidies doubles to EUR 40/MWh.^{1023, 1024},</p> <p>[September 2022] The 2023 draft budget in Greece foresees a 50% in subsidies for student housing. [October 2022] The amount granted varies from EUR 1,000 to EUR 1,500 and it is specified that if the beneficiary lives with another student in the same rented accommodation, the annual housing allowance is set at EUR 2,000.^{1025, 1026, 1027, 1028}</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>On May 5th, the government announced a rebate of up to 60%, with a maximum of 600 euros, for high energy prices starting from December 2021 until May 2022. Only those making up to 45,000 euros are eligible for this rebate. It will come as a direct cash transfer to beneficiaries' bank accounts. For May and June, households will receive a 50% rebate for any increase in consumption above 300kWh.¹⁰²⁹</p> <p>In April 2022, as part of the 1.1 billion euros package, there will be a one-off cash transfer of 200 euros. This is set to begin distribution during Holy Week. This transfer is set to reach multiple categories of beneficiaries. These are: pensioners (676,735 beneficiaries and 135 million euros is budgeted), child benefit recipients (625,000 beneficiaries and 97.5 million euros are budgeted), uninsured seniors (34,964 beneficiaries and 7 million euros are budgeted), citizens with disabilities (166,982 beneficiaries and 33.4 million euros is budgeted), and double amount for KEA recipients (241,282 beneficiaries and 50.9 million euros). [27 March 2023] As part of the e-EFKA emergency payments, with a lump sum payment, on March 31, 2023, the</p>

		<p>extraordinary financial aid of 200-300 euros will be paid to pensioners with a personal difference between who receive medium and low pensions.^{1030, 1031, 1032}</p> <p>On 5 May 2022, the government announced a rebate of up to 60%, with a maximum of 600 euros, for extra charges paid for electricity from December 2021 until May, 2022. Only those making up to 45,000 euros a year are eligible for this rebate. It will come as a direct cash transfer to beneficiaries' bank accounts. For May and June, households will receive a 50% rebate for any increase in consumption above 300kWh.^{1033, 1034}</p> <p>[14 February 2023] Greece will disburse a one-time allowance to pensioners that is expected to cost around €300 million (\$322.8 million). Pensioners who didn't get any rise when the government increased their pensions at the end of 2022 will now benefit from the allowance. Each individual who is eligible for the extra allowance is expected to get from €200 to €300, depending on the level of their pension.^{1035, 1036}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On March 17th, the government announced new measures to target rising prices totaling 1.1 billion euros. One of which was a fuel rebate program which was set to last for three months. The subsidy comes in the form of a cash transfer through the use of an e-card for use at gas stations. The amount ranges between 30 to 50 euros for residents depending on the type of vehicle and location of residence (residents of islands will receive more than mainland residents). Only those individuals who made up to 30,000 euros in 2020 are eligible for this benefit. This is estimated to be 3 million people or roughly 1.4 million households. This measure accounts for roughly 130 million euros. On April 26th, the website for the fuel subsidy cash transfer program was launched and was made available. On 21 June 2022, the government announced it extends the fuel subsidy to motorists for another three months. i.e. for July, August and September 2022. At the same time, it increased the amount for car owners to 80 euros in the mainland and 100 euros on the islands. For motorcycle owners the amount will be €60 and €70, respectively. The subsidy will benefit around 3.1 million motorists. The subsidy is for the whole quarter (3 months) and not on monthly basis. Total cost of the subsidy for "Fuel Pass 2" is estimated at 375 million euros, while the total subsidy for FUELPASS 1 and 2 is 580 million euros.</p>

		[September 2022] Roughly 3 million (2,963,261) Greeks submitted an application to the platform Fuel Pass 2 until September 1, 2022, in order to receive the support amount to cover the cost of the fuel consumption for their vehicles for the months of July, August and September. The total offered amount touches 199,384,275 euros. ^{1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	[15 September 2022] Extension of the maternity allowance in the private sector from 6 to 9 months. The measure aims to support families and equalise the private and public sector and can be applied to the father as well. During the Special Maternity Leave, OAED (the Hellenic Manpower Employment Organization) will continue to pay the mother a monthly amount equal to the minimum wage, plus a proportion of holiday allowance, as it happens now. ¹⁰⁴²
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[29 December 2022] The 7.75% raise in basic pension checks as of January 1, 2023 was signed and it will affect the monthly paychecks will affect 1,724,713 pensioners. As of September 2022, the estimated cost of the measure was at least 600 million euros. ^{1043, 1044}
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	<p>[September 2022] The 2023 budget prolongs the three percentage point reduction to insurance contributions for private sector employees.¹⁰⁴⁵</p> <p>[10 February 2023] As of 01.01.2023, social security contributions of pension and health coverage of free lancers and self-employed, covered by e-E.F.K.A., are increased and formed on a monthly basis and for a 12-month period.¹⁰⁴⁶</p> <p>[10 February 2023] The upper limit of employees' salary for the calculation of social security contributions of employees and employers is increased from the amount of € 6,500 to the amount of € 7,126.94.</p> <p>[September 2022] The 2023 budget prolongs the three-percentage point reduction to insurance contributions for private sector employees.¹⁰⁴⁷</p>

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[April 2022] Greece has decided to increase the minimum wage to €713 before taxes from €663. The measure will be put into effect on 1 May and will concern approximately 650,000 employees. [17 March 2023] The government announced that from April 1, the minimum monthly wage will increase to 780 euros. ^{1048, 1049}
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	[September 2022] The 2023 draft budget includes abolishing a solidarity tax on all revenues as of January 1, 2023. The estimated cost of the measure is 1.24 billion euros. ¹⁰⁵⁰
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 17th, as part of the three-month 1.1 billion euros package, there will also be a measure to support farmers and stockbreeders by reducing taxes on fertilizers and animal feed. [October 2022] The Government has said it intends to permanently reduce VAT on fertilizers and animal feed from 13 percent to six percent. [12 January 2023] The reduction is extended until 30 June 2023.^{1051, 1052, 1053}</p> <p>[September 2022] The 2023 draft budget extends low VAT to transport, coffee, non-alcoholic beverages, gyms, dance schools, films and tourism packages to June 2023. The estimated cost of the measure is 246 mln euros.¹⁰⁵⁴</p> <p>[19 January 2023] A super reduced VAT at 6% is applicable to electricity, natural gas and district heating. The measure has been in place since May 2019.^{1055, 1056}</p>

Grenada

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>[March 2022] There is a price cap of EC\$15 on fuel in the form of a government subsidy in Grenada.¹⁰⁵⁷</p> <p>[December 2021] There is a price cap of EC\$15 on fuel in the form of a government subsidy in Grenada. In December 2021 the administration announced the EC\$15 cap on fuel because of escalating prices on the international market. On September 2022, the government announced that if the price of fuel was to increase beyond EC\$17 after the removal of the cap on 18 September, then Government would set a new cap of EC\$17. [September 2022] The government of Grenada announced that it would seek to remove the price cap on fuel.^{1058, 1059}</p>
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>[September 2022] the government announced has again taken the decision to continue to maintain the fixed price of the 20 lbs LPG gas (cooking gas) at EC\$40¹⁰⁶⁰</p> <p>[March 7, 2023] The government of Grenada announced a new utility discount in the form of a subsidy to an estimated 21,000 low-income households. This will be a EC\$10 a month subsidy or credit that is set to last for 12 months. The first month affected is February of 2023, the electric bill for that month (charged in March) will reflect the subsidy for the 21,000 eligible households. This new measure will act in conjunction with other electricity reduction measures.¹⁰⁶¹</p> <p>[December 2022] The Grenada government will implement an electricity subsidy of EC\$10 per month for all residential consumers consuming up to 99 kWh per month at an estimated cost of \$2.4 million.^{1062, 1063}</p> <p>[September 2022] the government announced has again taken the decision to continue to maintain the fixed price of the 20 lbs LPG gas (cooking gas) at EC\$40. [December 2022] On the Budget Speech is mentioned that the government will maintain the fixed price of the 20 lbs LPG cylinder at \$40.¹⁰⁶⁴</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	

	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>[24 December 2021] The government of Grenada announced the removal of the Environmental Levy for consumption up to 500 kWh until December 31, 2022. \$10 is applied to the bill where usage is more than 500 kWh. No charge is applicable for usage up to 500 kWh. [February 1, 2023] This measure has now ended, and the environmental levy has been reinstated.^{1065, 1066}</p> <p>[17 September 2022] The Government of Grenada removed all taxes on petrol. This means retailers and buyers will not be paying any taxes on petrol which is defined by law as gasoline and diesel, until the policy is reviewed in December 2022.</p> <p>[December 2022] Effective January 18, 2023, the government will reintroduce the</p>

		<p>Petrol Tax at a rate of \$3.50 per gallon instead of \$5.50 on duty-paid sales at an estimated revenue foregone of \$18.8 million.¹⁰⁶⁷</p> <p>[September 29, 2022] The government announced that from 1 October will cap the freight back to 2019 levels for 6 months to ease the burden on the average citizen. The projection indicates that the Government will be losing significant revenue as a result of that, as much as EC\$4 millions.¹⁰⁶⁸</p> <p>[December 2022] Effective February 1, 2023, the government of Grenada will reduce the VAT on electricity consumption from 15.0% to 7.5% for all consumers and reinstate the policy of zero-rating the VAT on electricity consumption up to 99 kWh for residential consumers. This measure only applies to the electricity consumption originating from fuel. The VAT is still in effect for other origins of electricity. The estimated revenue foregone is \$3.7 million.¹⁰⁶⁹</p> <p>[December 2022] In 2023, the following additional cost-of-living and other relief measures will be rolled out: We will exempt VAT on the following food items and other necessities, effective February 2023 to be reviewed in December of 2023 (Soya Chunks, Veggie Patties, Olive oil, Canola oil, Soya bean oil, Sunflower oil, Coconut oil, Red kidney beans, Black-eye peas, Lentil peas, Hand sanitizers, Adult diapers, Baby diapers, Toothpaste, Toilet Paper, Bathing Soap, Laundry Soap, Sanitary Napkins, Condoms) and we will grant 100% concessions on CET and VAT for selected production equipment to support the Creative Economy for 12 months (to be reviewed), starting February 1, 2023. The total estimated revenue foregone for the two above measures is \$2.5 million. We will reduce the VAT rate on mobile and broadband data from 20% to 15%, starting February 1, 2023 (to be reviewed in December 2023) consistent with Government's policy to build a digital economy. The estimated revenue foregone is \$3.3 million.¹⁰⁷⁰</p>

Guatemala

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On April 4, 2022, a new law was introduced in Guatemala to provide a fuel subsidy of 5 Quetzal per gallon of diesel fuel and 2.5 Quetzal or regular gasoline to consumers for a period of two months. [Extension] On May 18th, the government approved an extension and expansion of the previous subsidy law for fuel. The subsidy will increase from 2.5Q for a gallon of regular gas to 5Q. There will be a new 5Q per gallon subsidy for superior gasoline. Diesel gasoline will receive 7Q per gallon subsidy, an increase from 5Q as outlined in the previous decree. These subsidies are also extended until September 30th. [October 2022] The subsidy has now ended as the budget for the subsidy has been depleted, the total spent for the first subsidy was Q750 million and lasted two months. The second subsidy (or extension) went into force May 31, 2022 and had an expenditure of Q2.6 billion.^{1071, 1072, 1073, 1074}</p> <p>On April 4, a new law was introduced to provide a fuel subsidy of 5 Quetzal per gallon of diesel fuel and 2.5 Quetzal for regular gasoline to consumers for a period of two months.¹⁰⁷⁵ [Extension] On May 18th, the government approved an extension and expansion of the previous subsidy law for fuel. The subsidy will increase from 2.5Q for a gallon of regular gas to 5Q. There will be a new 5Q per gallon subsidy for superior gasoline. Diesel gasoline will receive 7Q per gallon subsidy, an increase from 5Q as outlined in the previous decree. These subsidies are also extended until August 4th.^{1076, 1077, 1078}</p>
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On April 1st, the government of Guatemala implemented a fee subsidy to lower the cost of electricity. The name of the program is the Fortalecimiento del Aporte Social de la Tarifa Eléctrica. In the first month (April) the benefit reached almost 10 million people. This measure is set to last until the end of 2022. The budget allocated for this measure is upwards of Q931 million, with roughly half coming from the government and the other from the energy company. Q80 million was spent in the first month alone. [January 11, 2023] The government announced a further expansion of the program as well as an extension until June 2023. The horizontal expansion seeks to reach an additional 447,544 households, about 2,237,000 individuals. The government will add an additional Q197 million.¹⁰⁷⁹</p>

		<p>Since December of 2021, the Guatemalan government has subsidized liquid propane gas in cylinders so as to counteract the increase in global prices. Up until September 2022, the government has spent Q320 million. On September 8th, it was announced that this measure would be extended for an additional two months (it has been extended multiple times since December 2021). [November 23, 2022] The government announced another extension to subsidy for propane gas, now set to last through January 2023. Based on the previous extension, this subsidy was set to end November 30th, 2022 and it has now been extended again. [February 22, 2023] The government announced an extension on the subsidy for propane gas, this is the 6th extension since the original measure was implemented in 2021. It will go into effect March 16, 2023 and is set to last for three months.^{1080, 1081}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>On October 27th, 2022, the government announced a 10% vertical expansion for pensions under the Régimen de Clases Pasivas Civiles del Estado in response to growing inflation and the high cost of the basic goods basket. This measure entered into force on November 1st and is set to reach 104 thousand retirees. It is expected to cost an additional Q50 million a month. That means that, for the rest of this fiscal year, Q100 million will be allocated and for 2023, about Q600 million. The resources to cover what is necessary for this year will come from readjustments and for the next, cash balance funds.^{1082, 1083}</p>
	Unemployment benefits	

	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Guinea

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On March 24, 2022, Guinea regulated the prices of certain necessities on the market: rice, flour, sugar, oil and onion. ^{1084, 1085}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On March 24, 2022, Guinea announced to stabilize the prices of water, electricity and domestic gas throughout the period of three months. ^{1086, 1087} On March 24, 2022, Guinea announced that there is a limitation of up to three months' rent advance that landlords can charge from their residential rentals. This measure has ended. ¹⁰⁸⁸
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	

Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 24, 2022, Guinea announced that the customs duties will be reduced on certain essential products, including rice and consumer sugar. ¹⁰⁸⁹

Guinea-Bissau

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	[April 2022] The Guinean government set new prices for rice, sugar and wheat flour. The measure determines that a 50-kilogram bag of rice will cost the public 17,500 CFA francs (about 26 euros), a bag of sugar 25,000 CFA francs (about 38 euros) and a bag of wheat flour 23,000 CFA francs (around 30 euros). ¹⁰⁹⁰
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On 21 December 2022, the African Development Bank is organizing an Emergency Food Security Support Project in Guinea-Bissau financed through a TSF grant (Pillar 1) of UA 5 million, will provide 46,635 vulnerable households (at least 50% women) with: (i) 1,253 tonnes of certified climate-resilient cereal seeds, 364 kg of certified vegetable seeds, 520 tonnes of cassava, yam, and cocoyam cuttings, and 5,000 ml of sweet potato cords; (ii) 1,350 tonnes of fertilisers (NPK and urea) and 1,832 litres of insecticides; and (iii) support for poultry production. The proposed investments will allow for the sowing of about 32,096 ha of land and generate additional agricultural production of 37,335 tonnes, including 1,519 tonnes of market garden produce. Furthermore, an annual production of 5,400 fertile eggs and 4,000 broilers is also expected. ¹⁰⁹¹
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
Public works		
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Guyana

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On October 1st, the government announced that it would cut the cost of gasoline by 20% and the cost of diesel by 15% from the Guyana Oil Company Limited which is the state sponsored fuel company. The hope is that then other fuel providers will have to follow suit in order to stay competitive. This will reduce the burden on motorists and overall help to lower prices. ^{1092, 1093}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On May 16th, Guyana's president announced a new one-off cash transfer of \$25,000 to every household in the Riverine and Hinterland communities. This will cost a total of \$800 million and therefore cover 32,000 households. ^{1094, 1095}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On May 16th, Guyana's president announced that the government will be purchasing \$1 billion worth of fertilizer for free distribution to farmers. ¹⁰⁹⁶
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[January 1, 2023] The government of Guyana announced an increase to the old age pension from \$28,000 to \$33,000. This will impact some 73,000 senior citizens. ¹⁰⁹⁷
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	

	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	[January 2022] The government of Guyana announced the reduction of the excise tax on gasoline from 20% to 10%. [March 23, 2022] Guyana announced the full removal of the excise tax on gasoline and diesel fuel to lower prices for consumers amidst the rise in global prices. ^{1098, 1099}

Haiti

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On May 5th, the government launched a new temporary emergency social assistance program seeking poverty alleviation and social inclusion. One of the components was an agriculture subsidy to 45,000 rural farmers to boost production. ¹¹⁰⁰
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On May 5th, the government launched a new temporary emergency social assistance program seeking poverty alleviation and social inclusion. One of the components was a cash transfer of 3,000 gourdes per month to 50,000 families for a duration of 3 months. ¹¹⁰¹
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On May 5th, the government launched a new temporary emergency social assistance program seeking poverty alleviation and social inclusion. One of the components was a school education voucher to be distributed to 25,000 students. ¹¹⁰² On May 5th, the government launched a new temporary emergency social assistance program seeking poverty alleviation and social inclusion. One of the components was an in-kind transfer of hot meals to underserved communities. The in-kind transfer was of 100,000 food kits a month. ¹¹⁰³
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	On May 5th, the government launched a new temporary emergency social assistance program seeking poverty alleviation and social inclusion. One of the components was a cash for work program aimed at providing 90,000 temporary jobs in urban areas for 3 months. ¹¹⁰⁴
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	

	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Honduras

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On March 15th, the government implemented a fuel subsidy that will cover 50% of the increase in the price of diesel. [March 2023] The government announced that the subsidy for fuel for 2022 cost the government 5.118 billion lempiras. ^{1105, 1106} On February 4th, 2022, the government implemented a price stabilization strategy for liquid cooking gas set to last until December 31st, 2022. ¹¹⁰⁷
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	

Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Hong Kong

	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
Subsidies	Fees subsidies	<p>On March 30, 2022, Hong Kong households to get HK\$1,000 electricity subsidy from June. Starting from June, a subsidy of HK\$80 will be credited to each residential electricity account with the city’s two electricity companies in existence on the first day of each month for 11 consecutive months, and HK\$120 in the 12th month, making up to a total of HK\$1,000.^{1108, 1109}</p> <p>On March 30, 2022, Hong Kong households to get HK\$1,000 electricity subsidy from June. Starting from June, a subsidy of HK\$80 will be credited to each residential electricity account with the city’s two electricity companies in existence on the first day of each month for 11 consecutive months, and HK\$120 in the 12th month, making up to a total of HK\$1,000. The measure would cost HK\$2.8 billion. Program has been updated for 2023. On 22 February 2023, the program has been extended until 2025.^{1110, 1111}</p> <p>On Feb 22, 2023, Hong Kong announced its budget for 2023. The government will cover university entrance examination fees for school candidates who will be sitting for the 2024 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination. The measure is set to cost HK\$151 million.^{1112, 1113}</p> <p>On Feb 22, 2023, Hong Kong announced its budget for 2023. The government will hand out a HK\$1,000 subsidy to eligible residential electricity account holders, incurring a public expenditure of around HK\$2.9 billion.^{1114, 1115, 1116}</p> <p>On Feb 22, 2023, Hong Kong announced its budget for 2023. Residents in Hong Kong will continue to enjoy public transport subsidies as plans to extend the current temporary special measures under the Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme until October this year (2023). The government will cover one third of the commuters’ actual monthly public transport expenses exceeding HK\$200, subject to a maximum of HK\$500. Around 3.5 million commuters would benefit monthly, with the measure costing the government an additional HK\$1.08 billion. The Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme had been scheduled to end on October 31,</p>

		<p>2022, but travellers will now continue to receive a subsidy amounting to one-third of their monthly public transport expenses above \$200 until April 30. The subsidy is capped at \$500 per month. The program was announced in Dec 2018 and it was supposed to come an end by June 2020 but it has been getting extensions since then due to the crisis.^{1117, 1118, 1119}</p> <p>On Feb 22, 2023, Hong Kong announced its budget for 2023. It is extending the current arrangement of distributing electricity charges relief of \$50 a month to each account to end 2025.^{1120, 1121}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On Feb 22, 2023, Hong Kong announced its budget for 2023. It proposed raising the basic child allowance and the additional child allowance for each child from HK\$120,000 to HK\$130,000. The policy is set to benefit 324,000 taxpayers and cut tax revenue by HK\$610 million every year. ^{1122, 1123}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	On Feb 22, 2023, Hong Kong announced its budget for 2023. Repeating last year's relief measure, eligible social security recipients will receive an allowance equivalent to half a month of the standard rate Comprehensive Social Security Assistance payments, Old Age Allowance, Old Age Living Allowance or Disability Allowance. The financial chief said that the additional expense would stand at around HK\$2.721 billion. ^{1124, 1125}
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	On Feb 22, 2023, Hong Kong announced its budget for 2023. The government is handing Hong Kong residents another round of consumption vouchers. The vouchers totaling HKD 5,000 will be distributed in two instalments. While the first HKD 3,000 will be available in users' electronic wallets in April, the remaining HKD 2,000 will be available mid-year. Only those aged 18 or above are eligible to receive the voucher. The consumption vouchers are available for use at local retail, catering, and service outlets. In last year's budget the vouchers were worth HK\$10,000. ¹¹²⁶
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	

	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	On March 30, 2022, Hong Kong government to spend additional HK\$12 billion on revamped wage subsidy scheme. Eligible employers will receive subsidies in the fixed amount of HK\$8,000 for each full-time employee it employs who earns less than HK\$30,000 per month. Employers will not be able to apply for subsidies in respect of employees earning more than that amount. [Update] On August 22, 2022, The Hong Kong government announced that it has completed the processing of all applications under the Temporary Unemployment Relief Scheme. Among the 470,000 applications received, up to 350,000 applicants have been granted the subsidies, which far exceeds the original estimate of 300,000 beneficiaries. Total subsidies granted amount to HK\$3.5bn. [Update] On November 18, 2022, The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government approved, as of October, total HK\$12.1 billion in wage subsidies for May to eligible employers as part of its employment support scheme under the Anti-epidemic Fund, according to the city’s labor and welfare chief. The subsidies were meant for about 1.57 million employees, of whom some 1.48 million were granted “full subsidy”, 80,000 “half subsidy” and 10,000 others were granted “elderly subsidy”. The Employment Support Scheme Secretariat also approved wage subsidy applications of over 150,000 employers – which is about 90 percent of the eligible employers – for the months of June and July, he said, adding that it involves over HK\$20 billion and around 1.35 million employees. ^{1127, 1128, 1129}
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Hungary

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	Price caps on gasoline and diesel at a max of 1.30 euros were initially announced on November 11, 2021 for a duration of three months. On February 12, 2022, the same price cap was extended another three months. [Extension] On April 27th, the government announced the extension of the price cap of 480 forints (about 1.30 euros) per liter of gasoline until July 1. [Extension] The same price cap on fuel is now set to run until October, but narrowed the coverage by restricting the price-capped on petrol and diesel to privately-owned vehicles, farm vehicles and taxis, and exclude company-owned cars. [Extension] On September 17th, the government announced another extension for the price caps for fuel. This one set to last until the end of the year, 3 months. [December 6, 2022] The government decided to end the price cap early due to shortages. It ended December 7, 2022 instead of lasting until the end of the month. ^{1130, 1131, 1132}
	Food subsidies	In February 2022, the government announced a price cap on stable food products. These include sugar, wheat flour, chicken breast, pork legs, sunflower oil, etc. It was set to last until May 1st. [Extension] In June, the government announced that this measure would be extended further until October. [Extension] On September 17th, the government announced that the measure would be extended another 3 months, until the end of the year. [December 13, 2022] The government announced an extension of the price caps on some food products until the end of April 2023. ^{1133, 1134, 1135, 1136}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	

Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On March 4, 2022, Hungary imposed restriction all grain (wheat, rye, barley, oats, corn, soybeans and sunflower seed) exports by imposing export licensing requirements effective immediately due to price increases caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. ¹¹³⁷
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Iceland

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	[May 2022] Iceland's Housing benefits will go up by ten percent from June 1st, and the income threshold will go up by three percent. This will cost the treasury one billion krónur per year. [12 December 2022] Housing benefits for tenants will increase by 13.8% at the beginning of next year and the income reduction limit for housing benefits will increase by 7.4%, amounting to 1.1 billion ISK. Total Housing Benefit will amount of 9.6 billion ISK in 2023. ^{1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	[12 December 2022] The child benefit system will be simplified, support for families with children strengthened and the number of families receiving support increased. Simultaneous payments of child benefits will be introduced so that the waiting time for benefits will never be longer than 4 months after the birth of a child. The total amount of child benefits will be ISK 5 billion more than in the current system in the next two years. The number of supported families increased by 2,900. Amount per child: 310,000 for parents in coexistence; 460,000 for a single parent; 130,000 supplements for a child under 7 years old. ^{1143, 1144, 1145}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[12 December 2022] Over a billion is proposed to increase the free income threshold for the disabled to 200,000 ISK per month and that 5 billion ISK will be given away from personal income tax, but local government revenue will be increased in return to improve their performance in relation to the status of the disabled. ^{1146, 1147}
	Unemployment benefits	

	Social security contributions waiver	[May 2022] The government has announced plans to dampen the impact of inflation on low earners in Iceland by increasing benefits. The announced package includes general insurance fund benefits increasing by three percent from the start of June, at a cost of 14 billion krónur to the treasury. ¹¹⁴⁸
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

India

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On April 26, 2022. It was announced that for the budget of 2022-23, India has allocated Rs 2.06 lakh crore (trillion) for food subsidy. This is 97% of the budget for the Department of Food and Public Distribution, which is in charge of the India's Public Distribution System. [Update] On December 7, 2022, India's spending on subsidised foodgrain to the poor may rise to 2.7 trillion rupees (\$32.74 billion) this fiscal year, as the government continues to provide support to the poor at least until December. Federal government food subsidies will likely increase by 30% over the 2.07 trillion rupees (\$25.14 billion) estimated in the budget. India's foodgrain subsidy bill has jumped sharply since the government announced a scheme in April 2020 to provide free rice or wheat to about 800 million people to reduce the pressure on household incomes from the COVID-19 pandemic. The scheme has been slated to run from April 2020 to December 2022, leading to a total expenditure of 3.9 trillion rupees (\$47.25 billion). On December 23, 2022. India announced that it will spend 2 trillion rupees (\$24 Billion) on Free Grains for 800 Million People. The new initiative will replace an earlier drive of highly subsidized food grains for eligible people in the world's second-biggest producer and consumer of wheat and rice. [Update] On Feb 01, 2023, Finance Department announced during that subsidy on food grain has been cut to Rs 1.97 lakh crore from Rs 2.87 lakh crore incurred in the previous fiscal year. ^{1149, 1150}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On 16 March 2022, it is reported that the ongoing Ukraine conflict is likely to erode India's funds on agricultural inputs such as fertilizers and its subsidy bill is expected to increase by Rs 10,000-15,000 crore. The government, on March 14, sought the Parliament's consent for net additional spending of over Rs 1.07 lakh crore (I.e., 1.07 trillion), including about Rs 15,000 crore towards fertilizer subsidy. ¹¹⁵¹
	Fees subsidies	On March 11, 2023, Punjab Govt allocated ₹7,780 cr for power subsidy to domestic consumers. Presenting the budget for 2023-24 fiscal, finance minister said 87% of domestic consumers in Punjab are benefitting from the scheme and are getting zero bills. There are 76 lakh domestic consumers in the state. ¹¹⁵²
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	

	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On May 13, 2022, India has banned exports of wheat effective immediately. It highlighted a risk to food security, partly due to the war in Ukraine as well as due to a scorching heatwave curtailed output (as much as by 50% in some regions of the country) and as a result domestic prices hit a record high. [Update] On Feb 8, 2023, India is considering extending its wheat export ban to bring down domestic prices and replenish state reserves.¹¹⁵³</p> <p>On May 24, 2022, India has imposed export restriction on sugar (raw, refined and white sugar) by setting a cap of 10 million tons on sugar exports to ensure domestic availability. The export restriction will be in place starting from June 1, 2022, until the end of October. [Update] On October 29, 2022, India has extended curbs on sugar exports by one year until October 2023.^{1154, 1155}</p>

		On July 7, 2022, India has tweaked export policy for wheat flour and asked traders to secure permission before exporting the commodity. On, August 25, 2022, the government has increased the restriction by putting a ban on wheat flour, maida, semolina. [Update] On Oct 14, 2022, The Indian government has decided to allow exports of wheat flour - under the advance authorization scheme - by export-oriented units and firms in special economic zones (SEZs). These organizations can only export wheat flour made from imported wheat and not flour made from domestically procured wheat. ^{1156, 1157, 1158}
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On November 4, 2021, India had cut excise duty to give relief from prices that had reached an all-time high level. The government had reduced the duty on petrol by ₹5 per liter and on diesel by ₹10 a liter, leading to a substantial reduction in prices of fuel.¹¹⁵⁹</p> <p>In December 2021, the Delhi government, in India, had reduced the value-added tax (VAT) on petrol from 30 per cent to 19.40 per cent. With this, petrol prices in the national capital were slashed by ₹ 8.56 per liter.¹¹⁶⁰</p>

Indonesia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On January 2022 to 31 May 2022, the government allocated IDR 7.2 trillion to subsidize cooking oil. The subsidy scheme compensated producers for IDR 14,000 per liter and the difference from market price was covered using funds from the Palm Oil Support Fund Agency (BPDPKS). On 1 June 2022, the government switched the subsidy program for raw material price cap to increase supply by applying domestic market obligation (DMO). The government expects to increase domestic bulk cooking oil supplies up to 12,000 tons a day, from 9,000 tons previously and aims to maintain the price at IDR 14.000. ¹¹⁶¹
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On May 19 2022, the government obtained the Parliament's approval for additional spending of IDR 3.1 trillion for electricity subsidy (from national budget) and IDR 21.4 trillion for electricity compensation (outside national budget) from state utility firm PLN. ¹¹⁶²
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On 5 April 2022, in response to the increase of cooking oil, government committed to distribute unconditional cash transfers (BLT minyak goreng) of IDR 6.9 trillion for poor households and street vendors. Each beneficiary receives IDR 100,000/month in April-June. On 19 May 2022, the government obtained the Parliament's approval for additional spending of over IDR 18.6 trillion for social protection programs, including Unconditional Cash Transfer for 20.65 million beneficiaries and Cash Assistance for Micro Enterprises.¹¹⁶³</p> <p>On 3 September 2022, in response to the increase of energy prices (pertalite, solar, and pertamax), the government announced 3 programs. The Unconditional Cash Transfer (Bantuan Langsung Tunai/BLT) for 20.65 million of beneficiaries with total budget of IDR 12.4 trillion.^{1164, 1165}</p> <p>On 3 September 2022, in response to the increase of energy prices (pertalite, solar, and pertamax), the government announced 3 programs. The government would also provide cash handouts to 16 million workers who make less than 3.5 million rupiah per month, with total budget of IDR9.6 trillion.^{1166, 1167}</p> <p>On 3 September 2022, in response to the increase of energy prices (pertalite, solar, and pertamax), the government announced 3 programs. The Transportation</p>

		transfer (Bantuan Angkutan Umum/BAU) for public transportation, ride-hailing drivers, and fisherman with total budget of IDR 2.17 trillion. ¹¹⁶⁸
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On 22 April, 2022, Indonesia imposed a ban on the export of palm oil. However, on May 19, 2022, it announced to lift the ban to ease the tight pressure on global food prices. On May 20, 2022, the government again re-imposed domestic sales requirement on palm oil. On February 9, 2023, Indonesia clamped down on palm oil exports to control domestic price. The move represents the latest turnaround in Indonesian government policy, which has veered from last year's outright ban on palm oil exports. ^{1169, 1170, 1171}
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Iran

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On May 9, 2022, Iran announced that it will provide cash compensations for raise in prices of bread. It will pay monthly around 4 million rials (about \$15) to 30 percent of the population at the lowest-income groups, and around 3 million to 60 percent of the population. The 10 percent at the highest income level will receive no cash handouts. ¹¹⁷²
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On April 4, 2022, Iran in an attempt to cushion the price hikes, reduced VAT rates on certain goods and services. Instead at 13%, the following is now taxed at a reduced rate of 5%: edible oils and fats; baby food; certain live animals and fish, fresh and chilled meat, sausages, fish, crabs; poultry, eggs; fresh and

		chilled vegetables; fresh and dried fruit and nuts; seeds and seedlings, fertilizers, pesticides; and concert tickets. Similarly, instead of the standard rate of 25%, a reduced rate of 5% now applies to: butter and margarine, and tickets for sporting and cultural events. Next, instead of the standard rate of 25%, a reduced rate of 13% now applies to: natural gas and heat energy; pellets, briquette, wood chips and firewood; and sanitary products. Exceptionally, a VAT rate of 5% applies on the supply of natural gas until 31 March next year. It remains to be seen to which extent these reduced VAT rates will bring down prices for end consumers. ¹¹⁷³
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Iraq

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On June 8, 2022, the Iraqi parliament endorsed the emergency food security law. The law aims to secure financial resources for food security, reduce poverty and insure financial sustainability. ¹¹⁷⁴
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On June 8, 2022, the Iraqi parliament endorsed the emergency food security law, the law aims to secure financial resources for food security, reduce poverty and insure financial sustainability. The cost is \$3.4 billion, and it aims to cover 95% of the population. This measure covers 35,000 individuals. ¹¹⁷⁵
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	On April 14, 2022, Iraq in response to the increasing prices of various commodities, Iraq suspends the import restriction (in the form of import

		licenses) on some goods, including food items, consumables, and medicines until June 8, 2022. ¹¹⁷⁶ On November 2, 2021, Iraq imposed restriction on the import of the following product and such products requires special approval before importing: agriculture seeds, live animals, chemicals and harmful materials, pharmaceutical products, products containing alcohol, pornography, and archaeological artifacts. ¹¹⁷⁷
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 10, 2022, Iraq announced to suspend customs duties on basic commodities such as foodstuffs, construction materials and essential consumables for a period of three months. ¹¹⁷⁸ Initially, this measure was announced for 2 months but increased to 3 months. ¹¹⁷⁹

Ireland

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	[1 January 2023] The Fuel Allowance income threshold will increase from €120 to €200 above the applicable State Pension (Contributory) rate for people aged under 70 (January 2023). People aged 70 and over can qualify for Fuel Allowance as long as their weekly means (which includes their State Pension) is not above €500 per week for a single person and €1,000 per week for a couple (January 2023). Disablement Benefit and half-rate Carer's Allowance will be disregarded in the means test for Fuel Allowance (January 2023). To get Fuel Allowance you must: live alone (or only with certain people listed below); be getting a qualifying payment (unless you are 70 or over); satisfy a means test. You can choose to get the Fuel Allowance paid every week or paid in 2 instalments (lump sums). ¹¹⁸⁰
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On 7 March 2022, Ireland announced that electricity credit payment to households was doubled to €200 and will continue through to March and April. Funding for the scheme had also to increase accordingly, from €215 million to €400 million.¹¹⁸¹ This €200 (including VAT) electricity credit will be automatically applied to domestic electricity customers' accounts, and it will appear either as a credit on the bill or as a top-up on the prepay meter. If the first billable amount, after the credit is applied to the account, is lower than the value of the credit, the credit will remain on the account and pass onto the following bill(s). The Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) has advised that the credit is for use against electricity consumption and is not refundable.^{1182, 1183}</p> <p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. Every household will receive 600 euros off their next three energy bills, to be paid in 3 instalments of €200; the first payment will be made before Christmas, with two further instalments in the New Year. The total cost of this measure is some €1.2 billion.¹¹⁸⁴</p> <p>[27 September 2022] In Ireland, the 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. There will be a €1,000 increase to the post graduate tuition fee contribution grant.¹¹⁸⁵</p>

		<p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. The Government is extending the 20% public transport fare reduction and the Youth Travel Card discount of 50% on all operators' services to end 2023.¹¹⁸⁶</p> <p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. The Government is extending the Young Adult Leap Card discount of 50% on all operators' services to end 2023. The Young Adult Leap Card will be extended to 16, 17 and 18 year olds in third-level education.^{1187, 1188}</p> <p>[21 February 2023] Ireland announced that there will be no exam fees this year.¹¹⁸⁹</p> <p>[21 February 2023] The fee for the School Transport Scheme 2023-2024 will be reduced to €50 per primary school child and €75 per secondary school child. A cap of €125 per family will apply.¹¹⁹⁰</p> <p>[1 January 2023] The introduction of a new low-cost loan scheme for residential retrofit. Credit institutions will be able to offer loans at reduced interest rates to private homeowners and non-corporate landlords to make home energy efficiency upgrades.¹¹⁹¹</p> <p>[September 2022] The student contribution is reduced by €1000 for undergraduate students who are eligible for free fees. Students on the 50% student contribution rate will get a reduction of €500 in their contribution rate.¹¹⁹²</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. To provide further assistance with energy bills to the most vulnerable, in addition to the normal weekly fuel allowance payment, a lump sum payment of €400 will be made before Christmas to recipients of this support.¹¹⁹³</p> <p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. To support those in receipt of a weekly social welfare payment, the Government is providing for a once-off double week "Cost of Living Support" payment to all qualifying social protection</p>

		<p>recipients. This will be paid in October and will include pensioners, carers, people on disability payments and jobseekers.¹¹⁹⁴</p> <p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. The Government confirms to the House that the normal Christmas Bonus will be paid in early December.¹¹⁹⁵</p> <p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. To support low income working households, the Government is providing for an additional lump sum payment of €500 to those in receipt of the Working Family Payment. This will be payable in November.¹¹⁹⁶</p> <p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. In November, the Government will make a double Child Benefit payment to all qualifying households. This is worth €140 per child in addition to the normal monthly payment.¹¹⁹⁷</p> <p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. To acknowledge the additional costs that carers are incurring at this time, the Government will be making a payment of €500 to those who qualify for the Carer's Support Grant in November.¹¹⁹⁸</p> <p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. The Government will make a once-off payment before Christmas of €200 to recipients of the Living Alone Increase.¹¹⁹⁹</p> <p>[27 September 2022] The 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. It is important that we acknowledge that persons living with a disability face additional costs. In this regard, a once-off payment of €500 to those who qualify for Disability Allowance, Invalidity Pension and the Blind Pension will be made in November.¹²⁰⁰</p> <p>[27 September 2022] In Ireland, the 2023 Budget envisions €2.2 billion in total value for the new cost of living measures for households. To support students and</p>
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		<p>their families, the Government is announcing a range of measures that will benefit young people including a one-off double monthly payment for those in receipt of the SUSI maintenance grant.¹²⁰¹</p> <p>[1 January 2023] An extra €200 to people who get Working Family Payment and do not qualify for the extra payment based on another social welfare payment will be paid in April.^{1202, 1203}</p> <p>[1 January 2023] An extra €200 for anyone who gets a weekly social welfare payment that qualifies for the Christmas Bonus.¹²⁰⁴</p> <p>[21 February 2023] The Additional Needs Payment can help you with an expense that you cannot pay from your weekly income. The amount that you can get depends on your circumstances and the type of help you need. You may get an Additional Needs Payment, if you are working and on a low income, or getting a social welfare payment.¹²⁰⁵</p> <p>[1 January 2023] The Back-to-School Clothing and Footwear Allowance (BSCFA) is a payment that can help with the cost of uniforms and footwear for children going to school. There will be a one-off €100 increase in the Back-to-School Clothing and Footwear Allowance in July. The BSCFA scheme opens in June 2023. The closing date for applications is 30 September 2023. You may get the Back-to-School Clothing and Footwear Allowance (BSCFA), if you have a child that qualifies, and you are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Getting a qualifying social welfare payment or participating in an approved employment, education or training support scheme. - Your household is within the BSCFA income limit. - You and each child you are claiming the BSCFA for is resident in Ireland.^{1206, 1207}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	<p>[1 January 2023] State Pension (Non-Contributory) will increase up to 264 euro in 2023.¹²⁰⁸</p> <p>[1 January 2023] Disability Allowance/Blind Pension will increase to 220 euro in 2023 from 208 euro.¹²⁰⁹</p>

	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>[1 January 2023] The maximum rate of all weekly social welfare payments will increase by €12 with proportional increases for qualified adults and people on reduced rates of payment (January 2023). People aged 25 and under who are getting a reduced rate of Jobseeker's Allowance will get the full €12 increase (January 2023).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carer's Allowance will increase up to 274 euro - Disability Allowance/Blind Pension will increase to 220 euro in 2023 from 208 euro - Widow's/Widower's/Surviving Civil Partner's (Non-Contributory) Pension will increase to 220 euro from 208 euro - One-Parent Family Payment will increase to 220 euro from 208 euro - Deserted Wife's Allowance will increase to 220 euro from 208 euro - Jobseeker's Allowance. People aged 25 and under who are getting a reduced rate of Jobseeker's Allowance will also get the full €12 increase - Supplementary Welfare Allowance - People getting Disability Allowance and Blind Pension will be able to earn up to €165 from work without affecting their payment. This is an increase of €25 on the previous threshold of €140 - Domiciliary Care Allowance (DCA) will increase by €20.50 from €309.50 to €330 - The Community Employment (CE), Tús and Rural Social Scheme top up payment will increase by €5 from €22.50 to €27.50 - The weekly rate for a qualified child will increase by €2 from €40 to €42 for children under 12 years of age. It will increase by €2 from €48 to €50 for children aged 12 years and over - The Working Family Payment income limits will increase by €40 across all family sizes - Farm Assist will increase to 220 euro in 2023 from 208 euro¹²¹⁰
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	[21 February 2023] The Hot School Meals programme will be extended to all DEIS primary schools from September, benefiting 64,500 children. ¹²¹¹
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	[1 January 2023] Maternity / Paternity / Adoptive / Parents Benefit will increase to 262 euro in 2023 from 250 euro in 2022 ¹²¹²
	Health insurance	[1 January 2023] Jobseeker's/Illness/Health and Safety/Injury Benefit will increase to 220 euro in 2023 from 208 in 2022. ¹²¹³

	Pensions	<p>[1 January 2023] State Pension (Contributory) will increase up to 275.30 euro in 2023.¹²¹⁴</p> <p>[1 January 2023] The maximum rate of all weekly social welfare payments will increase by €12 with proportional increases for qualified adults and people on reduced rates of payment (January 2023). People aged 25 and under who are getting a reduced rate of Jobseeker's Allowance will get the full €12 increase (January 2023).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invalidity pension will increase up to 225.50 euro from 213.50 euro in 2022 - Carer's Benefit/Constant Attendance Allowance will increase to 237 euro from 225 euro in 2022 - Disablement Benefit will increase to 251 euro from 239 in 2022¹²¹⁵
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>[21 February 2023] If you are paying for private rented accommodation, you can claim a new Rent Tax Credit of €500 a year for 2022 and subsequent years. This tax credit applies to each tenant rather than each tenancy. For rent you pay in 2022, you will be able to claim this credit early in 2023.¹²¹⁶</p> <p>[1 January 2023] Lower income taxes benefiting 1.5 million people.¹²¹⁷</p> <p>[1 January 2023] The standard rate income tax band (the amount you can earn before you start to pay the higher rate of tax) will be increased by €3,200 to €40,000 for a single person and to €49,000 for married couples with one earner.¹²¹⁸</p>

		<p>[1 January 2023] The following tax credits will increase by €75 to €1,775:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personal Tax Credit - Employee Tax Credit - Earned Income Tax Credit¹²¹⁹ <p>[1 January 2023] The following agricultural tax reliefs due to expire this year will be extended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Young Trained Farmer Stamp Duty Relief, Farm Consolidation Stamp Duty Relief and Farm Restructuring Capital Gains Tax Relief (extended to 31 December 2024) - Young Trained Farmer Stock Relief and Registered Farm Partnership Stock Relief (extended to 31 December 2025)¹²²⁰
Indirect tax		<p>On 27 April 2022, Ireland introduced two financial resolutions, of which the second one provides for an extension and enhancement of the excise duty decreases on mineral oil taxes the Government provided for in March. The VAT-inclusive 20 cent reduction in the mineral oil tax rate for petrol and the 15 cent reduction on auto diesel, with a proportionate 2 cent reduction for marked gas oil, MGO, also known as green diesel, were due to last until 31 August 2022. The cost of this measure was €320 million. The purpose of this financial resolution is to extend these temporary reductions until budget day, with effect from 1 May. The estimated cost of this change is €80 million. [September 2022] The measure is extended until next February 2023. [February 2023] The Financial Resolution extended these reductions to 31 May 2023, and provided for an incremental restoration to full rates by 31 October 2023. The extension, and phased reintroduction, of these excise reductions is estimated to cost €383 million.^{1221, 1222, 1223}</p> <p>On 27 April 2022, Ireland introduced two financial resolutions, of which the first one provides for a temporary reduction in VAT on gas and electricity. At present, gas and electricity have a 13.5% VAT rate applied. This will be reduced to a 9% VAT rate from 1 May to 31 October 2022. [September 2022] The measure is extended until 28 February 2023. [February 2023] The end date for this reduced VAT is now 31st October 2023 at an estimated cost of €115 million.^{1224, 1225, 1226, 1227}</p>

		<p>[1 January 2023] The VAT rate for newspapers (including digital editions) will be reduced from 9% to zero. VAT will also be reduced to zero for: Defibrillators; Period products; Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) and nicotine replacement therapy medicines that are not currently zero-rated (such as patches and gels). These VAT changes will apply from 1 January 2023.¹²²⁸</p>
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Israel

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	<p>On July 25, 2022, Israel introduced price control on several type of bread items so that even the poorest families can afford them. The products include white and whole wheat bread as well the traditional challah bread. The prices of these regulated breads would be moderately increased by 5%. They explained that the government had reached an agreement with Israel's major bakeries to increase the prices significantly less than the bakeries wished (36%). In exchange, the government agreed to lift price control measures by the end of April 2023. Another price hike is expected in December 2022.¹²²⁹</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On February 9, 2022, Israel as part of its cost of living package of 4.4 billion Shekels (\$1.37 billion) announce that middle-class working families are also expected to benefit from afternoon childcare subsidies, which will be extended to about 60,000 additional children in broader categories of socioeconomic standing, at an expected cost of NIS 150 million. The subsidy of the "Nitzanim" program for after-school care for children aged 3-8 will immediately increase by NIS 2,500 per school year per child, for households in the socio-economic cluster 4 and 5. A family with two children aged 3-8 in after school care in the relevant social clusters will save NIS 5,000 per year. Some 60,000 children are estimated to be eligible for the benefit in addition to clusters 1-3, who are already eligible for subsidies.</p> <p>The cost is estimated at NIS 150 million. As part of economic relief package announced on February 28, 2023, subsidies for afterschool childcare will be extended.^{1230 1231}</p> <p>On January 11, 2023, the government announced a package of measures to combat inflation. As part of the package, the increase in the water rate will be reduced at a rate similar to the reduction in the electricity rate. As a result of the move, households will save an increase of tens of shekels per year. The move was made thanks to the reduction of the electricity tariff as well as thanks to the waiver of a dividend from the Mekorot company, so that the amounts will instead be used to reduce the water tariff.¹²³²</p>

Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On February 9, 2022, Israel as part of its cost of living package of 4.4 billion Shekels (\$1.37 billion) announced that it would also create a negative income tax, in the form of a grant, to the approximately 300,000 low-wage earners who bring home less than the threshold for income taxation. They will receive a one-time bump of 20% to their 2022 take-home pay. The average amount is NIS 800 per year per employee, and can reach up to NIS 1,700 per year for mothers of three children. This measure, expected to cost NIS 250 million, will also require enacting legislation.^{1233, 1234}</p> <p>On January 11, 2023, the government announced a package of measures to combat inflation. As part of the package, a heating grant in the amount of NIS 608 will be paid every October by the National Insurance Institute to approximately 300,000 seniors who are entitled to supplemental income or to seniors who are entitled to a disability allowance.¹²³⁵</p> <p>On January 11, 2023, the government announced a package of measures to combat inflation. As part of the package, a heating grant aimed at vulnerable populations will be partially advanced so that those entitled to the grant will receive a payment of approximately NIS 200 now, instead of in October, in order to help them deal with the cost of living at this time of the year.¹²³⁶</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>On January 11, 2023, the government announced a package of measures to combat inflation. As part of the package, the National Insurance benefits increased in January 2023 according to the index updates. Most allowances were</p>

		updated at a rate of 5.3%, according to the Consumer Price Index update, and disability allowances were updated at a rate of 9.8%. ¹²³⁷ ,
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	On January 11, 2023, the government announced a package of measures to combat inflation. The collection scales of the National Insurance and the health tax were updated in January 2023 at a rate of 12.5% in accordance with the rate of average salary increase. As such, as part of the package of measures, all employees whose monthly salary is higher than NIS 6,331 will benefit from a reduction in the rate of provision for social security contributions and health tax of up to NIS 67 per month. ¹²³⁸
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On February 9, 2022, Israel as part of its cost-of-living package of 4.4 billion Shekels (\$1.37 billion) announced that the government will give an additional income tax credit point to each parent per child aged 6-12 in 2022. Each point is worth NIS 233 (\$73) that will be added to applicable families' take-home pay each month. The potential value of the benefit in a family where both spouses work therefore reaches up to NIS 5,352 per year, per child. About 530,000 tax-paying parents are expected to benefit from the plan and it would cost NIS 2.1 billion. On February 28, 2023, the government announced an increase in value of credit points for parents of children aged 13-18, to NIS 2,820 per child for a total of 5,640 per year, per child in a family where both spouses work, worth NIS 235 per point.¹²³⁹,¹²⁴⁰</p> <p>On January 11, 2023, the government announced a package of measures to combat inflation. As part of the package, A freeze will come into effect on the increase in residential property tax rates of 1.37%, which went into effect in</p>

		<p>January 2023. The step is expected to save about NIS 70 per year on average per household.¹²⁴¹</p> <p>On January 11, 2023, the government announced a package of measures to combat inflation. The income tax rates were updated in January 2023 in accordance with the update in the Consumer Price Index. In addition, the value of credit points was updated, and the value of the point increased from NIS 223 to NIS 235.¹²⁴²</p>
Indirect tax		<p>On April 5, 2022, Israel cuts excise tax on fuel and as a result, prices of gasoline and diesel will fall by NIS 0.50 per liter with immediate effect. The cut comes after fuel prices have risen to an eight-year high due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict.¹²⁴³ On July 31, 2022, government further cut the tax by the same amount, resulting to a total NIS 1 in tax relief per liter. This latest tax discount, however, is set to last only a month and prices are expected to go up again by half a shekel per liter by the end of August. The initial half-shekel tax reduction that began in April is set to expire at the end of January 2023. This is expected to cost 800 million shekels (\$250 million) over first three months. On January 11, 2023, the government announced a reduction of excise fuel taxes by NIS 0.10 a liter until the end of 2023.^{1244, 1245, 1246}</p> <p>On February 9, 2022, Israel as part of its cost of living package of 4.4 billion Shekels (\$1.37 billion) announced suspension of excise taxes on coal for the rest of 2022 in order to reduce the expected price hike of electricity from 5.6% to 3.4%. Coal prices rose over recent months. The measure requires approval from the Electricity Authority and is expected to cost NIS 600 million. On January 11, 2023, the government announced that it would reduce the planned electricity hike from 8.2% planned for January 2023 to 2.5%. The excise tax on coal will be reduced and accordingly the Electricity Authority will be able to reduce the electricity rate increase by approximately NIS 60 per year per household (a reduction of approximately 15% of the price increase), more steps are being taken to further reduce the price potentially resulting in 240 NIS savings per household.^{1247, 1248, 1249}</p>

		<p>On February 9, 2022, Israel as part of its cost of living package of 4.4 billion Shekels (\$1.37 billion) announced the plan to remove customs duties on beef, fish, seafood, canned tuna, sausages, sauces, dried fruits, cakes and cookies, and flour. In addition to the food items, tariffs on building and infrastructure materials, auto parts and household goods, among others, will be lifted. It is expected to cost of NIS 1.26 billion.¹²⁵⁰</p>
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Italy

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	Fuel bonus in Friuli: the discount on the full tank of petrol, in this region, from April 1 and for the entire month will be worth twice as much as in the rest of Italy. Those who live in zone 1, i.e., in the municipalities closest to the border, will benefit from a total discount of €0.595 cents per liter on green petrol and €0.505 on diesel, while those who live in zone 2, which includes the rest of the territory, will be able to reduce spending respectively by €0.525 and €0.465 cents per liter. Those who own a hybrid car can count on an additional discount of €0.05 cents. Measure was extended until June 30, 2022. ^{1251, 1252, 1253}
	Food subsidies	Within the Budget Law 2023 passed on 29 December, 2022, a Fund is established at the Ministry of Agriculture with the aim of helping individuals with an ISEE not exceeding 15 thousand euros to buy basic food goods. The Ministry of Agriculture, together with the MEF, is to define through an implementing decree criteria and procedures for identifying beneficiaries. ¹²⁵⁴
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>March 26, 2022, Energy bonus of €300 euros in Lazio, Italy. This is a deduction on bills of €300 in favor of those with a taxable income for the purposes of the regional income tax surcharge ranging between €35 thousand and €40 thousand. The tax increase, on the other hand, will not be applied in the bill for citizens with taxable income up to 35 thousand euros, families with income up to 50 thousand euros with three or more dependent children, and those over seventy years of age and disabled or handicapped people belonging to families with taxable income not exceeding 50 thousand euros.¹²⁵⁵</p> <p>On September 27, 2021, in Italy, for around 29 million domestic customers, the rates relating to general system charges, extra costs that are part of the energy bills, are set at zero for the last quarter of 2021. In December 2021, the government announced the policy will continue in 2022. [13 September 2022] Extension to Q3 2022. [18 January 2023] Also for the first quarter of 2023, the legislature has provided for zero general system charges in electricity bills for all domestic customers and non-domestic customers with available power up to 16.5 kW, and for gas to the generality of users. The measure makes up 20% of the allocated eur 35 million 2023 budget.^{1256, 1257}</p>

		<p>Increase in the social bonus (the discount on bills for economically disadvantaged families or those with serious health conditions) to compensate for new price increases. In December 2021, the government announced the policy will continue in 2022. The Italian government also introduced the possibility for consumers to pay their energy bills in multiple instalments for the whole of 2022. €912 million will be used to increase the social bonus. [August 2022] The allowance provided for in Article 32, Paragraph 1 of the Aid Decree is extended in favor of recipients of pension benefits from any mandatory social security form, pension or social allowance, pension or allowance for civil invalids, the blind and the deaf and dumb, as well as pension accompaniment treatments effective by July 1, 2022 (instead of by June 30, 2022). [November 2022] Social bonus extended to Q4 of 2022.¹²⁵⁸</p> <p>[18 March 2022] Electricity social bonus in Italy: for the period April 1-December 31, 2022, the ISEE (indicator of equivalent economic situation) value for access to the social bonus for electricity is € 12,000, or € 20,00 for families with four dependent children (this also includes the social bonus for gas). [May 2, 2022] This has been extended until the end of September. The ordinary bonus ranges between €128 to €178, and it is recognized automatically in the form of a credit in the bill. The estimated cost of the measure for 2022 amounts to 102,8 million euro and will cover more than 5 million households. [September 13, 2022] Extension to the fourth quarter 2022 of social bonuses. Aiuti-ter has increased the audience for the "social electric and gas bonus" by raising the qualifying income level ceiling to 15,000 euros, thus reaching an additional 600 thousand households. [January 2023] For those who belong to a household with ISEE indicator between $9,530 < ISEE \leq 15,000$ (with less than 4 children) for the year 2023, the bonus is granted in the reduced amount equal to 80% compared to the ordinary bonus, implementing Article 1, Paragraph 18 of Law No. 197 of December 29, 2022. The legislature delegated to the Authority the task of parameterizing the bonus based on the value of the ISEE of each household, providing for the recognition of full compensation (100%) only to households with the lowest ISEE (ISEE not exceeding 9,530 euros). The bonus also applies to households holders of Citizenship Income or Citizenship Pension. The ordinary bonus (CCE) plus the temporary supplementary compensation (CCI) ranges between 145,8 euros and 265,5 euros. Also for Q1</p>
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		<p>2023, in view of market price trends and their volatility, the Authority applied the adjustment of social bonuses to be recognized in 2023.^{1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266}</p> <p>[18 March 2022] Gas social bonus in Italy: for the period April 1-December 31, 2022, the ISEE (indicator of equivalent economic situation) value for access to the social bonus for gas is € 12,000, or € 20,00 for families with four dependent children (this also includes the social bonus for electricity). [May 2, 2022] This has been extended until the end of September. The ordinary bonus ranges between €30 to €245, and it is recognized automatically in the form of a credit in the bill. The estimated cost of the measure for 2022 amounts to 102,8 million euro and will cover more than 5 million households. [September 13, 2022] Extension to the fourth quarter 2022 of social bonuses. Aiuti-ter has increased the audience for the "social electric and gas bonus" by raising the qualifying income level ceiling to 15,000 euros, thus reaching an additional 600 thousand households. [January 2023] For those who belong to a household with ISEE indicator between 9,530 < ISEE ≤ 15,000 (with less than 4 children) for the year 2023, the bonus is granted in the reduced amount equal to 80% compared to the ordinary bonus, implementing Article 1, Paragraph 18 of Law No. 197 of December 29, 2022. The legislature delegated to the Authority the task of parameterizing the bonus based on the value of the ISEE of each household, providing for the recognition of full compensation (100%) only to households with the lowest ISEE (ISEE not exceeding 9,530 euros). The bonus also applies to households holders of Citizenship Income or Citizenship Pension. The ordinary bonus (CCE) plus the temporary supplementary compensation (CCI) ranges between 64,80 euros and 511,20 euros. Also for Q1 2023, in view of market price trends and their volatility, the Authority applied the adjustment of social bonuses to be recognized in 2023.^{1267, 1268, 1269, 1270}</p> <p>On August 9, 2022, Italy announced the refinancing of the fund for "transport bonus": the Fund is dedicated to the support of families for the use of public transport services, established at the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, with provision for an allocation of 180 million euros for 2022. On September 16th, the government approved law decree Aiuti-ter, which includes new allocations for the</p>
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		<p>60 euros transportation bonus to purchase public transportation passes. Overall, the Fund created with the first Aiuti decree is increased by 10 million euros for 2022.^{1271, 1272, 1273}</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>\</p> <p>The flag-measure of the new package approved on May 2, 2022 is a €200 one-off bonus for 28 million workers and pensioners (with an income level lower than 35.000 euro). [August 2022] A bonus of €200 is also provided to another 300 thousand workers, including doctoral students and research assignees with active contracts and enrolled in the Separate Management Fund (56,000). In addition, it extends to those who have not received it because they are covered by notional Inps contributions (about 40,000 people), retirees starting by July 1 (50,000 people) and sports collaborators severely affected by the pandemic and energy crises (195,179, of whom about 47,000 could receive the bonus directly from Inps because they fall under one of the other cases provided for in the emergency regulations). The measure is worth about 60 million. [27 February 2023] The ministerial decree of Dec. 7, 2022, signed by the Labor Ministry and Finance Ministry, and also registered by the Court of Accounts, extended access to the 200-euro bonus of the Aid Decree to self-employed workers and professionals who do not have a VAT number. The Inps also released a note addressed to self-employed workers whose applications to access the one-time allowance were rejected: from January 20 it will be possible to apply for reconsideration.^{1274, 1275, 1276}</p> <p>On September 16th, the government approved law decree Aiuti-ter. The new package has a value of € 14 billion (€ 6.2 billion from the extra income). The package foresees a one-time bonus of 150 euros for those with incomes below 20,000 euros gross annually, including pensioners, employed, self-employed and seasonal workers, and will address an audience of 22 million people. [26 February 2023] The period for applying in connection with the recognition of bonuses in any case now has ended. Except for the categories in relation to which Inps proceeds independently (for example, pensioners, employees or citizenship income recipients), other workers (fixed-term, seasonal, intermittent, entertainment employees...) had to provide the appropriate documentation by January 31.^{1277, 1278}</p>

		<p>[December 2022] Economic support to help parents: the single monthly and universal child allowance from Jan. 1, 2023 replaces previous measures, such as tax deductions, that were provided to support households with dependent children. It is part of the package of interventions planned with the Family Act. The aim of the measure is to simplify the scope of birth support payments and consists of financial aid for each dependent child up to the age of twenty-one. In contrast, there is no age limit in the case of disabled children. Within the Budget Law 2023 passed on 29 December, 2022, Regarding the one-time allowance, the amount for children under one is increased by 50 percent if you have at least three children. The supplementary allowance for families with at least four children is increased by 50 euros, from 100 to 150. As communicated by Inps, a total of about 7.5 million children have applied for universal allowances in the first four months since the measure was launched. Planned cost of the measures is 610 million euros.^{1279, 1280}</p> <p>Within the Budget Law 2023 passed on 29 December 2022, increases from 30 percent of pay to 80 percent of pay, for the duration of one month, the allowance paid to employees. The increase applies to the father or mother and must be used within the first 6 years of the child's life.¹²⁸¹</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>[March 2022] Fuel bonus for 2022: the amount of the value of petrol vouchers given free of charge by private companies to employees, up to a limit of €200 per worker, does not contribute to the formation of income. The bonus can be disbursed during 2022 and the first 12 days of 2023. [28 February 2023] In 2023, the benefits on gasoline bonuses provided to employees by private employers were re-proposed through Article 1 of Decree Law No. 5 of 2023, which specifies that the value of gasoline vouchers does not contribute to the employee's income if it does not exceed 200 euros. However, during 2023 the contribution exemption was excluded, maintaining the exemption only on the tax side. The limit is still set at 200 euros, and is applicable only to employees of private employers.^{1282, 1283, 1284}</p>

		<p>[21 July 2022] The government strengthens the Psychologist Bonus. Five million more for the voucher to spend on one's mental health, with the allocation for this year thus increasing from 10 million to 15 million. The total amount of the bonus varies according to the applicants' ISEE, which must be less than 50 thousand euros. [21 February 2023] The Budget Law 2023 prolonged also for the years 2023 and 2024 and following the so-called "psychologist bonus" which is entitled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - starting from 2023 in the maximum amount of 1,500 euros per person (in 2022 it was 600 euros per person) and is parameterized to the ISEE value, which in all cases cannot exceed the value of 50,000 euros; - in the overall limit of 5 million euros for 2023 and 8 million euros as of 2024.^{1285, 1286, 1287}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>[August 2022] The draft-bull "Aiuti-bis" approved in August 2022 adjusts for a 2% inflation increment pensions for pensioners with income lower or equal to 35 thousand euro (for an additional cost of 6.5 bn euro, shared with the 200 euro one-off bonus for workers and pensioners). [February 2023] Minimum pensions are raised, exclusively for 2023, to 600 euros monthly only for those over 75. The minimums for those under 75 stop at 570 euros. While the percentage increase has been set at 7.3 percent for everyone (2 percent already applied in November 2022, the remaining 5.3 percent will be triggered in February), this will be applied in its entirety only for monthly paychecks below the 2,102.52 euro gross figure. These were the only ones who received the increase as early as January. This is the breakdown as decided by the government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Checks up to 2,102.52 euros gross: 100% revaluation (7.3% increase) - Checks up to 2,696.90 euros gross: 85% revaluation (6.2% increase) - Checks up to 3,152 euros gross: 53% revaluation (3.8% increase) - Checks up to 4,200 euros gross: 47% revaluation (3.4% increase) - Checks up to 5,250 euros gross: 37% revaluation (2.7% increase) - Checks over 5,250 euros gross: 32% revaluation (2.3% increase)^{1288, 1289}

		[August 2022] Anticipation to November 1, 2022, of the adjustment for the calculation of pension equalization for the year 2021. He increase is recognized if the monthly pension payment is in total equal to or less than the amount of €2,692. ^{1290, 1291}
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	Partial exemption of social security contributions payable by employees: for pay periods from July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, including the thirteenth or related accruals paid in the aforementioned pay periods, the exemption on the portion of social security contributions for disability, old age and survivors payable by employees excluding domestic work relationships (referred to in Art. 1, paragraph 121, of Law No. 234 of December 30, 2021, Budget Law 2022), is increased by 1.2 percentage points. In view of the exceptional nature of the measure, the computation rate for pension benefits remains unchanged. ¹²⁹²
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	On 13 September the Aiuti-bis bill was approved by the Senate for an overall budget allocation of €17 bn (€2 bn more than previously envisaged). It is extended, until December 31, smart working for frail workers and parents with children under 14 even without a company agreement. The amendment voted sets funds for the measure at 18.66 million euros, covered 8 million through the Ministry of Labor's Social Fund for Employment and 10.66 million through a reduction in the Fund for Active Labor Policies. Employees on a smart working arrangement can work based on the achievement of objectives, meaning that they will not be requested to comply with a specific working time but rather are expected to achieve objectives set by their employer. The measure is aimed to protect the most fragile people, parents with young children and continue to guarantee a better work-life balance thanks to the agile mode. [27 February 2023] The measure is extended until June 30, 2023. This right can be enforced under two conditions: the first is that there is no other parent in the household who is a beneficiary of income support instruments (due to suspension or termination of employment) or that there is no non-working parent. The second is that the agile work mode is compatible with the characteristics of the service to be rendered. ^{1293, 1294}

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	<p>On 13 September the Aiuti-bis bill was approved by the Senate for an overall budget allocation of €17 bn (€2 bn more than previously envisaged). Senior figures in ministries and those in law enforcement agencies will be able to enjoy an exemption from the pay limits set for the Civil Service, by removing the 240,000 euro ceiling. These include the chief of police, the commanding general of the Carabinieri, the commanding general of the Guardia di Finanza, and the chief of staff of the Defense.¹²⁹⁵</p> <p>On 13 September the Aiuti-bis bill was approved by the Senate for an overall budget allocation of €17 bn (€2 bn more than previously envisaged). The legislature raised the so-called "minimum subsistence amount" from 750 euros to 1,000 euros, so that all sums due as salary or pension are distrainable only for the portion exceeding this amount within the limits provided by current legislation (one-fifth).^{1296, 1297}</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>Within the Budget Law 2023 passed on 29 December 2022, the annual income threshold within which one is considered a casual worker is raised from five to ten thousand euros. And this will also apply to seasonal work in agriculture, as long as 45 days of work in a calendar year is not exceeded.¹²⁹⁸</p> <p>[August 2022] According to the draft-bill "Aiuti-bis" approved in August 2022, workers with an income below 35 thousand euros per year will benefit from a tax discount of 1.2 percentage points on their wages until the end of 2022, for a cost of 1.2 bln to the State. The 2022 Budget Law (Law 234/21 Art. 1 Paragraph 121) had already provided a 0.8 waiver throughout 2022. [21 February 2023] Article 1, paragraph 281, of Law No. 197 of December 29, 2022 (the so-called "Budget Law 2023"), reintroduced on an exceptional basis, for pay periods from January 1 to December 31, 2023, the partial exemption (understood as a reduction in the rate) of the employee's social security contributions for disability, old age and survivors with similar criteria and modalities for the 2022 exemption but with an important</p>

		<p>innovation in the arrangement. Specifically, the partial exemption of IVS contributions provided for 2023 for employees is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3%, if the taxable salary does not exceed the monthly amount of 1,923 euros; or - 2%, if the monthly taxable salary is more than 1,923 euros and does not exceed the amount of 2,692 euros.^{1299, 1300, 1301}
Indirect tax		<p>Reduction in excise duty on petrol and diesel used as motor fuel of €0.25 per liter for a period of 30 days from March 22, 2022 (total discount of €0.305 cents/liter if 22% VAT is added). For LPG, excise duties decrease instead by €0.085 cents, as provided for in the ministerial decree (total discount of €0.1037 cents if VAT is added). The decree approved on May 2, 2022, extends the reductions until July 8, 2022. As for natural gas, excise taxes are set to zero. [August 2022] The draft-bill "Aiuti-bis" allocates more than 6 billion will be used to cover the extension of previously adopted measures. [19 October 2022] Extension until November 18 of the cut of 30 cents per liter on motor fuels.^{1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306}</p> <p>Reduction in excise duty on petrol and diesel used as motor fuel of €0.25 per liter for a period of 30 days from March 22, 2022 (total discount of €0.305 cents/liter if 22% VAT is added). For LPG, excise duties decrease instead by €0.085 cents, as provided for in the ministerial decree (total discount of €0.1037 cents if VAT is added). The decree approved on May 2, 2022 extends the reductions until July 8, 2022. As for natural gas, excise taxes are set to zero. [August 2022] The draft-bill "Aiuti-bis" allocates 1.05 bn to extend the cut on gas VAT (from 22% to 5%) and on fuel levies by (30 cents per litre). [19 October 2022] Extension until November 18, 2022 of the cut of 30 cents per liter on motor fuels. [3 January 2023] The fuel excise tax cut measure has been canceled by the government after having already been scaled back over the past month (in December 2022, by reducing the duty by 10 cents). Therefore, as of Jan. 1, 2023, the price of fuels at the pump will go back up automatically, due to the different weight of excise taxes on the final cost.^{1307, 1308, 1309, 1310, 1311, 1312}</p> <p>October-December 2021: VAT on the use of natural gas will drop to 5% on supplies for "civil and industrial uses". In December 2021, the government announced the policy will continue in 2022. [July 2022] 1.05 bn to extend the cut</p>

		<p>on gas VAT (from 22% to 5%) and on fuel levies by (30 cents per liter). [December 2022] The VAT on gas will remain reduced at 5%.¹³¹³</p> <p>Within the Budget Law 2023 passed on 29 December 2022, reduced VAT at 5 percent on sanitary napkins and baby products: diapers, food and car seats.¹³¹⁴</p>
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Jamaica

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On March 17, 2022, Jamaica announced an electricity support subsidy to an estimated 460,000 customers of the Jamaica Public Service Company. The subsidy will be 20% for households consuming 200 kilowatt hours per month or less (roughly 81% of the customers). It will last from April to July of 2022. The initiative will cost in the region of \$2 billion. ^{1315, 1316}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On March 8, 2022 government announced that a total of \$200 million has been set aside to provide one-off grant of \$10,000 to cover food expenses each for the neediest Jamaican families being impacted by rising inflation. ¹³¹⁷
		On July 5, 2022 the government has announced \$2.7 billion of additional social intervention expenditure, including an allocation of \$189 million through the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) for welfare and economic enablement activities. The Ministry of Labour and Social Security began distribution of cheques in each of Jamaica’s 63 Constituencies earlier today (August 3, 2022). 18,900 families will benefit under the programme. Each Member of Parliament was asked to identify 300 constituents who are facing economic hardship, and who are not beneficiaries under the Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH). ¹³¹⁸
	Conditional cash transfers	On July 5th, the government has announced \$2.7 billion of additional social intervention expenditure, including an allocation of \$361 million in General Welfare Support for beneficiaries who are not on the Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH) in the following amounts: (i) \$189 million through the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS), (ii) \$70 million through municipal corporations for welfare and economic support (iii) \$52 million for poor relief through MLGRD and (iv) \$50 million through the MLSS’s Public Assistance Department. ¹³¹⁹
		On August 23, 2022, the Government of Jamaica announced is providing \$2.03 billion in Back to School Grants to beneficiary students under the Programme of

		Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH) and the Poor Relief Programme. Over 150,000 beneficiary students in primary and secondary schools are each set to receive \$10,000.00 in added benefits, provided by the Special Economic Relief Programme (SERP), in addition to the annual PATH Back to School Grant of \$3,500.00 per beneficiary student. In addition to the Back to School Grants, the Ministry has budgeted a further \$40 million for Post-Secondary Grants, and a further \$424 million in Tertiary Bursaries. The Back to School Grants are being delivered to eligible families by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, along with the regular bi-monthly PATH payout, which began on by the end of August. ¹³²⁰
	Social pensions	On July 5, 2022 the government has announced \$2.7 billion of additional social intervention expenditure, including an allocation of \$100 million for 10,000 social pensioners who are not PATH beneficiaries. ¹³²¹
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On March 22, 2022, Jamaica announced it will provide \$25,000 in vouchers to operators of public passenger vehicles, including route taxi operators and contract carriage operators, to cushion the rising cost of fuel. This program will cost just under \$600 million. The voucher program will begin towards the latter half of April and will be administered by the Transport Authority under the guidance of the Minister of Transport and Mining. ¹³²²
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	On April 5, 2022, the government announced the ramping up of the Social Pension Program to target vulnerable seniors who are affected by increased prices. The program initially began in July 2021, but up until April of 2022, there were only 7,800 beneficiaries. The new target is to reach 20,000 beneficiaries. This program provides a check every two months, worth JMD\$ 6,800. It is only applicable to citizens 75 years or older who submit an application and are accepted. Original budget of JMD\$ 800 million from the initial launch of the program in July, 2021. The original program was COVID-19 related, whereas the horizontal expansion is in response to cost-of-living crisis. ¹³²³

		On July 5, 2022, the government has announced \$2.7 billion of additional social intervention expenditure, including an allocation of \$450 million for 45,000 NIS pensioners who receive pensions less than \$15,000 per month. ¹³²⁴
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	On February 1, 2022, Cabinet has approved a 28.5 per cent increase in the national minimum wage, effective April 1, 2022. To this end, the national minimum wage will be increased from \$7,000 to \$9,000 per 40-hour work week or from \$175 to \$225 per hour. [March 17th, 2023] the government of Jamaica announced another minimum wage increase that will go into effect on June 1st, 2023. The new minimum will be \$13,000 per week which is an increase of \$4,000 from the earlier increase the previous year. ^{1325, 1326}
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Japan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On March 31, 2022, Japan’s industry ministry discussed its gasoline subsidy for oil distributors to the upper limit of 25.0 yen (\$0.21) a liter for the week starting March 31, up from 18.6 yen a week earlier. Japan raised its gasoline subsidy for oil distributors to 37.3 yen (\$0.29) per liter for the seven days from May 26, from 36.1 yen a week earlier. From June 30th, for seven days, Japan lowered its gasoline subsidy for oil distributors to 38.4 yen a liter versus 40.5 yen from a week earlier. The temporary subsidy program was adopted in January to ease the blow from high crude prices because of tight global supplies, exacerbated by the Ukraine conflict.^{1327, 1328, 1329}</p> <p>On April 25, 2022, Japan announced that nearly 1.2 trillion yen (\$9.4 billion) will be used to extend the current oil subsidy program through the end of September 2022. Crude oil prices have risen sharply due to fears of disruptions in supplies from Russia due to its invasion of Ukraine. Wheat and corn prices are also up significantly, prompting food prices to soar. Japan is considering extending to next spring its subsidy program for oil wholesales in order to avoid a sharp hike in fuel costs amid persistent supply concerns triggered by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. The government plans to set aside more than ¥1 trillion from the envisaged fiscal 2022 second supplementary budget that will finance an economic stimulus package to be finalized in October.^{1330, 1331}</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>On September 6, 2022, Japanese government announced that price of imported wheats sold by the government will be kept at the current level (Imported wheats accounts for 90% of domestic consumption). [Update] On March 14, 2023, Japanese government announced that it will raise the imported wheat price by 5.8 percent.^{1332, 1333}</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On Oct 28, 2022, The Japanese government approved an economic package at a special meeting of the Cabinet. The government has decided to spend about 39 trillion yen, or nearly 270 billion dollars. Electricity bills have been ballooning and the government wants to bring them down by about 20 percent. The government plans to lower household electricity bills by 7 yen per kilowatt-hour, meaning that an average household will save around 2,800 yen a month. Companies will receive support worth 3.5 yen per kilowatt-hour. The electricity subsidies could cost close</p>

		<p>to 1 trillion yen for the first three months, based on power sales in the first quarter of 2022. Part of 12.2 trillion yen (\$83 billion) will be used to ease the burden of price increases.^{1334, 1335, 1336, 1337}</p> <p>On Oct 28, 2022, The Japanese government approved an economic package at a special meeting of the Cabinet. The government has decided to spend about 39 trillion yen, or nearly 270 billion dollars. It is planning a subsidy for natural gas used by households and businesses of about 20 cents per cubic meter. Part of 12.2 trillion yen (\$83 billion) will be used to ease the burden of price increases.^{1338, 1339}</p> <p>On Jan 17, 2023, Japan announced new subsidy to cut energy bills. Japan’s 10 major electric power companies and four gas companies will lower their rates for February (covering usage in January). This decrease stems from the government’s comprehensive economic stimulus package, announced in October 2022, that will reduce monthly electricity and gas bills for average households by around ¥2,500.¹³⁴⁰</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>The relief package announced by Japan's parliament will 1.3 trillion yen for cash payouts to low-income households.¹³⁴¹</p> <p>On September 6, 2022, The Japanese government announced that it is planning to distribute 50,000 yen (\$351) each to low-income households as part of a relief package to mitigate the blow from accelerating inflation. Households that are exempt from resident taxes will be eligible to receive the money, as they are seen as more vulnerable than others to higher energy and food prices largely caused by Russia's war against Ukraine.¹³⁴²</p> <p>On Oct 28, 2022, the Japanese government approved an economic package at a special meeting of the Cabinet. The government has decided to spend about 39 trillion yen, or nearly 270 billion dollars. Families raising young children will get around 700 dollars in support. Part of 6.7 trillion yen (\$45 billion) will be then spent on investments in measures to cope with Japan’s declining population.^{1343, 1344}</p> <p>On March 8, 2023, Japan announced that it is considering providing further cash payouts worth 50,000 yen (\$367) to low-income households with children as part</p>

		<p>of steps to be compiled later this month to ease the pain of inflation. The government will spend over 2 trillion yen (\$15 billion) in reserve funds from the state budget for the current business year to March to give cash handouts to low-income families and cut liquefied petroleum gas bills as part of a fresh inflation-relief package.^{1345, 1346}</p> <p>On March 8, 2023, Japan announced that it plans to give 30,000 yen (\$227) to each low-income household. The government will spend over 2 trillion yen (\$15 billion) in reserve funds from the state budget for the current business year to March to give cash handouts to low-income families and cut liquefied petroleum gas bills as part of a fresh inflation-relief package.¹³⁴⁷</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Jordan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On 31 July 2022, a temporary program was recently launched to compensate poor households for increases in fuel prices. The budget for this six-month compensation program is JOD 30M, which includes about JOD16M to support NAF (cash transfer) beneficiaries (about 220,000 households), JOD4M to support underprivileged university students (about 74,000 students), and JOD5 to support the operating cost of public transport lines. The benefit size is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8 dinars for households consisting of up to 2 individuals - 11 dinars for households consisting of 3-4 individuals - 14 dinars for households consisting of 5 or more individuals.^{1348, 1349, 1350}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On March 8, 2022, Jordan's Minister of Industry, Trade, and Supply decided to retain a previous decision preventing the export and re-export of some essential food items including rice, sugar, dried milk, dry legumes, fodder, wheat and by-products, flour, fodder maize, fodder concentrates, as well as ghee and vegetable oils of all kinds (corn oil, sunflower oil, palm oil and soybean oil). ¹³⁵¹
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Kazakhstan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On January 1, 2022, the government lifted a price cap on fuel, setting off a sudden and steep increase in the cost of liquefied petroleum gas. On January 6, 2022, the government restored vehicle fuel price caps for six months. Petrol and diesel prices will also be capped for the same period. In July 2022, this measure has been extended until Jan 2023. On April 3, it was announced that Kazakhstan plans to raise its ceiling on 92/93-octane gasoline prices by 11% and that on diesel by 20% in order to bring them into line with those in neighboring countries. ^{1352, 1353, 1354}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
Public works		
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	

	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On April 1, 2022, Kazakhstan announced temporary quotas on exports of wheat and wheat flour. The quotas, which went into effect on April 15, 2022, will be in place until at least June 15, 2022, and will limit exports of wheat grain to 1 million tons and wheat flour to 300,000 tons.¹³⁵⁵ On June 15, 2022, Kazakhstan extended the restriction until the end of September 2022. The recently announced extension also added 550,000 metric tons (MT) of wheat to the original quota of 1.0 million metric tons (MMT), and 370,000 MT of wheat flour to the original quota of 300,000 MT.¹³⁵⁶</p> <p>On January 11, 2022, Kazakhstan imposed a quota restriction on the export of sunflower seeds in the amount of 125 thousand tons Until July 1, 2022.¹³⁵⁷ On May 30, 2022, Kazakhstan has further announced an extension of the policy until 31 Sept 2022. At the same time, the total volume of products allowed for export has been increased from 125,000 tons to 140,000 tons.¹³⁵⁸</p> <p>On January 11, 2022, Kazakhstan imposed a quota restriction on the export of sunflower oil in the amount of 114 thousand tons Until July 1, 2022. On May 30, 2022, Kazakhstan has further announced an extension of the policy until 31 August 2022. There is no change in the quota amount.¹³⁵⁹</p> <p>Kazakhstan announced on May 13, 2022, that it will prohibit the export of white and cane sugar for six months, starting on May 23, 2022.¹³⁶⁰</p> <p>On January 11, 2022, Kazakhstan temporary banned the export of live cattle and small cattle.¹³⁶¹ The ban was suggested to be in place for 6 months.¹³⁶²</p> <p>On February 8, 2023, Kazakhstan halted the export of onions for three months to stabilize onion prices and ensure self-sufficiency in the crop. On March 18, 2023, Kazakhstan suspended its ban on onion exports and set a limit (20,000 tons) on the volume of exports. This decision was effective immediately and will remain in place until April 28 of this year.¹³⁶³</p>

		<p>On February 8, 2023, Kazakhstan announced a 4 month ban on the export of petroleum products including gasoline, and diesel starting February 14, 2023¹³⁶⁴</p> <p>On 5 December 2022, the Ministry of Trade and Integration of Kazakhstan set a duty on sunflower seed exports. The measure is intended to promote domestic production of sunflower oil and to curb price increases in the country. The duty was set at 20 percent of the value of the cargo, with a minimum of EUR 100 per tonne, and remains in place indefinitely.¹³⁶⁵</p>
	Export/import easing	<p>On 22 February 2022, Kazakhstan lifted the ban on the export of potatoes and carrots, and replaced it by imposing quotas on marketable and seed potatoes in the amount of 144,500 tons and 57,500 tons, respectively.¹³⁶⁶ The ban was in effect since January 22, 2022,¹³⁶⁷ it was introduced in order to stabilize prices for socially important food products, especially in the spring. The duration of the restriction was 3 months until May 1, 2022.¹³⁶⁸</p>
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Kenya

<p>Subsidies</p>	<p>Fuel subsidies</p>	<p>On April 4, 2022, Kenya plans to pay subsidy arrears to fuel sellers. The Kenyan government used 118 billion Kenya shillings (\$986 million) to subsidize fuel prices in the financial year beginning July 2021 through June 2022. On July 14, 2022 the government authorized the spending of some Sh16.67 billion (\$141m) to retain current retail fuel prices for another 30 days. Without the cushion, petrol prices would have jumped to Sh209.70 per litre, while diesel would be Sh193.70 in Nairobi, but with the subsidies the prices are maintained at Sh159.20 and Sh193.70, respectively. However, the country intends to continue gradually realigning domestic to global fuel prices in FY2022/23 so as to eliminate the fuel subsidy by October 2022. This is the new recommendation/condition from IMF which focuses Kenya to gradually remove subsidy. As promised, in October 2022, the government started gradually withdrawing fuel subsidy. Kenya for the first time in a year fully withdrew a Sh20.5 a litre subsidy on petrol and halved the reliefs on kerosene and diesel to Sh26.25 and Sh20.82 respectively. This has reduced the burden of the subsidy from Sh14.5 billion to Sh5 billion as the new administration works on withdrawing State-backed discounts on petroleum products, as a result saving Sh9.5 billion.^{1369, 1370, 1371, 1372, 1373}</p>
	<p>Food subsidies</p>	<p>On July 20, 2022, Kenya as part of 5th stimulus package announced that Maize flour will retail across the entire territory of Kenya at the price of Ksh.100, down from Ksh.205 for a 2kg packet, until otherwise directed.¹³⁷⁴ This subsidy program of Ksh.105 per 2kg pack of maize meal is meant to lower the cost of living for the vulnerable households. The duration of the program is 1 month (4-weeks) and is expected to cost Ksh.8 billion.¹³⁷⁵ The subsidy on the Maize flour is planned to end on August 20, 2022.</p> <p>On July 20, 2022, Kenya as part of 5th stimulus package announced a maize subsidy program, where Maize flour will retail across the entire territory of Kenya at the price of Ksh100, down from Ksh205 for a 2kg packet, until otherwise directed. This subsidy program of Ksh105 per 2kg pack of maize meal is meant to lower the cost of living for the vulnerable households. The duration of the program in 1 month (4-weeks) and is expected to cost Ksh 8 billion. The subsidy on maize flour is planned to end on August 20, 2022. In actual, millers sold Sh4.34 billion of maize, of which the state paid Sh1.77 billion, leaving Sh2.57 billion in arrears. This arrears will be paid by the government to the millers.^{1376, 1377}</p>

	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>On April 1, 2022, Kenya has unveiled a KSh5.73 billion fertilizer subsidy fund to subsidize prices for 2.28 million 50-kg bags of fertilizer for farmers growing food crops.¹³⁷⁸ This has reduced the cost of fertilizer from Ksh.6,000.00 to an average of Ksh.2,800.00.¹³⁷⁹</p> <p>On 20 September 2022, Kenya’s Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, and Co-operatives has announced new subsidized fertilizer prices after the government availed a Sh3.5billion fertilizer subsidy. This follows a directive by President for the ministry to avail 1.4million bags of fertilizer to farmers at a subsidized price of a maximum of Sh3,500 per 50Kg bag from the current price of Sh6,500 to combat the high-cost producers in the farming sector incur. The new fertilizer prices which are effective September 19 will be first availed to farmers in regions experiencing the short rains.¹³⁸⁰</p> <p>On 20 January 2023, the fertilizer subsidy in Kenya was announced by the government aimed at helping farmers to access fertilizer at a bit lower price. Under this program, the cost of fertilizer will be reduced from Ksh6,000 per 50kg bag to Ksh3,500. The government prioritized subsidizing agricultural production as one of the ways of increasing productivity and bringing down the cost of living while making our nation food Secure. The program will continue until the onset of the long rains in 2023 and until such a time when food prices in the country will be stable and fertilizer prices affordable. To access the subsidized fertilizer, a farmer registers on the e-voucher system through their phone by dialing *707#. In the registration process, the farmer provides details of the size of land and the type of fertilizer they need. They then pay via Mpesa or Airtel Money and get issued with an e-voucher which they will use to collect the fertilizer from their nearest depot. The assistant chiefs can help in this process. The government will spend Ksh12 billion.^{1381, 1382}</p>
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	

	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	<p>On July 20, 2022, as part of the fifth stimulus package, Kenya suspended fees and levies that included Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) & Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) Testing Fee, Inspection Fee, Permit Fee on imported maize grain and raw materials for animal feeds for a period of four (4) months, with effect from 1st July, 2022 up-to 31st October, 2022.¹³⁸³</p> <p>On July 20, 2022, as part of the fifth stimulus package, Kenya suspended fees and levies that included Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) & Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) Testing Fee, Inspection Fee, Permit Fee on imported maize grain and raw materials for animal feeds for a period of four (4) months, with effect from 1st July, 2022 up-to 31st October, 2022.¹³⁸⁴</p>
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Kosovo

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	[8 March 2022] Subsidies for diesel fuel used in agriculture at 0.36 EUR/L based on estimated use of fuel per acre planted.
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	[8 March 2022] Subsidies for agricultural fertilizers of Euro 150/acre for wheat and Euro 100/acre for corn, beans, and potato. Kosovo announced to Increase in the level of direct subsidies for agricultural products.
	Fees subsidies	On February 24, 2023, EU granted EUR 75 million to Kosovo to help it cope with the energy crisis. EUR 25 million, will go towards subsidising energy bills and alternative heating methods such as wood and pellet for around 200,000 households, including pensioners, single mothers, social scheme holders, and marginalized people and families. ¹³⁸⁵ On February 24, 2023, EU granted EUR 75 million to Kosovo to help it cope with the energy crisis. EUR 15 million will go towards motivating the public to save energy by providing households with energy bill subsidies equal to the amount of saving they achieved in comparison to the same month last year. This measure will apply to the January-April 2023 period and should benefit some 160,000 households. ¹³⁸⁶ On February 24, 2023, EU granted EUR 75 million to Kosovo to help it cope with the energy crisis. The remaining EUR 35 million will be used to help households and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) increase energy efficiency. Some 12,000 families residing in private houses or apartments in social housing will be supported with improving thermal insulation (facades, windows, and doors), and 10,000 more will be supported in buying energy-efficient appliances. Some 1,000 MSMEs will be supported to buy and install energy-efficient heating systems and renewable energy sources, such as solar photovoltaic or thermal panels. ¹³⁸⁷
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	[September 2022] 50 Euro for public workers from September 2022 until the end of the year. One-time payment of 100 has been given in April 2022. [Update] On January, 2023, The Government of Kosovo allocated an additional 50 euros to public sector workers for the month of January. In its last meeting, the Government of Kosovo decided to allocate an additional 50 euros to the

		<p>salary of public sector workers in the month of January. The Minister of Finance has said that this extension is until the Wage Law enters into force, which is expected to start in February.^{1388, 1389, 1390, 1391, 1392}</p> <p>Kosovo announced doubling of payments to Social Assistance recipients for November-December 2021 and extended to January-March 2022. [September 2022] Kosovo announced doubling of SA benefits for one month.</p> <p>[September 2022] 50 Euro for public workers from September 2022 until the end of the year. One-time payment of 100 has been given in April 2022</p> <p>[September 2022] One time payment of 100 Euro for workers in public companies in October.</p> <p>[September 2022] One time payment of Euro 100 for students in November.</p> <p>[September 2022] Starting the payment of child allowances for the first time</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[September 2022] Pensioners' support in October 2022: one-off payment of 100 EUR. The one-off payment was also provided in November 2021 and April 2022. ¹³⁹³
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	[September 2022] Subsidize 50% of the wage increase per worker, maximum 100 euros, for the first 3 months. One-time payment of 100 has been given in April 2022. ¹³⁹⁴
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	Kosovo will temporarily ban the export of some food items amid the global food, energy, and fuel crisis, according to a government announcement. The decision has been taken to ensure that citizens have access to essential basket items including wheat, corn, flour, cooking oil, salt, and sugar. ¹³⁹⁵
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Kuwait

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	As reported on May 25, 2022, Kuwait's Ministry of Commerce and Industries issued a decision to amend the distribution of frozen chicken through ration cards. From 1st of June instead of 2 kgs it will be 3 kgs per person. ¹³⁹⁶
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
Public works		
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On March 20, 2022, it was announced that Kuwait will ban export of grains and vegetable oil to other countries and this policy will be in place until the end of December 2022. An announcement on July 27, 2022, stated that the ban was extended for 3 months from August 1, 2022 to October 1, 2022. ^{1397, 1398}

		Minister of Commerce and Industry Fahad Al-Shariaan has issued a ministerial decision banning the export of fresh eggs during the period from October 1, 2022, until May 21, 2023, reports Al- Qabas daily. Licensed national farms and chicken and egg production companies are excluded from the ban, in accordance with the following requirements – in the event of obtaining a special license from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for each shipment separately and stability of prices and quantities available in the local market. ¹³⁹⁹
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Kyrgyz Republic

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	<p>On Aug 19, 2022, World Bank is assisting Kyrgyz Republic through Strengthening Social Assistance and Labor Market Programs Project. Subcomponent 1.1: Enhanced Support to Extremely Poor Families (US\$17.5 million). This subcomponent aims to support the Kyrgyz Republic's efforts to the poorest and the most vulnerable households in the country as they are the most exposed to the negative impact of higher prices of food, fuel, and other basic goods as well as lower remittances caused by the deterioration of the Russian economy. To mitigate the impact of the shock, a Presidential resolution approved on May 14, 2022, increased the size of the main social benefits in the country effective June 1, 2022, including the Uy-bulogo komok (UBK) program. The monthly payment for families with children provided by the UBK was increased by 50 percent from KGS 810 to KGS 1,200 per child in eligible families, supporting about 360,000 children in 110,000 families. Therefore, this subcomponent will provide temporary emergency support to ensure that the Government can transfer the increased benefit to eligible households on time, including remote areas coefficients and corresponding bank transfer fees. It is estimated that the project's emergency support will be provided for seven months between June and December 2022, after which it is expected that the Government will have adequate fiscal space to regularly transfer the increased benefit to the UBK beneficiaries.¹⁴⁰⁰</p>
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
Public works		

Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On February 18, 2022, Kyrgyz Republic published Decree No.83 introducing temporary export restrictions on certain mineral fertilizers. The Decree highlighted that exports to the member states of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) are not subject to the ban. The ban is applicable until 26 August 2022. [Update] On April 6, 2023, Kyrgyz Republic dated February 17, 2023 No. 88 established a temporary ban, for a period of six months, on the export (export) of mineral fertilizers from the Kyrgyz Republic outside the customs territory of the EAEU (with the exception of international transit and humanitarian assistance provided by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic) in accordance with the approved the list introduced after 5 days from the date of entry into force of this resolution.^{1401 1402}</p> <p>On June 1, 2022, Kyrgyzstan has imposed ban on sugar exports for six months.¹⁴⁰³</p> <p>On March 23, 2022, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic imposed a temporary ban on the exports of certain types of goods for a duration of 6 months. The ban covers 11 types of essential commodities, including wheat and meslin, wheat flour, rice, macaroni products, vegetable oils, eggs, sugar and almost all types of feed for agricultural animals.¹⁴⁰⁴</p>
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 23, 2022, Kyrgyz Republic exempted VAT on the import of sugar and vegetable oil. This policy will begin from April 1, 2022 until December 31, 2022. ¹⁴⁰⁵

Laos

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	In Lao PDR, the Reducing Rural Poverty and Malnutrition (P162565) Project is supporting a conditional cash transfer that provides a bimonthly transfer to pregnant mothers and children under two years of age to promote the uptake of health and nutrition services to mitigate the high levels of malnutrition and poverty in the northern provinces in the country. Recently, the program revised the monthly 180,000 Kip (US\$10.40) transfer amount to 200,000 kip (US\$11.55) to address the high inflation situation prevalent in the country. The project has an end target of reaching 42,743 individuals. ¹⁴⁰⁶
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	

Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Latvia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On September 27th, the government announced a new package of measures to help residents with high prices. This is an amendment to the Law on Measures to Reduce Extreme Rise in Energy Prices. One of the measures is a price cap for consumers of electricity to be set at 160 euros/MWh for the first 100 kWh of each month. The government will directly provide the subsidy to the electric companies for the difference in market price and the set 160 euros/MWh. This measure is set to last from October 1st, 2022 to April 30th, 2023 and is expected to need a budget of 67 million euros.¹⁴⁰⁷</p> <p>On September 27th, the government announced a new package of measures to help residents with high prices. This is an amendment to the Law on Measures to Reduce Extreme Rise in Energy Prices. One of the measures is a natural gas compensation scheme that will keep the prices of natural gas fixed for consumers at 108.7 euros/MWh. If the market price is higher, the government will cover the difference. This measure is expected to last from October 1st, 2022 to April 30th, 2023 and is expected to need a budget of 10.89 million euros.¹⁴⁰⁸</p> <p>On September 27th, the government announced a new package of measures to help residents with high prices. This is an amendment to the Law on Measures to Reduce Extreme Rise in Energy Prices. One of the measures is an energy heating subsidy aimed at helping compensate households on their heating bills. For the first 150 Euros/MWh the government will cover 50% of the bill, for any portions of the bill exceeding this amount, the government will compensate 90%. This measure is set to last from October 1st to April 30th, 2023. Expected expenditure is 87 million euros.¹⁴⁰⁹</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	In January 2022, to support families with children between 1 January and 30 April, considering the increase of energy prices, Latvian state will pay monthly EUR 50 benefit for each – EUR 200 in total (4 months x EUR 50). ^{1410, 1411}

		On August 9, 2022, Latvia announced a new cash transfer program aimed at vulnerable populations to help with rising prices during the upcoming winter months, starting November 1, 2022, and lasting until May 31, 2023. The target groups are seniors, pensioners, persons with disabilities, certain refugees, and survivors (those who's spouses have passed away if that spouse was the main "breadwinner"). The cash transfer can be 10, 20, or 30 euros a month depending upon the amount that the beneficiary already receives from the government (the more received already the less they qualify for in this program). ^{1412, 1413}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Lebanon

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On March 14, 2022, Lebanon announced the initiation of payment of cash transfers to 147,000 extreme poor Lebanese households under the World Bank financed Emergency Social Safety Net Project (ESSN), also known as AMAN. It will provide a monthly transfer of US\$20 per household member (maximum 6 members per household), in addition to a flat amount of US\$25 per household. In March 2022, the per capita Food SMEB was estimated at US\$27, (58 percent increase compared to January 2021), hence the need to increase the CT by US\$20 which corresponds to 74 percent of the food need per person. Moreover, to maintain progressive incidence and achieve a higher impact on poverty, the proposed increase is meant to ensure that extreme poor households receive higher benefit amounts when compared to those who are less poor and targeted by the proposed Emergency Broad Coverage Cash Transfer Program (EBCCT). The monthly benefit is a flat rate of US\$25 per household member, with a top-up of US\$15 for each elderly member aged 65 years or more and capped at US\$126 per household monthly. This is expected to cost USD 220 million, bank planning to allocate USD208 million. However, there is a funding gap of USD12 million. Beneficiaries are selected based on PMTs. The full caseload of 150,000 households is expected to be covered by the end of June 2022 and payments will be made to all eligible households on a retroactive basis from January 2022 and for one year.¹⁴¹⁴</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	

	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	On September 26, 2022, the government also approved a 200% salary increase to civil servants and civilian and military retirees on condition that their monthly income does not exceed 12 million pounds (\$324). ¹⁴¹⁵
Trade	Export/import restriction	On March 11, Lebanon imposed export ban on food export of some locally produced foods. It includes food items such as processed fruits and vegetables, milled grain products, sugar, bread, and some types of alcohol. The ban also covers animal feed. ¹⁴¹⁶
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Lesotho

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On June 15, 2022, Lesotho has subsidized the increasing fuel prices by M1.50 excluding paraffin with M1.10 starting from July to December 2022. The new fuel prices will be fixed for a period of six months and stand as follows: Petrol 93 will now cost M22.20; Petrol 95 at M22.65; Diesel at M23.05; Paraffin at M17.80. The government will put aside M30 Million per month to manage fuel prices. ¹⁴¹⁷
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On September, 2022, it was reported that the Lesotho is providing subsidies on agricultural inputs. Fertilizers are planned to be subsidized by 80 percent, while seeds and other agrochemicals will be subsidized at 60 percent. This is likely to support favorable engagement in the agricultural season. ¹⁴¹⁸
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On April 2023, the government of Lesotho provided top-up (vertical expansion) to the beneficiaries of the Child Grant Program (CGP), around 38,746 beneficiaries. The additional monthly top-up amount of the emergency cash support will be M750 per month, with a maximum duration of three months. The total vertical expansion transfer per beneficiary household is therefore M2,250 for the three months paid as a lump-sum. Based on these parameters, the total cost for the vertical expansion to the current food insecurity crisis will be roughly US\$5 million. ¹⁴¹⁹
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Liberia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	The Government through the Ministry of Commerce and Industries and the Liberia Petroleum Refinery Company, announced on April 1, 2022, that the price of gasoline has been reduced by USD 0.61 cents, while diesel fuel is reduced by USD 0.53 cents. ^{1420, 1421, 1422}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>Under the Recovery of Economic Activity for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE) Project, the Government of Liberia is providing grant support to vulnerable households to revive or start small businesses, aiming to increase access to income earning opportunities for the vulnerable in the informal sector in response to the COVID-19 crisis in Liberia. This support runs from October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. Cost: 3.52 million USD.¹⁴²³</p> <p>Under the REALISE Project (P174417), the Government of Liberia plans to support rural youth and vulnerable farmers in rural communities to engage in communal level farming as a means of increasing their income generation opportunity in response to the COVID-19 crisis. This support is targeted to commence by December 2022. Cost of measure: 11.5 million USD.¹⁴²⁴</p> <p>With Additional Financing (AF) from the Bank and donor partners under the REALISE Project (P174417), the Government of Liberia plans to provide cash transfers to extreme poor and vulnerable households (to include refugees and host communities) in targeted communities in Liberia to cope with the impacts of COVID-19 and recent food and fuel price increases. This support is targeted to commence by December 2022.¹⁴²⁵</p> <p>Between February 2022 and June 2023, the Government is implementing the Social Cash Transfer Program in Bomi and Maryland Counties, under the Liberia Social Safety Nets Project, for a cost of \$9.20 million. The Social Cash Transfer (SCT) program has provided income support, via mobile money, to almost 25,000 rural and urban households – surpassing its end target – via mobile money.¹⁴²⁶</p>

	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	Under the Recovery of Economic Activity for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISER) Project (P174417), the Government of Liberia is providing temporary employment support and employability development for vulnerable workers in urban areas with the aim of increasing access to income earning opportunities for the vulnerable in the informal sector in response to the COVID-19 crisis in Liberia. This support runs from October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. Cost: 5.28 million usd. ¹⁴²⁷
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Libya

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On 22 March 2022, Libya imposed a ban on the export of all types of fish effective immediately. It also announced the plan to create a three-month strategic stock of basic foods. ¹⁴²⁸
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	

	Indirect tax	
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Lithuania

	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
Subsidies	Fees subsidies	<p>[January 2022] Currently 95,000 Lithuanians can apply for subsidies to cover part of their heating costs, with 14 million euros in budget funds allocated for the purpose annually.¹⁴²⁹ Meanwhile, Lithuanian parliament passed new legislation enabling more people to apply for heating subsidies, to cover around 110,000 people. [April 2022] The Government compensates a share of gas and electricity prices paid by people by allocating €570 million.¹⁴³⁰</p> <p>[January 2022] Currently 95,000 Lithuanians can apply for subsidies to cover part of their heating costs, with 14 million euros in budget funds allocated for the purpose annually. Meanwhile, Lithuanian parliament passed new legislation enabling more people to apply for heating subsidies, to cover around 110,000 people. [April 2022] The Government compensates a share of gas and electricity prices paid by people by allocating €570 million. [Update] On 14 December 2022, the government approved gas and electricity compensation to households. The maximum compensation for the price of electricity was set at €0.285/kWh and the compensation for the price of gas was set at €0.99/m³. The measure is expected to cost €530 million (€330 million for electricity and €198 million for gas) and extend between 1 January 2023 to 31 June 2023.^{1431, 1432, 1433}</p> <p>[April 2022] The increase in heating and gas prices will be spread to consumers over 5 years. The government planned to set a ceiling on electricity prices for consumers. [September 2022] Lithuania will cap electricity and gas prices. [December 2022] The parliament of the Republic of Lithuania on 15 December 2022 passed a legislation, in accordance with Council of the European Union's regulation, establishing an EUR 180 per MWh price cap for producers generating electricity from wind, solar, geothermal, hydropower, biomass, waste, nuclear energy, lignite, crude petroleum products, peat. It will enter into force on 1 January 2023 with an option to extend the regulation until 31 December 2023 (with exceptions).^{1434, 1435, 1436}</p>

<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[28 November 2022] The basic social benefit is planned to be EUR 49 in 2023. The increase in this amount will lead to an increase in the amounts of benefits that depend on it. For instance, a one-off benefit in case of childbirth will increase from EUR 506 to 539 in 2023.¹⁴³⁷</p> <p>[28 November 2022] After the amount of state-supported income increases by EUR 10 from the start of the next year, it will amount to EUR 157. The amount of state-supported income is relevant in establishing entitlement to social assistance in cash for low-income persons, entitlement to social assistance for pupils, additional child benefit, assistance for the purchase or rental of housing and other social assistance.¹⁴³⁸</p> <p>[28 November 2022] From the beginning of 2023, it is planned to increase the base for target compensations from EUR 126 in June 2022 and EUR 138 in July 2022 to EUR 147. Last year, it was EUR 120. Upon increase of the base rate for target compensations, the target compensation for people with first-level special permanent nursing needs would increase by EUR 23.4 and for people with second-level special permanent nursing needs would increase by EUR 17.1. The target compensation for people with first-level special permanent care (assistance) needs would increase by EUR 9.9 and for people with second-level special permanent care (assistance) needs would increase by EUR 5.6. About 91,000 people receive such compensation in the country.¹⁴³⁹</p> <p>[28 November 2022] The social benefit (Socialinė pašalpa) is paid to the household if the monthly income is below the level of 1.1 of the State Supported Income. From 1 January 2023, the amount of social benefit has been increased and differentiated based on the duration of payment. It is forecast that the average monthly amount of social benefit per person will increase from EUR 124.4 to 133 next year.^{1440, 1441}</p> <p>[28 November 2022] The basic social benefit is planned to be EUR 49 in 2023. The increase in this amount will lead to an increase in the amounts of benefits that depend on it. For instance, the child money will increase to EUR 85.75.¹⁴⁴²</p>
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		<p>[28 November 2022] The basic social benefit is planned to be EUR 49 in 2023. The increase in this amount will lead to an increase in the amounts of benefits that depend on it. For instance, for large families with low income or families with a disabled child, the child benefit will increase to EUR 136.22.¹⁴⁴³</p> <p>[28 November 2022] Next year, equally as this year, a single person benefit will be granted automatically and paid without a separate request from the relevant person. It is estimated that from the beginning of next year, a single person benefit of almost EUR 35 will be due to about 240,000 single people with disabilities and people of retirement age. About EUR 101 million will be allocated for single person benefits in 2023.^{1444, 1445}</p> <p>[28 November 2022] With regard to the forecast minimum consumption needs of EUR 354, next year there will be an increase in additional supplements to small pensions. The average amount of the additional supplement will be EUR 31.17. EUR 27.6 million will be allocated for additional supplements to small pensions.¹⁴⁴⁶</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	<p>[28 November 2022] It is intended to increase the base for benefit pensions to EUR 184 starting from January next year, from 150 in January 2022 and 175 in June 2022. Benefit payments will depend on the type of benefit and the category of recipients. Benefit disability pensions will range between EUR 184 and 368. It will affect about 60,000 recipients of benefit pensions: orphans, disabled children, adults with disabilities from childhood, other people with disabilities and people of retirement age, who do not have the minimum social insurance record entitling to a social insurance pension.^{1447, 1448}</p> <p>[28 November 2022] It is intended to increase the base for benefit pensions to EUR 184 starting from January next year, from 150 in January 2022 and 175 in June 2022. Benefit old-age pensions will range between EUR 184 and 276. It will affect about 60,000 recipients of benefit pensions: orphans, disabled children, adults with disabilities from childhood, other people with disabilities and people of retirement age, who do not have the minimum social insurance record entitling to a social insurance pension.^{1449, 1450}</p>

		[28 November 2022] The base for benefit pensions is intended to increase to EUR 184 starting from January next year, from 150 in January 2022 and 175 in June 2022. The orphan's social assistance pension (šalpos našlaičių pensija) amounts to 0.5 of the social assistance pension base for each child. Thus, the orphan's pension will increase by EUR 5.5. Benefit payments ensure a minimum income for people with no or very low income in cases of disability or old age. It will affect about 60,000 recipients of benefit pensions: orphans, disabled children, adults with disabilities from childhood, other people with disabilities and people of retirement age, who do not have the minimum social insurance record entitling to a social insurance pension. ^{1451, 1452}
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[April 2022] In order to increase personal income, the Government has planned to increase old-age pensions by 5 %, thus allocating EUR 106.3 million. This decision will mean an average additional increase in pensions of EUR 24 per month for elderly people with the necessary seniority. [October 2022] The average old-age pension will increase by €65 euro to €575 in the coming year. ^{1453, 1454}
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[October 2022] The minimum monthly wage (MMW) will be €840 from January 1, 2023. €1.5 billion was set aside for helping raise consumers income,

		<p>through increasing the minimum wage and through increasing pensioner's wage. The Labour Code provides that the MMW can be paid only for unskilled work. The MMW increase will affect about 130,000 workers.^{1455, 1456, 1457, 1458}</p> <p>[28 November 2022] Next year, the base rate of official salary increases by EUR 5 from EUR 181 to 186. The change in the base rate of official salary will affect the salaries of civil servants, employees of budgetary institutions, public officials, servicemen, and judges – more than 200,000 people working in the public sector. In 2022, the base rate of official salary increased by EUR 4. About EUR 118 million will be required from the state budget to increase the base rate by EUR 5.¹⁴⁵⁹</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>[April 1] The non-taxable amount (NTA) is also increased by EUR 80, which, subject to the approval of the Seimas, would make up EUR 540 and for people earning minimum monthly wages (MMW), it would mean an additional increase of EUR 16 in income. This decision will increase the NTA by 35 % since the last year. The plan foresees EUR 103 million for this measure.¹⁴⁶⁰</p> <p>[1 April 2022] The non-taxable amount (NTA) is also increased by EUR 80, which, subject to the approval of the Seimas, would make up EUR 540 and for people earning minimum monthly wages (MMW), it would mean an additional increase of EUR 16 in income. This decision will increase the NTA by 35 % since the last year. The plan foresees EUR 103 million for this measure.</p> <p>[December 2022] The main amendments concern the monthly and annual tax-exempt amount (TEA) for employment income of resident individuals. This includes an increase in the monthly TEA to EUR 625 for individuals with monthly employment income not exceeding the minimum monthly wage (salary) as on 1 January of the current calendar year, with a maximum annual TEA of EUR 7,500. The measure is estimated to cost the state 164.3 million euros in lost budget revenue per year.^{1461, 1462, 1463}</p>
	Indirect tax	[August 2022] The Lithuanian Parliament has returned to a February proposal to reduce the VAT rate on domestic heating from 21% to 5%. This would be

		<p>imposed on natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas. This could come into place from 1 November 2022.¹⁴⁶⁴</p> <p>[August 2022] The Lithuanian Parliament has returned to a February proposal to reduce the VAT rate on domestic heating from 21% to 5%. This would be imposed on natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas. This could come into place from 1 November 2022. The initial decree set the VAT reduction from January to April 2022. [September 2022] The zero-VAT rate is now planned for two heating seasons: from October this year until the end of April next year and from October 1, 2023 until April 30, 2024.^{1465, 1466, 1467}</p> <p>[October 2022] The Lithuanian government has confirmed that it will extend the VAT rate cut to 9% on hospitality, sporting, and cultural services to 31 December 2023. The VAT rate on these services was reduced from 21% to help the Lithuanian hospitality sector recover from the impact of COVID-19 back in 2021.¹⁴⁶⁸</p> <p>[October 2022] The Lithuanian government has confirmed that it will extend the VAT rate cut to 9% on hospitality, sporting, and cultural services to 31 December 2023. The VAT rate on these services was reduced from 21% to help the Lithuanian hospitality sector recover from the impact of COVID-19 back in July 1, 2021.^{1469, 1470, 1471}</p> <p>[November 2022] Parliament passes bill to cut the VAT rate on non-prescription drugs and medical aids to 5%.</p>
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Macao SAR, China

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On August 8, 2022, Macau government announced that local taxi drivers who meet certain requirements will receive a one-off fuel and energy subsidy reaching up to MOP12,000 (US\$1,484) starting from September, as part of a string of policies to mitigate the pandemic impact on the local economy. The handout is sentenced to benefit 4,000 taxi drivers and amounts to a total of MOP51 million in subsidies.¹⁴⁷²</p> <p>On December 8, 2022, Macau announced that the 2023 budget is ready for approval. The 2023 budget will not change the so-called measures of support to the residents, with the continuing of the “wealth partaking scheme” that includes annual cash handouts and health vouchers to residents. The amounts remain unchanged with each permanent resident to receive in a cheque of 10,000 patacas and the Non-permanent residents will get 6,000 patacas as a cheque in 2023.^{1473, 1474}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On March 11, 2022, A medical voucher worth 600 patacas will be available to Macau's permanent residents from May, to be used over the next two years.¹⁴⁷⁵</p> <p>On September 23, 2022, Macau announced MOP8,000 living subsidy provided in the form of e-vouchers, will be handed out to residents’ accounts starting from October 28, 2022, with a validity lasting until June 30, 2023 and a MOP 300 daily cap. The daily cap of the new living allowance is MOP 300, and the e-vouchers are valid from October 28 this year to June 30 in 2023. 667,000 permanents have so far registered for the e-consumption plan.^{1476, 1477}</p> <p>On March 11, 2022, A medical voucher worth 600 patacas will be available to Macau's permanent residents from May, to be used over the next two years. [Update] As part of the budget for 2023, the health vouchers amount will continue</p>

		to be 600 patacas per resident. The 2023 budget will not change the so-called measures of support to the residents, with the continuing of the “wealth partaking scheme” that includes annual cash handouts and health vouchers to residents. ¹⁴⁷⁸
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	On May 23, 2022, The Executive Council recently finished discussing the draft of a new executive regulation allowing small and medium enterprises in Macau to receive MOP19,968 in subsidy for each local hire meeting certain conditions. [Update] On September 5, 2022, The Temporary Subsidy Plan for Encouraging Employers to Hire Local Unemployed Residents During the Pandemic, will be extended by six months to February 2023. The period of recruitment of local employees will be extended to February 28, 2023, while the period for companies to apply for the subsidy scheme will be extended to March 31, 2023. The temporary subsidy plan has granted eligible employers who hire unemployed local residents from June 1 to August 31 a 6-month subsidy of MOP 3,328 per month for each new local employee hired under the scheme. ^{1479, 1480}
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Madagascar

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Consumption announced on April 5, 2022, that the Malagasy State has just set ceiling prices for the sale of several necessities and everyday consumables, including gas. The price-fixing decree should be taken on April 6 in the Council of Ministers, for a period of three months, renewable. ^{1481, 1482, 1483}
	Food subsidies	The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Consumption announced on April 5, 2022, that the Malagasy State has just set ceiling prices for the sale of several necessities and everyday consumables, including sugar, flour, rice, oil or cement. The price-fixing decree should be taken on April 6 in the Council of Ministers, for a period of three months, renewable. ^{1484, 1485, 1486}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	[July 2022] The Government is planning to trigger a CERC to finance a proposed \$100 million in unconditional cash transfers to mitigate the impact of fuel price increases on poor and vulnerable households. This follows the government's decision on July 11, 2022, to raise the fuel price at the pump by 34 percent on average. ¹⁴⁸⁷ On April 12, 2023, the World Bank approved a CERC of \$50 million to fund unconditional cash transfers for poor households to mitigate the impact of the Government's hike of fuel prices. ¹⁴⁸⁸
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	On April 12, 2023, the World Bank approved a CERC of \$50 million to fund LIPW for poor households to mitigate the impact of the Government's hike of fuel prices. ¹⁴⁸⁹
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	

	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Malawi

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>Malawi is providing additional financial support for the Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project. It includes covering 147,000 beneficiaries under the SCTP for the full duration of the project by December 31, 2025 (\$35 million equivalent).¹⁴⁹⁰</p> <p>Subject to World Bank Board approval of CRW-ERF application, Malawi is planning to provide additional financial support for Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project for shock responsive safety nets. It includes a vertical expansion or cash top-ups for existing 300,000 social cash transfer poor beneficiary households. This scale-up is also conceptualized to expand coverage of emergency cash transfers to non SSN beneficiaries in both rural and urban areas.¹⁴⁹¹</p> <p>Malawi is providing additional financial support for Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project. It includes adding a shock-responsive cash transfers to 300,000 drought-affected poor households. This scale-up will expand the coverage from three to six drought-prone districts for the next two agricultural seasons. Cost: 13 million USD.¹⁴⁹²</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	Malawi is providing additional financial support for Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project. It includes scaling up the cash for work component or Climate Smart enhanced Public Works Program (CS-EPWP) with additional 400,000

		beneficiary households, with six months of work per year (US\$108 million equivalent). ¹⁴⁹³
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On April 5, 2022, Malawi removed the 16.5 per cent VAT on cooking oil in a bid to force cooking oil manufacturers lower the prices.¹⁴⁹⁴</p> <p>On 2 March 2023, the Malawi Government has announced new tax measures for the FY2023/24 covering Customs & Excise, Excise Tax, Income Tax and Valued Added Tax (VAT). The new tax measures for Income Tax and VAT will become effective once the relevant bills have been passed in Parliament, assented to by the President and gazetted. Among other measures, government exempted wheat flour from VAT.¹⁴⁹⁵</p>

Malaysia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On May 10, 2022, The Malaysian government will pay RM28 billion in fuel subsidies this year if the price of crude oil continues to remain above US\$100 per barrel. While the government stands to gain a larger sum in oil revenue, the fuel subsidies bill this year could be five times higher than the RM5.3 billion allocated under Budget 2022.^{1496, 1497}</p> <p>On July 28, 2022. Amidst rising fuel prices, the government has been planning on introducing a targeted fuel subsidy and one of the potential methods seems to be through e-wallets. The government has launched a pilot test using e-wallets at petrol stations for the targeted system.¹⁴⁹⁸</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>Malaysia has extended the period of price control of the Keluarga Malaysia Maximum Price Control Scheme. The Scheme took effect on Dec 7, 2021, throughout the country as part of the government's efforts to stabilize the price of necessities and ensure adequate supply in the market. The items listed under the scheme included live chicken, standard chicken, super chicken, Grade A, B and C eggs, long beans, red chili, tomato, choy sum, imported round cabbage (from Indonesia and China) as well as cucumber. Part of the scheme is the government has imposed a ceiling price of RM8.90 per kg for chickens since Feb 5.¹⁴⁹⁹</p> <p>On October 7, 2022, Malaysia has announced the budget for new fiscal year. Following measure was passed in the new budget: The agriculture and food industries ministry was allocated RM1.8 billion specifically for subsidies and incentives for the rice and fishing industry.¹⁵⁰⁰</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On October 7, 2022, Malaysia has announced the budget for the new fiscal year. The following measure was passed in the new budget. Under Bantuan Keluarga Malaysia (BKM), households earning less than RM2,500 per month, with at least five children, will receive RM2,500. Meanwhile, households with up to four children are eligible to receive BKM of between RM1,000 and RM2,000.¹⁵⁰¹</p>

		<p>On October 7, 2022, Malaysia has announced the budget for new fiscal year. The following measure was passed in the new budget: single senior citizens will continue to receive BKM of RM600.¹⁵⁰²</p> <p>On October 7, 2022, Malaysia has announced the budget for new fiscal year. The following measure was passed in the new budget: singles will continue to receive BKM of RM350.</p> <p>On October 7, 2022, Malaysia has announced the budget for new fiscal year. The following measure was passed in the new budget. In 2023, the government will continue to provide additional assistance of RM500 to single parents with children. This means that single parents are eligible to receive a maximum assistance of RM3,000, versus RM2,500 this year.¹⁵⁰³</p> <p>On October 7, 2022, Malaysia has announced the budget for new fiscal year. Following measure was passed in the new budget. A RM100 one-off payment to the e-wallet of those who earn below RM100,000 per year will be provided.¹⁵⁰⁴</p> <p>On October 7, 2022, Malaysia has announced the budget for new fiscal year. Following measure was passed in the new budget: To reduce travel costs, the government will continue the My50 monthly pass initiative.¹⁵⁰⁵</p> <p>On May 24, 2022, The government has offered a subsidy (in the form of direct payment) of RM729.43 million (US\$166.27 million) to chicken breeders through the Keluarga Malaysia Maximum Price Control Scheme implemented on February 5, 2022 which aimed to alleviate the burden on producers. Breeders will get 60 sen per kilogramme (kg). The Agriculture and Food Industries Ministry (MAFI) said it would expedite and simplify the procedures for direct subsidy payments to poultry breeders, as part of the efforts to resolve chicken supply shortage in Malaysia. The government will end providing subsidies to chicken breeders from July 1, 2022. [Update] On October 1, 2022, subsidies for chicken breeders and chicken egg producers have been extended from October 2022 until December 2022, at a rate of RM0.80 per kg for chickens and RM0.08 per egg. The agriculture and food industries minister said this decision was made at the Cabinet meeting to ease the burden of poultry breeders. [Update] On Feb 18, 2023, The government will</p>
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		review the need to continue providing subsidies to chicken breeders and egg producers in June and decide whether to continue the subsidy or not. RM1.8 billion in subsidy had been allocated so far for the breeders and producers involved and this is expected to exceed RM2 billion by June. ^{1506, 1507, 1508 1509}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	On February 24, 2023, Malaysia tabled the budget for fiscal year 2023. Socso to provide RM300 allowance for three months to replace income of gig workers who are active and undergoing training programmes. ¹⁵¹⁰
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	<p>On April 5, 2022, Malaysia announced that it has disbursed 20.92 billion RM (4.72 billion USD) of wage subsidies through its Wage Subsidy Program (PSU) to 357,895 employers. To preserve 2.96 million local jobs, the government has disbursed RM20.63 billion (US\$4.9 billion) in wages subsidies. ¹⁵¹¹</p> <p>On February 24, 2023, Malaysia tabled the budget for fiscal year 2023. Socso to provide incentives to employers who employ 17,000 TVET graduates of RM600 per month for three months on top of salary offered, through an allocation of RM45 million. ¹⁵¹²</p> <p>On February 24, 2023, Malaysia tabled the budget for fiscal year 2023. Further Socso incentives for employers who employ workers from vulnerable groups such</p>

		as the disabled, former prisoners, the homeless and the chronically unemployed, of up to RM600 per month for a period of up to three months. ¹⁵¹³
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	Malaysia bans poultry export: In the latest food protection move will halt exports of 3.6 million chickens a month from June 1 and investigate allegations of cartel pricing. Malaysia's ban on chicken exports is expected to end on Aug 31, 2022. ¹⁵¹⁴
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Mali

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On 14 April 2022, Mali plans measures to strengthen livelihoods with the purchase of 4,990 tons of livestock, poultry and fish feed which will be distributed to 2,997,103 people to strengthen their livelihoods through the African Risk Capacity (ARC) project in 2022. ¹⁵¹⁵
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On 14 April 2022, Mali's High Council of Agriculture earmarked 54.9 billion FCFA for subsidizing cotton production inputs. 4,990 tons of livestock, poultry and fish feed which will be distributed to 2,997,103 people. ¹⁵¹⁶ On 14 April, 2022, Mali announced that the producer's share in the price of a 50 kg bag of mineral fertilizer will be set at 12,500 CFA francs, and 25,000 CFA francs for the 50 kg bag of organic fertilizer. ¹⁵¹⁷
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On 6 December 2021, the Government of Mali announced a ban on exports of cereals, including rice, maize, millet and sorghum, until further notice. ¹⁵¹⁸
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Malta

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that it due to government's energy policy, families on average save EUR 700 in fuel cost. ¹⁵¹⁹
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that it due to government's energy policy, families on average save EUR 1,300 in electricity. ¹⁵²⁰
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>In view of increasing inflationary pressures, particularly in food items, in February 2022, the Government announced the disbursement of a one-time cash grant to alleviate the effects of inflation. Workers and students received a cash grant worth €100, while pensioners and individuals on social benefits received €200. This measure also constitutes a fiscal stimulus to the economy to further support the economic recovery, following the increase in the number of positive cases from the Omicron variant during December 2021-January 2022.¹⁵²¹</p> <p>On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that Children's allowance will increase by €90 per child per year. This measure will affect more than 41,100 families with 62,000 children and will cost €5.6 million.¹⁵²²</p> <p>On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that students will get a €50 annual stipend increase.¹⁵²³</p> <p>On Oct 24, 2022, it was announced as part of the Budget 2023 that parents who stop working in order to take care of an adult child with severe disabilities will receive up to €4,500 and will be paid every three months in 2023. In 2021, the government had first introduced financial assistance to parents who stop working in order to take care of an adult child with severe disabilities and provided €300. This was further increased to €500 in 2022. Estimated cost: 1.8 million euros.^{1524 1525}</p> <p>On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that 80,000 vulnerable people will receive an additional cost-of-living adjustment, amounting to around €300 per year. The measure will apply to those receiving</p>

		<p>social benefits and those earnings less than the median income, which in 2022 amounted to €17,796. This payment will be sent before Christmas. The whole measure will cost roughly €11 million. Finance Minister Clyde Caruana said this mechanism is expected to be retained every year although recipients may change according to their income.^{1526 1527 1528}</p> <p>On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that it would raise the capping of the maximum benefit of the rent benefit scheme offered to families living in one-bedroom apartment from €400 to €500 per month, for two-bedroom apartment from €500 to €600 per month, and for three-bedroom apartment from €600 to €700 per month.^{1529 1530}</p> <p>On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that in addition to the increase in COLA (€9.90 per week).¹⁵³¹</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that people with disability will no longer be required to be means tested for social subsidies grant. ¹⁵³²
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that the Elderly who have reached the retirement age but who do not qualify for the pension as they do not have sufficient social security contributions will receive a €50 increase in their bonus every year, resulting in an annual amount of €450 for people who have less than five years of paid contributions and up to €550 for those who have less than 10 years of contributions paid up. Around 15,000 people, mostly married women, will benefit from this increase with a total expenditure of almost €800,000. ¹⁵³³

		On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that in addition to the increase in COLA (€9.90 per week), pensioners will be given another increase of €2.60 per week, for a total increase of €12.50 per week, equivalent to an annual increase in pensions of €650. It is expected to cost the government €65 million to cover roughly 100,000 pensioners. ^{1534 1535}
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that parents who send children for sports, art or cultural activities will benefit from a tax deduction of €300 (increased from the current €100).¹⁵³⁶</p> <p>On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that tax credit of €200 per annum for each disabled child.¹⁵³⁷</p> <p>On Oct 24, 2022, as part of the Budget for 2023, Malta announced that the applicable pension income tax exemption threshold is being raised to €14,968 in order to ensure that pension income remains exempt from tax. In addition, couples that are in receipt of a pension and opt for a joint tax computation, will continue to enjoy the tax exemption threshold applicable to non-pension income up to €3,600 per year over and above the pension income.¹⁵³⁸</p>
	Indirect tax	

Mauritania

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On June 29, 2022, it was announced that World Bank through its restructuring is supporting Mauritania in scaling up the government's lean season shock response in Social Safety Net System Project II. The restructuring entails using \$11.5m to reach additional 38,000 households (i.e., 250,800 individuals) through the Elmaouna program, resulting in a total of 47,000 households.¹⁵³⁹</p> <p>On 2 February 2023, in Mauritania, the “Responding to Food Insecurity Linked to Global Price Hikes,” program has been launched to support of the most vulnerable Mauritians residing in urban Nouakchott. It is seeking to assist families in need – children, and their parents. By making cash transfers to poor households, we are helping families fight hunger and malnutrition, and improve their food security. The US Government’s contribution of \$2 million to the World Food Program’s Food Security Program is so important. These funds will help WFP undertake a four-month cash transfer operation in urban Nouakchott, which will target 20,560 food insecure families who have been severely affected by the surge in the prices of food and other basic services, and who have also suffered as a result of the recent floods. Under this program, food assistance will be provided in the form of monthly cash transfers to 150,000 people across the three regions and nine departments of Nouakchott. WFP will coordinate with other stakeholders including Ta’azour, the Ministry of Social Affairs, UNICEF, and UNHCR, to ensure the supervision and oversight of all distributions via field monitors.¹⁵⁴⁰</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	

	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Mauritius

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	<p>On April 29, 2022, Mauritius has taken the decision to inject an additional amount of Rs 150 million to vertically increase the subsidy to retain the prices of seven (7) essential commodities in the face of upward volatilities in the import cost and the need to further restore the purchasing power of consumers and will in effect from April 30, 2022.¹⁵⁴¹ This is basically a price control measure. These products are canned sardines, cheese, edible oil, margarine, canned tomatoes, powdered milk and dried grains. This program has ended on 30 June 2022.^{1542, 1543} This measure was initially announced on 10 July 2021 and came into effect from July 12, 2021.¹⁵⁴⁴</p> <p>On June 30, 2022, Mauritius decided to impose a maximum profit margin (maximum mark-up) on importers starting from July 1, 2022. It is known as Consumer Protection (Consumer Goods) (Maximum Mark-Up) (Amendment) Regulations 2022. This is applicable for twelve categories of products including milk powder, edible oil, canned fish, canned tomatoes, processed cheese, margarine, pulses, infant food/infant food preparation, pasta, wheat cereals, adult diapers and baby diapers.</p> <p>On June 7, 2022, Mauritius as part of its third budget speech announced subsidies to maintain price and supply of essential commodities such as “pain maison,” cooking gas, rice, milk, edible oil and pulses. This is expected to cost MUR4.2 bn¹⁵⁴⁵</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On June 7, 2022, Mauritius as part of its third budget speech announced to strengthen the support for 18,000 households on the Social Register of Mauritius and those benefiting from Social Aid. For beneficiaries under the Social Register of Mauritius, government increases the monthly child allowance from Rs 957 to Rs 1,046.¹⁵⁴⁶</p> <p>On June 7, 2022, Mauritius as part of its third budget speech announced to strengthen the support for 18,000 households on the Social Register of Mauritius and those benefiting from Social Aid. For beneficiaries under the Social Register</p>

		of Mauritius, government increases the minimum monthly subsistence allowance from Rs 500 to Rs 1,000. ¹⁵⁴⁷
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	On June 7, 2022, Mauritius as part of its third budget speech announced an increase in basic retirement pension, basic widow's pension, basic orphan's pension and basic invalid pension by MUR 1,000, which will be effective 1 July 2022. ¹⁵⁴⁸
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On 15 April 2022, under the Tea Sector Support Scheme, Mauritius has increased the funding voted for financial year 2021-22 from Rs 5 million to some Rs 12 million for the provision of fertilizers to be distributed to 1,038 registered small tea planters. The Scheme is being operated through a voucher system whereby the registered tea planter will be provided with a voucher indicating the quantity of fertilizers (s)he is eligible for and which (s)he will have to present to the supplier, as selected by the Small Farmers Welfare Fund, to take possession of the corresponding fertilizers. ¹⁵⁴⁹
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	<p>On June 7, 2022, Mauritius as part of its third budget speech announced the decrease in income tax rate from 15% to 12.5% for income earners earning more than MUR53,846 and up to MUR75,000 per month.¹⁵⁵⁰</p> <p>On June 7, 2022, Mauritius as part of its third budget speech announced the Increase in travelling allowances deductible from income tax from MUR 11,500 to MUR20,000.¹⁵⁵¹</p>
	Indirect tax	

Mexico

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	At the end of July 2021, the federal government announced a temporary price ceiling for LP gas (price had been previously liberalized during 2017). One of the reasons for this measure was to prevent LP gas price to rises above the inflation rate. On July 28, 2022, as a direct response to inflation, the measure was extended without a clear end date. Also, a new price cap a calculation was introduced. Measure still active.
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	

Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On October 3rd, Mexico announced a new package aimed at reducing the burden of inflation for consumers. This package is called Acuerdo de Apertura contra la Inflación y la Carestía (Apecic). Within this package the government has announced that there will be a cancelation of exports for certain products. These products are white corn, beans, sardines, aluminum and steel scrap metal. ^{1552, 1553}</p> <p>On January 16, 2023, Mexico announced a temporary 50% tax on white corn exports, arguing the need to guarantee domestic supply and stabilize prices. This will be in effect until June 30, 2023. ^{1554 1555}</p>
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On May 4, Mexico announced a package aimed at reducing the burden of inflation for consumers. This package was called ‘Paquete contra la inflación y la carestía (PACIC)’. Within this package the government announced a price freeze for all bridge and highway tolls so as to limit price increases for all transportation that uses national highways, bridges, and other public roads that have tolls. Subsequently, on October 3rd, a new package was launched under the name of ‘Acuerdo de Apertura contra la Inflación y la Carestía (Apecic)’. In this new package, the initial period was extended to the end of February 2023. [February, 2023] This measure ended on March 1, 2023. ¹⁵⁵⁶¹⁵⁵⁷</p>
	Indirect tax	<p>On May 4, 2022, Mexico announced the elimination of import duties on 72 categories related to food products. This will reduce the price for consumers for many basic food products. ¹⁵⁵⁸</p> <p>On May 4, 2022, Mexico announced the reduction in the import duty of fertilizer and eliminating the quota on the import of ammonium sulfate, which is an important product in fertilizer.</p>

[November 2022] This measure has been extended until November 2023.^{1559 1560}

On May 4, 2022 Mexico announced a package aimed at reducing the burden of inflation for consumers. This package was called ‘Paquete contra la inflación y la carestía (PACIC)’. Within this package, the government introduced an exemption of the general import tax on 26 food products. This measure had 4 extensions in time and scope throughout 2022, including one announced on October 3rd, within a new package launched under the name of ‘Acuerdo de Apertura contra la Inflación y la Carestía (Apecic)’. With this new package, the government intended to reduce the average maximum price for a basic basket of goods by 8%. They also announced the issuing of a single and universal import license to cut the costs of navigating regulatory permits for importation and distribution, including the need for sanitary checks. On January 6, 2023, the Mexican government extended this measure again, and it is currently set to last until December 2023. Additionally, the list of products for which the import tax is exempt has also increased beyond just food and it now covers 54 products.^{1561, 1562, 1563, 1564}

On March 6, 2022 an announcement was made to further reaffirm efforts by Mexico to make sure it is meeting its promise of not allowing the price of gasoline and diesel to rise above the rate of inflation. Mexico already had measures in place of highly discounted taxes on gasoline and diesel (IEPS) to try to reduce the price dating back several years, recently it has further discounted the IEPS tax rate and it has enacted a subsidy to help gas station companies cover up to 100% of the remaining tax and any other additional rise in price so as to maintain level prices. Mexico looks to offset the cost of the subsidy with increased sales in exports of its oil and gas from the state-owned

		<p>enterprise, Pemex. [Update] On August 5th, the government announced it would cut the subsidy on premium gasoline only and maintain the same subsidy for all other fuel. This reduction in the subsidy is of 7.7%. [December 5, 2022] The Mexican government announced the end of subsidies for premium gasoline (the end of the exemption of the IEPS tax) and a reduction in subsidies for regular and diesel as it looks to phase out this measure as prices of fuel have been dropping from a record high in March 2022. During 2022, the government forwent tax revenue upwards of 100 billion pesos due to exemption in the IEPS tax. ^{1565 1566 1567 1568}</p>
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Moldova

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On July 6, 2022, Moldova announced a compensation program for high energy bills (electricity and heating) for the upcoming winter months aimed at the most vulnerable population. The amount will depend on the household's income and energy consumption data. It will be aimed at the elderly, families with many children, and people with disabilities. It will also go to those in rural areas in the form of support for cutting wood for wood-fires. It is estimated that 99% of the population will receive some form of compensation with 60% of the population eligible for the maximum compensation. Only 1% are not eligible for any compensation as they have been categorized as not energy vulnerable.¹⁵⁶⁹</p> <p>On October 12th, the government announced the launching of the Energy Vulnerability Information System, an online platform where residents can apply for compensation for energy bills. This goes with the Energy Vulnerability Reduction Fund meant to subsidize energy bills (heating and electricity) for an estimated 90% of households in Moldova. The total budget is of 10 million euros.^{1570, 1571}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>[23 March 2022] To support those at most risk of the energy crisis, a direct cash transfer of 1,000 lei is provided to each individual household selected by the NGO "People in Need Moldova" and distributed in collaboration with the government and Moldovan Post. The funds come from the EU and will go to 40,000 households. They will be eligible to pick up cash at any post office with a valid ID by March 31 of this year. So far, 32,500 households have already been covered.¹⁵⁷²</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	

	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On 28 February 2022, Moldova imposed a ban on export of wheat, corn and sugar starting from March 1 due to the lack of stocks. On June 27, 2022, Moldova lifted the ban on the export of wheat and wheat flour from the country. At the same time, the ban on su</p> <p>On 28 February 2022, Moldova imposed a ban on export of wheat, corn and sugar starting from March 1 due to the lack of stocks. On June 27, 2022, Moldova lifted the ban on the export of wheat and wheat flour from the country. At the same time, the ban on sugar exports remained in force. [March 23, 2023] The government announced the resumption of sugar exports and the end of this measure. ^{1573, 1574}</p>
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Montenegro

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	

	Indirect tax	<p>On May 5, 2022, Montenegro announced 50% less excise duties for fuels (while also introducing/increasing excise duties for plastic and different tobacco and alcohol types).^{1575,1576}</p> <p>May 5, 2022, Montenegro also announced that VAT for essential food products (flour, oil, milk, eggs, sugar) is reduced from 7% to 0% and VAT on salt is reduced from 21% to 7%.^{1577,1578,1579,1580}</p>
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Montserrat

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	[September 1, 2022] the government of Montserrat announced that it would subsidize electricity consumption utility for households. The amount depends on a certain threshold of electricity consumption. This is planned to last for a period of 3 months and be a monthly subsidy in the form of a transfer to households. For those consuming between 31-100 KWh per month will receive EC\$300, for those consuming 101-200 KWh will receive EC\$200, and for those consuming over 201 KWh will receive EC\$100. ¹⁵⁸¹
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	

	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Morocco

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On March 14, 2022 it was announced that the government plans to subsidize diesel fuel benefitting transport professionals. It will pay out some \$206 million to help out truckers who staged a national strike over spiralling fuel costs spurred by the war in Ukraine. The package is worth about two billion dirhams and will cover 180,000 vehicles. The aid will be available via registration on an online portal starting April 2022. As of March 10, 2023, 9 batches of fuel subsidies have been disbursed. On March 22, 2023, the Ministry of Transport and Logistics announced that the registration process for additional support for road transport professionals will be open starting March 27, 2023.^{1582 1583}</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>On June 9, 2022, Morocco ordered a 1.75-billion-U.S dollar subsidy increase on food items such as wheat and sugar, along with cooking gas. This is in addition to the 1.8 billion dollars already earmarked in the annual budget. The decree was adopted in an effort to stabilize domestic prices for these products.¹⁵⁸⁴</p> <p>In November 2021, Morocco started subsidizing imported soft wheat until the end of December 2022. On November 29, 2022, this was extended until April 30, 2023. The government is set to spend MAD 3.1 billion (\$281.5 million) on subsidizing wheat.¹⁵⁸⁵</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On June 9, 2022, Morocco ordered a 1.75-billion-U.S dollar subsidy increase on cooking gas, besides food items. This is in addition to 1.8 billion dollars already earmarked in the annual budget. The decree was adopted in an effort to stabilize domestic prices for these products.¹⁵⁸⁶</p> <p>To keep electricity prices stable, the government disbursed 5 billion dirhams to the national electricity utility ONEE.</p>

Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	On March 15, 2022, it was reported that Morocco plans to impose export restriction on its Europe-bound round tomatoes to ease a pre-Ramadan surge in local prices for a key component of the nation's cuisine and fast-breaking meals. Each year, Morocco's sends some 430,000 tons of tomatoes to Europe, making it the region's largest outside supplier. The export curbs would halve the local price for tomatoes to less than 5 dirhams (US\$0.51) per kilo. On February 23, 2023, Morocco announced

		a renewed tomato restriction with quotas. From March 18-22 ahead of Ramadan, there was a total ban on the export of tomatoes. On March 26, 2023, the ban was lifted and replaced with a cap of 1000 tons daily. ^{1587 1588 1589 1590}
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On June 2, 2022, Morocco exempted customs duties on sunflower, soybean, and rapeseed. This measure will take effect starting June 3, 2022 and continue until further notice. This decision is intended to protect citizens' purchasing power in the face of rising global prices of various essential goods. ¹⁵⁹¹

Mozambique

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On July 1, 2022, the Mozambican government announced that it will grant a subsidy to passengers on urban public transport in the country for a period of six months, with a view to mitigating the impact of the global increase in fuel prices.¹⁵⁹²</p> <p>On July 1, 2022, the Mozambican government announced that it will grant a subsidy to passengers on urban public transport in the country for a period of six months, with a view to mitigating the impact of the global increase in fuel prices. The government has allocated US\$50 million for this subsidy.^{1593 1594}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On August 9, 2022, Mozambique reduced VAT from 17 percent to 16 percent. [January 2023] This measure was approved by parliament and went into force in January 2023.¹⁵⁹⁵</p> <p>On August 9, 2022, VAT exemption on imports for agriculture and electrification to boost renewable energy.¹⁵⁹⁶</p> <p>[December 23, 2022] The government of Mozambique passed a new law that exempts various products from VAT, to go into force January 2023. These are operations involving the transmission and/or sale of maize, maize flour, rice, bread, iodized salt, powdered milk for infants up to one year old, wheat, wheat flour, fresh or chilled tomatoes, potatoes, onions, frozen horse mackerel, lighting oil, domestic gas-LPG, jet fuel, condoms, common and iron bicycles up to four speeds and insecticides.¹⁵⁹⁷</p>

Namibia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On May 27, 2022, Namibian imposed requirement of a special import permit for a list of horticulture products from 1 to 30 June 2022. The following beetroot, butternut, cabbage, English cucumber, colored pepper, green pepper, onion, pumpkin, sweet potato, and round and jam tomatoes. ¹⁵⁹⁸

	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On 29 April 2022, Namibia temporarily reduced fuel levies for three months (May to July 2022) by 50%. Fuel levies and taxes make up 34% to 45% of the cost of Namibian fuel per liter. These levies imposed on Namibian petrol and diesel prices include; a customs and excise duty for the SACU Revenue Pool; National Energy Fund Fuel Levy (comprised of the fuel equalisation levy, Namcor levy and National Oil Storage Facility levy), road user charges, which go to the RFA for road maintenance; fuel tax, which is collected by the finance ministry for the State Revenue Fund as well as the MVA Fund levy used to finance the activities of MVA, such as providing financial assistance to road accident victims. Levies that were initially reduced include the road user charges (from 148 to 74 cents per litre), the fuel levy (from 90 to 45 cents per litre), the NAMCOR levy (from 7.6 to 3.8 cents per litre) and the MVA levy by 25% (from 50.3 to 37.725 cents per litre). On 9 August 2022, cabinet approved the extension of the temporary reduction of fuel levies, with the exception of the Fuel Tax, until such a time that fuel prices start to significantly fall back to affordable levels. This means that Namibia has discontinued the temporary reduction of the fuel levy by \nts on all products.^{1599, 1600}</p>

Netherlands

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On March 21, 2022, Netherlands made €150 million available to support vulnerable households with a high energy bill and/or poorly insulated homes through insulation-improving measures. The system will be managed at the municipality level.¹⁶⁰¹</p> <p>On 20 September, the government also announced a price cap on electricity starting in January 2023, restricting the price of electricity to the average price from January 2022 for an average level of consumption. [October 2022] The Dutch government will lock the price of electricity at 0.40 euro/KWh and freeze the price of gas at 1.45 euros per cubic metre of gas. These price caps only apply for 2900 kilowatt hours of electricity and 1,200 cubic metres of gas. This measure will cost some 23.5 billion euro. The reduced payments will begin as an estimate in November, and will take full effect in January. It will average out to a 190 euro monthly discount.^{1602, 1603}</p> <p>[September 2022] Netherlands Housing benefits will increase by almost 17 euros per month. Social housing tenants with a low income can qualify for a 57 euro monthly rent reduction from July 2023, instead of a year later. €0.2 billion due to an increased rental allowance.^{1604, 1605}</p> <p>[October 2022] As part of the price cap agreement, households will also receive 190 euros in compensation for the remaining months of 2022.¹⁶⁰⁶</p> <p>[September 2022] Reimbursement for childcare will remain at a maximum of 95 percent, but will rise to 96 percent by 2025. In the Caribbean Netherlands, a reduction in childcare costs by about 50 dollars per month.¹⁶⁰⁷</p>

		<p>[September 2022] An estimated 35 million euros will be earmarked to help higher education students having difficulty paying their energy bills if they do not qualify for the energy allowance for lower income households.¹⁶⁰⁸</p> <p>20 September 2022: As part of Budget 2023, the Government announced that household electricity and gas connections will remain active through April even if customers fall far behind on payments.¹⁶⁰⁹</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[11 March 2022] The government set aside 200-euro payments for the poorest households in the country to help them continue to pay their energy bills.^{1610, 1611}</p> <p>[September 2022] A temporary additional healthcare allowance of 412 euros will be introduced only for 2023, for a cost of 2.1 billion euro.^{1612, 1613}</p> <p>[September 2022] The maximum healthcare allowance will increase to 154 euros per month.¹⁶¹⁴</p> <p>[September 2022] €0.7 billion is due to an increased child allowance. Households with costs related to children will temporarily receive more money to help cover costs. In 2023, this will amount to 1,653 euros for the first child, and 1,532 euros for each additional child in the home. This is up from 1,220 euros in 2022, and about 1,000 euros for each additional child. The increase will be phased out through 2028. Single parents may qualify for an additional 3,848 euro subsidy, up from 3,285. In the Carribean Netherlands, child benefit increases of 40 dollars per month.^{1615, 1616}</p>

		<p>[September 2022] Higher education students who do not live with their parents will be eligible for an additional subsidy of 165 euros per academic year from September 2023, on top of the monthly basic student grant of 280 euro. Total cost of measure amounts to 500 million euro.^{1617, 1618}</p> <p>On 21 March 2022, the government agreed to raise the one-off energy allowance (energietoelag) for people on incomes around the level of social assistance to €800 (previously €200). This additional package will cost a total of €2.8 billion. The government will fund the package in part from extra gas revenue and will also use the remaining funds from the Brexit Adjustment Reserve. [September 2022] The one-off energy allowance has been further increased to €1,300. The measure will cost 1.4 billion euro. The municipality determines when the allowance is paid and how it is paid. This can be in one lump sum or instalments. The energy supplement of about €1,300 will be paid out again in 2023. Municipalities can already pay out €500 of the energy supplement for 2023 in 2022. [Update]: 25 October 2022: The municipality of Eindhoven decided on October 21 to make the national 1,300 euros of energy allowance available to students with an independent living accommodation. This following the ruling of the district court Gelderland, which states that it is unlawful to exclude all students from the energy allowance, the municipality was forced to reconsider this regulation for students.^{1619, 1620}</p> <p>20 September 2022: As part of Budget 2023, the Government announced that social benefits and state pension payments linked to the minimum wage will be increased by 10.15 percent. The social benefit payments affected by this increase are: AOW, welfare, and the Wajong (Young Disabled Persons benefit).¹⁶²¹</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	

	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[May 2022] Statutory pension would be raised by a cumulative 7.5% in 2023-24. [September 2022] €3.2 billion is to be spent on a 10% increase to statutory pension and welfare benefits. In the Caribbean Netherlands, an increase in state pension of about 150 dollars monthly. ¹⁶²²
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[May 1] Stepwise increase in the minimum wage (by a cumulative 7.5% in 2025). [September] In September 2022, as precursor to the budget announcement, the government announced that it will be increasing the minimum wage by 10% to deal with inflation all at once instead than a stepwise increase. The minimum wage should be approximately 1,935 euros gross per month for full-time workers. ^{1623, 1624, 1625}
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	<p>[September 2022] A decreased labor tax will cost the State 1.2 billion euro.¹⁶²⁶</p> <p>[September 2022] The tax-free allowance to reimburse employees' travel expenses will rise from 19 cents to 21 cents in 2023.¹⁶²⁷</p> <p>[September 2022] A tax deduction for self-employed people will be reduced much faster than planned. The deduction was to fall from 6,310 euros to 5,950 euros. Instead, it will fall further to 5,030 euros.¹⁶²⁸</p> <p>[September 2022] Reduced income tax rate for the first 73,071 euro and the employed person's tax credit will rise to a maximum of 521 euros net per year.¹⁶²⁹</p>
	Indirect tax	<p>March 3, 2022, Netherlands lowered the rate of value-added tax (VAT) on energy from 21% to 9% and cut the excise duty on petrol and diesel by 21% from 1 April 2022 until the end of the year.^{1630, 1631}</p> <p>[March 3, 2022] Netherlands cut the excise duty on petrol and diesel by 21% from 1 April 2022 until the end of the year. The reduced energy tax will cost €2.7 billion for the compensation of households. [September 2022] The reduction in excise duties on fuel previously established will be extended until July 2023, costing an additional €1.2 billion in lost revenue.^{1632, 1633}</p> <p>[September 2022] VAT will no longer be charged on solar panel purchases from January.¹⁶³⁴</p>

New Zealand

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On March 14, 2022, New Zealand announced that the country would cut public transport fares by 50% amid a suite of other changes to try to ease sharp increases in the cost of living. [Update] On Feb 1, 2023, The half-price public transport has been extended until June, 2023. The Government says the extension is estimated to cost about \$718 million.^{1635, 1636, 1637}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On May 19, 2022, New Zealand Government announced that it will hand out an extra few hundred dollars to more than two million lower-income adults to help them navigate what it describes as “the peak of the global inflation storm”. The payments are part of a package of new measures announced in the government’s annual budget. The inflation payments of 350 New Zealand dollars (\$220) over three months begin in August and are targeted at the half of all adults who earn less than 70,000 New Zealand dollars (\$44,000) per year.¹⁶³⁸</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. Tertiary students receiving student allowance or student loan living cost payments will also get about \$20 extra for each payment from April 1.</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. Working families will see increases to</p>

		<p>Working for Families, including an extra \$9 for the eldest child rate of Family Tax Credit lifting it to \$136 per week.</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. Superannuation will rise by the same percentage on April 1, which will see a couple who are both aged over 65 receive \$102.84 more in total a fortnight.</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. Increases to superannuation will mean couples receive an increase of more than \$100 every two weeks.</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. Increases to superannuation will mean individuals will receive an extra amount of nearly \$70 every two weeks.</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. Working families will see increases to</p>
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		<p>Working for Families, including an extra \$4 for Best Start Payments taking it to \$69 per week.</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. Superannuation will rise by the same percentage on April 1, which will see a single person over 65 years of age living alone receive an extra \$66.86 each payment.</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. This increase in spending meant a family with children on a benefit would receive an extra \$40.86 a week.</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. A sole parent will receive an extra \$31.83 a week.</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. Student support rates will increase in line</p>
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		with inflation, with single students under 24 without children to get an extra \$20.21 per week. ¹⁶³⁹
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	On March 13, 2023, New Zealand announced a cost of living package to support Kiwi families. Approximately 1.4 million people will benefit from increased assistance to help with the cost of living. The Government is spending \$2 billion on a welfare package called “bread and butter support” due to the rising cost of living. This package followed other cost-of-living-related decisions including raising the minimum wage by \$1.50 to \$22.70 an hour from April 1. ¹⁶⁴⁰
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>March 14, 2022, New Zealand is also cutting petrol excise duties and road user charges by 25c a litre – effective 21 March, 2022. On July 17, 2022, New Zealand announced that it is extending fuel excise duty cut until end-Jan to give inflation relief.</p> <p>[Update] The petrol excise duties cut has been extended until June, 2023. The Government says the extension is estimated to cost about \$718 million.^{1641 1642 1643}</p>

Nicaragua

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On April 16th, the government announced that it would cover all future increases in the price of gasoline and diesel until next April (2023).¹⁶⁴⁴</p> <p>[March 19th 2022] The government of Nicaragua announced that it would cover all future increases in the price of gasoline and diesel until next April (2023). [Update] The subsidy is still in place but as a result of increasing prices, the subsidy itself has risen as well. By June, the government was spending an estimated USD\$ 6 million a week in order to maintain the price of fuel in Nicaragua. [March 2023] The price control is being reviewed on a weekly basis and up until the end of March 2023, the price control has maintained the same, being approved every week.^{1645 1646 1647}</p> <p>[March 19, 2022] The government of Nicaragua announced a price freeze on liquified propane gas to be reviewed on a weekly basis. [March 2023] This measure has been kept in place at the same rate for one year, being approved every week.^{1648 1649}</p>
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Niger

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 will support 117,000 households in 2022 through a designated drought response pilot program (\$5m), quarterly cash transfers (\$58.5m) and cash for work (\$3.5m). The drought response pilot program has used satellite data to trigger an early response with monthly cash transfers over a 12-month period since March 2022. ¹⁶⁵⁰
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	Part of the Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 new 117,000 households will be supported through cash for work (\$3.5m). ¹⁶⁵¹
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 19, 2022, Niger decided to lower the customs tax of around 3.5% on millet, 35% on flour and 17% on sugar. This measure is estimated to cost 7 billion CFA Francs. ^{1652, 1653}

Nigeria

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On April 16, 2022, the Nigeria's senate approved N4 trillion for petrol subsidy in 2022, this indicates an increase from the previous year where the total petrol subsidy in 2021 was N1.573 trillion. This increase is due to the rising price of crude oil and the depreciation of the local currency (Naira). Nigeria plans to tap 2 billion euros (\$2.2 billion) from its eurobond sale last year to help fund its petrol subsidies as oil prices rise. In doing so, the federal government has extended the subsidy that was due to expire in June 2022 by 18 months. As of August, N2.568 trillion has been spent. [January 2023] Nigeria spent US\$10 billion on fuel subsidies in 2022. Additionally, it will maintain the subsidy at least until mid-2023, this is expected to cost US\$7.5 billion which the government has already set aside. ^{1654 1655 1656 1657}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On August 1, 2022, Nigeria's Yobe State subsidized fertilizer for the 2022 cropping season will be sold at N13,000 per bag after discount. At the open market, a bag is currently sold at N17,000 to N20,000 depending on the location.
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On 16 December 2021, with the objective to mitigate the short-term impact of the recent economic shocks on the poor and vulnerable population in both urban and rural areas, Nigeria and the World Bank agreed to design a follow up National Social Safety Net Program-Scale Up (NASSP-SU) Project, through IDA financing of US\$ 800 million. The Project Development Objective is to "Expand coverage of shock responsive safety net support among the poor and vulnerable and strengthen the national safety net delivery system." NASSP-SU targets 10.2 million HHs (close to 50 million individuals) and will be

		implemented nationwide. The project was approved by the World Bank board of directors on December 16, 2021, and by the Federal Executive Council (FEC) in March 2022. However, the project is yet to become effective, although the necessary technical preparatory activities are in progress. ¹⁶⁵⁸
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

North Macedonia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On 11 July, 2022, North Macedonia projected additional subsidies and transfers for the farmers, i.e. Denar 3.2 billion added to the initially projected subsidies, in order to stimulate generation of yields and increase productivity, cushion the price pressures on commodities. [Update] On 5 November 2022, as part of the Budget 2023, the Government allocated funds for agriculture subsidies, intended for increasing the national vegetable and animal production and stimulating the generation of yields (note: specific amount was not specified) ¹⁶⁵⁹
	Fees subsidies	<p>[July 2022] North Macedonia announced an energy bill discount for those on low incomes over a twelve-month period. 6,500 low-income households received the energy bill discount. An energy bill discount of 600 MKD (€10) is provided to eligible applicants from households with up to three members, while an energy bill discount of 800 MKD (€13) is provided to eligible applicants from households with four or more members. This is provided as a monthly discount for 12 consecutive months. Approximately 6,500 households applied for the energy bill discount, thus not exceeding the expected number of applicants (7,000) or the earmarked budget for this measure - 60,000,000 MKD (€9,719,938).^{1660, 1661}</p> <p>[1 December 2022] The Government implemented subsidized electricity for domestic producers of basic food products. With this measure, the price of subsidized energy is 80 euros per megawatt hour, without which producers would have to pay up to 5 times higher price. Costs shouldn't come in higher than EUR 3.5 million[29 December 2022], the Government announced that the first results on the market are: a reduction in the price of milk from 76 denars to 74 denars, of sunflower oil from 165, 167 denars to 112 denars, and the price of meat processing has been reduced by an average of 4 up to 8 percent.</p>

		<p>In addition, it was also announced that if the market conditions demand it, the Government will freeze certain prices of basic food products. [2 March, 2023], it was announced that the Government has decided to abolish electricity subsidies for producers of bread and other staple foods, citing their failure to reduce prices.¹⁶⁶²</p> <p>[2 March, 2023] The government announced that it is capping the prices of the cheapest types of bread until the end of May. The price of bread is capped at 0.5 EUR per half a kilogram loaf. (Note: this measure follows the cancellation of subsidized electricity for food producers and bakeries).^{1663 1664}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>[March 2022] Support includes a top-up benefit of 1,000 MKD (€16) for pensioners between March and May. 328,840 pensioners received the one-off support, and the total cost of this measure is 986,520,000 MKD (€16,007,941).^{1665 1666}</p> <p>[9 October 2022] 41,878 vulnerable citizens (social security and disability right users, parents of children with disabilities up to the age of 26 that receive a special allowance, persons with disabilities having a care provider that do not exercise the right to disability, people that have severe permanent changes in their health condition and do not exercise the right to disability, single parents beneficiaries of the GMI, unemployed with an employer that filed for bankruptcy) will receive 12,000 MKD (around 200 EUR) in 4 months (3,000 MKD or around 50 EUR) as support for the energy and food price crisis. Total fiscal implications of this measure are 8.2 million EUR (0.06 percent of Bank estimated GDP for 2022).</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	[March 2022] Pensioners and about 35,000 of the most vulnerable citizens will receive vouchers of 1,000 denars

		(\$17.9/16.2 euro) per month for a period of three months to purchase basic food products. ¹⁶⁶⁷
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>[July 2022] Supplementary Budget also envisages funds for increase of pensions in line with the new pension calculation methodology, according to which the pension indexation is carried out as per the CPI trends. New pension methodology from February 2022 has 50 percent CPI – 50 percent average wages increase, carried out twice per year. [5th November 2022] As part of Budget 2023, the Government allocated Denar 75 billion for this purpose i.e., providing funds for pension indexation as per the CPI trends, accounting for 50%, and the increase in the average wage, accounting for 50%.^{1668 1669}</p> <p>[9 October 2022] 153,000 pensioners (around 45 percent of all the pensioners in the country) will receive 6,000 MKD (around 100 EUR) in 4 months (1,500 MKD or around 25 EUR) if their pension is up to 11,500 MKD (around 187 EUR) or will receive 3,000 MKD (around 50 EUR) in 4 months (750 MKD or around 12 EUR) if their pension is between 11,500 and 14,000 MKD (between 187 and 227 EUR). Total fiscal implications of this measure are 12.2 million EUR (0.09 percent of Bank estimated GDP for 2022).</p>
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	

	Wage increase	<p>[July 2022] Funds are also envisaged for wage increase subsidies for the employees in the private sector, including the effect from subsidizing the minimum wage contributions.</p> <p>[March 13 2023]The Government announced that starting from April 2023 the minimum wage in North Macedonia will be increased by 2,175 denars and will amount to 20,175 denars.¹⁶⁷⁰</p> <p>[July 2022] Higher transfers to municipalities are also projected, above all as a result of the increased block grants pertaining to the increased wages by 15% for the staff in kindergartens and primary and secondary schools.^{1671 1672}</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	<p>On 11 March 2022, the government of North Macedonia introduced a temporary export ban on several agricultural products in the context of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The temporary ban is in force from 11 March until 20 March 2022. More specifically, the following products are affected by this export ban: wheat, barley, corn, wheat flour, sunflower seeds, and sunflower seed oils. On 18 March 2022, North Macedonia extended the temporary export ban for the mentioned products until 15 April 2022. In May 2022, the government of North Macedonia eliminated the export ban on sunflower oil (please see related state act). In July, the government still continues the export ban on wheat, barley, corn, wheat flour until December 2022.^{1673 1674}</p>
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 10, 2022, North Macedonia announced that the VAT on fuels will be lowered to 10% from 18%. This is expected to cost EUR 400 million.¹⁶⁷⁵</p> <p>On March 10, 2022, North Macedonia will remove VAT and freeze margins on sales of bread, sugar, flour, edible sunflower oil, milk, meat, rice and eggs. [Update] In mid-September, the government restricted the margins on basic food products (bread,</p>

		<p>sugar, sunflower oil, wheat, pasta, rice, milk, eggs) to 5 percent (bread, sugar, sunflower oil) or 10 percent (for the rest of the products) until 31.12.2022. All tax measures put together are expected to cost EUR 400 million.¹⁶⁷⁶</p> <p>On March 10, 2022, North Macedonia will also remove customs duties on all imports of basic food products.¹⁶⁷⁷</p> <p>On March 10, 2022, North Macedonia will scrap VAT on imported natural gas, electricity, thermal and cooling energy. [9 October 2022] The Government will continue with this measure until the end of this year. All tax measures put together are expected to cost EUR 400 million.¹⁶⁷⁸</p> <p>On March 10, 2022, in North Macedonia the application of the preferential tax rate of 5% for the supply of electricity to households will be prolonged. This measure will mitigate the impact of the rising electricity prices on the world stock markets and protect the living standards of citizens. The preferential tax rate will be valid until December 2022.¹⁶⁷⁹</p>
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Norway

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>December 2021: The government announced a temporary scheme that will help ordinary people across Norway to cope with their electricity bills this winter, with energy prices recently reaching new record highs. Support will be available to households for up to 5000 kilowatt hours of monthly electricity use. The scheme will take effect as of December 2021 and remain in place until the end of March 2022 and is to be administered by the Transmission System Operators (TSOs). On March 10, 2022, the Norwegian government announced that it is proposing an extension (until March 2023) of the financial support in the form of subsidy it provided in December 2021 to help households cope with unusually high electricity prices. The amendment to the budget allowed for increased support to households in response to high electricity costs. The financial support for energy costs runs through March 31, 2022, with the law automatically expiring on July 1, 2022. The new government proposal would extend the legislation until March 31, 2023 (worth €770 million). The government will pay 80% of the portion of power bills above prices of 70 ore (7 cents) per kilowatt hour (KWh), up from 55% in the plan devised in December. In addition, electricity companies must, on a monthly basis, send to the Norwegian Energy Regulatory Authority an overview of the sum paid as support to customers. [Update] In early September 2022, the government allocated almost €1 extra billion in revenues from state-owned power grid firm Statnett - to extend its scheme in order to shield consumers from the higher energy bills. The measure will now cover 90% of the portion of power bills above prices of 70 ore (7 cents) per kilowatt hour (€0.067/KWh). This brings the total cost of the</p>

		<p>scheme - set to remain in place until at least March 2023- to €3.4 bn. [Update]: Feb 23, the government announced a proposal to extend the subsidy to cover 90% of the additional cost for power prices exceeding 70 ore (7 cents) a kilowatt-hourplace through 2024 (instead of an earlier plan to reduce that level to 80% for the April-to-September period). Additionally, the proposal includes adjusting the aid to cover hour-by-hour changes rather than a monthly average. ^{1680, 1681, 1682 1683}</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[Update]11 December 2021, the government announced that housing allowance will be provided to help cover high electricity costs in the period January-March 2022 (at the rate of NOK 1,500 per household). In February 2022, the housing allowance was increased from NOK 1,500 to NOK 2,500 per household for the period of March 2022-December 2022. As a result, more people will receive housing allowance and many people will receive more housing allowance during periods of high electricity consumption. Throughout 2022, the income ceiling will be higher and the personal contribution will be lower.</p> <p>[October 2022] Extra funding for housing benefits in October and November totalling 194 million kroner has been secured.</p> <p>[Update] January 2023: According to the Husbanken website, the high rates for housing allowance will remain in place until June 2023. Additionally, the housing allowance is also expanded to cover Ukrainian refugees. ^{1684 ,1685 ,1686, 1687, 1688 , 1689}</p> <p>Extra electricity allowance: persons who were granted housing allowance in the period January 2022 - May 2022, received in addition to housing allowance a fixed amount in support of electricity expenses. In the period June 22 - September 22, no extra support will be paid for electricity. The beneficiary of housing allowance in October 22 will receive NOK 1,000 in extra support. In November 22 and December 22, the support is NOK 1,500. Recipient will also receive 150 kroner for each extra person s/he lives with during the months with extra electricity support. The amount is independent of one's actual</p>

		<p>expenses for electricity. [Update]: 2 January 2023: Extra support for electricity costs is given in the period December 2022 - April 2023. ^{1690 1691}</p> <p>On Monday 24 October 2022, the Government agreed to provide students with a one-off payment of 1,500 kroner this year due to increased electricity costs – with the total cost amounting to 210 million kroner. [Update] According to the Lanekassen (State Educational Loan Fund), the one-off grant is available to students who paid electricity for the period of 16 August 2022 to 15 January 2023. ^{1692 1693}</p> <p>Oct 2022: As part of the Budget 2023, the Government announced an annual income increase of up to NOK 11 500 for single parents with low income. In 2023 the increase will be NOK 9 600, as the restructuring of this support will take place from 1 March. ¹⁶⁹⁴</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	Oct 2022: As part of the Budget 2023, Reducing income tax for people with income below NOK 750 000. A family with two incomes of NOK 550 000 will pay about NOK 7 800 less tax in 2023, compared with the 2021 rules. This calculation is based on the assumption that wages are their only income, and that they only have standard deductions, meaning the personal allowance and the minimum standard deduction. ¹⁶⁹⁵
	Indirect tax	

Oman

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On November 9, 2021, Oman decided to cap fuel prices in line with the rates of October 2021. The government will bear the differences resulting from any increase in oil prices until the end of 2022. By the end of the first half of 2022, government subsidy amounted to OMR 314 million allocated for oil products subsidy (i.e, fuel prices were fixed since November 2021). [Update]: 18 November 2022: The Government announced that it will fix vehicle fuel prices in accordance with October 2021 rates, as a maximum ceiling, until the end of 2023. ^{1696 1697 1698 1699}</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>In light of the current global geopolitical situations, which led to a rise in oil prices and price of basic food commodities, Oman revised the subsidies to mitigate the implications. By the end of the first half of 2022, OMR 11 million is allocated for basic food subsidy. ¹⁷⁰⁰</p> <p>In light of the current global geopolitical situations, which led to a rise in oil prices and price of basic food commodities, Oman revised the subsidies to mitigate the implications. By the end of the first half of 2022, OMR 11 million allocated for basic food subsidy. [Update]: Under Budget 2023, OMR 25 million is allocated for basic food items subsidy. ¹⁷⁰¹¹⁷⁰²</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>On 31 May 2022, Oman's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources (MAFWR) has announced availability of wheat kernel for the 2022/2023 season at a subsidized rate, in its efforts to support farmers and to achieve self-sufficiency in food. The ministry will provide one tonne of wheat seeds for RO300 for the new season to farmers. ¹⁷⁰³</p>
	Fees subsidies	

Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	15 Feb 2023: The Government of Oman announced that it will launch benefits scheme for low-income citizens. The social protection law is intended to assist low-income earners on several fronts, including the provision of child benefits. Financial assistance will also be provided for pensioners, orphans, widowers and Omanis with disabilities. This will come into effect in 2024. The government has set aside 400 million rials (\$1.1 billion) a year starting from 2024 for the social protection programme. ¹⁷⁰⁴
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	29 August 2022: The government of Oman announced that it will be providing at least 59,030 students in Omani government schools for the first time with school supplies when schools across the Sultanate reopens on September 2022. According to the Ministry of Education, the scheme will benefit 24,665 students (both male and female) in the social security category and 34,365 students in the limited income category. A one-time OMR 25 will be disbursed for each eligible student to cover school supplies. ^{1705 1706}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	29 August 2022: The government of Oman announced that it will be providing at least 59,030 students in Omani government schools for the first time with daily meals when schools across the Sultanate reopens on September 2022. According to the Ministry of Education, the scheme will benefit 24,665 students (both male and female) in the social security category and 34,365 students in the limited income category. OMR 11-worth vouchers will be provided to each student to purchase daily meals. Each coupon will carry a value of 500 baisas to cover a total of 22 school days each month. A record OMR 4,073,070 has been approved by the Ministry of Finance towards the scheme this year. ^{1707 1708}
	Public works	

Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 13, 2022, Oman has issued a decision No 89/2022 to add more food commodities to the list of food items which are subject to Value Added Tax (VAT) at zero rate. The items include barley, corn, flour, beans and some animal feed. ¹⁷⁰⁹

Pakistan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	<p>On 7 March 2022, Pakistan launched a food subsidy program, Ehsaas Riyayat Ration Scheme, to provide a monthly subsidy of 30 percent on daily use commodities to 20 million households. Under the targeted subsidy for the middle and lower middle class, the prices of flour and cooking oil among others will be considerably reduced.¹⁷¹⁰</p> <p>On April 20, 2022, Pakistan’s Punjab government has announced to reduce by Rs100 the price of a 10kg flour bag, making the cost fall from Rs 550 to Rs 450, dubbing it a big relief for the people hit hard by rampant inflation. The government implemented a uniform system till Eid.¹⁷¹¹</p> <p>On May 28, 2022, Utility Stores Corporation in Pakistan has been ordered by the government to provide 10 kilograms of flour bags at a subsidized rate of 400 PKR throughout the country. Updated: On June 21, Government announced that it will continue giving subsidy to the poor and low-income groups on five essential items — wheat flour, sugar, ghee/edible oil, pulses and rice — in the next fiscal year. So far, 113 million people had benefitted from Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif’s relief package and got subsidies of Rs60 per kg on wheat flour; Rs21 on sugar; Rs250 on ghee/oil, and Rs15 to Rs20 on pulses and rice.</p> <p>[Update] On January 2, 2023, Pakistan government increases prices of wheat flour, sugar, ghee in utility stores. The price of sugar under the new rates has increased to Rs89 per kg from Rs70 per kg, an increase by 27 per cent. The price of ghee has increased to Rs375 per kg from Rs75 per kg. The Wheat flour price has increased to Rs64.8 per kg from Rs40 per kg, a 62 per cent increase.^{1712, 1713}</p> <p>On May 28, 2022, Pakistan has announced a new relief package worth 28 billion PKR (\$140 million) per month to mitigate the</p>

		<p>impact of the raise in prices of petroleum products on the lower-income people of the country. The relief package will provide around 14 million deserving families with immediate assistance of 2,000 PKR per month. The package will provide financial assistance to almost 85 million people which is nearly one-third of the total population of Pakistan.¹⁷¹⁴</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>On Oct 31, 2022, The government announced a special financial subsidy package of Rs1,800 billion to promote the agriculture sector and provide farmers, particularly in the flood-hit areas by providing free seeds to bring down prices of fertilizers. The prices of Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP) would be reduced by Rs2,500 per bag, resulting in a benefit of Rs58 billion to the farmers. The price of a DAP bag would come down to Rs11,250.¹⁷¹⁵</p> <p>On Oct 31, 2022, The government announced a special financial subsidy package of Rs1,800 billion to promote the agriculture sector and provide farmers, particularly in the flood-hit areas free seeds, inexpensive loans and to bring down prices of fertilizers and electricity for tube wells. 1.2 million bags of certified seeds worth Rs 13.20 billion would be distributed among the farmers and the federal and provincial governments would share the funds required for it.¹⁷¹⁶</p>
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On May 28, 2022, Pakistan has announced a new relief package worth 28 billion PKR (\$140 million) per month to mitigate the impact of the rise in prices of petroleum products on the lower-income people of the country. The relief package will provide around 14 million deserving families with immediate assistance of 2,000 PKR per month. The package will provide financial</p>

		<p>assistance to almost 85 million people which is nearly one-third of the total population of Pakistan.¹⁷¹⁷</p> <p>On Oct 26, 2022, the Asian Development Bank released \$1.5 billion to the State Bank of Pakistan under the Building Resilience Under Active Countercyclical Expenditures (BRACE) Program on Wednesday. The \$1.5 billion BRACE Program aims to support the government’s efforts to deal with the adverse impacts of devastating floods, supply chain disruptions, rising energy and fuel prices and inflation on the poor and vulnerable. The BRACE Program will expand the number of families receiving cash transfers through Benazir Income Support Program from 7.9 million to 9 million, increase the number of children enrolled in primary and secondary schools, and enhance geographic coverage of health services and nutritional supplies for pregnant and lactating mothers and children younger than two-years-old.¹⁷¹⁸</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	<p>On 9 May 2022, Pakistan imposed a complete ban on the export of sugar, owing to the commodity's domestic demand. [Update] On December 15, 2022 Pakistan lifted the ban on sugar exports.¹⁷¹⁹</p> <p>In May 19, 2022, a ban was introduced in Pakistan on import of non-essential and luxury items to stabilize prices. On July 26, 2022, The Pakistani government is set to begin removing restrictions on the import of “non-essential and luxury items”.¹⁷²⁰</p>
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Panama

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On July 18th, the government officially put a price freeze on fuel (gasoline, diesel). The price for a gallon of regular gasoline will be held at USD\$ 3.25. This is expected to cost USD\$ 200 million. This is expected to last until October 2022. [October 18, 2022] The government of Panama announced an extension of this measure until January 15, 2023. [January 12, 2023] The government of Panama announced an extension of this measure until April 1, 2023. The government announced that it has provided US\$320 million in funds for this measure up until January 15 2023. ^{1721 1722 1723}
	Food subsidies	¹⁷²⁴ On July 25th, it was reported that the government reached an agreement to control the price of basic food items, some 72 products. This will be reflected in up to a 30% decrease in the actual cost of many basic necessity food items. This is set to last for 6 months. [January 19, 2023] The government announced an extension of 6 months for this measure but reduced the list to 18 products.
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On August 11th, the government announced a new measure attempting to lower prices for consumers. This measure was targeted to reduce the price of 170 medicine and other pharmaceutical products by 30%. This measure went into effect on August 15th and is set to last for 6 months. ¹⁷²⁵
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	

	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Paraguay

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On July 27th, the government announced price decreases for more than 100 products part of a basic basket of goods (mainly food products and health products). This measure was set to last until August 9th. The discount will be between 15-40%. ^{1726 1727} ¹⁷²⁸
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	[January 10 2023] The government of Paraguay announced a vertical expansion to existing non-contributory old age pensions. The increase is of G\$ 65,246. The coverage of the pension in 2022 was 278,632. ¹⁷²⁹
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	On July 6th, the government announced a series of new measures to help ease the burden of rising prices. One of which aims to increase the budget and the number of beneficiaries for the program aimed at assisting elderly people (Personas Adultas

		Mayores). The program seeks to add 15,000 beneficiaries with an added budget of G25 billion. ¹⁷³⁰
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[July 1 2022] The government of Paraguay announced a minimum wage increase due to the effects of inflation. ¹⁷³¹
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Peru

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On December 15, 2021, Peru announced an additional subsidy (on top of existing subsidies) directed at low-income households that will reduce energy and electricity bills by 15%, using the taxes paid by the upper and middle classes.¹⁷³²</p> <p>[February 15 2023] The government of Peru announced a new subsidy aimed at reducing electricity costs for the most vulnerable in the face of higher prices. The benefit size is of 30 soles, to be distributed as a discount of three separate monthly electricity bills by the utility companies of up to 10 soles each. This is aimed at those who consumed on average up to 100 KWh per month during the period August 2021 to July 2022. This will be reflected as a discount in the electricity bill.¹⁷³³</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On August 15th, a one-off cash transfer was made available to provide additional funds to beneficiaries of three different social programs. This is the second time that the one-off is being provided, the first being at the end of April. One of the social programs is the “Juntos” program whose beneficiaries will receive a S/200 one-off. This will reach 643,157 households.</p> <p>[December 29 2022] The government of Peru announced another one-off, of the same amount will be dispersed. [11 January 2023] Total cost for Juntos, Contigo and Pensión 65 will amount to 400 million soles.^{1734 1735 1736}</p> <p>On August 15th, a one-off cash transfer was made available to provide additional funds to beneficiaries of three different social programs. This is the second time that the one-off is being provided, the first being at the end of April. One of which is the the “Pensión 65” program whose beneficiaries will receive a S/250 one-off. This cash transfer will reach 577,043 individuals.</p> <p>[December 29 2022] The government of Peru announced another</p>

		<p>one-off, of the same amount will be dispersed. [11 January 2023] Total cost for Juntos, Contigo and Pensión 65 will amount to 400 million soles. ^{1737 1738 1739}</p> <p>. On August 15th, a one-off cash transfer was made available to provide additional funds to beneficiaries of three different social programs. This is the second time that the one-off is being provided, the first being at the end of April. One of which is the persons with disabilities program “Contigo”. A S/300 one-off will be given to individuals in this program. This will reach 77,063 individuals. [December 29 2022] The government of Peru announced another one-off, of the same amount will be dispersed. [11 January 2023] Total cost for Juntos, Contigo and Pensión 65 will amount to 400 million soles. ^{1740 1741 1742}</p> <p>On September 8th, a one-off cash transfer of S/270 was made available to provide emergency support to poor households which are not beneficiaries of Juntos, P65 and Contigo. This will reach 4.2 million households. Cost: S/1134 million. ^{1743 1744}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On April 4, 2022, Peru announced it would exempt fuel from being charged a tax in order to try to reduce prices of gasoline. This is set to last until June 30, with the possibility to extend until December.¹⁷⁴⁵</p> <p>On April 4, 2022, Peru announced it would exempt fuel from being charged a tax in order to try to reduce prices of gasoline. This is set to last until June 30, with the possibility to extend until December. [Update] The government decided not to extend the measure, it has now ended.¹⁷⁴⁶</p> <p>On April 8, 2022, it was reported that Peru had approved the exoneration of the general sales tax (IGV -- Peru's VAT) for a basic basket of food products. This measure began on May 1, 2022 and is set to end on December 31, 2022. [December 6 2022] The government announced the decision to extend this measure until December 31, 2025. The measure also applies to fertilizer products.^{1747, 1748, 1749, 1750}</p>

Philippines

<p style="text-align: center;">Subsidies</p>	<p>Fuel subsidies</p>	<p>On March 16, 2022, A total of P569 million in fuel subsidy has been distributed by the state-run Land Bank of the Philippines to cushion the impact of oil prices hikes on public utility vehicle (PUV) drivers.^{1751 1752}</p> <p>On March 17, 2022, Philippines has doubled to 5 billion pesos (\$95.88 million) on fuel subsidy program for public transport. On July 5, 2022, the government announced that his administration will continue providing fuel subsidies for the public transport sector to help soften the blow of rising oil prices.¹⁷⁵³</p> <p>On August 26, 2022, to help them cope with high petroleum prices next year, public transport drivers, corn farmers and fisherfolk are expected to receive another P3.5 billion in direct fuel subsidies under the 2023 national budget, a member of the House Committee on Appropriations said on Thursday. [Update] On March 2, 2023, The national government allotted P4 billion to provide fuel subsidies for the transport and agriculture sectors in 2023. P1 billion would be given as fuel subsidies to farmers and fisherfolk. This would benefit over 312,000 members of the sectors with P3,000 per beneficiary^{1754 1755}</p> <p>On July 17, 2022 The Department of Agriculture (DA) provided some P121,000 million worth of fuel subsidies to Nueva Ecija farmers in a bid to cushion the effects of rising fuel prices on the corn and fisheries sector. A total of 404 corn farmers from the province of Nueva Ecija received P3,000 worth of fuel discount cards on July 13, 2020.¹⁷⁵⁶</p> <p>On January 19, 2023, Some 870 members of the tricycle operators and drivers' associations (TODAs) in Central Luzon have received fuel subsidies from the government. Each qualified TODA member received PHP1,000 in fuel subsidy.¹⁷⁵⁷</p>
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	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>On October 21, 2022, The Department of Agriculture (DA) has announced an additional P4.1 billion into the government’s fertilizer subsidy program to help alleviate the burden on local rice farmers of the rising cost of the farm input. In the 2022-2023 dry cropping season, farmers tilling 0.5 ha and below are entitled to a fertilizer voucher worth P3,300, and for those tilling 0.51 ha to 2 ha, the voucher value will be computed by multiplying the farm area by P6,600.¹⁷⁵⁸</p> <p>On March 13, 2023, The Department of Agriculture in Bicol distributed over PHP400 million worth of fertilizer subsidies to rice farmers in the six provinces of the Bicol region. PHP406.6 million fertilizer discount vouchers were given to 106,120 farmers during the wet season cropping (March 16-Sept. 15, 2022) and dry season cropping (Sept. 16-March 15, 2023). During the wet season cropping, a total of PHP105.3 million fertilizer discount vouchers were claimed by 55,573 farmers from Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, and Catanduanes, while for dry season cropping a total of PHP301.3 million were claimed by 50,547 rice farmers from Albay, Masbate, and Sorsogon. PHP6,600 per hectare were provided for each rice farmer.¹⁷⁵⁹</p>
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On March 16, 2022, the Government of Philippines announced the TCT Program which aims to support around 12.4 million vulnerable households belonging to the bottom fifty percent (50%) of Filipino households, amid the rising prices of fuel and goods. The program shall provide cash grants amounting to PHP500 for six months. [Update] On March 21, 2023, Government announced that it is set release cash aid of P1,000 each to 9.3 million households as inflation remains stubbornly</p>

		high. The Targeted Cash Transfer program had been launched by the Duterte administration in 2022 and gave households P500 for six months until January 2023. The cash aid, alongside other targeted subsidies in the pipeline, would cost the government P26.6 billion. ^{1760 1761 1762}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On March 17, 2022, The government is rolling out targeted subsidies amounting to 6.1 billion pesos for the transport and agriculture sectors. This consists of 5 billion pesos worth of fuel vouchers to qualified public utility vehicle drivers and operators who will receive a 6,500-peso fuel subsidy under the Pantawid Pasada program. Manila has also recommended additional fuel vouchers for farm producers by increasing the budget to 1.1 billion pesos from 500 million, so as to cut input costs. [6 July 2022] The government will continue distributing fuel subsidies to affected populations such as drivers, fisherfolk and farmers. [Updated] On March 2, 2023 The national government allotted P4 billion to provide fuel subsidies for the transport and agriculture sectors in 2023. P3 billion would be appropriated as fuel vouchers to the transport sector: public utility vehicle (PUV), taxi, tricycle, ride-hailing, and delivery service drivers. ^{1763 1764 1765 1766}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Poland

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>The “Anti-Putin” Shield, amongst other measures, envisions the support from the state budget to cover farmers who are in danger of losing financial liquidity. The aid will concern fertilizers that agricultural producers bought between September 1, 2021, and May 15, 2022. The subsidy will cover up to 50 hectares of land and will amount to PLN 500 per hectare of agricultural land and 250 PLN per hectare of meadows, pastures and grassland on arable land. Aid for farmers has been designed so that on the basis of invoices for purchases of fertilizers, compensation can be paid. It will be a compensation of around PLN 1,500 to one ton of fertilizer.¹⁷⁶⁷ [May 30] So far, the application has been submitted by about 370,000 farmers.^{1768, 1769}</p>
	Fees subsidies	<p>On July 14, 2022, Poland announced that the credit holidays will allow for the postponement of the repayment of a mortgage loan granted in Polish currency for a total of 8 months between 2022 and 2023. Credit holidays will come into force within 14 days from the date of its announcement. Therefore, applications can be submitted to banks on July 29, 2022. About 2 million people are entitled to credit holidays and as of August, over 500,000 families have already taken advantage of the government loan holidays.^{1770, 1771}</p> <p>May 27, 2022, Poland announced to co-finance the "My Electricity" program for the years 2021-2023 from the React EU program. Over PLN 870 million will be allocated to co-finance photovoltaic panels. Beneficiaries can receive a subsidy of up to PLN 20.5 thousand. If individuals invest in several elements at once, the subsidy for panels will increase to 5,000. The co-financing for the remaining integrated devices is to be as follows: heat storage (up to PLN 5,000), energy storage (up to PLN 7,500), energy management system (up to PLN 3,000). [20 March 2023] The climate and environment Ministry has</p>

		<p>announced a further extension and expansion, which will go into operation next month. The programme will allow maximum funding per application of 58,000 zloty (€12,322), up from 31,000 zloty previously. It will also now include funding for solar thermal collectors and heat pumps. Moreover, the program will now be maintained continuously. So far, more than 1.7 billion zloty has been allocated in total to fund over 410,000 applications under the project. The government estimated last November that the programme had reduced CO2 emissions by 1.9 billion kilograms per year. The program was launched. 31 August 2019. ^{1772, 1773, 1774}</p> <p>[March 2022] As part of the Anti-Inflation Shield 2.0, the government extends until 2027 the protection against uncontrolled increase in gas prices. The compensation will come to an estimated PLN 10 billion (EUR 2.2 billion). [1 December 2022] The Sejm, the lower house of the Polish parliament, has adopted a bill freezing natural gas tariffs in 2023 for all households and sensitive recipients at 2022 levels. Gas price will be capped at PLN 200.17 (EUR 42.7) per megawatt hour (MWh) and distribution fees will be frozen. The gas tariffs will be frozen for all, regardless of the income threshold, including households and various sensitive recipients, such as schools, pre-schools, or health and social care facilities. The solution already in force in 2022 covered about 7.2 million households and 50,000 public benefit entities. ^{1775, 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, 1780}</p> <p>[April 2022] The government has also rolled out the ‘MyHEAT programme’, with a budget of €140 million. This is based on subsidies for the purchase and installation of heat pumps in new homes with a higher energy standard. Subsidies account for 30%-45%. Eligible investment costs range from €1,500 to €4,500 (depending on the type of installed heat pump). Beneficiaries are owners or co-owners of new single-family houses. ^{1781, 1782}</p>
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		<p>[July 2022] Another tens of thousands of homeowners will be able to take advantage of the new version of the "Clean Air" program. It is about the so-called "Czyste Air Plus", which will be launched on July 15, 2022 and will allow for pre-financing investments in thermal modernization of the house and replacement of heat sources with more ecological ones. The government has allocated PLN 1.8 billion for this program.^{1783, 1784}</p> <p>On 13 September 2022, the government announced plans to cap electricity prices in 2023 at this year's levels for the first 2000 kWh consumed for all households, up to 2,600 kWh per year for families with people with disabilities and at 3,000 kWh for large families and farmers. [October 2022] On 11 October, a new plan was announced to cap the price of electricity for consumption above the limits set out in September. For households the price cap was set at PLN 699/MWh (€144/MWh or €0.14/kWh). The price caps should apply from December 2022 to December 2023. The measure will be financed by revenues from windfall profit taxation on electricity producers and the state budget. The government estimates that nearly 17 million households will benefit from the electricity price freeze next year. Around PLN 23 billion (€4.8 bn) has been earmarked for these measures. [29 December 2022] The expected cost of support is PLN 46.5 billion. No increase in energy prices for approx. 10 million households in 2023. Electricity prices within the limit will be settled next year according to frozen energy prices from 2022. After exceeding the consumption, for each additional MWh consumed, households will be billed under the maximum price mechanism: PLN 693/MWh. The maximum price for other eligible consumers is set at PLN 785 / MWh.^{1785, 1786, 1787, 1788}</p> <p>On 13 September 2022, a special electricity allowance was announced for households that use electricity for heating –</p>
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		<p>including the use of heat pumps. The amount of the allowance is PLN 1,000 (€208), while for annual electricity consumption of more than 5 MWh it will be increased to PLN 1,500 (€312). The measure is targeted at some 800,000 households and is expected to cost PLN 1 billion (EUR 205.8 million). [1 February 2023] The application can only be submitted until February 1, 2023.^{1789, 1790}</p> <p>[22 March 2022] The Clean Air Programme launched in 2018 aims at improving air quality and energy efficiency in Poland and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. [2 November 2022] In 2023, under the Clean Air program, it will be possible to receive an increased subsidy up to over PLN 100,000, from PLN 80,000. The purpose of the program is to promote cleaner and more efficient heating systems. The budget amounts to PLN 103 billion and it is financed from emission fees, the thermo-modernization fund, own resources of the Provincial Funds for Environmental Protection and Water Management, thermo-modernization relief and EU funds. Commercial banks have a share in financing. As of 24 March 2023, 579,224 applications have been submitted. Subsidies can cover up to 90 per cent of the costs, depending on your income level. Beneficiaries are owners or co-owners of single-family residential buildings, or residential premises separated in single-family buildings with a separate land and mortgage register. The subsidy may be up to PLN 66,000 for the basic level of co-financing, up to PLN 99,000 for the increased level of co-financing and up to PLN 135,000 for the highest level of co-financing. Additionally, for all levels beyond the indicated limits, a subsidy of up to PLN 1,200 for an energy audit.^{1791 1792}</p> <p>[17 January 2023] The government adopted a bill introducing a maximum price for heat to protect households from excessive increases in heat prices in those locations where increases above 40% in heat prices occurred before 30 September 2022. The</p>
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		<p>maximum price of heat supply is to include all cost components of heat supply that occur in a given district heating system, including those related to the generation and transmission of heat.¹⁷⁹³</p> <p>[11 October 2022] The new law also mandates that customers will receive a 10% discount on their 2024's electricity bills if between 1 October 2022 and 31 December 2023 they reduce their consumption by at least 10% in comparison to the months of 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2022. Compensation for price reductions and freezes will be given to electrical firms.¹⁷⁹⁴</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[March 2022] The electricity allowance to help households struggling with energy bills is determined based on the number of people in the household, income and whether or not it had coal heating. The first instalment is paid out at the end of March 2022, while the second will be sent out in December 2022. The measure will support about 7 million households.</p> <p>1 person in the household - maximum PLN 500 per year; 2-3 people in the household - maximum PLN 750 per year; 4-5 people in the household - maximum PLN 1062.50 per year; 6 or more people in the household - maximum PLN 1,437.50 per year. The inflation allowance is designed to offset the rise in gas, electricity and food prices and nearly PLN 4 billion has been allocated to this purpose.^{1795, 1796, 1797, 1798, 1799}</p> <p>[August 2022] The carbon allowance is a special, one-time benefit in the amount of PLN 3,000 granted on the basis of the provisions of the Act of August 5, 2022. According to them, support is granted to households whose main source of heating is, among others, solid fuel boiler, fireplace or tiled stove, powered by coal, briquette or pellets containing 85% hard coal. The allowance is independent of the income earned by family members, and the basic condition for obtaining it is that the said</p>

		<p>source of heating is entered or reported to the Central Emission Register of Buildings (CEEB). [29 December 2022] PLN 13.5 billion was allocated for this purpose and around 3.8 million households can benefit from the support.^{1800 1801 1802}</p> <p>[August 2022] Households that use heat from small-scale heating plants will receive a one-off allowance of between PLN 1,000 (EUR 210) and PLN 3,900 (EUR 830). [29 December 2022] The value of support for recipients of system heat is PLN 6.9 billion.^{1803 1804}</p> <p>[August 2022] A one-time allowance for households heating their houses with wood, wood pellets, fuel oil or LPG will amount between PLN 500 and PLN 3,000, depending on the heating source. The application for the allowance can be submitted by November 30, 2022. The commune will have a maximum of one month to examine the application and pay the allowance. The value is PLN 1.9 billion. It affects over one million households.¹⁸⁰⁵¹⁸⁰⁶</p> <p>[December 2022] Over PLN 1 billion was allocated for a one-off benefit in the amount of PLN 1,000 - for households consuming up to 5 MWh/year or PLN 1,500 - for households consuming more than 5 MWh/year - the condition is to attach confirmation of exceeding 5 MWh of annual consumption for 2021. Approximately 800,000 households will benefit from the solution. It is possible to apply for for the allowance from December 1, 2022 to February 1, 2023.¹⁸⁰⁷</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	<p>[18 October 2022] In 2023, the government will allocate a record PLN 41.8 billion for the indexation of old-age pensions and disability pensions. In 2023, the adoption of the percentage indexation principle with a guaranteed minimum increase of PLN 250 will result in a greater increase in benefits paid in the</p>

		amount of up to PLN 1,811.60 per month (increase by PLN 250, i.e. by an amount higher than that resulting from the increase at the rate of 13.8 percent) than if indexation was carried out according to the currently applicable rules, i.e. only with the indexation rate, without the guarantee of an increase in the lowest benefits. Determining the indexation rate for disability pensions at 13.8 percent means that the disability pension, survivor's pension, and social pension will increase in 2023 to PLN 1,588.44 from PLN 1,338.44. [27 October 2022] The minimum disability pension will reach PLN 1,191.33. ^{1808 1809}
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	[March 2022] Some five million families in Poland - which have welcomed in at least 1.8 million fleeing Ukrainians - are also to receive a package of aid to help them cope with rising food prices. ¹⁸¹⁰
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>[March 2022] The government announced the payment of the 13th pension in April 2022. The funds allocated to the thirteenth retirement pension for all those entitled are to counteract inflation indirectly. ZUS will pay it to nearly 10 million old-age and disabled pensioners. In 2022, it will be paid in 6 terms along with the April pensions. The amount of the benefit will be PLN 1,338.44 (gross) and will be PLN 87.56 higher than in the previous year. No income tax will be charged on the amount of the 13th pension, but only a health insurance fee of PLN 120.46. The estimated cost of this year's thirteens is PLN 13.1 billion. [27 February 2023] Polish seniors will enjoy higher pension benefits and 13th and 14th pensions.^{1811, 1812, 1813}</p> <p>On 9 November 2022, the Ministry of Agriculture said that from March 2023 farmer pensions will receive an indexation</p>

Labor Market		<p>comparable to that from ZUS. [21 December 2022] In addition, it will be possible to obtain a supplement to agricultural pensions. This will be ensured by a mechanism compensating for the payment of a double and additional pension insurance premium for conducting non-agricultural economic activity in addition to agricultural business or conducting agricultural activity on agricultural holdings with an area exceeding 50 ha.^{1814, 1815}</p> <p>[June 2022] The 14th pension will be disbursed under the same principles as the 13th pension, covering however a limit of the eligible persons i.e. to the beneficiaries who receive the pension in the amount not exceeding PLN 2,900 gross. In the case of persons who receive the benefit in the amount exceeding PLN 2,900, the “zloty for zloty” principle will apply, meaning that the so-called 14th pension will be decreased by the amount exceeding over PLN 2,900. The fourteenth pension will go to about 9 million persons – about 7.7 million old age and disability pensioners will receive their payment in full, and about 1.3 million – in the reduced amount. In 2022, the cost is about PLN 11.4 billion. [27 February 2023] Polish seniors will enjoy higher pension benefits and 13th and 14th pensions.^{1816, 1817, 1818}</p> <p>[October 2022] In 2023, the government will allocate a record PLN 41.8 billion for the indexation of old-age pensions and disability pensions. Determining the indexation rate for old-age pensions at 13.8 percent means that the lowest old-age pension will increase in 2023 to PLN 1,588.44 from PLN 1,338.44.¹⁸¹⁹</p>
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[13 September 2022] As from 1 January 2023, the minimum salary is to increase to PLN 3,490, and as from 1 July – to PLN 3,600. This is more than the previous proposal suggested as the government responds to inflation. ¹⁸²⁰
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>Poland’s Anti-Inflation Shield 2.0 is a bundle of measures that will lower or temporarily remove VAT on food, petrol, electricity, or fertilizers starting from February until 31 July 2022. The reduced VAT rate on electricity will also apply for several more months. After lowering VAT as part of the first Shield, the time has come for further beneficial solutions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reduction of VAT on fuel from 23% to 8%, - reduction of VAT on natural gas from 8% to 0%, - reduction of VAT on basic foodstuffs to 0%, - reduced 5% VAT rate on electricity to remain in effect for longer, - reduction of VAT on system heat to 5%, - reduction of VAT on natural gas from 8% to 0%. <p>The first Anti-Inflation Shield introduced in December 2021 included amongst its solutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inflation allowance for households, - waiver of excise duty on electricity, - reducing VAT on electricity from 23% to 5%, - reduction of VAT on natural gas from 23% to 8%, - lowering fuel prices by reducing excise duty as far as possible, - reduction of VAT on system heat (provided by district heating networks) from 23% to 8%.

		<p>Together with the first Anti-inflation Shield, these government measures will bring Poles savings totalling nearly PLN 25 billion.</p> <p>[June 2022] The Lower House of the Polish Parliament on 9 June 2022 passed legislation extending the application of anti-inflation measures (referred to as the Anti-Inflation Shield) to 31 October 2022 (from 31 July 2022). [August 2022] Poland has announced to extend the reduced VAT rates introduced as part of the Anti-Inflation Shield. Previously scheduled to expire on 31 October 2022, the following are extended to 31 December 2022. [5 January 2023] Starting from 1st January 2023, the aforementioned supplies (the supply of motor petrol, diesel, biocomponents, LNG and LPG, heat and electricity and natural gas) will be subject to 23% VAT rate – the standard VAT rate.^{1821, 1822, 1823, 1824}</p> <p>On 13 January 2023, the government introduced a new VAT refund for households heating with gas, whose average monthly income does not exceed PLN 2100 in a single-person household or PLN 1500 per person in a multi-person household (approximately 300,000 households).¹⁸²⁵</p> <p>As part of the Anti-inflation shield started in February 2022, a reduction of VAT on basic foodstuffs to 0% is applied. [June 2022] The Lower House of the Polish Parliament on 9 June 2022 passed legislation extending the application of anti-inflation measures (referred to as the Anti-Inflation Shield) to 31 October 2022 (from 31 July 2022). [August 2022] Poland has announced to extend the reduced VAT rates introduced as part of the Anti-Inflation Shield. Previously scheduled to expire on 31 October 2022, the following are extended to 31 December 2022. [5 January 2023] Based on regulation of the Ministry of Finance from 2nd December 2022 on reduced VAT rates in 2023, in the period from 1st January until 31st December 2023 reduced VAT rates will continue to be applicable to: Foodstuffs listed in</p>
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		Annex 10 to the VAT Act under items 1-18, other than those classified as catering services (PKWiU 56), e.g. fish, dairy products, meat, vegetables and fruits, bread, oils, etc. – 0% VAT rate. <small>1826 1827 1828</small>
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Portugal

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>[May 2022] Portugal has been approved for a price cap on energy prices derived from natural gas and coal by the EU. These will initially be set at 40 euros per megawatt hour and can eventually be raised to 50 euros over the next 12 months.</p> <p>[Update] On June 8 the European Commission approved a €2.1 billion subsidy for Portugal to lower wholesale electricity prices until the end of May 2023. During the first six months of the application of the measure, a price cap will be set on gas at €40/MWh. As of the seventh month, the gas price cap will increase by €5 per month, resulting in a price cap of €70/MWh in the twelfth month. The measure will be financed by: (i) part of the so-called ‘congestion income’ (i.e. the income obtained by the Spanish Transmission System Operator as result of cross-border electricity trade between France and Spain), and (ii) a charge imposed by Spain and Portugal on buyers benefitting from the measure. The support will take the form of a payment that operates as a direct grant to electricity producers aimed at financing part of their fuel cost. ¹⁸²⁹ ¹⁸³⁰</p> <p>At the start of April 2022, the government introduced a new subsidy for the purchase of gas bottles of €10/month per bottle. The subsidy will last until the end of June and will be applied to the beneficiaries of the social tariff, an estimated 762,320 people. The funds will come from the Environmental Fund up to a maximum “ceiling” of €4 million. ¹⁸³¹</p> <p>[October 2022] Extra support for farmers with 10% off each litre of agricultural diesel. Support will cost €40 million. ¹⁸³²</p>
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	

	Fees subsidies	<p>On February 1, 2022, economically vulnerable consumers in Portugal are entitled to a discount by means of a social tariff for both the supply of electricity and natural gas (before the crisis). The discount of 33.8% applies to everyone, regardless of whether they are in the regulated or liberalized market.¹⁸³³</p> <p>[October 2022] In addition to reinforcing household income, Portugal's State Budget includes a measure that limits the increase in rents. IRS compensation for landlords prohibited by law in increasing rents by more than 2% in 2023 (amount not specified).^{1834, 1835}</p> <p>[September 2022] In addition to reinforcing household income, the State Budget includes a measure that freezes public transport prices – already announced under the “Families First” plan. The maintenance of public transport pass prices will cost 66 million euro.¹⁸³⁶</p> <p>[October 2022] Extra subsidies towards housing for students.¹⁸³⁷</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On 22 June, the Ministry of Labour announced a 60-euro family check to all households benefitting from the social energy tariff (to be paid in July, while other low-income households will get it in August). The budget cost is 64 million.¹⁸³⁸</p> <p>On 5 September 2022, it was announced that another €2.4 billion euros will be spent by the Portuguese government to support low-income citizens against rising energy prices. The package called “Families first” accounts for 125 euros to be sent to each consumer with income less than 2700 per month, with an additional 50 euros per dependent.¹⁸³⁹</p> <p>[October 2022] In October the government published its 2023 budget with multiple income-enhancing measures. The Social Support Index (IAS) was updated by 8%, to a value of 478.7 euros. This index is the reference value for the calculation and</p>

		<p>determination of various social supports, such as the Family Allowance, the Social Inclusion Benefit, the Social Insertion Income, among others, which can impact the lives of 1.6 million beneficiaries. The budgeted cost is 155 million euros.¹⁸⁴⁰</p> <p>[October 2022] Another measure adopted was the reformulation and extension of the minimum existence rules which are intended to protect low-income households which will benefit 800 thousand household at the cost of €200 million in 2023 and €300 million in 2024.¹⁸⁴¹</p> <p>[October 2022] The Childhood Guarantee was created, aimed at children and young people under the age of 18, holders of family allowances, belonging to households that are in a situation of extreme poverty. The Childhood Guarantee consists of a benefit that complements the family allowance in order to guarantee the payment of a total amount of €70 (including the amount of the family allowance). The amounts will be paid in September retroactive to July 2022, together with the family allowance. It has automatic allocation, which families can request from Social Security. The first payment was made Friday, 16 September 2022, to 150,000 children and youths under the age of 18 living in extreme poverty. This measure will cost 70 million euros in 2023. The same amount of 70 million euros, is allocated in 2023 to increase the values of the family allowance for children in the 1st and 2nd income brackets, which will be 400,000 .^{1842, 1843, 1844}</p> <p>[October 2022] The family allowance will be reinforced. The commitment, initiated in 2022, to allocate at least the annual amount of 600 euros (50 euros monthly) to children belonging to the 1st and 2nd tier of allowance benefits will be concluded. The same amount of 70 million euros, is allocated in 2023 to increase the values of the family allowance for children in the 1st and 2nd income brackets, which will be 400,000 .^{1845 1846 1847 1848}</p>
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		[October 2022] In 2023, the amount earned by children over 6 years old is increased to 50 euros. ¹⁸⁴⁹
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	[5 September 2022] Pensioners will receive a lump-sum amounting to half a month's pension. ¹⁸⁵⁰
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	In March 2022, the government increased the value of the Autovaucher (obtained by paying at a fuel pump with a card) from €5 to €20 per beneficiary. "AUTO voucher" was introduced in November last year to reimburse fuel consumption at petrol stations. Financial support is provided by payment of 10 cents per liter up to a maximum of 50 liters per month. 50 liters would be approximately a tank of petrol per user per month. Each month 5 euros is paid directly to the bank account of the user. The program, as of march, has 2.4 million subscriptions. ¹⁸⁵¹ [October 2022] Meal allowances (which are part of wage packets) to increase from €4.77 per day to €5.20. ¹⁸⁵²
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	[October 2022] Contrary to previous years, the Government announced pension increases for the coming year at the beginning of September. Pensions up to €886 will increase by 4.43 percent. Those with a value between €886 and €2,659 will increase by 4.07 percent, while the rest (which would be subject to updating taking into account the legal formula in force) will increase by 3.53 percent. ¹⁸⁵³
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	<p>[October 2022] The national minimum wage is expected to increase from the current €705 to €760 in January 2023.¹⁸⁵⁴</p> <p>[October 2022] The Government has proposed wage increases for the civil service between 8 percent and 2 percent to unions, with a guarantee of a minimum of around €52 per year until 2026. The minimum annual increase for the civil service will be equivalent to a change in salary level (approximately €52), ranging between 8 percent for the lowest remuneration in the table, which is €705, and 2 percent for earnings from €2,570.82. Salary increases, advancements and promotions in public administration and other valuations will cost €1,320 million in 2023, according to the report accompanying the budget proposal.¹⁸⁵⁵</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>[October 2022] The government increased the income tax brackets to the benefit of about 4 million people and by a price-tag of half a billion.¹⁸⁵⁶</p> <p>[October 2022] Changes to IRS (income tax) scales – to cater for the 5.1% salary increases agreed with social partners and to help increase family incomes.¹⁸⁵⁷</p> <p>[October 2022] IRS benefits for youngest taxpayers, allowing them to keep more income, on a sliding scale (50% in first year, 40% in second, 30% in third...)¹⁸⁵⁸</p>
	Indirect tax	On 15 October 2021, the Portuguese national regulatory authority announced its proposal for electricity tariffs for 2022,

		<p>in which it incorporates the measures announced by the government, following which it is worth noting that network tariffs will decrease more than 50% for households and 94% for industrials. It also announced that the regulated tariff for household consumers will decrease 3,4%, or 0,2% if compared with the 2021 average tariff. The cut would come into force on July 1 and stay in place until the end of the year. [Update] On 15 Dec 2022, Portugal’s electricity regulator ERSE approved an average increase of 3.3% in regulated tariffs next year (2023) to be paid by around one million households and small businesses, shielding them from soaring wholesale prices.^{1859, 1860}</p> <p>In early March 2022, the Portugal decided to extend (until 30 June) a reimbursement mechanism for the VAT revenues along those from ISP (a tax on derivates of petrol, which was lowered by two cents per liter of petrol and by one cent per liter of diesel and was in place since October, 2021) resulting in an additional tax discount of 14.2 cents per liter on diesel and 15.5 cents per liter on petrol, as well as suspending an increase in the carbon tax. [September 2022] The European Commission has approved the request made by Portugal to temporarily go beyond the minimums set out in European ISP standards for a reduction in the tax burden on fuel, allowing it to accommodate the reduction of the Tax on Petroleum Products (ISP) equivalent to that which would result from a decrease of 10 percentage points (from 23% to 13%) in the VAT rate on fuel. The requested period of validity is until December 31, 2022, that is, within the maximum period allowed. In 2023 the taxation of the ISP (a tax on carbon footprint) is extraordinarily suspended.^{1861, 1862, 1863}</p> <p>On February 13, 2022, vulnerable individuals in Portugal are also exempt from two of the three additional fees and taxes applied to electricity bills: the “special consumption tax” (IEC) and (partially) from the audiovisual (CAV) or ‘Netflix’ tax.¹⁸⁶⁴</p>
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		<p>[5 September 2022] To reduce prices consumers face, Portugal will reduce the VAT on electricity from 13% to 6%.¹⁸⁶⁵</p> <p>[5 September 2022] The government also reduced gas tariffs.¹⁸⁶⁶</p>
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Qatar

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	<p>In February 2022, Qatar stabilized prices of essential items through price control mechanism to regulate the prices.¹⁸⁶⁷</p> <p>On March 27, 2022, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), in coordination with the Ministry of Municipality and Widam Food Company (Widam), has announced the subsidised sheep meat price initiative for the holy month of Ramadan 1443 AH. Widam will provide about 30,000 local and imported sheep at subsidised prices to citizens (two sheep per citizen). The prices of local sheep weighing 30 kg and above will be 900 QAR while imported Awassi sheep weighing 40 kg and above will cost 900 QAR. Citizens can make their sheep purchases as of Sunday 24th of Shaaban 1443 AH, corresponding to March 27, 2022 AD, until the end of the Holy Month of Ramadan.¹⁸⁶⁸</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	

	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Réunion (France)

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	Reunion has set up an exceptional discount of 15 centimes per liter is set up from April 1, 2022. This aid has a duration of 4 months. It limits the increase to 3 cents per liter for unleaded and 5 cents per liter for diesel. ¹⁸⁶⁹
	Food subsidies	The prices of 153 products are blocked for one year in Reunion. A basket of 153 products cannot exceed an overall price of 348 euros until February 28, 2023. There are a majority of food products, from local production or imported, but also nappies and potties for babies, but also hygiene and cleaning products. [April 4. 2023] The government has renewed the list and added an additional 13 products. This list will have its prices controlled for one more year. ^{1870 1871}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Romania

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On May 26, 2022, Romania has proposed a 300 million lei (\$63.7 million/60.6 million euro) fuel subsidy scheme to support some 3,000 transportation companies affected by the steep rise in fuel prices. The value of the aid granted is 0.5 lei per liter of motor fuel, but not more than the lei equivalent of 400,000 euro (\$420,324) per enterprise.¹⁸⁷²</p> <p>On June 24, 2022, the Romanian government announced that it will pay car fuel distribution companies a fixed subsidy of RON 0.5 per liter of petrol and diesel, under a three-month scheme aimed at mitigating the high fuel prices. Consequently, the end-user price will decrease by 0.5 RON per liter (some 5.5% for current prices). The scheme is expected to cost some RON 2 bln (EUR 400 mln), out of which the Government will cover half, leaving the other half in limbo.¹⁸⁷³</p>
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On 7 September 2021, the Romanian Parliament passed a law to shield vulnerable consumers from the energy price increases from 1 November 2021, with subsidies to be used for home-heating assistance, energy consumption, energy-efficient house equipment and the purchase of products and services improving the energy performance of buildings or connection to the energy network.¹⁸⁷⁴</p> <p>On 4 October 2021, Romania's Minister of Energy announced compensation for gas bills. The measures are expected to last from 1 November 2021 to 31 March 2022 and affect approximately 6 million families or 85% of the Romanian population (this also includes compensation on electricity bills).¹⁸⁷⁵</p> <p>On 4 October 2021, the Romania's Ministry of Energy announced compensation for electricity bills. The measures are</p>

		<p>expected to last from 1 November 2021 to 31 March 2022 and affect approximately 6 million families or 85% of the Romanian population (this also includes compensation on fuel bills). In April, 2022 the measure was extended until the end of August, 2022. [Update] On September 1, 2022, Romania's government extended the support scheme to shield households and small businesses from soaring energy bills until end-August 2023. The modified support scheme, which was approved through a decree without public consultation, is expected to cost an overall 12 billion lei at a rate of 1 billion lei per month. The first cap-and-compensation scheme ran until March, 2022. The second was initially set to run until end-March 2023 and cost an estimated 16 billion lei (\$3.3 billion).¹⁸⁷⁶¹⁸⁷⁷</p> <p>On March 24, 2022, The Capital City Hall in Bucharest (Romania) will come with a subsidy of approximately 650 lei, to cover the total cost of the heating prices, which amounts to 980 lei per month. General councilors PNL and USR PLUS have reached an agreement on the price of a gigacalorie in the capital, the people of Bucharest will pay the remaining 330 lei, compared to the 164 lei they currently pay.¹⁸⁷⁸</p> <p>On 20 March 2022, the Romanian government imposed a one-year ceiling on electricity and natural gas prices. The measure will apply from April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, after a similar scheme that was in force since November. Household customers who do not consume more than 100 kW per month will pay 14 cents per kilowatt, and if their consumption exceeds 300 KW, then they will be charged a maximum of 16 cents per kilowatt. Industrial customers will pay up to 20 cents per kilowatt. As for natural gas, its price for domestic consumers will be a maximum of 6 cents, and for industrial customers no more than 7 cents per kilowatt.¹⁸⁷⁹, ¹⁸⁸⁰</p>
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		On 28 November 2022, The Government announced that it would offer vulnerable Romanians lumpsum subsidies of RON 700 (EUR 140) twice a year in 2023 to help them pay their energy bills. The support given to the vulnerable population for compensating energy prices will thus be in the amount of RON 1,400 (EUR 280), payable in February and September, and can be used until December 31, 2023. The recipients include pensioners with pensions below RON 2,000 per month, people with disabilities, families receiving family support allowances and families and people entitled to social assistance. ¹⁸⁸¹
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On April 11, 2022, 4.7 million pensioners and other low-income families will receive vouchers for basic food products worth 50 euros every two months. The vouchers will be distributed bi-monthly until January 2023. The Ministry of Labor announced on 2 June 2022 that the electronic meal vouchers are on their way to 2.5 million Romanians. ^{1882, 1883}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	<p>On April 12, 2022, The minimum statutory wage will increase by RON200 per month.¹⁸⁸⁴</p> <p>On April 12, 2022, A minimum statutory wage of RON3,000 will be introduced for workers in the agriculture sector.¹⁸⁸⁵</p> <p>On November 11, 2022, Romania announced that an agreement was reached on increasing minimum wages as of January 1, 2023. Gross minimum wages will be raised from approx. EUR 510 at present to nearly EUR 600 as of January 1. A total of 2.2 million employees will receive some additional money. Also, in constructions the minimum wage will be around EUR 800. Faced with one of the steepest inflation rates in the European Union, Romanians have difficulties covering their current expenses.¹⁸⁸⁶</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On 11 January 2022, the government announced a new protection scheme for household consumers with a monthly consumption of up to 300 kWh, including a VAT reduction to 5%.¹⁸⁸⁷</p>

Rwanda

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>On 30 June 2022, to support the crop intensification programme (CIP), Rwanda allocated funds amounting to Rwf56.8 billion to help farmers get relatively affordable fertilisers and seeds in the 2022-23 fiscal year. Under the national budget, the project has been allocated Rwf36 billion in subsidy (consisting of Rwf5.16 billion on seeds and Rwf30.84 billion on fertilisers), but it is expected that the remaining amount could be disbursed during the budget revision. For instance, for NPK, the government provides Rwf475 a kilogramme in financial support to the farmer after the fertiliser price hike. As such, a farmer only pays Rwf882 per a kilogramme of NPK instead of Rwf1,357.¹⁸⁸⁸</p> <p>On 25 October 2022, Rwanda announced that the Potato farmers will pay Rwf603 for a kg of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK) 17-17-17 fertilizer, which is 30 per cent less than the Rwf882 they were parting with under a subsidy arrangement rolled out in January 2022. The set price takes effect immediately and is applicable until January 31, 2023. With the subsidy, a farmer will pay Rwf603 a kg of the NPK 17-17-17 fertilizers, or 39.4 per cent less than the initial Rwf1530 they were paying without the subsidization. This implies that the government will pay Rwf927 (or 60.5 per cent of the total cost) in subsidy per kg of fertilizer. For the potato farmers to get the Government subsidised fertilizers, they register at their respective sector offices, by indicating their full address and the amount of fertilizers they need.¹⁸⁸⁹</p>
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	

	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	In July 2021, Rwanda government announced fuel subsidies by exempting taxes levied on fuel consumption. Recently, for the months of June and Oct 2022, government expects to spend Rwf 23 billion. Since July 2021, government has spent about Rwf30 billion support until early June 2022. Government reviews the fuel subsidy every two months once and makes the required adjustment. ^{1890, 1891}

São Tomé and Príncipe

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>In July 2022, São Tomé and Príncipe with the funding from the World Bank announced a new program called Socio Economic Resilience Program for COVID-19 response (VFP-COVID-19). The World Bank funded US\$4.5 million to help address the impact during the pandemic, and was formally established under in July 2021. This program provides support directly and indirectly to households affected by COVID-19 to ensure food consumption stabilization. The VFP-COVID-19 cash transfer program provides cash transfer of STD 900 (about US\$42) per month to 16,000 households once in every two months (payment frequency) for an initial duration of nine months from July 2021 to March 2022. The COVID-19 response program was extended until December 2022. This expansion will ensure that the food consumption stabilization takes into account nutritional deficiencies, particularly in the rural populations with higher stunting rates in children under 5, who have faced limitations in access to services and supplies/inputs due to COVID-19 containment measures. Once the COVID-19 cash transfer program concludes, the eligible beneficiaries will transition to the regular social protection programs (called the Vulnerable Families Program, VFP), while other will exit the social protection system. On January 2023 onwards, 7,500 beneficiaries out of 16,000 beneficiaries of the COVID-19 program will transition to the regular social protection programs. Of these 7,500 beneficiaries, 4,500 beneficiaries will transition to the Vulnerable Family Program funded by the project and the remaining 3,000 beneficiaries will transition to the social pension program which is fully funded by the Government. VFP will receive payments of about STDB 600 (US\$ 30) per month</p>

		<p>for every two months, with an additional STDB 600 (US\$30) provided in September for school-related expenses. Due to fiscal space limitations, not all the VFP-COVID-19 beneficiaries will be transferred to the regular programs. The GoSTP already gathered information linked to the socioeconomic conditions of the VFP-COVID-19 program beneficiaries to assess their eligibility to the regular programs. This step will be carried out applying the updated version of the PMT for beneficiaries' eligibility. The beneficiaries to be covered under the VFP-COVID-19 will be identified through institutional referrals: (i) the social protection system institutional referrals; (ii) the health system institutional referrals; (iii) the education system institutional referrals; and (iv) the informal workers' referrals. 1,700 potential beneficiaries have been identified from the education sector, 3,000 potential beneficiaries have been identified from the informal sector through the Ministry of Labor, 900 potential beneficiaries from the health sector and 5,600 potential beneficiaries from the social protection waiting list. Those potential beneficiaries have been pre-identified using categorical targeting (female headed households, households with children, elderly people, people with disabilities). DPSSF already verified the socioeconomic status of those pre-identified households through household visits in the field.^{1892 1893}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>In August 2022, São Tomé and Príncipe delivered the first of three-month WFP-funded emergency food assistance and assets distribution to 1,500 households affected by the floods registered in December 2021 and March 2022. The assistance included food baskets consisting of rice, beans, pasta, oil, sugar and salt, and fishing materials. Estimated at USD 258,500, the emergency assistance will end by October 2022.¹⁸⁹⁴</p>
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	

	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Saudi Arabia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On 4 July 2022, Saudi Arabia has allocated a total of 20 billion riyals (\$5.33 billion) to dampen the effects of rising prices on citizens. Of which, an amount of \$108 million is to be allocated as financial support to the beneficiaries of the Small Livestock Breeders Support Program.¹⁸⁹⁵</p> <p>On 4 July 2022, Saudi Arabia has allocated a total of 20 billion riyals (\$5.33 billion) to dampen the effects of rising prices on citizens. Of which, an amount of \$2.1 billion will be allocated as additional financial support to the beneficiaries of the Citizen Account Program for the end of the current fiscal year. As of august, this reached 10.9 million beneficiaries and a family received on average SR1,974.^{1896, 1897}</p> <p>On 4 July 2022, Saudi Arabia has allocated a total of 20 billion riyals (\$5.33 billion) to dampen the effects of rising prices on citizens. Of which, an amount of \$8 billion will be allocated as additional financial support to the beneficiaries of the Citizen Account Program until the end of the current fiscal year. As of august, this reached 10.9 million beneficiaries and a family recieved on average SR1,974. Package allocated an additional 8 billion to the citizen account program until the end of 2022. Extension in time for additional assistance was extended by 3 months as announced on January 10, 2023^{1898 1899 1900 1901}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	<p>On 4 July 2022, Saudi Arabia has allocated a total of 20 billion riyals (\$5.33 billion) to dampen the effects of rising prices on citizens. Of which, a total of \$532 million will also be</p>

		distributed as an additional one-time pension payment to social security beneficiaries during the 2022 fiscal year. ¹⁹⁰²
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Senegal

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	<p>On February 24, Senegal announced several measures, worth of 50 billion FCFA, intended to contain the inflationary surge on the prices of basic necessities. It includes reduction of 100 FCFA on the price of a liter of oil, 25 FCFA on that of a kilo of “unscented broken” rice and 25 FCFA on that of sugar.¹⁹⁰³</p> <p>On February 24, Senegal announced several measures, worth of 50 billion FCFA, intended to contain the inflationary surge on the prices of basic necessities. This will include, among other things, a subsidy of 32 CFA francs per kilo will be allocated to local “paddy” rice producers.¹⁹⁰⁴</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On April 28, 2022, Senegalese government announced that it will continue to freeze the prices of hydrocarbons and electricity. In this context between January and April, the State released an envelope of 100 billion CFA francs (160 million USD).¹⁹⁰⁵</p> <p>On 9 November 2022, Senegal subsidised tuition fees for schools and universities.¹⁹⁰⁶</p> <p>On 9 November 2022, Senegal subsidised rents by 20% for rents falling below 300,000 FCFA, 15% for those between 300,000 and 500,000 FCFA , and 5% for those above 500,000 FCFA.¹⁹⁰⁷</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>Senegal announced on May 10, 2022, an exceptional cash transfer operation in response to the joint effects of COVID-19 and the food and fuel price crisis. The program is supported by World Bank financing of US\$80 million. Between May and July, the entire social registry (550,000 households across the nation, or the poorest third of the country) will receive a one-off digital transfer of 80,000 CFA (~\$130). This cash transfer will help poor and vulnerable households with their daily needs in a context of prolonged impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and high</p>

		inflation on energy. All the beneficiaries will be selected from the National single registry. The state will use mobile payments to transfer funds to poor households. The funds used to finance this operation come from a World Bank project, with other donors including Germany and the United Kingdom. ^{1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913}
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	On July 8, 2022, African Development Bank (AfDB) Group approved a €121 million loan to Senegal for implementation of an emergency agricultural program that will benefit 850,000 small farmers, 35% of whom are women. Under the first component, the program will help provide 7000 tonnes of cereal seeds, 3000 tonnes of cowpea seeds and 15,000 tonnes of seed potatoes to farmers. In addition, a partnership agreement between the Senegalese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment and the Senegalese Institute of Agricultural Research will facilitate a supply of pre-basic seeds. ¹⁹¹⁴
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	

Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On 24 September 2022, the Senegal government has suspended custom duties on imported products such as rice, wheat, corn, sugar and oil, in order to avoid their increase in price for the consumer. This is expected to cost the government CFAF 157 billion in tax receipts. ^{1915 1916}

Serbia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On February 12, 2022, Serbia set a price ceiling for Euro diesel and Euro premium BMB 95 at 179 dinars (\$1.68/1.53 euro) and 171 dinars per litre, respectively. On March 10, 2022, Serbia's government decided to extend for another one month. On April 29, Serbia announced that cap on petrol and diesel retail prices will remain in place until the end of May 2022. On August 29, 2022, government decided that it would extend this measure for one additional month. Again on 29 December 2022, the government decided to extend the duration of this measures until 31 January 2023. On 31 January 2023, this measure has been extended until February 2023. ¹⁹¹⁷ , ¹⁹¹⁸ , ¹⁹¹⁹ , ¹⁹²⁰ , ¹⁹²¹ , ¹⁹²² , ¹⁹²³
	Food subsidies	On 28 January 2022, the government had extended by 90 days price ceilings on some basic foodstuffs, including sugar, wheat flour, sunflower oil, pork and milk, initially introduced on 30 November 2021, for 60 days. The decree stipulates that producer, wholesale and retail prices of these products cannot exceed their 15 November 2021 levels. ¹⁹²⁴ ¹⁹²⁵
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	

	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	On Sept 2022, the Serbian government announced the increase of minimum wage for the period January - December 2023, which increases the minimum wage from 1 January 2023 by 14.3 percent, i.e. from RSD 201.22 per hour to RSD 230 per hour. This means that the average minimum salary in 2023 will be RSD 40,020 per month. This is a record increase in the minimum wage, which will exceed RSD 40,000 for the first time, and it is especially important that it was achieved that the minimum wage grows more than inflation in real terms, in order to preserve, but also improve, the quality of life of Serbian citizens. ¹⁹²⁶
Trade	Export/import restriction	On March 10, 2022, the Serbian government introduced a temporary ban on the export of wheat, maize, wheat flour, groats and sunflower oil. ¹⁹²⁷ On 30 June 2022, Serbia temporarily banned exports of EN 590 diesel. On December 9, 2022, the Serbian government extended a ban on exports of Euro diesel until the end of the year. On January 20, 2023, Serbia decided lifted the export ban on the diesel. ^{1928 1929}
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 10, 2022, Serbia reduced the excise duty levied on petrol and diesel purchases by 20%. On April 28, 2022, Serbia further reduced the excise duty levied on petrol and diesel

		<p>purchases by 15% from the levels before March 10, 2022. On 29 May 2022 until end of June 2022. The Fiscal Council estimates that the lowering of excise taxes on oil derivatives cost the state over RSD 20 billion in 2022. On December 9, 2022, as part of 2023 budget, serbia announces the further implementation of lower excise taxes on oil derivatives by 10%. ¹⁹³⁰, ¹⁹³¹, ¹⁹³², ¹⁹³³, ¹⁹³⁴</p>
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Seychelles

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	In Seychelles, On June 30, 2022, announced a package to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel prices, but it began later than expected and will now run from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023. The package included a policy where a maximum retail price mechanism will be introduced on products imported and sold by the STC. The price of these commodities on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue will be the same. Regulations are being drafted to make it an offence to sell these commodities at a higher price. ¹⁹³⁵
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>In Seychelles, On June 30, 2022, announced a package to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel prices, but it began later than expected and will now run from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023. The package included a policy which revised the welfare assessment, the weights used have been changed thereby seeing an increase of 32% in welfare benefits. The overall package is put in place of 6 months. It costs R135 million and covers 23,000 people.¹⁹³⁶</p> <p>In Seychelles, On June 30, 2022, announced a package to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel prices, but It began later than expected and will now run from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023 (duration is 6 months). Support for those people formally employed in public and private sectors whose income does not exceed R8,500 will receive a temporary support of R500 per month for a duration of 6 months. These are 13,000 employees. This is expected to cost R40 million. The Criteria to qualify includes: (i) A salary equal and less to R8,500; (ii) Formal employment (“self-employed” does not qualify under this programme); (iii) Contributing to the Seychelles Pension Fund; (iv) Have a Bank Account; (v) June</p>

		<p>2022, payslip. For Private Sector employees, information will have to be collected. While for Public Sector Employees and Parastatals, information to be submitted to the Ministry of Finance, National Planning and Trade.¹⁹³⁷</p> <p>In Seychelles, On June 30, 2022, announced a package to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel prices, but it began later than expected and will now run from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023 (duration is 6 months). Seychelles also provides support to Recipients of a fixed benefit from the Agency for Social Protection (ASP), will receive a temporary additional income support of R500 monthly for a duration of 6 months. This will include pensioners, home carers and recipients of invalidity and social safety net benefits. Please note, Pensioners earning an income exceeding R9,000 will not be eligible.¹⁹³⁸</p> <p>In Seychelles, On June 30, 2022, announced a package to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel prices, but it began later than expected and will now run from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023 (duration is 6 months). Seychelles plans to provide R300 on electricity bill to families earning less than R9,000 per month. This payment will be made for monthly for 6 months. Around 7,000 households are eligible for this program and is expected to cost R14.3 million. Collection of information for the program will start as of 25 July, 2022. First Payment will be made in August 2022. The Criteria to qualify for the benefit: (i) A monthly income not exceeding R9,000; (ii) Formal Employment (self-employed does not qualify under this programme); (iii) Contributing towards the Seychelles Pension Fund; (iv) Have a Bank Account; (v) Payslip dated June, 2022.¹⁹³⁹</p> <p>In Seychelles, On June 30, 2022, announced a package to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel</p>
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		<p>prices, but It began later than expected and will now run from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023 (duration is 6 months). Support for those people formally employed in public and private sectors whose income is between R8,500 and R9000 will receive a temporary support on a “sliding scale” monthly for a duration of 6 months to ensure that beneficiary income reaches R9,000 per month. These are 2500 employees. This is expected to cost R3.8 million. Registration for private sector employees who are in formal employment will start on 25th July, in the District Administration’s Office. First payment - July for employees in the public sector and parastatals and August for employees in the private sector. Criteria to qualify (i) A salary equal and less to R9,000; (ii) Formal employment (“self-employed” does not qualify under this programme); (iii) Contributing to the Seychelles Pension Fund; (iv) Have a Bank Account; (v) July/June 2022, Payslip. For Private Sector employees, information will have to be collected. While for Public Sector Employees and Parastatals, information to be submitted to the Ministry of Finance, National Planning and Trade.¹⁹⁴⁰</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	<p>In Seychelles, On June 30, 2022, announced a package to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel prices, but it began later than expected and will now run from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023. The overall package is put in place of 6 months. It costs R135 million and covers 23,000 people. This policy is part of the package and the policy is called “the payment of 13th month salary in January 2023.” All the workers will benefit 50% of the 13th month salary in January 2023. While the remaining 50% will be paid according to the assessment of the worker’s performance.¹⁹⁴¹</p>
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	In Seychelles, On June 30, 2022, announced a package (total package expenditure is SCR125 million) to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel prices, but it began later than expected and will now run from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023 (duration is 6 months). Seychelles also announced provision for Free breakfast and lunch for primary students, and free breakfast for secondary students in state schools. In terms of support for schoolchildren as from the third term breakfast for primary and secondary pupils in all State schools will be free but funded by government. Also effective from the third term, primary pupils in all State schools will not have to pay for lunch. Secondary students in all State schools receiving assistance under the Dedicated Fund will continue to be assisted. In addition, the government is working with the caterer that supply school meals to discuss how it can improve on the menu provided. It is expected that around 17,000 pupils will benefit from this new assistance. ¹⁹⁴²
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	In Seychelles, On June 30, 2022, announced a package to support low-income households to tackle the rising food and fuel prices, but it began later than expected and will now run from August 2022 through the first quarter of 2023. The overall package is put in place of 6 months. It costs R135 million and

		covers 23,000 people. This measure relates to revision of salaries of based on budget capacity.
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Sierra Leone

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On July 26, 2022, African Development Bank Group approved a grant of \$2 million to boost food production in Sierra Leone. The program falls under the African Development Bank Group's \$1.5 billion African Emergency Food Production Facility, a response to the global food crisis that resulted from the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which has deepened existing food insecurity in Sierra Leone. The program will focus on the production, harvesting and marketing of rice. The Ministry of Agriculture will provide smart subsidies to 67,000 smallholder farmers to reduce the cost of certified rice seeds and fertilizers. The project will be rolled out through the established e-wallet input distribution system over two cropping seasons, beginning in 2022. ¹⁹⁴³
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Singapore

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On June 21, 2022, Singapore announced that it is committing S\$1.5 billion to provide fuel subsidies which will be provided as inflation relief. As part of the support packages, one-off S\$100 Household Utilities Credit for every Singaporean household to defray utility bills. About 1.2 million Singaporean households will receive household utilities credit by September.^{1944, 1945}</p> <p>On August 24, 2022, Ministry of Education announced that about 44,000 students will benefit when transport for needy children in primary and secondary schools and bursaries for pre-university students are increased from January 2023. Currently the monthly public transport subsidy for primary to pre-university is \$15 but from Jan 2023 it will be increased to \$17.¹⁹⁴⁶</p> <p>On August 24, 2022, MOE said one of the enhancements of the benefit increase for the needy children in primary and secondary schools will look at increasing the monthly school bus subsidy from 60% to 65% starting Jan 2023.¹⁹⁴⁷</p> <p>On October 12, 2022, amid concerns over the rising cost of living, the Government will fork out an additional S\$200 million to defer the bulk of public transport fare increases to next year's review, the Ministry of Transport (MOT) said.¹⁹⁴⁸</p> <p>On February 1, 2023, DBS Bank in Singapore announced that that it will subsidize five million hawker meals over the next 12 months. This initiative will provide relief to consumers who are facing inflationary pressures and rising food prices. The subsidy of S\$3 per meal will be available for the first 100,000 users</p>

		<p>every Friday, from 10 February 2023 to 19 January 2024, when they use DBS PayLah! to scan and pay for their meals at one of the 11,600 SGQR-enabled hawker stalls across the island.¹⁹⁴⁹</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>On June 21, 2022, Singapore announced that it is committing S\$1.5 billion to provide fuel subsidies which will be provided as inflation relief. As part of the package, one-off relief of S\$150 for eligible taxi main hirers, private hire drivers will be paid in August to cover the fuel cost. Private hire car drivers need to have completed an average of 200 trips per month from Mar 1 to May 31, 2022 to qualify for the measure.^{1950, 1951}</p> <p>On June 21, 2022, Singapore announced that it is committing S\$1.5 billion to provide fuel subsidies which will be provided as inflation relief. As part of the measure, GSTV – Cash recipients will receive a GSTV – Cash Special Payment of up to \$300, on top of the regular GSTV – Cash in 2022. About 1.5 million Singaporeans will be recipient of such a measure.^{1952, 1953}</p> <p>On Oct 14, 2022, Government announced new relief measure worth \$1.5 billion support package to combat the rising cost of living due to inflation. Cash of up to \$500 will be given out to 2.5 million eligible adult Singaporeans in December 2022. This is on top of the up to \$200 cash that lower-income Singaporeans will get in December from the GST Assurance Package. No application is required. The first tranche of money, which includes other benefits, will be disbursed from December 2022 to February 2023. [Update] On February 14, 2023, government announced that it will increase the cash payouts by between S\$300 and S\$650 for eligible Singaporeans over the remaining years of the Assurance Package (AP), which runs from 2022 to 2026. This will bring the total AP cash payments to adult Singaporeans to between S\$700 and S\$2,250 over five years. Enhancements to the Assurance Package will cost S\$3 billion, raising the cost of the package from S\$6.6 billion to S\$9.6 billion.^{1954, 1955}</p>

		<p>On March 9, 2023, the government announced the budget for 2023. Singaporeans aged 21 and older who live in a home with an annual value of less than S\$13,000 (US\$9,604) will receive S\$700 (US\$517) in one-off cash assistance for 2023.¹⁹⁵⁶</p> <p>On February 14, 2023, government announced that it will increase the cash payouts by between S\$300 and S\$650 for eligible Singaporeans over the remaining years of the Assurance Package (AP), which runs from 2022 to 2026. For households with children, each child up to six years old will get a S\$400 top-up to his Child Development Account.¹⁹⁵⁷</p> <p>On February 14, 2023, government announced that it will increase the cash payouts by between S\$300 and S\$650 for eligible Singaporeans over the remaining years of the Assurance Package (AP), which runs from 2022 to 2026. There will be double U-Save rebates provided to households. This year, eligible households can expect up to S\$760 in rebates.¹⁹⁵⁸</p> <p>On March 9, 2023, The government announced the budget for 2023. Those with homes that have an annual value of between S\$13,000 (US\$9,604) and S\$21,000 (US\$15,500) will receive S\$350 (US\$258) in one-off cash assistance. The cash will be disbursed in August 2023.¹⁹⁵⁹</p> <p>On February 14, 2023, government announced that it will increase the cash payouts by between S\$300 and S\$650 for eligible Singaporeans over the remaining years of the Assurance Package (AP), which runs from 2022 to 2026. The government will provide a one-off cost-of-living special payment of between S\$200 and S\$400 for each eligible adult Singaporean.¹⁹⁶⁰</p> <p>On February 14, 2023, government announced that it will increase the cash payouts by between S\$300 and S\$650 for</p>
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		<p>eligible Singaporeans over the remaining years of the Assurance Package (AP), which runs from 2022 to 2026. Children older than six will get a S\$300 top-up to their Edusave or Post-Secondary Education Account.¹⁹⁶¹</p> <p>On February 14, 2023, government announced that it will increase the cash payouts by between S\$300 and S\$650 for eligible Singaporeans over the remaining years of the Assurance Package (AP), which runs from 2022 to 2026. Eligible Singaporean seniors aged 55 and above will receive additional support, with a cost-of-living bonus of between S\$200 and S\$300.¹⁹⁶²</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	<p>On August 24, 2022, Singapore's Ministry of Education said that the Pre-University Bursary will be increased to \$1,200 a year from Jan 2023. Currently it is a \$1,000 a year.¹⁹⁶³</p>
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On Oct 12, 2022, Ministry of Transport said to further cushion the impact of the fare increase, 600,000 transport vouchers will also be disbursed to needy households. [Update] The government will be issuing 600,000 public transport vouchers (PTVs) worth S\$30 each to some households. Households with monthly household income per person of not more than S\$1,600 will be eligible for these vouchers. Some 240,000 households have received notification letters about this via post.^{1964, 1965}</p> <p>On Oct 14, 2022, Government announced new relief measure worth \$1.5 billion support package to combat the rising cost of living due to inflation. An additional \$100 in CDC vouchers will be distributed to every Singaporean household in January 2023. [Update] On January 1, 2023, Government announced that each Singaporean household can now claim S\$300 in Community Development Council (CDC) vouchers, of which S\$150 is to be used at participating supermarkets. Previously, as part of a package to help Singaporeans beat inflation, announced in mid-October 2022, Singaporean households were given a</p>

		tranche of S\$100 CDC vouchers. The current S\$300 worth of vouchers will expire on 31 December 2023. ^{1966, 1967, 1968}
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	On August 24, 2022, Ministry of Education said one of the enhancements will look at increasing current subsidies from \$2 per school meal for seven meals a week for primary school to \$2.60. Secondary school meal subsidies will increase from \$2.90 per school meal for 10 meals a week to \$3.50. ¹⁹⁶⁹
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	On March 9, 2023, the government announced the budget for 2023. The government will top up S\$150 (US\$110) annually to the MediSave accounts for a total of SG 450 over 3 years for those up to 20 years old and those over 55 years old. The funds will be disbursed in February 2023, 2024, and 2025. ^{1970, 1971}
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	On June 21, 2022, Singapore announced that it is committing S\$1.5 billion to provide fuel subsidies which will be provided as inflation relief. As part of the support package, Malaysia's export ban on live chicken has cut off the livelihoods of chicken slaughterhouses, they will receive one month of foreign worker levy waiver. As most of the chicken slaughterhouses have had to put their employees on leave, given that the main activity there is to slaughter live chicken. ¹⁹⁷²
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	On June 21, 2022, Singapore announced that it is committing S\$1.5 billion to provide fuel subsidies which will be provided as inflation relief. As part of the support package, government will increase its co-funding share of wage increases for local lower-wage workers under the Progressive Wage Credit Scheme. The

		Government's co-funding share of eligible wage increases in 2022 will go up from 50 per cent to 75 per cent for resident employees with gross monthly wages up to S\$2,500. For wages above S\$2,500 and up to S\$3,000, the co-funding will be raised from 30 per cent to 45 per cent. [Update] March 9, 2023, This scheme was introduced in Budget 2022 in which the government will co-fund the wages of lower-wage workers. Under Budget 2023, government spending has been enhanced and the scheme topped up by S\$2.4 billion (US\$1.7 billion). The government will co-fund 75 percent of the gross monthly wage of workers earning S\$2,500 (US\$1,864) for 2023; an increase from the current 50 percent. Under the second tier of support, the government will co-fund 45 percent of the gross monthly wage of workers earning more than S\$2,500 (US\$1,864) and up to S\$3,000 (US\$2,237) for 2023 – an increase from the current 30 percent co-funding support. ^{1973, 1974}
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On February 18, 2022, Singapore announced that it delay the planned Goods and Services Tax (GST; i.e., VAT) hike to 2023 and stagger the increase in two steps. The first increase from 7 per cent to 8 per cent will take place on Jan 1, 2023, and the second increase from 8 per cent to 9 per cent will take place on Jan 1, 2024. ¹⁹⁷⁵

Slovak Republic

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>[22 February 2022] The Slovakian government reached a deal with Slovenské Elektrárny (SE), the company running the two power plants in the country, which agreed to sell 6.15 TWh for selected customer groups at a price of €61.2/MWh for 2023 and 2024. The total value of the aid will be around EUR 850 million. The Ministry of Economy projects the average savings per household will reach EUR 500 because of the agreement.</p> <p>[Update]: On 1 Dec 2022, the government of Slovakia has decided to cap the increase in energy prices for households in 2023 with a €6bn package, keeping residential prices for electricity unchanged and raising prices for natural gas and heat by 15%. This price cap is implemented through an earlier contract (i.e., as per the February update) with the Slovak power utility Slovenské Elektrárni (SE) for electricity and subsidies compensating suppliers of gas and heating. [On 30 March 2023], it was announced that Slovenske Elektrarne has agreed to extend price caps for households beyond next year and into 2027, it said on Thursday, in a deal that helps the government soften the blow of high energy prices and the company avoid new taxes. Under the new deal, Slovenske Elektrarne will supply 5.5 TWh of power per year after 2024, at a gradually rising price of 66.70 euros per MWh in 2025, 72.70 euros in 2026, and 72.70 euros in 2027.^{1976,1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981}</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>On 1 January 2023, the meal allowances for business trips were increased by a measure of the Ministry of Labor. On 24 March 2023, the Government, in accordance with the Travel Reimbursement Act, proposes to increase the amount of meal allowances for employees. In order to mitigate the effects of rising inflation, the Department of Labor published preliminary information on the draft of this measure and thus initiated the legislative process. Based on the proposal, the amount of the meal allowance will be increased as follows:</p> <p>(i) 5 hours to 12 hours of business trip duration: increase from 6.80 euros to 7.30 euros,</p>

		(ii) over 12 to 18 hours of business trip duration: increase from 10.10 euros to 10.90 euros, (iii) over 18 hours of business trip duration from: increase 15.30 euros to 16.40 euros. ^{1982, 1983}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>In May 2022, one-off allowance for households in material need €100. The €100 allowance is mainly intended to cover increased housing costs, mainly due to high energy prices. In total, this amount will amount to EUR 5.8 million. This allowance can also be paid to parents who will also receive a one-off child allowance.¹⁹⁸⁴</p> <p>In May 2022, a new anti-inflation package worth €1 billion was proposed by the Ministry of Finance and seemed set to become law in August 2022. The measures include a one-time €100 per child subsidy. This allowance is for each family and each child who is entitled to child benefit. A total of 661,000 parents and 1.1 million children will be affected. The amount of the increased one-off child benefit will be EUR 83 million. The allowance applies to all children, without age limit, who are attending secondary or higher education, even if they are over 18 years of age.^{1985, 1986}</p> <p>In May 2022, a new anti-inflation package worth €1 billion was proposed by the Ministry of Finance and seemed set to become law in August 2022. The measures include bigger child allowances.¹⁹⁸⁷</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	24 March 2023: The change in meal allowance (see SVK_8) will also affect the value of meal vouchers provided by the employer at the workplace. According to the Labor Code, the minimum

		value of a meal voucher is 75% of the meal allowance for work trips lasting from 5 to 12 hours. With a meal allowance of 7.30 euros, the minimum value of the meal voucher will be 5.48 euros. ¹⁹⁸⁸
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>[4 May 2022] Beneficiaries of old-age, early retirement, disability pensions, as well as beneficiaries of all survivors' pensions - widow's, widower's and orphan's pensions - are entitled to an early 13th pension. The amendment to the Act on the 13th pension (Act No. 296/2020 Coll.) will pay the 13th pension in full in July from the budget chapter of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic in the total amount of approximately EUR 301.2 million. With an expected number of 1.44 million recipients of pension benefits, this will amount to approximately EUR 209.60 on average. The conditions for entitlement to the 13th pension remain the same as in the previous period. The comprehensive increase in pension benefits based on consumer price increases will only be reflected from 1 January 2023. [Update]: On 1 January 2023, Slovakia's government implemented reforms to the country's three-pillar pension system that include eliminating the retirement age cap, establishing an early retirement option for long-career workers, creating a parental pension supplement, introducing an automatic enrollment provision, and lowering administrative fees.^{1989, 1990, 1991}</p> <p>[4 May 2022] One-off contribution of €100 for seniors. The Department of Labour proposes to provide this allowance to persons of pensionable age, over 62 years (inclusive), who have not become entitled to a pension and therefore will not be entitled to a 13th pension. This is a group of approximately 102</p>

		thousand people for whom this aid amounts to 10.2 million euros. ¹⁹⁹²
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On May 26, 2022, a new anti-inflation package worth €1 billion was proposed by the Ministry of Finance and seemed set to become law in August 2022. The measures include bigger tax breaks for families with kids. From July 1, 2022, the amount of the tax bonus will not only depend on the age of the child, but also on the amount of the employee's tax base and the number of children. From 1/7/2022 to 31/12/2022, the child tax bonus amounts to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - €70 per child under the age of 15 - €40 per child aged 15 and over <p>At the same time, but up to a maximum height of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20% of the partial tax base - for 1 child - 27% of the partial tax base - with 2 children - 34% of the partial tax base - with 3 children - 41% of the partial tax base - with 4 children - 48% of the partial tax base - with 5 children - 55% of the partial tax base - for 6 or more children. From 1 January 2023, the amount of tax bonus was increased from 70 EUR to 100 EUR.^{1993, 1994}

	Indirect tax	
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Slovenia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>[March 2022] The Slovenian government set the maximum retail price of gasoline. The maximum price of 95-octane gasoline was set at 1.503 euros (about 1.6491 U.S. dollars) per liter and that of diesel at 1.541 euros (about 1.6908 U.S. dollars) per liter. The set prices will be valid for 30 days. On April 1, price control on fuel price were extended, and set at wholesale price (which is lower than the previously set price). The wholesale prices were frozen at €1.483 per litre of petrol and €1.521 per litre of diesel, wholesalers will have a two-cent profit margin. On May 10, the government reintroduced a price cap on motor fuels after eliminating it at the end of April. Slovenia set the maximum retail prices at 1.560 euro per litre for regular petrol and 1.668 a litre for diesel. The measure will be in force until August 10.</p> <p>[October 2022] Drivers of diesel-fuelled vehicles save EUR 6.35 on a 50-litre tank..^{1995, 1996, 1997, 1998}</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>[October 2022] The Government adjusted the taxation of reimbursements of employee expenses for food to mitigate high food prices.¹⁹⁹⁹</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>[October 2022] In 2022, the Government will earmark EUR 22.3 million for agriculture and fisheries (subsidies for fuel and fertilisers, purchase of intermediate goods, assistance for the dairy sector), of which more than EUR 1.7 million will be from the European funds. Some EUR 7.5 million (EUR 5.2 million from the European funds) of aid will be paid in 2023.²⁰⁰⁰</p>
	Fees subsidies	<p>July 14, 2022, Slovenia announced that electricity prices for households and small and medium-sized companies will be capped from 1 September 2022 to August 2023. It is expected that, depending on the provider, households will pay between 15% and 60% less for electricity than now. [Update] In September, the government capped the prices of electricity and gas for one year for households and small business customers, and in the case of gas, also for other groups of protected customers (hospitals, medical institutions, homes for the elderly...). Until May 2023, a reduced VAT rate of 9.5% applies</p>

		<p>to the supply of electricity, natural gas, firewood and district heating. Regulation of heating oil prices is also announced.^{2001, 2002}</p> <p>September 22, 2022: The government also proposes that students who are accommodated in secondary school dormitories would pay a boarding fee the same as the starting price in the January-August period. If the dormitory set the actual price of the fee lower than the starting price in the previous school year, students would pay the fee at that lower price. The difference in the price of the fee would also be covered with budget funds. The law would apply retroactively from 1 September. The costs of this measure will be at EUR 4 million this year and EUR 14 million in 2023, together with the school price measure.²⁰⁰³</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[October 2022] Similarly to what was done in January 2022, the government announced it will pay out a new one-off energy allowance of EUR 200 (whereby the amount of the allowance increases in accordance with the number of children in a household). This will be provided to individuals or families on financial social assistance or income support in the period between 1 August 2022 and 31 March 2023. The allowance will be received by approximately 71,000 individuals and families. The measure is assessed to be worth EUR 35 million. The energy allowance in the amount of EUR 200 will also be paid out to the weakest categories of disabled people in terms of income. Some 13,500 persons will receive the allowance.^{2004, 2005}</p> <p>[October 2022] The dearness allowance in the amount of the child benefit (EUR 122.79) for the first child will be paid out to eligible families in accordance with their income class in November and December 2022 and January 2023. More than 353,000 children will receive additional funds by means of this measure and the Government will earmark EUR 63 million for this purpose.²⁰⁰⁶</p>

		<p>[12 April 2022] The Government announced that in view of the rising energy bills, pensioners whose pension was lower than EUR 1,000 last December will receive a one-off energy voucher of EUR 150 (as part of the "solidarity allowance"). It will be paid out by the ZPIZ public pension fund, including to those on disability pension. Those who became eligible for pension on 1 January 2022 or later are not entitled to the aid.²⁰⁰⁷</p> <p>[12 April 2022] The Government announced that in view of the rising energy bills, recipients of various social transfers, such as welfare, child benefit, large-family benefit or foster care, will receive EUR 150 from the Ministry of Labour, the Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities.²⁰⁰⁸</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>[29 January 2022] The National Assembly approved assistance to people in the form of an energy voucher, which will be received by around 710,000 beneficiaries, including families receiving child allowance and large families. Beneficiaries receive a voucher worth €150. Individuals who are entitled to a large family allowance for four or more children for 2021, in addition to the allowance of 150 euros, are also entitled to an additional allowance of 50 euros, so they receive a total of 200 euros energy voucher.^{2009, 2010, 2011}</p>
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	<p>[22 September 2022]: The government adopted a new law to ensure that the price of school meals for primary and secondary school students would not increase in the coming school year and would remain the same as in the 2021-2022 school year, while the difference between the cost and the price charged to parents would be covered by the state budget in order to ensure the positive business performance of schools. This law will be applied retroactively from 1 Sept 2023. The costs of this</p>

		measure will be at EUR 4 million this year and EUR 14 million in 2023, together with the student boarding fee measure. ²⁰¹²
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	<p>[14 Oct 2022]: The government and public sector trade unions agreed on salary increases of 9% for most public sector employees in two steps in October and April, a deal that will increase the public sector wage bill by €611 million.²⁰¹³</p> <p>[12 January 2023]: The statutory minimum wage in Slovenia this year has been set at €878 net a month, €100 more than the year before in the most substantial rise in a decade. The new minimum wage was announced by the Government on 12 January. The gross minimum wage will rise by 12% to €1,203.36 after it increased by 4.9% last year. The cost for employers will increase by 8.46%.²⁰¹⁴</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On Jan 29, 2022, Slovenia announced the exemption from paying the network fee for three months, from 1 February to 30 April. Paired with reduction of excise duties on electricity at the lowest possible level, and reduction of excise duties on motor

		fuels and heating oil from 1 February to 31 July 2022. The government expects the amount on payment of slips to be reduced by 30-35 percent, as this exemption. [July 2022] The excise fee on electricity will remain at 50% of the headline level, whereas the contribution for renewable sources will be cut in half. ²⁰¹⁵ , ²⁰¹⁶
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Somalia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On June 22, 2022, the World Bank approved the Second Additional Financing of SDR 106.40 million (US\$ 143 million; 2.1% of its GDP) to Somalia's Shock Responsive Safety Net for Human Capital Project to support the vertical and horizontal expansion of the Baxnaano program. From a coverage standpoint, the emergency cash transfers will reach to about 375,000 households (2.25 million; 14.2% of the population), compared to 200,000 beneficiary households (1.2 million individuals; 8% of the population) in the parent project. A benefit size of US\$60 per month for 6 months will be provided as shock-responsive top-ups to existing beneficiaries, and as emergency cash transfer to non-Baxnaano households. ²⁰¹⁷
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

South Africa

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On March 31, 2022, South Africa announced price cap on 93 octane petrol, allowing retailers to sell at a price below the regulated price. ²⁰¹⁸
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On February 23, 2022, South African government as part of the budget 2022, decided to extend the R350 social relief of distress (SRD) grant for 12 additional months by allocating R44 billion. This program started as a special COVID-19 temporary relief measures called Social Relief Distress (SRD) grant of R350, in May 2020. This was the first large scale digitally implemented social security measure, for an initial period of six months. As the pandemic still progresses, the government continued the R350 SRD grant is further implemented until March 2022. In May 2022, it was announced that the Government of South Africa continues to offer the SASSA Social Relief of Distress Grant (SRD 350), a grant of R350 per month for 6 months to be paid to individuals who are currently unemployed, do not receive any form of income, social grant or UIF payment etc, and include both Refugees and Asylum Seeker permit holders. The threshold to qualify for the R350 social relief of distress grant will be raised to R624 from the current R350. This means that, whereas before, those with income flows valued at R350 or more into their bank account from other sources were not eligible to benefit, the cut-off has been raised to R624. On 26 October 2022, to counter the rising cost of living, the government has decided to further extend the social relief of distress (SRD) grant until the end of March 2024. The program is currently reaching around 7.4 million people. On 22 February 2023, the government allocated R36 billion to fund the extension of the COVID-19 social relief of distress grant until 31 March 2024.^{2019, 2020, 2021}</p>

		<p>On June 1, 2022, the child support grants (CSG) for those taking care of orphaned children will be increased to R720 a child a month, from R480. This increase is via a top-up of R240. No social worker's report or court order are needed to access the top-up. This is designed to improve the accessibility of the CSG program to, as best as possible, meet the basic needs of orphans. As per the 2023 budget announced on Feb 22, 2023, the government increased the top-up and CSG R10 and R30 respectively by Oct 2023. As of April 2023, the top-up increased the amount to R250 per child, per month, and the total Child Support Grant is R750 per child, per month. The grant will increase to R510 from October 1, 2023 (a R10 increase).^{2022, 2023}</p> <p>On February 22, 2023, South African government as part of the 2023 budget announced that R30 billion will be used for inflation-linked increases for other social grants. It also includes the foster care grant increases from R1070 to R1130 on October 2023.²⁰²⁴</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	<p>On February 22, 2023, South African government as part of the 2023 budget announced that R30 billion will be used for inflation-linked increases for other social grants. It also includes, the old age and disability grants increase by R90 on April 1, 2023 and a further R10 on October 1, 2023. The result is a total increase to R2090.²⁰²⁵</p>
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	

	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On February 22, 2022, the South African government as part of its budget in 2022 announced to increase the annual tax-free threshold for a person under the age of 65, from R87 300 to R91 250. On February 23, 2023, this was further announced to be increased as part of the 2023 budget. The personal income tax brackets will be fully adjusted for inflation, and as a result increase the tax-free threshold from R91, 250 to R95, 750.^{2026, 2027}</p> <p>On 22 February 2023, South African government as part of the budget announced that the retirement tax tables for lump sums withdrawn before retirement, and for lump sums withdrawn at retirement, will be adjusted upwards by 10 per cent. This means that the tax-free amount that can be withdrawn at retirement increases to R550 000.²⁰²⁸</p>
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 31, 2022, South Africa agreed a temporary reduction in the general fuel levy to be funded by a liquidation of a portion of the strategic crude oil reserves. The general fuel levy is temporarily reduced by R1.50 per liter from April 6, 2022 to May 31, 2022. This will reduce the general fuel levy for petrol from R3.85 per liter to R2.35 per liter and reduce the general fuel levy for diesel from R3.70 per liter to R2.20 per liter for two</p>

		<p>months. On May 31, 2022, the South Africa decided to extend its fuel subsidy for another two months. This will be accomplished by extending the R1.50 per liter respite from June 1 to July 6, 2022. The relief will then be reduced to 75c per liter for the second month, (i.e, from July 7 to August 2, 2022). The temporary fuel levy reduction expired on August 3, 2022. The fuel tax levy reduction costs 6 billion Rand.^{2029, 2030, 2031}</p> <p>On February 22, 2023, South African government as part of the 2023 budget announced that to ease the impact of the electricity crisis on food prices, the refund on the Road Accident Fund levy for diesel used in the manufacturing process, such as for generators, will be extended to manufacturers of foodstuffs. This takes effect from April 1, 2023 for two years.²⁰³²</p>
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South Korea

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On May 17, 2022, South Korea has announced plans to provide more subsidies to cargo truck and taxi drivers who are suffering from a hike in diesel prices in a bid to ease the burden from rising fuel costs, the finance ministry said Tuesday. The government plans to lower the threshold price set for subsidy payments to 1,750 won (US\$1.37) per liter from the current 1,850 won. The diesel subsidies have been applied to diesel-fueled logistics vehicles across the nation, including 445,000 cargo trucks, 21,000 buses, 9,300 taxies, and 1,300 cargo ships, according to the ministry. Update: On September 19, 2022he government decided to extend subsidies for diesel vehicle drivers until the end of 2022 to help ease their burden from high fuel costs. ²⁰³³ , ²⁰³⁴ , ²⁰³⁵
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	On April 4, 2022, South Korea had put restrictions on exports of Urea. However, this expired at the end of March 2022. ²⁰³⁶
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On July 1, 2022, Seoul has extended the rates that took effect from Nov. 12, 2021, shaving taxes of 164 won (\$0.13), 116 won and 40 won off every liter of gasoline, diesel fuel and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), respectively, until the end of 2022. The South Korean government would expand the scale of auto fuel tax cuts to a record 37% effective July 1 until end-2022 in an emergency measure to curb surging inflation and retail fuel prices, June 20, 2022. ^{2037, 2038}

South Sudan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On July 15, 2022, African Development Bank Group approved a grant of \$8.1 million to South Sudan to fund its Emergency Food Production Programme. Allocated through the Transition Support Facility, the grant constitutes additional financing to the ongoing Agricultural Markets, Value Addition and Trade Development Project (AMVAT). AMVAT seeks to contribute to reduced food insecurity, poverty reduction, economic growth and building of community and household resilience and social cohesion. This Emergency Food Production Programme targets an additional 600,000 of the most vulnerable groups in five states where recent severe flooding has affected hundreds of thousands of households and resulted in heavy crop and livestock losses: Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Eastern Equatoria and Western Equatoria. Those who have received food aid in recent years – half of them are women – will get priority. The project will boost agricultural production and productivity in these five states using improved seeds, fertilizer, and extension services for farmers and to strengthen the institutional capacity of the agricultural sector. Specifically, 498 million tonnes of sorghum seeds, the same amount of cowpea seeds, and 10 million tonnes of rice seeds will be distributed to farmers, who will also receive 30 million tonnes of fertilizer. To ensure that these measures are effective and</p>

		sustainable, the project has provided for the training of thousands of farmers, nearly half of whom are women, on good agronomic practices and the right application of fertilizer. To ensure continuity, implementation of the Emergency Food Production Programme has been entrusted to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, which is already implementing the AMVAT Project. ²⁰³⁹
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Spain

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>[March 25, 2022] Within a larger package, there will be a subsidy of 20 cents (euro) per liter of gasoline, of which 15 cents will be subsidized by the government and 5 cents by the gasoline companies. Initially set to last until the end of June, it was extended until the end of September and then again until the end of December, 2022. [December 27, 2022] Spain announced the end of this measure for all except certain professions. This measure is now becoming a targeted measure for motorists (transportation sector), farmers (agriculture), ranchers, and fishermen. This is expected to last until March 31, 2023, where the subsidy will go down to 10 cents per liter for the second trimester of 2023. This new extension/change is expected to cost 240 million euros.^{2040, 2041}</p> <p>[May 9] Spain has been approved for a price cap on energy prices derived from natural gas and coal from the EU. These will initially be set at 40 euros per megawatt hour and can eventually be raised to 50 euros over the next 12 months. [March 2023] Spain announced an extension and update on this measure. The price cap will begin at 55 euros for March 2023 and can increase only to a maximum of 65 euros in December 2023. Therefore, the extension of this measure is until the end of December 2023.^{2042, 2043}</p>
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>[March 25, 2022] Spain announced 16 billion euros in direct aid, tax cuts, and soft loans to help companies and households' weather high energy prices. Within that package, 10 billion euros will go towards subsidized loans.²⁰⁴⁴</p> <p>On March 29th, the Spain announced a measure to cap the increase in rent (housing) to 2%. Initially set to last 3 months, this measure has been extended until the end of December, 2022. This measure was expected to cover 875,000 renters. [December</p>

		<p>27, 2022] The government announced an extension of this measure to last for all of 2023. The 2% max increase for rent is still in effect until the end of 2023.^{2045, 2046, 2047}</p> <p>On July 12th , Spain announced multiple measures to help ease the burden of higher prices and to try to reduce prices. One of these is a Vertical expansion of current scholarship programs for students 16 and older in higher education. These students in scholarship programs will receive 100 euros in addition to what they already receive a month between September and December 2022. It is estimated that one million students currently have a scholarship as of July, 2022.^{2048, 2049}</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On July 8th, the government announced a one-off cash transfer targeted to low income households in order to help with the crisis of rising prices. This transfer will be in the amount of EUR 200. This measure is expected to reach 2.7 million people and is expected to cost EUR 540 million.^{2050, 2051, 2052}</p> <p>[January 4, 2023] Spain announced a one-off cash transfer of 200 euros targeted to those making below 27,000 euros and valued at less than 75,000 euros. This is expected to cover 4.2 million households. The application is open from February 15, 2023 to March 31, 2023.²⁰⁵³</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	

	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>[March 28, 2022] Spain announced 16 billion euros in direct aid, tax cuts, and soft loans to help companies and households' weather high energy prices. Of the total, 6 billion euros will go to direct aid and to expand upon an existing tax cut program related to Covid-19.²⁰⁵⁴</p> <p>On June 22, 2022 Spain announced a reduction in the VAT for electricity from 10% to 5%. This is in response to increased prices for electricity. A decrease happened in July of 2021 from 21% to 10% also in response to high energy prices. This new measure is expected cost the government between 700 and 800 million euros in lost tax revenue. [December 27, 2022] Spain announced an extension for this measure to last all of 2023.^{2055, 2056, 2057}</p> <p>[December 27, 2022] Spain announced a package of measures to help people with rising prices, this is the third major package released. One of the measures from this package is a suspension for 6 months of the 4% VAT for basic necessity food products. For oil and pasta it was reduced from 10% to 5% (since these are</p>

		not included in basic necessity food list). For all other foods that are not deemed basic necessity, the regular VAT rate is 10% and for those that are it is 4%. ²⁰⁵⁸
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Sri Lanka

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On October 9, 2022, the Sri Lankan government allocated 16 billion Sri Lankan rupees (43.59 million U.S. dollars) in organic fertilizer subsidies for paddy farmers in the coming farming season. On January 31, 2023, The Minister of Agriculture announced the government has allocated 16 billion rupees for the purchase of organic fertilizers for the 2022/23 Maha season. ²⁰⁵⁹
	Fees subsidies	On April 14, 2022, Sri Lanka's state-owned petroleum corporation (Ceylon Petroleum Corporation) announced fuel rationing for vehicles with effect as a historic economic crisis roils the country. It said that motorcycles and other two-wheelers can purchase fuel worth up to Rs 1,000 per visit to petrol pumps. Three-wheelers can buy fuel worth Rs 1,500, while cars, jeeps and vans can purchase it for up to Rs 5,000. Buses, lorries and commercial vehicles have been exempted from the fuel rationing. ^{2060, 2061}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	Due to the increase in cost of living, on 2 January 2022, Sri Lanka decided to provide additional Rs. 1,000 per month to Samurdhi beneficiaries starting from January 2022. ²⁰⁶² On August 22, 2022, following a 290 percent price hike for kerosene, Sri Lanka has decided to provide a direct cash transfer to low-income families, fisherfolk and plantation workers, the Ministry of Power & Energy said. ²⁰⁶³
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	Due to the increase in cost of living, on 2 January 2022, Sri Lanka increased pensions income by Rs. 5,000 per month starting from January 2022. ²⁰⁶⁴
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	Due to the increase in cost of living, on January 2, 2022, Sri Lanka increased civil servants' salaries by Rs. 5,000 per month starting from January 2022. ²⁰⁶⁵
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	Due to increase in cost of living, on January 2, 2022, Sri Lanka exempted all food and medicine items from taxes (VAT) starting January 2022. ²⁰⁶⁶

St. Kitts and Nevis

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	In April, the government announced an extension to the existing Income and Disabilities Support program for 3 months, set to expire in June 2022. ²⁰⁶⁷
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	

	Indirect tax	<p>In April, the government announced a reduction in the excise tax for fuel to last from April to September 2022.²⁰⁶⁸</p> <p>In April, the government announced an extension of the yearly elimination of import duties on food items that normally is only active during December. It was set to last from May 1st to September 30th. This will allow for duty and tax free importing of food items.²⁰⁶⁹</p> <p>In April, the government announced a cap on freight costs which usually factor into the calculation of import duties for all goods. The cap was set at the average cost for 2019 and is set to last for 8 months.²⁰⁷⁰</p> <p>In April, the government announced an extension to the measure which removed the VAT and import duties on health and hygiene products for a period of 6 months.²⁰⁷¹</p>
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St. Lucia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	During this fiscal year for the period, July 4th – July 24th, 2022, importers of petroleum products had to be refunded \$1 million to fully offset the negative excise tax which was incurred due to high imported prices. This was to allow for lower retail prices. More than \$22 million in potential revenue collection on petroleum imports has been sacrificed to keep retail fuel prices low. ²⁰⁷²
	Food subsidies	<p>Importation costs of flour, rice, and sugar have significantly increased on the international market. To keep prices down for local consumers, the government has absorbed the increased costs to the tune of \$9.8 million until July, 9, 2022.²⁰⁷³</p> <p>On August 18, 2022, The Ministry of Commerce, Manufacturing, Business Development, Cooperatives and Consumer Affairs would like to inform the public that the creole loaf and sandwich loaf are price controlled and protected by the Distribution and Price of Goods Act Cap. 13.09; and Statutory Instrument # 67 of 2013.</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On September 13, 2022, the Government of Saint Lucia has approved a 30 percent subsidy on inputs for banana farmers in light of the rising cost of production and productivity challenges faced by stakeholders in the banana sub-sector. Local banana farmers, effective January 10, will again benefit from a 30% discount on fertilizer. ²⁰⁷⁴
	Fees subsidies	<p>To date (July, 2022), the government has spent \$9 million to subsidize cooking gas which has prevented exorbitant price increases. The subsidized 20 and 22-pound cylinders of cooking gas cost \$45.27 and \$49.79, respectively. Without the subsidies by the government, the retail prices for the 20 and 22-pound cylinders of cooking gas would cost \$72.90 and \$80.18, respectively.²⁰⁷⁵</p> <p>On August 15, 2022, the Ministry for Equity was leading discussions with the island’s lone electricity provider, the Saint</p>

		Lucia Electricity Services Limited (LUCELEC), to make the vital utility available to consumers on a pre-paid basis. Speaking against the backdrop of the announcement of the Flow Home Communications Bundle, an initiative negotiated between the Government Saint Lucia and telecommunications provider FLOW that would benefit approximately 5,000 less fortunate households, Minister Henry further announced that FLOW was considering the idea of introducing solar powered modems for the most marginalized households in society. ²⁰⁷⁶
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	<p>On July, 2022, government pensioners have each received a \$500 direct deposit from the government to supplement and strengthen their spending power in the face of rising consumer prices. The government has allocated approximately EC\$1.5 million.</p> <p>Announced on July 2022, National Insurance Corporation will increase its fixed pension rate by 4.2% commensurate with Consumer Price Index (NIC pensioners will receive a 4.2 percent increase in monthly pension payments). The increased pension payment will be made in August 2022 and will include a retroactive payment for July 2022. The increase is projected to cost EC\$4 million per year.</p>
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	

	Pensions	Announced on July 2022, National Insurance Corporation will increase its fixed pension rate by 4.2% commensurate with Consumer Price Index (NIC pensioners will receive a 4.2 percent increase in monthly pension payments). The increased pension payment will be made in August 2022 and will include a retroactive payment for July 2022. The increase is projected to cost EC\$4 million per year.
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	By the end of April 2022, public servants received a one percent wage and salary increase. The one percent wage and salary increase represents approximately, an additional EC\$4.5 million per annum for public servants. A further two percent wage and salary increase is scheduled to take effect in 2023. ²⁰⁷⁷
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On June 10th, the government announced the suspension of the 6% service charge on imported goods that are outlined in the Price Control Order list. Since July, 2022, price-controlled goods are 6% cheaper due to the government's decision to suspend the service charge amidst rising global inflation. ^{2078, 2079}

St. Maarten

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	[July 2022] A new basket of goods, which increased from 12 to 72 items, will be going into effect on August 1, 2022. The new basket of goods will consist of: Milk powder & Canned milk, chocolate powder milk, coffee and tea, peanut butter, jam, sugar, flour & cornmeal, margarine, oats, granola bars, club social crackers, corn flakes, salt, black pepper, all-purpose seasoning, spaghetti, macaroni, ketchup, mayo, vinegar, oil, rice, a variety of canned goods, chicken leg quarters, baking soda, dish liquid, dish sponge, bleach, disinfectant w/ aroma, mop, broom, detergent, toilet paper, sanitary napkins, diapers, baby cereal, garbage bags, toothpaste, toothbrush, razors, shampoo/ conditioner, deodorant, boneless saltfish, eggs, limes, apples, potatoes, celery, sweet pepper, onion, garlic, carrots. ²⁰⁸⁰
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	[August 2022] The Public Entity Saba recently decided to grant a special subsidy to Saba Electric Company (SEC) to aid consumers with the variable tariff increase for the period of July to December 2022 so the increase of electricity bills would remain limited to 10%. This is the third time that the Public Entity Saba has come to the aid of SEC’s consumers during the challenging period of rising prices. The first subsidy covered the period July-December 2021 which helped to limit the increase of the variable fee. For 2022, the Public Entity granted a subsidy for the fixed fees, which reduced the fee to zero for every KVA (kilovolt-ampere) category. The latter subsidy was an addition to the subsidy that the Dutch Government provided to the Caribbean Netherlands to mitigate the increase in fuel prices. Through a subsidy of the Public Entity Saba, the fixed fee increase was further reduced to zero. ²⁰⁸¹
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	

	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[January 2023] Minimum wage increase. On November 30th, 2022 the LBHAM and MB for the minimum wage increase was published, with an effective date of January 1st 2023. Employees who were paid NAF 8.83 as minimum wage, will now receive an increase to NAF 9.95. ²⁰⁸²
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On June 21st, the government announced a reduction of the excise tax on imported fuel from NAF 29 cents to NAF 15.5 cents per liter. This does not affect the price of diesel, only gasoline. This is set to last for 6 months. ²⁰⁸³

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	[October 27, 2022] The government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines made an announcement where several new measures were proposed to help with the cost of living. One of these is a new price control on fuel that would see the price of gasoline fall by EC\$ 2.10 a gallon and diesel by EC\$ 1.00 a gallon to a price of EC\$16.06 and EC\$16.16 respectively. This went into effect on October 31st. There is no clear end date for this measure. ²⁰⁸⁴
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	[October 27, 2022] The government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines made an announcement where several new measures were proposed to help with the cost of living. One of which is a subsidy for farmers in the form of urea fertilizer distribution. The shipment came from Venezuela and the St. Vincent and the Grenadines government is expecting to distribute these out as a subsidy for farmers. The total amount was 40,000 sacks of urea and arrived on November 13th to the island and was expected to be distributed throughout the month of November, 2022. This measure was expected to cost the government a total of EC\$500,000, including transportation and storage. ^{2085, 2086, 2087}
	Fees subsidies	On June 15th, the government announced a new energy subsidy to help lower the expected increase in energy costs in order to help protect consumers from the highest energy prices since 2008. The government is proposing to split the EC\$ 0.14 per kWh increase where the government and the state's energy company (VINLEC) will pay for half and the consumer for the other half. VINLEC's 47,000 customers are the expected beneficiaries. Expected cost to the government for one month is EC\$ 300,000. ²⁰⁸⁸
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	

	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	[October 27, 2022] The government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines made an announcement where several new measures were proposed to help with the cost of living. One of which is a vertical expansion to an existing social assistance program called the Youth Empowerment Service (YES). This is a program to provide jobs/internships (usually for 6 months) to unemployed youth, about 175 applicants are selected. The measure is proposing an increase of EC\$150 to the monthly stipend, or cash transfer, that beneficiaries receive. This is expected to cost the government EC\$1 million. This measure went into force on January 1, 2023. [As a context: The Youth Employment Service (YES) programme is a one year job attachment programme that is geared towards providing employment and job related training to young unemployed persons between the ages of 16 and 30 years]. ²⁰⁸⁹ , ²⁰⁹⁰
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>Starting May 1, 2022, St. Vincent and the Grenadines announced the waiving of customs service charge on all fuel bought by the state-owned enterprise VINLEC (the only commercial generator of electricity).²⁰⁹¹</p> <p>Starting May 1, 2022, St. Vincent and the Grenadines announced a policy that would remove the custom service charge on cooking fuel.²⁰⁹²</p> <p>Starting May 1, 2022, St. Vincent and the Grenadines implemented a policy that would halve the excise tax on fuel. The excise tax was about EC\$2.10 for every gallon of gasoline and EC\$3 for diesel.²⁰⁹³</p>

Sudan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On July 21, 2022, World Bank signed an agreement with the WFP to provide \$100 million in financing to WFP for a new Sudan Emergency Safety Nets Project. The project has two components – Unconditional Cash and Unconditional food programs. Unconditional Cash Transfers would cost US\$72.6 million. This sub-component will finance unconditional cash transfers to the most vulnerable households facing food insecurity, to smoothen consumption needs. Cash transfers will be provided to food insecure households in localities with functioning food markets. It will provide cash transfers of US\$7 per person per month in the targeted households for a total of four months. This subcomponent will benefit about 1,900,000 beneficiaries (320,000 households). About 50 percent of the primary grant recipients will be women. The sub-component will also finance fees for payment of service providers and Nongovernmental Organization (NGO) partners supporting cash transfer implementation.²⁰⁹⁴</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On July 21, 2022, World Bank signed an agreement with the WFP to provide \$100 million in financing to WFP for a new Sudan Emergency Safety Nets Project. The project has two components – Unconditional Cash and Unconditional food programs. Unconditional Food Transfers will cost US\$3.8 million. It will finance unconditional food transfers to the most vulnerable households facing food insecurity to smoothen consumption. Food transfers will be provided in localities with poorly functioning food markets. Each individual in the</p>

		beneficiary households will receive food equivalent to US\$7 in monthly transfers for four months. In practical terms, this will include 240 grams of sorghum, 30 grams of pulses, 15 grams of vegetable oil and 5 grams of salt per person per day. There will be no limitation on the household size. It will benefit at least 100,000 beneficiaries (17,000 households). About 50 percent of the primary food recipients will be females. The sub-component will also finance food-transfer related costs. ²⁰⁹⁵
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On 27 May 2022, Sudan issued emergency order banning the transfer of any quantity of the locally produced wheat crop out of Northern State, without written permission from the Ministry of Production and Economic Resources. This does not include small quantities deemed to be for personal use. The authorities warn that violation of this order carries a prison sentence of up to 10 years, and a fine of at least SDG 100,000. Any wheat found to be transported in violation of the order will be seized by the Northern State government. ²⁰⁹⁶
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Suriname

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On April 8th, the government announced a temporary fuel subsidy to fight the rising price of gasoline and diesel for consumers. They will use the increased profits from the oil sector due to the rise in the price of oil to fund this subsidy. The Suriname government has announced plans to phase out subsidies for gas, electricity and fuel as it seeks to reduce expenditure and keep within the guidelines of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). ^{2097, 2098}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	

	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Sweden

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On March 14, 2022, Sweden announced a \$1.45 billion (€1.32 billion, or 14 billion kronor) in fuel and power subsidies to help Swedes cope with soaring prices resulting from the Ukraine conflict. As part of it, the compensatory payment for electricity costs will be extended for another month in southern and central Sweden. The compensatory payment will be extended with lower payment levels for the month of March in electricity price areas 3 and 4 in southern and central Sweden, where prices have increased the most. Reimbursement will be provided to households whose electricity consumption is from 400 kWh to 2,000 kWh per month. The lower limit will be reduced in comparison with the earlier compensatory payment so as to include households with lower electricity consumption. The compensatory payment will be from SEK 100 to SEK 1,000 and include approximately 2 million households. The total cost of this measure is estimated at SEK 900 million. [Update] 9 March 2023: The official record of Forsakringskassan (Swedish Social Insurance Agency) mentioned that the electricity price for areas 3 and 4 Households in electricity areas 3 and 4, that is the southern half of Sweden, get electricity support based on their consumption during the period October 2021–September 2022.²⁰⁹⁹</p> <p>March 9, 2023: The official record of Forsakringskassan (Swedish Social Insurance Agency) mentioned for household throughout Sweden, they will get electricity support based on their consumption during the period November–December 2022 although it is not yet known when payments can begin.²¹⁰⁰</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	The Swedish parliament also voted through an increase in the housing supplement of SEK 100 for single people and SEK 50 for cohabitants. ²¹⁰¹

		<p>On March 14, 2022, Sweden announced a \$1.45 billion (€1.32 billion, or 14 billion kronor) in fuel and power subsidies to help Swedes cope with soaring prices resulting from the Ukraine conflict. As part of it, the housing allowance for families with children will be temporarily increased from July to December 2022. On, November 8, 2022, as part of the 2023 budget, the Government extends the supplement through 2023, with an estimated cost of SEK 0.52 billion.^{2102, 2103, 2104}</p> <p>On March 14, 2022, Sweden announced a \$1.45 billion (€1.32 billion, or 14 billion kronor) in fuel and power subsidies to help Swedes cope with soaring prices resulting from the Ukraine conflict. As part of it, a new compensatory payment for fuel costs will be introduced to private individuals who own a car. The support will amount to SEK 1,000 per car owner. On top of it, people who own a car and live in municipalities located in regional policy support areas 1, 2 and 3 will receive an additional compensatory payment of SEK 500. For the most part, this applies to sparsely populated and rural areas where distances travelled are long. The basic premise is that the compensatory payment is paid automatically. The total cost of this measure is estimated at SEK 4 billion.^{2105, 2106}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	<p>On March 14, 2022 Sweden announced that to protect households in financial difficulties from dramatic price increases, a temporary extra child allowance will be introduced until December 2022 for families with children that are, or later this year will be, eligible for housing allowance. The extra child allowance will be equivalent to 25 per cent of the preliminary housing allowance and will at most amount to SEK 1,325 per month. The total cost is estimated at SEK 500 million.²¹⁰⁷</p> <p>On March 14, 2022, Sweden announced a \$1.45 billion (€1.32 billion, or 14 billion kronor) in fuel and power subsidies to help Swedes cope with soaring prices resulting from the Ukraine</p>

		<p>conflict. As part of it, additional funds will be allocated to the appropriation for the climate bonus. To continue to promote the transition to environmentally friendly vehicles, reduce dependency on fossil fuels and meet rapidly increasing sales of climate bonus cars (primarily electric), the appropriation for the climate bonus will be increased by SEK 3.9 billion. Therefore, a person who buys an electric car will continue to receive SEK 70,000 in financial support. On July 12, 2022, the Swedish government has passed several amendments to the climate bonus for cars. These include the introduction of a price cap on the climate bonus equal to a new car price of SEK 700,000. The bonus for plug-in hybrids is reduced from the current level of SEK 45,000 to SEK 20,000 and, in addition, the CO₂ emissions limit for the bonus malus system is being reduced from 60 g CO₂/km to 50 g CO₂/km.²¹⁰⁸</p>
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>[June 2022] The Swedish parliament has voted to increase the guaranteed pension by SEK 1,000 per month before tax from August 2022. This change gives a new minimum guaranteed pension level of SEK 9,781 before tax for a single pensioner and SEK 8,855 a month for a married pensioner. This change, along with the housing supplement, will cost the state an estimated SEK 3.9bn in 2022 and SEK 10.5bn in 2023.²¹⁰⁹</p>
	Unemployment benefits	<p>On November 8, 2022, as part of Budget 2023, the Government announced that funds will be permanently allocated to keep the</p>

		unemployment insurance benefit at the same high level as during the pandemic. SEK 5.82 billion is allocated for this measure. ^{2110, 2111}
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 14, 2022, Sweden announced a \$1.45 billion (€1.32 billion, or 14 billion kronor) in fuel and power subsidies to help Swedes cope with soaring prices resulting from the Ukraine conflict. As part of it, the GDP indexing of diesel and petrol will be suspended. The annual indexation of diesel and petrol tax rates was suspended in 2021 and 2022. It is proposed that this also apply in 2023. The Government will circulate a proposal for consultation with the goal that it enters into force on January 1, 2023. The cost of this measure is estimated at SEK 900 million for 2023.²¹¹²</p> <p>On March 14, 2022, Sweden announced a \$1.45 billion (€1.32 billion, or 14 billion kronor) in fuel and power subsidies to help Swedes cope with soaring prices resulting from the Ukraine conflict. As part of it, tax on diesel and petrol will be temporarily reduced to the lowest level permitted under EU regulations from 1 June to 31 October, 2022. The price of petrol and diesel at the pump will be just over SEK 1.30 lower per liter in addition to the tax reduction of SEK 0.50 that will be introduced in May. The</p>

		<p>total cost of this measure is estimated at SEK 3.7 billion. On 8 Nov 2022, as part of the Budget 2023, the Government announced the temporary reduction of tax on petrol and diesel with a total estimated cost of SEK 6.73 billion in 2023. The Budget proposal detailed out that the tax on petrol and diesel be reduced by the equivalent of one krona per liter at the pump as of 2023. ²¹¹³, ²¹¹⁴</p> <p>On November 8, 2022, as part of Budget 2023, the Government announced that the temporary tax reduction on agricultural diesel will be extended, and there are plans to lower the reduction obligation to the EU's minimum level as of January 1, 2024. The Budget 2023 document stipulated that the allocation for temporary tax cut on diesel in agriculture, forestry and aquaculture is SEK 0.38 bil. ²¹¹⁵, ²¹¹⁶</p>
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Switzerland

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>On Oct 12 2022, the Government announced that the Swiss state pensions to rise 2.5% to help offset inflation. Under the policy, the minimum payout of the state scheme will rise to 1,225 francs (\$1,230) per month from 1,195 francs, while the maximum payout will increase to 2,450 from 2,390 francs. In Switzerland, government reviews pensions every two years, with the intention of adjusting pensions and disability benefits in line with price and wage levels.(Note: On 2 March 2023, it was reported that the Federal Council had already boosted state pensions by 2.5% from 1 January 2023 before calls were made to bump them up by 2.8% in line with the increase in the consumer price index (CPI) in 2022 but the proposal was rejected by the Parliament). The CHF 1.4 billion cost of the increase will be born mainly by Switzerland’s employees and employers. An extra CHF 1.2 billion will be funded by the state pension fund supported by</p>

		payroll taxes. The remaining CHF 0.2 billion will be covered by the federal government. (Total: CHF 2.8 bil). ^{2117, 2118}
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Syria

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On November 23, 2021, Abu Mohammed al-Golani, the leader of Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), pledged to provide \$3 million to subsidize bread for 3 months after HTS-controlled Idlib experienced a severe bread crisis and a general economic crisis, following the depreciation of the Turkish lira against the US dollar. Around 40 bakeries run by the Salvation Government will benefit from the \$3 million subsidy, provided that a bundle of bread weighing 600 grams is priced at 2.5 Turkish liras, equivalent to approximately 20 cents. ^{2119, 2120}
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On July 21, 2022, the Syrian regime government agreed to grant the Syrian Grain Foundation a loan of 100 billion Syrian pounds to finance the purchase of wheat for this year, to strengthen the strategic wheat reserve. ²¹²¹
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	Mar 6, 2022, the Syrian government banned the export of several foodstuffs (including of garlic, onions, potatoes, butter, oils, eggs, among other products) for a duration of 2 months as part of a package of measures aimed at mitigating the impact resulting from the conflict in Ukraine on the country's economy and the availability of basic commodities. ²¹²²
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Taiwan, China

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On March 31, 2022, Taiwan's Cabinet on Thursday approved a NT\$30 billion (US\$1.05 billion) expanded housing rent subsidy program for the 2022 fiscal year which will increase the availability and amount of rent subsidies and is expected to benefit 500,000 applicants. This expansion will increase annual total rent subsidies from the current NT\$5.7 billion (US\$191.3 million) to NT\$30 billion (US\$1 billion), loosen application requirements, boost the number of subsidized households from 120,000 to 500,000, potentially assist nearly 60% of all renting households, and increase the size of subsidies given to each household. ^{2123, 2124}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On January 4, 2023, Taiwan announced that it will give cash payouts of nearly \$200 to every citizen this year for Chinese New Year. A total of T\$140 billion, part of the tax revenue, would be spent as cash payouts and each citizen would get T\$6,000 (\$195.61). ²¹²⁵
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	

Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Tajikistan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	During March 14-16, 2022, in order to stabilize prices, the Tajikistan's Agency for State Material Reserves has established mobile sales outlets in the market and has been selling a fixed amount of staple food to the public at relatively low prices. This was observed in Dushanbe, Khujand, Bokhtar, Rasht, Khorog, Kulob and Kushoniyon. ²¹²⁶
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On 21 Oct 2022, Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced the launch of a project to support the Government of Tajikistan in mitigating the adverse economic and social impacts of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. ADB's Building Resilience with Active Countercyclical Expenditures (BRACE) Program will help finance the government's anti-crisis action plan, which aims to expand social assistance for poor and vulnerable people, support domestic food production, safeguard small businesses, and support employment for returning migrants. As part of this, 250,000 poor and vulnerable households will benefit from one-time cash transfers of 600 Somoni (\$59) per household. This grant is 50 million dollars and will support the social assistance component of the anti-crisis plan, which will cost a total of 80 million dollars.²¹²⁷</p> <p>In March 24, 2023 the World Bank approved a grant financing from the International Development Association (IDA) for the "Social Protection Modernization and Economic Inclusion Project" (not effective yet). One of its main objectives is to mitigate the impacts of the declining income and purchasing power of households by providing one-time cash transfers of 600 Somoni (\$55) per family to about 110,000 most vulnerable families being recipients of the Targeted Social Assistance (TSA) program.²¹²⁸</p>

		<p>From July 1, 2023, the Government is increasing the amount of Targeted Social Assistance (TSA) benefit for low-income families base on a new per child under 16 years old approach instead of previously used fixed per family one. From Jan 1 to July 1, 2023 the annual TSA amount is established at 8 budget units (BU) per family (544 TJS, equivalent of 50 USD); from July 1, 2023 it will be 9 BU per family + 0.5 BU per each child until 16 y.o. in the family; from Jan 1, 2024 - 10 BU + 1 BU per each child; from Jan 1, 2025 - 11 BU + 2 BU per each child. The amount of BU is re-accessed and increased each year – in 2022 it was 64 TJS, in 2023 – 68 TJS. The overall TSA program budget will be increased from TJS 128 million in 2021 to about TJS 300 million within the next three years with annual 30–40 percent increases in 2023–2025.²¹²⁹</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>On 21 Oct 2022, Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced the launch of a project to support the Government of Tajikistan in mitigating the adverse economic and social impacts of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. ADB’s Building Resilience with Active Countercyclical Expenditures (BRACE) Program will help finance the government’s anti-crisis action plan, which aims to expand social assistance for poor and vulnerable people, support domestic food production, safeguard small businesses, and support employment for returning migrants. Food security measures supported by the program will help small-scale farmers increase production. The government will also procure and stockpile food to ensure adequate supply of agricultural and food products. Food security measures include supply-side activities to boost domestic production and the distribution of staple foods, including government imports and stockpiles of agricultural produce (potato, wheat, and oil crops). Climate adaptive agricultural inputs, including seeds and fertilizer, will be</p>

		provided in kind to poor and vulnerable farmers in September–October 2022 so they can grow agricultural crops in the next season. The ADB project is a grant of 50 million USD and will support multiple components of the government's anti-crisis plan including the agricultural component which in total is expected to cost USD 70 million.. ²¹³⁰
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	On 21 Oct 2022, Asian Development Bank (ADB) is supporting Government of Tajikistan in mitigating the adverse economic and social impacts of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. ADB's Building Resilience with Active Countercyclical Expenditures (BRACE) Program will help finance the government's anti-crisis action plan, which aims to expand social assistance for poor and vulnerable people, support domestic food production, safeguard small businesses, and support employment for returning migrants. To support business and employment, returning migrants will obtain vocational training for reskilling.. ²¹³¹
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On August 3, 2022, Tajikistan announced an export ban on onions. On January 31, 2023, the government decided to ban exports of onions, carrots and potatoes. Export ban applies to onions, carrots, and potatoes. The duration of the ban is unknown at the moment. It is only stated that the restrictions will

		be in effect “until the stabilization of prices in the market of Tajikistan.”
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Tanzania

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	On June 1, 2022, Tanzania announced a TSh100 billion fuel subsidy, seeking to reduce fuel prices in the country with effect from 1 June 2022. ^{2132, 2133}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On August 9, 2022, Tanzania launched a fertilizer subsidy program for fiscal year 2022-23 which will cost TSh 150 billion. Under the subsidy arrangement, the government will pay for a Sh52,000 subsidy. A bag of DAP that was sold for Sh131,675 will now cost Sh70,000 only, while that of Urea, which used to fetch Sh124,714, will cost Sh70,000 only. A bag of CAN, which used to fetch Sh108,156 will now sell at Sh60,000 while that of NPKs, which cost Sh122,695 will now cost Sh70,000. ^{2134, 2135}
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	

	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On February 28, 2022, the government through the ministry of energy announced the abolition of the Sh100 levy per liter of petrol, diesel and kerosene for three months from March. It is expected to Cost Sh 30 bn per month. The program ended in May 2022.^{2136, 2137}</p> <p>On June 14, 2022, Tanzania announced budget for 2022-23. As part of it, reduced VAT to zero for locally manufactured double refined edible oil for one year and for locally manufactured fertilizers for one year at ex-factory sales by manufacturers. The measure will be in place until May 2023.²¹³⁸</p>

Thailand

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On March 10, 2022, Energy Ministry's reported to the cabinet, the state Oil Fund paid an average of 7.25-7.6 billion baht per month in subsidies to maintain the retail price of diesel at 30 baht per liter from January to February, which is considered relatively high.^{2139, 2140}</p> <p>On June 21, 2022, the Thailand cabinet introduced a new round of measures to cut people's cost of living. They include a 50% subsidy on the diesel price that is higher than 35 baht per liter for three months from July to September. [Update] On September 17, 2022, The tax cut on diesel by 5 baht (US\$0.1379) per litre will be extended for two months to Nov 20, government spokesman Anucha Burapachaisri told a briefing. As of July 17 the Oil Fuel Fund was 112.93 billion baht in the red, consisting of a 74.16-billion-baht loss from its oil subsidy and 38.77 billion baht from its cooking gas subsidy.^{2141, 2142}</p>
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On March 10, 2022, Thailand has announced subsidies are provided to passenger cars per EV unit depending on its battery capacity for completely knocked-down (CKD) and CBU units. Passenger cars with 10 to 30 kWh batter capacity will receive a 70,000-baht (US\$2,111) and passenger cars with over 30 kWh batter capacity will receive a 150,000-baht (US\$4,523) subsidy. Similarly, an 18,000-baht subsidy will be provided for electric motorcycles from eligible car producers between 2022-2023.²¹⁴³</p> <p>On September 13, 2022, Thailand's cabinet agreed to extend energy subsidies to help mitigate the impact of high energy prices and living costs with inflation hitting a 14-year high, the government said. The power subsidy worth 9.1 billion baht will be offered until the end of 2022, he said, adding a 300 million baht cooking gas subsidy would be offered between October and December.²¹⁴⁴</p>

		<p>On February 27, 2023, Thailand government announced that it will grant more subsidies to state welfare card holders, to improve their lives and reduce social and income disparity. After approval from the Cabinet, the benefits will disburse from April 1 onward. About 14.5 million low-income earners will be eligible for benefits under the new round of the state welfare card scheme.²¹⁴⁵</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On July 26, 2022, Thailand’s cabinet approved additional support measures worth 27.4 billion baht (\$748.23 million) to ease cost of living pressures and sustain consumption, amid rising inflation. The measures to run during September-October include 21.2 billion baht for 26.5 million people, or 800 baht each, under an existing scheme aimed at supporting consumer purchasing power.²¹⁴⁶</p> <p>On July 26, 2022, Thailand’s cabinet approved additional support measures worth 27.4 billion baht (\$748.23 million) to ease cost of living pressures and sustain consumption, amid rising inflation. The government will separately offer 400 baht to each of 13.34 million low-income earners with state welfare cards, totaling 5.3 billion baht.²¹⁴⁷</p> <p>On July 26, 2022, Thailand’s cabinet approved additional support measures worth 27.4 billion baht (\$748.23 million) to ease cost of living pressures and sustain consumption, amid rising inflation. 892 million baht will be for 2.23 million people with special needs.²¹⁴⁸</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	

	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	On Sep 13, 2022, Thailand's cabinet agreed a minimum wage increase, to help mitigate the impact of high energy prices and living costs with inflation hitting a 14-year high, the government said. The wage hike, by 5 per cent on average, was the first in more than two years. ²¹⁴⁹
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On March 10, 2022, Thailand released new government incentives for its electric vehicles (EV) industry as part of its ambitious plan to transform 50 percent of its total auto production to EVs by 2030 and become a production base for cleaner vehicles in Southeast Asia. The new incentive package includes a significant exemption in import duty and excise tax for a wide range of EV models, not to mention previous subsidies announced in February. The latest incentive package announced includes: A 40 percent reduction in import duty for completely built-up (CBU) of battery Evs priced up to 2 million baht (\$61,805) and a 20 percent reduction for those priced between 2 million (\$61,805) and 7 million baht (US\$211,278) from 2022 to 2023; and Excise tax cut from 8 percent to 2

		percent for imported Evs, which is predicted to add 7,000 Evs in the first year. The subsidy programs are funded by 3 billion baht (US\$90.4 million) from the 2022 central budget and from the longer-term 40-billion-baht (US\$1.2 billion) investment in the EV industry between 2023 – 2025.. ²¹⁵⁰ , ²¹⁵¹
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Togo

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On March 29, 2022, Togo has limited the price per liter of fuel (super unleaded) to 595 F.²¹⁵²</p> <p>On September 16, Togo announced an increase in fuel subsidies from 30 bn XOF to 37.8 bn XOF.²¹⁵³</p> <p>On September 16, Togo announced an increase in natural gas subsidies from 7.7 bn XOF to 9.3bn XOF.²¹⁵⁴</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>On March 29, 2022, Togo has announced that the prices of maize, sorghum, beans, millet and rice are capped.²¹⁵⁵</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>On 8 July 2022, it was reported that Togo provided 82,000 ton of fertilizer to farmers across the country, as part of 2022-23 agricultural campaign. This is about 7% more than the 76,000 tons initially announced. It includes 43,000 tons of NPK and 39,000 ton of urea. This season, the government has spent over CFA17 billion on fertilizer subsidies to help farmers. The subsidized 50 kg bag is sold at 18,000 CFA francs. Without the subsidy, it would normally go for 31,000 CFA francs.^{2156, 2157, 2158}</p> <p>On September 16, Togo announced an increase to fertilizer subsidies (from 6 bn XOF to 7.5bn XOF)²¹⁵⁹</p>
	Fees subsidies	<p>On April 27, 2022, Togo has decided to lower interest rates for FNFI (National Fund for Inclusive Finance) services by two points, particularly in the most vulnerable areas.²¹⁶⁰</p> <p>On September 16, Togo announced subsidies for schooling materials to parents with children. They will also receive 2.5 billion CFA francs of subsidies to get writing and reading manuals for primary school students.²¹⁶¹</p>
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	

	Conditional cash transfers	On September 16, Togo announced an exceptional transportation allocation of 10,000 XOF to civil servants for a total cost of 8.8 bn XOF. ²¹⁶² On September 16, Togo announced cash transfers to parents of school children to support the purchase of schooling materials for a total of 3 bn XOF. ²¹⁶³
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	On September 16, Togo announced a 10% increase in the index value of pensions for public sector pensioners (including military) as well an additional increase of 5% for public (incl. military) and private sector pensioners. ²¹⁶⁴
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	On September 16, Togo announced a 10% increase in the index value of salaries of civil servants, military personnel and public sector retirees. This is expected to cost 22.5 billion FCFA. ²¹⁶⁵
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	<p>On 22 December 2022, as part of the budget for 2023, in response to increasing overall price level for households, Togo applied same exemption to the first bracket of the Personal Income Tax (IRPP) and a tax reduction of this tax for the other brackets of salaries both in the public and private sector. From 25% to 35% tax reduction. These reductions will have the effect of increasing the net salary, i.e. the purchasing power of employees to support them in the face of the high cost of living.²¹⁶⁶</p>
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 29, 2022, Togo has announced the exemption from Value Added Tax (VAT) on wheat flour sold at the factory.²¹⁶⁷</p> <p>On March 29, 2022, Togo has announced that imported products (oil, milk, wheat flour, etc.) are also capped and will be exempt from VAT.²¹⁶⁸</p> <p>On May 1, 2022, Togo has suspended the payment of market ticket taxes on all markets for a period of 3 months.²¹⁶⁹</p> <p>On December 22, 2022, as part of the budget for 2023, in response to increasing overall price level for households, Togo announced a VAT exemption on operations carried out by canteens in schools, universities and companies for pupils, students and staff.²¹⁷⁰</p>

Trinidad and Tobago

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	

	Indirect tax	<p>[October 2021] Zero-Rating of Basic Food Items. VAT was removed on an expanded list of food items as announced in the Fiscal 2022 National Budget Presentation which included: vegetable/soya bean oil; olive oil; coconut oil; canola oil; ghee; peanut butter; black pepper and other spices; cereals; condensed milk and milk substitutes; instant and ground coffee; black and green tea; orange and apple juice; bottled water; seasoned meat and pig tail; canned sausages, tuna, mackerel, peas, beans, corn and mixed vegetables; mayonnaise, ketchup, roti skin, packaged soups, soya chunks and minced; ground dhal; cheese slices; table butter; ham and turkey slices; chicken lunchmeats; bologna and biscuits and crackers. These items now form part of the list of items under Schedule 2 (Zero-rating of the Value Added Tax Act) and has brought relief to all consumers. These products will now be VAT Free from 1 November 2021. This measure is part of a 6-measure package.²¹⁷¹</p>
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Tunisia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors today approved a US\$130 million loan for Tunisia, seeking to lessen the impact of the Ukraine war by financing vital soft wheat imports and providing emergency support to cover barley imports for dairy production and seeds for smallholder farmers for the upcoming planting season. However, as part of the larger deal. Tunisia subsidizes wheat consumption, guaranteeing the entire population access to wheat flour, semolina, and bread at prices below market rate. Bread prices are a sensitive issue, and as a result, wheat subsidies have remained unchanged despite the extreme burden that they place on the state budget. ²¹⁷²
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	[August 2022] Steg (Tunisian Company of Electricity and Gas) recently decided on increases in electricity and gas tariffs at rates ranging from 12.2 to 16% for households and 15% for industrial. The increase came into effect when calculating the amortization of the two bills for estimation and consumption from May 2022. Despite the increase in bills, the state subsidizes electricity up to 20%, knowing that the amount of uncollected debts by the Steg amounted to 2400 million dinars on a turnover of about 5500 million dinars. The fees collected by the Steg are a contribution to local communities, at a rate of 5 millimes per kilowatt hour, a contribution paid to the benefit of radio and television and in the form of a fee to the Energy Transition Fund (electricity and gas). ²¹⁷³
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On 11 April 2022, Tunisia banned the export of fresh fruits and vegetables to all countries including its largest importer Libya. ²¹⁷⁴
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Turkey

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>In 2022, the government started a fertilizer subsidy program to support farmers. Certain increases were made in the diesel and fertilizer subsidies for 2021, taking into account the market developments on the one hand, and on the other hand, within the budgetary possibilities. For the support of 2021, the fertilizer support, which was 16 TL per decare in the grain group, increased by 25 percent to 20 TL, for other products 8 TL, and in 2022, with a 100% increase in all products, the grain group increased to 32 TL per decare, and other products reached 16 TL. October 5, 2022, it was announced that the diesel and fertilizer support payments for 2022, which were planned to be paid in March 2023, will be paid 6 months ahead but they have not yet been paid per source.^{2175, 2176, 2177}</p>
	Fees subsidies	<p>On June 8, 2022, it was reported that Turkey will limit rent increases to a maximum of 25% for a year from July 2022 until July 2023, as the country battles an annual inflation rate of over 70% and informal rent hikes of 100% in some cities.²¹⁷⁸</p> <p>In Jan 2022, Turkey announced it would spend TRY100bn (€6.5bn) on energy bills for its citizens in 2022, providing 50% support for natural gas and 25% support for electricity. Approximately 4 thousand liras is recieved per household. October 17, 2022, as part of the budget for 2023, the Turkish government is subsidizing 80% of natural gas and 50% of electricity used by households and such energy subsidies on the 2023 budget is seen at 600 billion liras (\$32 billion). [27 December 2022] This year, the support of the Treasury in energy reached 138 billion liras and 530 billion TL has been allocated for natural gas and electricity subsidies in Turkey's 2023 Central Government Budget.^{2179, 2180, 2181}</p>

Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	To tackle with the inflation, Turkey has increased its minimum wages by 30% effective from 01 July 2022. The per month net minimum wage has increased from TRY 4,253.40 to TRY 5,500.35. The per month gross minimum wage has increased from TRY 5,004.00 to TRY 7,603.43. This measure is expected to end on December 31, 2022. The increase follows a 50% hike as of January, which had lifted the minimum wage to TL 4,250. On December 22, 2022, the government announced that starting January 2023, the minimum wage will increase to 8,506.80 lira in 2023. This is a 55% increase from the level in July and 100% from the hike in January 2022. ^{2182, 2183, 2184}

<p style="text-align: center;">Trade</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Export/import restriction</p>	<p>On March 15, 2022, it was reported that in the last couple weeks, Turkey has imposed temporary export bans on select agricultural products to stabilize local market conditions and keep prices from running higher. The Ministry of Trade recently halted shipments of grains, oilseeds, cooking oil, and a few other agricultural commodities – sourced from third countries – that are currently being held in bonded warehouses at Turkish seaports. On July 7th, Turkey also removed the ban on olive oil exports. By Aug 27, 2022, the ban on these oil products have been lifted. By Aug 27, 2022, the ban on these oil products have been lifted except for sunflower oil. On March 8, 2023, the ban on sunflower oil was lifted. ^{2185, 2186, 2187}</p> <p>On 21 March 2022, Turkey imposed a quota restriction on export of cattle, sheep and goat meat to all countries except for Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), Azerbaijan and the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, following a recent price hike of nearly 50 percent. The ban was lifted in August 2022 in response to sheep and goat producers' concerns of low profitability and high input costs. Ban on beef was lifted March 8, 2023. ^{2188, 2189, 2190}</p> <p>On March 15, 2022, It was reported that Turkey’s Ministry of Agriculture & Forest (MinAF) stopped direct exports of red lentils, and dry beans from Turkey. MinAF may also block exports of other agricultural goods at any time. The ban was lifted on March 8, 2023. ^{2191, 2192}</p> <p>On February 27, 2022, Turkey implemented export restriction on more than a dozen agricultural products, including some dairy products. On June 26,2022 Turkey removed the ban on butter exports was replaced with a monthly quota until September 2022. ^{2193, 2194}</p>
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	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On 12 Feb 2022, Turkey, under its VAT System Simplification Program, reduced the VAT on basic food products from 8% to 1%. The decision, published in the Official Gazette, went into effect on February 14, 2022. The cut includes staples such as flour, rice, pasta, meat, fish, tea, coffee, water, milk and dairy products, cheese, eggs, oils, sugar, fruits, vegetables, nuts, and legumes.²¹⁹⁵</p> <p>On February 12, 2022, Turkey reduced the tax (VAT) on electricity used for residential and agricultural irrigation purposes from 18% to 8%.²¹⁹⁶</p> <p>On 28 March 2022, the VAT rate in turkey will be lowered to 1 percent on all kinds of certified seed and saplings.²¹⁹⁷</p> <p>On 28 March 2022, Turkey reduced taxes on several items, including hygiene products and medical equipment, to counter inflation in the country. It reduced the VAT on products such as detergent, soap, toilet paper, napkins and baby diapers from 18% to 8%.²¹⁹⁸</p> <p>On 28 March 2022, Turkey reduced the VAT charged on catering services, including in restaurants and hotels, from 18 to 8 percent.²¹⁹⁹</p> <p>On 28 March 2022, the VAT in Turkey has been set at 8 percent in the sales of houses that are smaller than 150 square meters in size.²²⁰⁰</p>

Turkmenistan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	On March 04, 2022, Turkmenistan announced to keep prices of consumer goods and food products under control in the market and stores. ²²⁰¹
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Turks and Caicos Islands

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On July 14th, the government announced a one-off direct cash transfer of USD \$1000 for residents. This is expected to cost \$12 million. ²²⁰²
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Uganda

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On 24 Sept, 2022, a new fertilizer subsidy program was announced which will cover 33,082 farmers for a duration of five-month, which is aimed at making fertiliser accessible at an affordable rate. The African Fertiliser and Agribusiness Partnership (AFAP), an initiative that focuses on market-driven business solutions in fertiliser and agribusiness for agriculture productivity, partnered with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Rabobank Yara, the Export Trading Group and Syngenta with the support of the International Fertiliser Association (IFA) to subsidise fertiliser up to 30 percent of the market price. ²²⁰³
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	Uganda is imposing high taxes to prevent food exports such as maize, soybeans, rice, and wheat to neighboring countries. ²²⁰⁴
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

United Arab Emirates

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	<p>On 4 July 2022, UAE announced a Dh28 billion (\$7.6bn) relief package to ease rising inflation. The Emirati families whose household income is up to Dh25,000 per month (\$6,800) are eligible for a series of measures, including fuel subsidy. Eligible Emiratis will receive an 85 per cent discount on the cost of petrol above Dh2.10 per liter — the current price is Dh4.6. The allowance is renewed every month to up to 400 liters for the father and if both couples have a car, then 500 liters. Beneficiaries will be contacted directly by the ministry, and they will be immediately linked to their Emirates ID, so they can immediately go to any gas station to receive this month's allowance.²²⁰⁵</p>
	Food subsidies	<p>On 4 July 2022, UAE announced a Dh28 billion (\$7.6bn) relief package to ease rising inflation. The Emirati families whose household income is up to Dh25,000 per month (\$6,800) are eligible for a series of measures, including food subsidy. It plans to cover 75 percent of inflation on food items.²²⁰⁶</p>
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	<p>On 4 July 2022, UAE announced a Dh28 billion (\$7.6bn) relief package to ease rising inflation. The Emirati families whose household income is up to Dh25,000 per month (\$6,800) are eligible for a series of measures, including electricity and water subsidy. Eligible Emiratis will be granted a 50 per cent subsidy for electricity consumption of less than 4,000 kilowatts, and a 50 per cent monthly water subsidy for water consumption below 26,000 gallons.^{2207, 2208}</p> <p>On 4 July 2022, UAE announced a Dh28 billion (\$7.6bn) relief package to ease rising inflation. The Emirati families whose household income is up to Dh25,000 per month (\$6,800) are eligible for a series of measures, including Education subsidy. Among the new allocations included in the social support program for the family is the “University Education Allowance” for outstanding students. This is designed to encourage children</p>

		<p>to enroll in university education, with the value of the allowance at Dh3,200 per month.^{2209, 2210}</p> <p>On 4 July 2022, UAE announced a Dh28 billion (\$7.6bn) relief package to ease rising inflation. The Emirati families whose household income is up to Dh25,000 per month (\$6,800) are eligible for a series of measures, including housing allowance. The program includes a provision for housing, ranging between Dh1,500 dirhams and Dh2,500 per month, to pay for private accommodation until a family obtains government housing. Applicants who live with parents or any other family are entitled to 60 per cent of these amounts. The support does not apply to those who have any other form of government housing benefit, or who own a house registered in their name. The benefit stops when the applicant secures government housing.^{2211, 2212}</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>On 4 July 2022, UAE announced a Dh28 billion (\$7.6bn) relief package to ease rising inflation. More than 47,300 Emirati families whose household income is up to Dh25,000 per month (\$6,800) are eligible for a series of measures, including family allowance. The father of the family will now receive an allowance starting at Dh5,000 per month. This amount will increase at a rate of Dh2,000 per month for every 10 years of work experience, to a maximum of Dh13,000 per month. This allowance is granted from the age of 30 and above, with the calculation of work years beginning from the age of 21. The wife's allowance will be lifted to Dh3,500 per month. Allowances for children will rise to Dh2,400 a month for the first child, Dh1,600 a month for the second and third child, and Dh800 for every subsequent child – up to the age of 21. This allowance applies to all citizens, those in work, the unemployed and those seeking work.^{2213, 2214}</p>
	<p>Conditional cash transfers</p>	
	<p>Social pensions</p>	

	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	<p>On 4 July 2022, UAE announced a Dh28 billion (\$7.6bn) relief package to ease rising inflation. The Emirati families whose household income is up to Dh25,000 per month (\$6,800) are eligible for a series of measures, including Job seeker allowance. This allowance extends for a period of six months, and amounts to Dh5,000 dirhams per month for each beneficiary, regardless of age. The allowance offers financial assistance while looking for employment. ²²¹⁵, ²²¹⁶</p> <p>On 4 July 2022, UAE announced a Dh28 billion (\$7.6bn) relief package to ease rising inflation. The Emirati families whose household income is up to Dh25,000 per month (\$6,800) are eligible for a series of measures, including housing allowance. The program includes a provision for an unemployed citizen allowance of up to AED5,000 per month for citizens over the age of 45. ²²¹⁷</p>
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	

	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

United Kingdom

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	[March 2022] Farmers will be further supported through new slurry storage grants as of this year, helping meet the Farming Rules for Water and reducing dependence on artificial fertilizers. ²²¹⁸
	Fees subsidies	<p>On February 3, 2022, United Kingdom is providing a package of support worth £11.7 billion from 2022 to 2023 which includes the Energy Bills Support Scheme. Through the scheme, domestic electricity customers in Great Britain will receive a £400 reduction in their electricity costs starting from this October. The costs of the reduction will be spread as widely as possible, so that no one pays more than £40 per year through the levy. Therefore, all domestic electricity consumers will pay a charge in future years. It is a grant now with a levy on future billpayers. This scheme will help over 29 million households.^{2219, 2220, 2221}</p> <p>On March 23, 2022, in the UK, as part of the Warm Home Discount scheme, 2.2 million low-income households receive a £140 rebate on their energy bills. From 2022, proposed changes will see the scheme be worth £475 million a year with nearly 3 million households receiving a £150 rebate.^{2222, 2223}</p> <p>On July 6, 2022, the UK enabled that extension of the energy price cap to protect families. The energy price cap is the best safety net for 22 million households and the bill will enable the extension of the price cap beyond 2023. Regulator Ofgem will announce a new price cap level in the last week of August. [Update] On 17 October 2022, the Treasury made a U-turn on the energy price freeze and changed the time-span of its applicability to the winter of 2022/2023 – until April 2023 only (against the previously announced 2-year period). The energy price freeze stays at £2,500 for the average household. The Government estimates that it will cost around £31 billion over sixth months.^{2224, 2225, 2226, 2227}</p> <p>[October 2022] Maintenance loan amounts will be increased by 2.3% in the academic year 2022/23.²²²⁸</p> <p>[November 2022] The National Grid is starting a trial scheme, running between November 2022 and March 2023, to encourage people to use less electricity at</p>

		<p>peak times. People who avoid using high-energy appliances such as washing machines in the late afternoon or early evening could get discounts of up to £100 on their energy bills.²²²⁹</p> <p>27 March 2023: The Government announced that Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) funding is available for those entitled to Housing Benefit or the Housing Element of Universal Credit who require further financial assistance with housing costs. The Government confirmed DHP funding for England and Wales for the financial years ending March 2024 and March 2025, at £100 million per year. On 3 Apr 2023, the Government also confirmed that the Local Housing Allowance rates were increased above inflation during the pandemic and have been maintained since to provide housing support to Universal Credit claimants. The Local Housing Allowance sets maximum amounts claimants of Universal Credit and Housing Benefit can usually get in housing support for private rented properties.^{2230, 2231}</p>
<p>Social Assistance</p>	<p>Unconditional cash transfers</p>	<p>[March 2022] Reducing the Universal Credit taper rate from 63% to 55% and increasing Universal Credit work allowances by £500 a year to make work pay.²²³²</p> <p>April 1, 2022, Uk, Winter Fuel Payment: an allowance between £100 and £300 to help households pay their heating bills. Individuals will get the Winter Fuel Payment automatically if they are eligible and either: get the State Pension; get another social security benefit (not Housing Benefit, Council Tax Reduction, Child Benefit or Universal Credit). Most payments are made automatically in November or December. Individuals should have been paid for winter 2021 to 2022. The full amount of Winter Fuel Payment for winter 2022 to 2023 depends on individual circumstances and ranges between £250 and £600. This amount is inclusive of the "pensioner cost of living payment". Pensioners who are entitled to a Winter Fuel Payment for winter 2023 to 2024, will get an extra £150 or £300 paid with their normal payment from November 2023^{2233, 2234, 2235}</p> <p>[May 2022] The government will target financial support to the poorest households. The government will send directly to about 8 million households a one-off “cost of living payment” of £650, direct to people’s bank accounts. The amount will be paid in 2 lump sums of £326 and £324. The support is worth</p>

		<p>more than £5 billion. 4 April 2023: In 2023, recipients of low-income benefits and tax credits may be entitled to 3 Cost of Living Payment for the amount of £301, £300 and £299.^{2236, 2237}</p> <p>[May 2022] The repayment of the £200 repayable loan, due in October, will be turned into a grant. The payment will be doubled to £400 for everyone. The funding is worth £6bn.²²³⁸</p> <p>[May 2022] 8 million pensioner households will receive a one-off “pensioner cost of living payment” of £300.²²³⁹</p> <p>[May 2022] 6 million non-means-tested disability benefit recipients will receive a £150 payment.^{2240, 2241}</p>
	ssConditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>[March 2022] To help households with the cost of essentials such as food, clothing and utilities, the government is providing an additional £500 million for the Household Support Fund from April, on top of the £500 million already provided since October 2021, bringing total funding to £1 billion. Local Authorities will determine how to best use the remainder of the fund within the scope set out by ministers. Previous funding has supported households with food, clothing, energy and water costs, and this extension will ensure that this support continues through to the autumn. The extension will run for six months to the end of September 2022. [July 2022] Latest data reveals that 8.9 million grants have been given to families in first round of Household Support Fund.^{2242, 2243, 2244}</p>
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	<p>23 June 2022: The Government announced the universal infant free school meals (UIFSM) grant 2022 to 2023 under Section 14 of the Education Act 2002. Under the policy, each meal taken by an eligible pupil attracts £2.41 (an increase from previous grant period). An allocation assumes that pupils will take 190 school meals over an academic year, providing £457.90 per eligible pupil. The grant is given to school to enable them to offer free school meals, meeting the school food standards, to all their reception, year 1 and year 2 pupils.²²⁴⁵</p>
	Public works	

Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>[November 2022] Britain is expected to increase state pension and welfare payments in line with inflation in the next November's budget. 6 April 2023, The Treasury confirmed that the state pension will rise in line with inflation in April 2023 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The full new state pension will increase to £10,600 a year, or £204 a week - Anyone who reached state pension age before April 2016 gets £8,100 a year, or £156 a week.^{2246, 2247}
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	<p>[23 March 2022] Increase in the annual National Insurance Primary Threshold and the Lower Profits Limit from £9,880 to £12,570 from July 2022, to align with the income tax personal allowance. This is a tax cut of over £6 billion and worth over £330 for a typical employee in the year from July.²²⁴⁸</p> <p>[23 March 2022] Around 70% of National Insurance contributions (NICs) payers will pay less NICs, even accounting for the introduction of the Health and Social Care Levy. This change will take 2.2 million people out of paying Class 1 and Class 4 NICs and the Health and Social Care Levy altogether. Earners on less than £25,000 now pay less in income tax and National Insurance Contributions (NICs). Those earning above £25,000 will pay more. Taken together, the changes will raise the Treasury around £14 billion in 2022/23, with higher income households paying the most.²²⁴⁹</p> <p>[23 March 2022] From April 2022 self-employed individuals with profits between the Small Profits Threshold and Lower Profits Limit will continue to build up National Insurance credits but will not pay any Class 2 NICs. Taken together, these measures will meet the government's ambition to ensure that the first £12,500 earned is tax free.^{2250, 2251}</p>
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	

	Wage increase	Increasing the National Living Wage (NLW) for workers aged 23 and over by 6.6% to £9.50 an hour from April 2022. ²²⁵²
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On February 3, 2022, United Kingdom, as part of its targeted response to rising energy bills, has introduced a £150 council tax rebate starting April 1, 2022. This will mean that council tax costs will not rise for the majority of people, including those on the lowest incomes.^{2253, 2254}</p> <p>On March 23, 2022, the UK announced that it will reduce the basic rate of income tax to 19% from April 2024. This is a tax cut of over £5 billion a year. [October 2022] The basic rate of income tax will remain at 20%.^{2255, 2256}</p>
	Indirect tax	<p>On 23 March 2022, the UK will reverse a Court of Justice of the European Union ruling that restricted the application of VAT relief on the installation of energy saving materials (ESMs). This will mean wind and water turbines will be added to the list of ESMs and the complex eligibility conditions will be removed. The government will also increase the relief further by introducing a time-limited zero rate for the installation of ESMs. The changes will take effect from April 2022.²²⁵⁷</p> <p>On March 23, 2022, the UK will cut the duty on petrol and diesel by £0.05 per liter for 12 months. This will take effect from 6pm on 23 March on a UK-wide basis. This cut represents savings for households and businesses worth around £2.4 billion in 2022-23. Where practical, a proportionate cut will also apply to fuel duty rates which are lower than the main rates for petrol and diesel, including red diesel.²²⁵⁸</p>

United States

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	<p>On October 18th, 2022, the US Department of Agriculture announced that it had canceled \$800 million of farmers' debts as part of the recent Inflation Reduction Act. This agriculture subsidy in the form of debt relief has covered 13,100 farmers with an average debt cancellation of \$61,000. This was targeted to farmers who were 60 or more days late on their loan. An additional \$200 million was canceled for some 2,100 farmers who had been foreclosed on and still had remaining debt. There is an expected additional \$500 million more debt relief for some 23,000 more borrowers in the near future. [Update]: 27 March 2023: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that beginning in April it will provide approximately \$123 million in additional, automatic financial assistance for qualifying farm loan program borrowers who are facing financial risk, as part of the \$3.1 billion to help distressed farm loan borrowers that was provided through Section 22006 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The announcement builds on financial assistance offered to borrowers through the same program in October 2022..²²⁵⁹, ²²⁶⁰</p>
Fees subsidies	<p>On November 5th, the government of New Hampshire announced that it was receiving federal funds for two programs. One of which is a fuel assistance program aimed at reducing the cost of home heating for this upcoming winter, although funds likely won't be distributed until Spring of 2023. So far, 22,000 households have applied for this assistance. This program has a budget of \$40 million.²²⁶¹</p> <p>January 4, 2023: As part of the Emergency Winter Energy Relief Plan, the State of Maine provides \$450 direct checks to eligible individuals ensure its vulnerable citizens are able to stay warm this winter.²²⁶²</p>	

		<p>23 Dec 2022: The State Government announced that Connecticut residents who heat their homes with deliverable fuels will be able to receive an additional \$430 this winter season from the state’s energy assistance program. This means families heating with deliverable fuels like heating oil and propane can now access up to \$2,320 per household to help pay their heating bills. Pooled resources for the measure amount to 142 million USD. [Note: Payment mechanism: According to Connecticut Heating Help portal, benefits are usually paid directly to utility company or fuel supplier. Households that heat with deliverable fuels like oil or propane may be eligible for additional free tank fills.]. The original deadline to receive fuel deliveries for the winter season was March 15, 2023. It is extended for two weeks until March 31, 2023. Based on the statement by the State Governor, thanks to the work of Connecticut’s Congressional delegation in securing unprecedented fiscal year 2023 federal funding for the program, the state has resources available to provide for a slight extension to the deadline, giving residents a few extra days to receive assistance for fuel deliveries.^{2263, 2264}</p> <p>19 January 2023: The NY State Government announced that 478,000 residential customers and 56,000 small businesses in New York State will receive assistance totaling \$672 million to pay off unaffordable past due utility bills.²²⁶⁵</p> <p>19 January 2023: The NY State Government announced that it is also backing a \$200 million plan for to help offset electric bills for more than 800,000 New Yorkers who earn less than \$75,000, but are not eligible for the current utility discount program.²²⁶⁶</p> <p>November 29, 2022: The Fare-free bus service that was introduced in April 2022 in response to inflation is now extended through March 31, 2023. This is a second extension. First extension was announced in June 2022 (the program to last until</p>
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		Dec 2022). [5 December 2022] Free bus service costs the state about \$2.7 million a month. ^{2267, 2268, 2269}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On March 26th, California announced that it will be handing out debit cards with USD \$400 to California drivers. This measure is a USD \$9 billion proposal. The program which is part of the Middle-Class Tax Refund Program has issued more than 9.4 million debit cards as of Jan 2023, from which 32,000,000 California taxpayers and their dependents have benefitted.²²⁷⁰</p> <p>On March 26th, Maine proposed an USD \$850 check to qualified taxpayers in Maine. These relief checks are expected to reach 858,000 Mainers and cost a total of US \$729.3 million. Those eligible are those who as a full-year Maine resident file a 2021 Maine income tax return by October 31st, 2022, and have an individual salary under US \$100,000, US \$150,000 if filing as head of household, and under US \$200,000 if couples filing jointly. These relief checks are set to be sent out starting in June of 2022. More than 850,000 relief checks had been mailed to Maine residents that accounts for 99% of those who are expected to be eligible for the payments.^{2271, 2272, 2273}</p> <p>On October 7th, California began a cash transfer program for inflation relief named the Middle Class Tax Refund. It is a one-off direct deposit for families making less than \$150,000 a year. The transfer amount can be up to \$1,050 and is expected to reach up to 23 million individuals (roughly 60% of the state's population). It is expected to cost \$9.5 billion or 0.3% of the state's GDP.²²⁷⁴</p> <p>On July 26th, 2022, Florida announced a new one-off direct cash transfer of USD \$450 per child for an expected 60,000 families in Florida. This direct cash transfer is being given to families within the Florida Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in order to help deal with rising prices. The TANF program received a USD \$1 billion federal fund as a part of the</p>

		<p>Covid-19 related American Rescue Plan Act. This direct cash transfer is expected to cost USD \$35.5 million out of the state of Florida’s budget.^{2275, 2276}</p> <p>On August 18th, 2022, and as part of the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, the government of Washington, D.C. announced a one-off payment of USD \$1,000. This direct cash transfer is called the Back-to-School Payment and will go to DC resident families who are within the TANF program. The government of Washington, D.C. received \$15 million in federal funds as part of the Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund within the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 aimed at helping families with the fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic. This cash transfer comes from those funds, however, this cash transfer is aimed at helping families with the rising prices, specifically for the added expenses around back-to-school. This cash transfer is expected to reach around 15,000 families.²²⁷⁷</p> <p>On September 20th, the New Mexico state government announced that starting on September 26th it would accept applications for economic relief assistance in the form of a one-off cash transfer for eligible low income households. The minimum transfer is of \$400 per household, the total amount depends on income level and other factors. A total of \$10 million is available for this measure.^{2278, 2279}</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	<p>October 18, 2022: Benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), commonly referred to as food stamps, have increased 12.5 percent for fiscal year 2023 which began on October 1, 2022. or a family of four, this equates to \$104 more per month to spend on groceries, for a total of \$939 per month as compared to \$835 received previously.²²⁸⁰</p>

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	<p>1 January 2023: The Government announced that effective January 1, 2023, the minimum wage is \$15.50 per hour for all employers. Some cities and counties have higher minimum wages than the state's rate.²²⁸¹</p> <p>20 Oct 2022: The Alaska minimum wage will increase from \$10.34 to \$10.85 in 2023 in line with the 2014 law that requires minimum wage to adjusted to inflation,^{2282,2283}</p> <p>12 Jan 2023: As per earlier plan, Connecticut Government decided that the minimum wage will increase from \$14 to \$15 in June under that plan.²²⁸⁴</p> <p>14 September 2022: Effective September 30, 2022, the Florida minimum wage will be \$11.00 per hour, with a minimum wage of at least \$7.98 per hour for tipped employees, in addition to tips, through September 29, 2023. This measure will benefit 987,000 workers.^{2285, 2286}</p>
Trade	Export/import restriction	

	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	<p>On February 4th, 2022, the Idaho state government passed a new bill that in part provides a direct cash transfer in the form of a tax rebate for taxpayers and their dependents. The transfer amount is USD \$75 per person.²²⁸⁷</p> <p>On March 26, 2022, USA's Georgia announced a program to give tax refunds to Georgians who filed taxes in 2020 and 2021. The amounts will be up to USD \$250 for single filers, USD \$375 for single filers who are heads of households, and up to USD \$500 for married couples filing jointly. This refund is part of a USD \$1.1 billion package.²²⁸⁸</p> <p>In March of 2022, New Mexico announced a one-off direct cash transfer in the form of a tax rebate to help residents with the rising costs of living and gas prices. Single or married filers will receive \$500 if they make less than \$150,000 a year, an additional \$250 will be given to those making less than \$75,000 (for a total of \$750). This cash transfer was implemented in July. So far 800,000 people have received a transfer as of the beginning of August.^{2289, 2290, 2291}</p> <p>In March of 2022, New Mexico announced a second round of cash transfers, this time executed in two separate payments. These are also in the form of a tax rebate and were disbursed in June for the first transfer and then in August for the second transfer. These transfers have no income restrictions and so all residents who have filed their taxes are eligible. The transfer is of \$1,000 to married couples filing jointly, with \$500 being given in June and \$500 being given in August. For single filers it is \$500 total with \$250 in June and \$250 in August. So far 800,000 people have received a transfer as of the beginning of August.^{2292, 2293}</p>

		<p>On April 9th, 2022, the state of Illinois approved a large \$46.5billion package to help ease the burden of inflation on residents of the state. Within this package there is a direct one-off cash transfer in the form of property tax rebates. This transfer size will be up to \$300 as long as the adjusted gross income for the taxable year does not exceed \$500,000 for joint filers of 2021 Illinois state taxes and \$250,000 for all other returns. This is expected to reach 6.2 million residents under the Illinois Family Relief Plan and started rolling out September 12th. It is expected to take 8 weeks for the checks to be distributed. The total package (named the Illinois Family Relief Plan) for the sales tax, fuel tax, and property tax relief is \$1.83 billion.^{2294, 2295, 2296}</p> <p>On April 9th, 2022, the state of Illinois approved a large \$46.5billion package to help ease the burden of inflation on residents of the state. Within this package there is a direct one-off cash transfer in the form of an income tax rebate expected to reach all 6.2 million residents within the Illinois Family Relief Plan. The transfer amount is \$50 for single filers who made under \$200,000 in 2021 and \$100 for joint filers who made under \$400,000 in 2021. Additionally, \$100 for each dependent for a maximum of 3 dependents.^{2297, 2298}</p> <p>On April 14th, 2022, Delaware introduced House Bill 360 which created the Delaware Relief Rebate Program. This is a one-off direct cash transfer of USD \$300 per resident taxpayer for 2020 or 2021 or were 18 and older as of December, 2021. Joint filers will receive USD \$600. The initial distribution saw over 780,000 beneficiaries as of the Summer of 2022.^{2299, 2300}</p> <p>On May 23rd, 2022, Colorado announced a new law to give residents a one-off cash transfer in the form of a tax rebate. This law indicates that if the state runs a surplus for the fiscal year, a certain amount must be given back to the residents through direct payment. This law was introduced in part to help residents deal with higher prices. To be eligible, residents will have to</p>
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		<p>have filed their 2021 state taxes by October 17th, 2022 or applied for a Property Tax/Rent/Heat Credit (PTC) Rebate. Single filers will receive USD \$750 and joint filers will receive USD \$1,500.^{2301, 2302}</p> <p>On September 1st, 2022, the Idaho state government passed a new bill to decide what to do with the state's \$2 billion surplus. One component of the bill is a direct cash transfer in the form of a state tax rebate of USD \$300 per individual and \$600 for joint filers of 2020 taxes. This is to help residents deal with rising prices. The expected expenditure is USD \$500 million.^{2303, 2304}</p> <p>On September 6th, 2022, Hawaii announced a one-off direct cash transfer in the form of a state tax refund. The amount will depend on the income level, marriage status (joint filing), and the number of exemptions residents are allowed to claim. The amount will either be USD \$100 per person (including dependents) or USD \$300 per person. This cash transfer is expected to reach about 600,000 taxpayers and is expected to total \$294 million. As of October 24th, 329,833 direct deposits and paper checks have been delivered with a total of \$182,340,900 having been dispersed.^{2305, 2306}</p> <p>On September 15th, 2022, the Virginia state government announced a new one-off direct cash transfer in the form of a tax rebate in order to help families lower the cost of living. The benefit size is \$250 for single filers and \$500 for joint filers of 2021 state taxes.²³⁰⁷</p> <p>13 September 2022: Under the Inflation Reduction Act, \$14,000 in rebates and tax credits will be given to people to make their homes more energy-efficient. [Update" *unable to verify date - The rebate will be implemented under the High Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program (HEEHRA) which will provide point-of-sales rebates for qualified electrification projects for</p>
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		<p>low- or moderate-income households. Up to \$14,000 in rebates per household will be available. Rebates anticipated include: Electric Load Service Center upgrades/Breaker box: \$4,000 Electric Stove, Cooktop, Range, and/or Oven: \$840 Electric Wiring: \$2,500 Heat Pump Clothes Dryers: \$840 Heat Pump Heating/Cooling: \$8,000 Heat Pump Water Heaters: \$1,750 Weatherization (Insulation, Air Sealing, Ventilation): \$1,600 Guidance on how home energy rebates will be implemented isn't expected until late 2023.^{2308, 2309, 2310}</p> <p>February 21, 2023: The City of Boulder announced the food tax rebate amounting to \$99 for individuals and \$302 for families. To qualify, applicants must be either: age 62 or over for the entire 2022 calendar year; or a person with a disability; or a family with children under 18 years of age in the household for the entire 2022 calendar year.²³¹¹</p>
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 26, 2022, USA's Connecticut state announced the suspension of the gas tax from April 1 to June 30, 2022. This is expected to cost USD\$ 90 million in lost revenue. It is set to last from April 1st to November 30th, 2022. June 29, 2022: In March, the state legislation (Special Act 22-2) suspended gas tax from April 1 to June 30, 2022. In May, a separate bill (Public Act 22-118) extends the duration of this tax holiday to continue through November 30, 2022.[Update]: 29 November 2022: Extended the measure through December 31, 2022. Beginning January 1, 2023, the tax will be phased back in over a period of five months at five cents per month.^{2312, 2313}</p> <p>On March 26, 2022, USA's Maryland state announced a 30-day suspension of the gas tax with the option to extend 90 days. Estimated to cost USD \$100 million a month.²³¹⁴</p>

		<p>On March 26, 2022, USA's Florida state announced USD \$1 billion in temporary gas tax relief for residents. State lawmakers also approved a one-month hiatus of the gas tax. This tax holiday will be in effect for the month of October.^{2315, 2316, 2317}</p> <p>On March 26, 2022, USA's Georgia state announced the suspension of the gas tax which was signed on March 18. [Extension] On September 1st, Georgia extended the gas tax suspension. It is set to last until October 12th.^{2318, 2319}</p> <p>On April 9th, 2022, the state of Illinois approved a large \$46.5billion package to help ease the burden of inflation on residents of the state. Within this package there was a suspension of the 1% sales tax on groceries for the entirety of the fiscal year, starting July 1st, 2022 up until July 1, 2023. This estimated to save taxpayers \$400 million. The total package (named the Illinois Family Relief Plan) for the sales tax, fuel tax, and property tax relief is \$1.83 billion.^{2320, 2321}</p> <p>On April 9th, 2022, the state of Illinois approved a large \$46.5billion package to help ease the burden of inflation on residents of the state. Within this package there was a freezing of the fuel tax at \$0.39 a gallon starting July 1st, 2022 and lasting through January 1, 2023. The fuel tax was expected to go up in July as part of a regular inflation adjustment mechanism, however, this new measure puts a temporary freeze on the automatic adjustment. This is expected to save taxpayers \$70 million. The total package (named the Illinois Family Relief Plan) for the sales tax, fuel tax, and property tax relief is \$1.83 billion.^{2322, 2323}</p> <p>In April of 2022, the New York state government announced that it will suspend the state sales tax on motor fuels, the separate motor fuel tax, and the metropolitan commuter transportation district sales tax imposed on motor fuels. This</p>
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		measure was set to last from June through December and provide an estimated \$585 million in relief. Some of these tax reliefs were part of an eight year slow easing that began in 2018, this new measure makes the ultimate effect take place this year instead of in 2026. It is estimated to reach 6.1 million residents. ²³²⁴
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Uruguay

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	Starting April 1, Uruguay put a price control on gasoline. [Update] On April 30th, the subsidy is still in place but due to the rising prices of fuel, the subsidy amount has increased. The price paid by consumers has also gone up but not as much as it would have without the subsidy. [January 1 2023] The government of Uruguay announced a price reduction on fuel as part of the ongoing fuel subsidy, it is going to be maintained at the new discounted price. [February 22 2023] The government announced that the price will remain fixed through March 2023. ^{2325, 2326, 2327}
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	On May 17, 2022, Uruguay reported that the government was implementing various new measures to ease the burden of rising prices on the most vulnerable. One of these measures was a price freeze on propane tank gas as well as a 50% discount on all refills for beneficiaries of programs within the Ministry of Social Development. This will last until December 2022 and is expected to cover 1 million individuals. [December 27 2022] The government of Uruguay announced an extension of this measure until June 30 2023. The measure has covered 130,000 homes so far and is costing about US\$ 1 million per month.. ^{2328, 2329, 2330}
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On May 17th, it was reported that the government was implementing various new measures to ease the burden of rising prices on the most vulnerable. One of these measures was a 4% increase in the amount contributed for two cash transfer programs: “Asignaciones Familiares-Plan de Equidad” and “Tarjeta Social Uruguay”. This increase went into effect in July and is expected to reach 800,000 beneficiaries. ²³³¹
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	

	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>Starting from May 1, 2022, Uruguay announced discount on the IMESI tax (excise duty) will be increased up to 30% for gas stations near the border with Argentina.²³³²</p> <p>[May 17 2022] It was reported that Uruguay was implementing various new measures to ease the burden of rising prices on the most vulnerable. One of these measures was a discount on VAT for certain products for beneficiaries of the “Asignaciones Familiares-Plan de Equidad” program who use the new Tuapp application. This measure creates a "personalized VAT" that people can access through the Tuapp. It allows for a lower VAT</p>

		<p>for vulnerable populations if they use the app to pay for goods.²³³³</p> <p>On May 17, 2022, it was reported that Uruguay was implementing various new measures to ease the burden of rising prices on the most vulnerable. One of these measures was a reduction in the customs duties for food products that are heavily affected by the conflict in Ukraine as well as reducing those coming outside of Mercosur and Argentina specifically.²³³⁴</p>
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Uzbekistan

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	In May 2022, it was reported that to Maintaining public transport tariffs, an additional direct subsidy will be provided to the Tashkent city public transport network to maintain existing tariffs and mitigate the burden of rising fuel prices during 2022. This subsidy will benefit nearly 3 million people, including more than 200,000 university students. Two state entities—Tashkent Metro and Joint State Company Toshshahartrانشizmat (Tashkent city transport services)—are the recipients of an additional subsidy. It is expected to cost USD 17.4 million. ²³³⁵
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	In May 2022, the government started its multiphase one-time social assistance, which will continue until December 2022. As per the Presidential Resolution No. PQ 2505 about Additional Measures on Targeted Support to the Population Dependent on Social Protection. Each pensioner received SUM400,000 in Tashkent city and SUM300,000 in other regions. The registry includes (i) low-income families without children or children above 18 years of age (82,708), and (ii) low-income families with children (1.6 million). Low-income families with children up to the age of 18—in total 4.9 million children—received SUM200,000 per child. The initial assistance amounted to \$194 million covering 8.9 million people, including pensioners, low-income families, and recipients of child allowances. It is expected to cost \$577.8 million. ²³³⁶
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	In May 2022, the government raised monthly pension payments by 12% to support the livelihood of more than 4 million vulnerable persons (pensioners) and costs \$63.6 million, about a half of whom are women, amid rising food and energy prices. The Uzbekistan’s Pension Fund increased minimum monthly payment from SUM565,000 to SUM633,000 for persons over

		the age of 65, from SUM623,000 to SUM698,000. There are 3.1 million individuals benefiting from it. ²³³⁷
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	<p>In May 2022, the government raised monthly pension payments by 12% to support the livelihood of more than 4 million vulnerable persons (pensioners) and costs \$63.6 million, about a half of whom are women, amid rising food and energy prices. The Uzbekistan's Pension Fund increased minimum monthly payment from SUM565,000 to SUM633,000 for persons over the age of 65, from SUM623,000 to SUM698,000. There are 3.1 million individuals benefiting from it. [1 April 2023] Due to higher prices for gold and copper in the world market compared to the forecast and an increase in customs revenues compared to the parameters of the state budget, it was decided to increase salaries, pensions and benefits again. In particular, at the first stage, from April 1, pensions and benefits will increase by 7% (additional costs of 2.2 trillion soums - together with salaries). At the second stage, from September 1, pensions and benefits will be increased by 10% (another 5.6 trillion soums - together with salaries). It is reported that 4.4 million pensioners will benefit from this measure.^{2338, 2339}</p> <p>In May 2022, the government raised monthly pension payments by 12% to support the livelihood of more than 4 million vulnerable persons (pensioners) and costs \$63.6 million, about a half of whom are women, amid rising food and energy prices.</p>

		<p>The Uzbekistan’s Pension Fund increased Minimum monthly payment for people with disabilities (0.5 million), and persons with disabilities since childhood (0.3 million) from SUM623,000 to SUM698,000. [1 April 2023] Due to higher prices for gold and copper in the world market compared to the forecast and an increase in customs revenues compared to the parameters of the state budget, it was decided to increase salaries, pensions and benefits again. In particular, at the first stage, from April 1, pensions and benefits will increase by 7% (additional costs of 2.2 trillion soums). At the second stage, from September 1, salaries, pensions and benefits will be increased by 10% (another 5.6 trillion soums). It is reported that 4.4 million pensioners will benefit from this measure.^{2340, 2341}</p> <p>In May 2022, the government raised monthly pension payments by 12% to support the livelihood of more than 4 million vulnerable persons (pensioners) and costs \$63.6 million, about a half of whom are women, amid rising food and energy prices. The Uzbekistan’s Pension Fund increased Minimum monthly payment for 0.3 million survivor benefit recipients. [1 April 2023] Due to higher prices for gold and copper in the world market compared to the forecast and an increase in customs revenues compared to the parameters of the state budget, it was decided to increase salaries, pensions and benefits again. In particular, at the first stage, from April 1, pensions and benefits will increase by 7% (additional costs of 2.2 trillion soums). At the second stage, from September 1, salaries, pensions and benefits will be increased by 10% (another 5.6 trillion soums). It is reported that 4.4 million pensioners will benefit from this measure.^{2342, 2343}</p>
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	

	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	[1 April 2023] Due to higher prices for gold and copper in the world market compared to the forecast and an increase in customs revenues compared to the parameters of the state budget, it was decided to increase salaries, pensions and benefits again. In particular, at the first stage, from May 1, salaries will increase by 7% (additional costs of 2.2 trillion soums - together with pensions and benefits). At the second stage, from September 1, salaries will be increased by 10% (another 5.6 trillion soums - together with pensions and benefits). It is reported that 2.1 million workers will benefit from this measure. ²³⁴⁴
Trade	Export/import restriction	On June 1, 2022, Uzbekistan has temporarily restricted export of vegetable oils and oilseeds, including cottonseed oil and sunflower oil, sunflower seed and other oilseeds. The government has not specified the date of expiry of the ban. ²³⁴⁵ On January 20, 2023 the Uzbek agriculture minister announced a four-month ban on exports of onions after prices doubled in three weeks. ²³⁴⁶
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	In May 2022, it was reported that imports of 22 product categories, including meat, fish, milk products, fruits, and vegetable oil, to Uzbekistan are exempted from customs duties from May 2022 to January 2023. This measure is expected to cost \$64.8 million. [17 November 2022] The applied zero rates of import customs duty for 23 types are food products imported from certain countries will be extended from January 1, 2023, to July 1, 2023. ^{2347, 2348}

		<p>On Oct 2021, to maintain consumer prices, the government extended the temporary value-added tax exemption provided during October 2021–April 2022 on the import and sale of vegetable oil, sunflower and flax seeds, soya pits, potatoes, meat and meat products, and livestock until the end of 2022. In addition, production, processing, and the sale of these essential products are exempted from turnover tax until December 2022. This measure would cost \$125.8 million. The cost of imports also includes 15% Value Added Tax (VAT), which will be reduced to 12% starting from 2023. Full or partial exemption from customs duties and taxes of goods placed under the temporary importation regime, which usually should not exceed two years, is determined by law.²³⁴⁹, ²³⁵⁰</p>
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Vietnam

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On May 6, 2022, Vietnam has proposed a five per cent increase in the export tax rate, in an effort to cool down domestic fertilizer prices. To lower the domestic fertilizer price and stabilize the supply, the Finance Ministry has submitted to the government to lower export taxes on fertilizers by 5 per cent,

		without classifying the ratio of natural resources, or minerals. Accordingly, fertilizer with a value less than 51 per cent will be subject to 5 per cent instead of zero per cent currently. Export tax for other kinds of fertilizers remain unchanged. ²³⁵¹
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

West Bank and Gaza

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	The government has agreed with the union of bakeries to keep the bread prices at the same level (ILS 4 per kg) ²³⁵²
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	[March 2022] Tax exemption on imported wheat flour from Egypt for one month ²³⁵³
	Export/import easing	

Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On March 9, 2022, it was announced that the Palestinian Authority had plans to reduce taxes on wheat and bread. The Palestinian government formed a crisis cell consisting of the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of National Economy, representatives from the private sector, the Chambers of Commerce and the Federation of Industries, and took a decision to exempt all sales of flour packaged in bags of 25 kg or more from the value-added tax of 16%, for a period of three months (March, April, May 2022). The government later extended this exemption from June 2022 to August 2022.^{2354, 2355, 2356}</p> <p>On March 9, 2022, it was announced that the Palestinian Authority had plans to reduce taxes on wheat and bread. Part of this measure includes a VAT exemption of 16% for bakeries for 3 months (March, April, May 2022). The government later extended this exemption from June 2022 to August 2022.²³⁵⁷</p>

Yemen

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	<p>On March 24, 2022, the World Bank approved the second Additional financing of Emergency Social Protection Enhancement and COVID-19 Response Project, which will extend the program’s support to poor and vulnerable households with much-needed cash benefits to help them cope with the effects of the overlapping crises namely: the conflict, food price inflation, climate-related emergencies, such as the floods of August-September 2022, and the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The AF2 is costing US\$134.5m for component 1 which will continue providing CTs to households affected by food insecurity and malnutrition, and other deprivations, through UCTs to SWF beneficiaries across all districts in Yemen. The support in the form of an adaptation of CT such that the intended annual benefit amount will be delivered in three PCs per year as opposed to the prior quarterly arrangement; this will decrease the risk of inevitable operational delays reducing the effective annual benefit receipts. Beneficiaries in the SWF list pre-conflict (1.5 million households, representing around 9.35 million individuals) were identified based on a combination of poverty-targeting (PMT) and categorical targeting of elderly, female-headed households, orphans and disabled. To date, the project has typically been reaching a maximum of around 1.43 million households. Admittedly, the UCT program’s benefit adequacy has deteriorated from some 18-20 percent of the basic food basket cost in 2017 to 10-11 percent in 2022. However, it is still a cornerstone of supporting the most elementary forms of need - food security, among vulnerable households under the persisting conflict.²³⁵⁸</p>

		<p>On March 24, 2022, the World Bank approved the second Additional financing of Emergency Social Protection Enhancement and COVID-19 Response Project, which will extend the program’s support to poor and vulnerable households with much-needed cash benefits to help them cope with the effects of the overlapping crises namely: the conflict, food price inflation, climate-related emergencies, such as the floods of August-September 2022, and the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The project will be costing US\$19m for component 2.1. Under the component 2.1, the program will continue to provide cash transfer [Cash for Nutrition; CfN] to households with mothers and/or children at risk of malnutrition in selected communities. The beneficiary households (mothers are the recipients) will receive CT for six months for all women who meet the criteria, and 12 months for mothers with children suffering from malnutrition. It is expected to support about 45,000 additional families for up to 12 months. The sub-component will benefit an additional 48,000 females/mothers and around 63,000 children with cash for nutrition benefits. Sessions and home visits will continue to be delivered by trained women from the communities or community educators who will be paid by the project, generating temporary employment and building relevant skills for about 1,600 women. The CfN will target pregnant/lactating women and or children under five and mothers with children with disabilities up to the age of 17 years in governorates to be identified through the geo-bundling targeting process. It will also support other (non-SWF) households in the selected communities where pregnant/lactating women or their children under five are malnourished.²³⁵⁹</p>
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	

	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	On May 6, 2022, Vietnam has proposed a five per cent increase in the export tax rate, in an effort to cool down domestic fertilizer prices. To lower the domestic fertilizer price and stabilize the supply, the Finance Ministry has submitted to the government to lower export taxes on fertilizers by 5 per cent, without classifying the ratio of natural resources, or minerals. Accordingly, fertilizer with a value less than 51 per cent will be subject to 5 per cent instead of zero per cent currently. Export tax for other kinds of fertilizers remain unchanged. ²³⁶⁰
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	

Zambia

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	On Sept 12, 2022, it was reported that to compensate for the 25% loss in maize and output of other crops last season, Zambia has maintained the number of beneficiaries of the Fertilizer Support Programme (FISP) in the 2022-23 season to bolster production. 1.2 million farmers are benefiting from the program. This year the benefit size of the transfer has been increased to six bags of fertilizer (from 4 bags last year) and a packet of 10 kg of seed per farmer in the 2023 season. Note, farmers are expected to contribute K400 to be eligible for the subsidy. ²³⁶¹
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	On June 14, 2022, it was reported that World Bank is supporting Zambia by scaling up the Shock Responsive Social Protection Project. The Social Cash Transfer (SCT) will cover cash transfers to almost one million (1,026,000) beneficiaries of the government's SCT program for the period of one year. This emergency financing will therefore stabilize financing for the SCT, while also including a small buffer of funds to allow for a limited vertical or horizontal expansion of the cash transfer to respond to price shocks or other further shock, respectively, as required. The program currently covers 974,000 individuals. SCT currently provides a bi-monthly transfer of ZMW 400 (US\$24 equivalent, or US\$12 monthly) for an average household and double this amount for households with a disabled person. It is noteworthy that this amount is the result of an increase in 2021 to ensure adequacy of transfer value in light of rising inflation. Beneficiaries are selected through categorical as well as poverty targeting to identify people that are poor and also are not able to work for reasons of age, disability, illness, or high dependency ratios. The Government has committed to scale up the number of beneficiaries on Social Cash Transfer (SCT) from the planned 1,021,000 in 2022 to 1,374,500 in 2023.

		Transfer amounts will also be increased, though the value has not been stated in the Budget. To support the expenditure, Government will increase the allocation to Social Cash Transfer Program by 19.8% to ZMW3.7 billion from ZMW3.1 L1192billion this year.
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	On 11 Jan 2022, Zambia announced that it would waive off/ suspend excise duty, import duty and VAT on fuel until the end of June 2022. On 16 June 2022, Zambia extended the suspension

		<p>of import, excise duty and VAT on fuel for another 3 months -- until the end of 30 September 2022.^{2362, 2363, 2364}</p> <p>On Sept 1, 2022, it was reported that Zambia removed 5% customs duty on the importation of cattle and chicken breeding to support agriculture and livestock.</p>
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Zimbabwe

Subsidies	Fuel subsidies	
	Food subsidies	
	Fertilizer/agriculture subsidies	
	Fees subsidies	
Social Assistance	Unconditional cash transfers	
	Conditional cash transfers	
	Social pensions	
	Unconditional in-kind transfers (food, vouchers, others)	
	Conditional in-kind transfers (school feeding)	
	Public works	
Social Insurance	Paid sick leave	
	Health insurance	
	Pensions	
	Unemployment benefits	
	Social security contributions waiver	
Labor Market	Training (vocational, life skills, others)	
	Labor market regulations	
	Wage subsidies	
	Wage increase	
Trade	Export/import restriction	
	Export/import easing	On 20 May 2022, Zimbabwe to remove the mandatory production of import licenses on categories of the basic commodities: sugar, milk powder, infants milk formula,

		petroleum jelly, bath soap, laundry bar and washing powder. These products can now be imported by anyone without the need to produce import permits or licenses. ²³⁶⁵
Tax	Direct tax	
	Indirect tax	<p>On 17 May 2022, Zimbabwe introduced Statutory Instrument 98 of 2022 to wholly suspended Customs duties on importation of basic commodities. It will be effective for the next six months – from 17 May 2022 to 16 November 2022. Its effect on cross-border trade is to totally or wholly suspend payment of duty on cooking oil, margarine, rice, flour, salt, bath soap, laundry soap, washing powder, toothpaste and petroleum jelly during the said period, regardless of their country of origin (CoO) and quantities (bulk and small).²³⁶⁶</p> <p>On November 24, 2022, Zimbabwe announced that the VAT rate to increase to 15%. This includes a supply of imported services, importation of goods and motor vehicles sold by persons who are motor dealers. Effective date 1 January 2023.²³⁶⁷</p>

Sources and endnotes

- ¹ See Annexes 1 for regional profiles and Annex 2 for overall classification of measures included in the tracker.
- ² The trend shows that subsidies are more likely to be extended than social assistance measures. However, based on the available data in the global tracker, there are a few countries which phased out their subsidies (ex. Colombia, Kenya, Suriname) or switched from a universal to more targeted subsidies (ex. Spain, Argentina, Hungary; Gentilini et al.)
- ³ refers to taxes levied on specific industries which experienced a significantly higher than average profits due to prevailing economic conditions (or windfall); such taxes are primarily levied on companies from the targeted industry that have benefited the most from the economic windfall.
- ⁴ In late-March 2022, the government lifted the ban and instead imposed increased tax rate. Prior to that in mid-March 2022 banned exports of soybean meal and soybean oil until further notice.
- ⁵ Stands for Building Resilience with Active Countercyclical Expenditures, and helps finance the government's anti-crisis action plan, which aims to expand social assistance for poor and vulnerable people, support domestic food production, safeguard small businesses, and support employment for returning migrants.
- ⁶ provided they do not qualify for the energy allowance for lower income households.
- ⁷ It stands for Public Distribution System.
- ⁸ They also provide subsidies to commercial and industrial users of bi-monthly tariffs. However, their coverage figures are different. Please look into the country annex for more information.
- ⁹ This payment will be made in instalments starting from June 2022.
- ¹⁰ The subsidy amount will depend on the household's income and energy consumption data.
- ¹¹ Only top 1% of the population are not eligible for any compensation as they have not been categorized as energy vulnerable.
- ¹² Residents of islands will receive more than mainland residents.
- ¹³ Only those individuals who made up to EUR 30,000 euros in 2020 are eligible for this benefit.
- ¹⁴ For car owners the benefit was increased to EUR 80 and EUR100 for people from mainland and islands, respectively. Similarly, For motorcycle owners the amount will be EUR60 and EUR70, respectively.
- ¹⁵ N.B. This is based on only one program from Pakistan.
- ¹⁶ Some transfer information was available for the social insurance, labor market and tax measures but were not averaged and included in the global estimate due to the small sample.
- ¹⁷ See annex 8 for adequacy calculation methodology
- ¹⁸ For example, Chile in January 2023 announced a vertical increase to an existing program, *Subsidio Protege conditional cash transfer program*, providing cash transfers to working mothers of newborn children (up to 5 years of age). The benefit size of CL\$200,000 (\$230.68) per month (or \$7.69 per day, which is 43.64% of the daily median income of the country) for three months. The window for application closed on March 31, 2023. Similarly, Grenada in March 2023 announced a new utility discount to approximately 21,000 low-income households (63,000 individuals; 55.99% of the population) in the form of a subsidy or credit worth EC\$10 (\$4) per month for 12 months starting from February 2023.
- ¹⁹ The coverage is expected to reach a total of 165,000 beneficiaries which represent 33,000 households (19% of the population).
- ²⁰ N.B., one-offs programs are excluded from the duration analysis. There are 147 such measures.
- ²¹ For those consuming between 31-100 kWh per month will receive EC\$300 (\$111), for those consuming 101-200 kWh will receive EC\$200 (\$74) and for those consuming over 201 kWh will receive EC\$100 (\$37).
- ²² including sugar, wheat flour, chicken breast, pork legs, sunflower oil, etc.
- ²³ The term extension (or evolution) here captures all the measures which have experienced extension in the program duration or (and) adaption of the measure (e.g., horizontal expansion, vertical expansion, admin adaptation) during the course of the program duration. All such cases are here referred to as program extension. N.B. adaptations of the existing (pre-crisis) measure to inflation are not counted as extensions (unless such measure are adapted again during the program implementation).
- ²⁴ Total frequency refers to sum of the number of measures which got an extension x number of times a specific measure got extended
- ²⁵ Based on 55 economies.
- ²⁶ Based on 147 programs.
- ²⁷ Based on 48 programs.
- ²⁸ Based on 27 measures.
- ²⁹ Based on 71 programs

³⁰ Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Benin, Belize, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Dem. Rep., Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Curaçao, Czech Republic, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Gabon, Gambia, The, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Réunion (France), Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, United Arab Emirates, and Uruguay

³¹ Data based on 4 measures from Argentina, France, Philippines, Portugal.

³² (38 measures, 31 countries)

³³ Based on 6 programs.

³⁴ Based on 4 measures.

³⁵ Based on 16 measures (14 countries: Barbados, Cameroon, Hungary, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malta, Philippines, Portugal, Réunion (France), South Korea, Spain, Thailand).

³⁶ Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Belize, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Congo, Dem. Rep., Congo, Rep., Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Curaçao, Czech Republic, France, Gambia, The, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Nicaragua, Philippines, Portugal, Réunion (France), Romania, South Korea, Spain, St. Lucia, Suriname, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, United Arab Emirates

³⁷ With this, the government hopes that other fuel providers will reduce their prices too in order to stay competitive.

³⁸ Kenya, Kosovo, Philippine and Portugal

³⁹ Antigua and Barbuda, France, Philippines, and South Korea,

⁴⁰ Which may in turn help in keeping the costs of fish and public transportation low for the general consumer.

⁴¹ And even for gas and electricity.

⁴² Barbados, Benin, Cape Verde, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Gabon, Grenada, Honduras, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mexico, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Portugal, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Togo, Uruguay

⁴³ Aruba, Bahamas, The, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Rep., Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Gabon, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, North Macedonia, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Qatar, Réunion (France), Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sint Maarten, Slovakia, Slovenia, St. Lucia, Syria, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, and the West Bank and Gaza

⁴⁴ Based on 8 countries.

⁴⁵ Based on 19 measures.

⁴⁶ Based on 1 measure.

⁴⁷ Based on 31 measures.

⁴⁸ Based 6 measures with extension duration information.

⁴⁹ Based on 5 measures.

⁵⁰ Based on 17 measures.

⁵¹ Based on 1 measure.

⁵² Based on 5 measures.

⁵³ Albania, Andorra, Anguilla (UK), Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, British Virgin Islands, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Cayman Islands, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Maarten, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Slovenia, Sweden, Syria, Taiwan, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, and Uzbekistan.

⁵⁴ Based on 39 economies.

⁵⁵ Based on 70 programs.

⁵⁶ Based on 23 measures.

⁵⁷ Based on 5 measures.

⁵⁸ Based on 41 measures.

- ⁵⁹ Albania, Andorra, Anguilla (UK), Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, British Virgin Islands, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Cayman Islands, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Morocco, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, St. Lucia, St. Maarten, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and United States.
- ⁶⁰ Albania, Andorra, Comoros, Croatia, Finland, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Mozambique, New Zealand, Singapore, United States, and Uzbekistan.
- ⁶¹ Finland, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Mozambique, New Zealand, Singapore, and Uzbekistan
- ⁶² Andorra, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Netherlands, Portugal, Senegal, Taiwan, United Kingdom, and United Arab Emirates.
- ⁶³ Andorra, Bulgaria, Canada, Cayman Islands, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, and Uruguay.
- ⁶⁴ Bulgaria, Cayman Islands, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Egypt, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Granada, Guinea, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Slovenia, United Kingdom, and Uruguay.
- ⁶⁵ Andorra, Denmark, France, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, and Turkey
- ⁶⁶ Albania, Andorra, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Kosovo, Poland, and Thailand.
- ⁶⁷ Canada, Estonia, Israel, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, Syria, and Thailand.
- ⁶⁸ Albania, Andorra, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Kosovo, and Poland.
- ⁶⁹ This measure will also support some 1,000 MSMEs to buy and install energy-efficient heating systems and renewable energy sources, such as solar photovoltaic or thermal panels.
- ⁷⁰ Eligible users are: an agricultural holding with an economic size of EUR3,000 – 250,000; micro, small and medium enterprises registered for the processing of agricultural products.
- ⁷¹ As per the measure, motorcycles and other two-wheelers can purchase fuel worth up to Rs 1,000 per visit to petrol pumps. Three-wheelers can buy fuel worth Rs 1,500, while cars, jeeps and vans can purchase it up to Rs 5,000. Finally, buses, lorries and commercial vehicles are exempted from the fuel rationing.
- ⁷² Furthermore, the added funds will support increased quality of foster care and the training of adopting families, foster families and other foster care providers.
- ⁷³ Anguilla (UK), Canada, Finland, France, Hong Kong, Ireland, Panama, Senegal, Spain, Togo, and United Arab Emirates.
- ⁷⁴ The Ministry of Health recommended to start the subsidy eligibility for persons 70 years and older from 2023. Subsequently, further evaluation may then permit the enrollment of the younger age group.
- ⁷⁵ This proposal is limited to public sector health services in the first instance as the Government of Anguilla presently sets the pricing of services at the HAA,
- ⁷⁶ Further, projected expenditure is anticipated to rise yearly due to an increasing number of eligible persons and consideration of service fee increases that may occur.
- ⁷⁷ Finland, France, Hong Kong, Ireland, Senegal, Spain, Togo, and United Arab Emirates.
- ⁷⁸ Based on 140 measures.
- ⁷⁹ Based on 121 measures.
- ⁸⁰ Based on 16 measures.
- ⁸¹ Based on 2 measures.
- ⁸² Armenia, Guyana, Hong Kong, Ireland, Lithuania, Mauritius, Paraguay, Poland, South Africa, and France.
- ⁸³ Cameroon, China, Haiti, Ghana, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, and Niger
- ⁸⁴ Based on 6 countries.
- ⁸⁵ Based on 5 countries.
- ⁸⁶ Based on one measure.
- ⁸⁷ Based on 1 measure.
- ⁸⁸ Barbados, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Djibouti, Ireland, Singapore, Seychelles, Slovenia, United Kingdom, and Oman.
- ⁸⁹ Based on 7 measures.
- ⁹⁰ Based on 3 measures.
- ⁹¹ Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kosovo, Lithuania,

Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, St. Lucia, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and Uzbekistan.

⁹² Calculated based on data from 20 economies.

⁹³ Calculated based on 28 measures.

⁹⁴ Albania, Andorra, Anguilla (UK), Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bahamas, The, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Croatia, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Jamaica, Kosovo, Lithuania, Macao, Malaysia, New Zealand, Paraguay, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, St. Lucia, Sint Maarten, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Thailand, Togo, Uzbekistan, Seychelles, Canada, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Portugal, Slovenia, United Kingdom, France, Turkey, Egypt, Lebanon, Tajikistan, and the United States

⁹⁵ Based on 13 measures.

⁹⁶ Based on 16 measures.

⁹⁷ Albania, Andorra, Anguilla (UK), Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, The, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Jamaica, Lebanon, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sint Maarten, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, St. Lucia, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, and Uzbekistan

⁹⁸ Albania, Anguilla (UK), Egypt, Estonia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Slovenia, and Uzbekistan

⁹⁹ Based on 4 measures.

¹⁰⁰ Based on 3 measures.

¹⁰¹ Based on 7 measures.

¹⁰² Trade measures (import/export restrictions) are reported in the tracker, even though they are not social protection measures, as they directly affect the availability of essential good, which further impacts the needs of SP measures.

¹⁰³ Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Namibia, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Serbia, South Korea, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.

¹⁰⁴ Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Namibia, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Serbia, South Korea, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.

¹⁰⁵ Ethiopia, Iraq, Kenya, and Zimbabwe.

¹⁰⁶ In the report, easing is defined as the movement of an economy from a more stringent restriction (e.g., ban) to a relatively less stringent restriction (which also includes complete removal of restriction).

¹⁰⁷ Based on 37 programs.

¹⁰⁸ Bans are considered lifted if no new information has been found on their extension beyond the announced end date.

¹⁰⁹ Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Namibia, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Serbia, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan.

¹¹⁰ Stringency reduces in the order mentioned.

¹¹¹ Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Malaysia.

¹¹² China, Kyrgyz Republic, and Viet Nam.

¹¹³ Calculated based on 12 countries.

¹¹⁴ Based on 80 measures.

¹¹⁵ This is a vertical expansion of a measure announced a year earlier during which the threshold was increased from R87 300 to R91 250.

¹¹⁶ The following agriculture tax reliefs were supposed to expire in 2023: Young Trained Farmer Stamp Duty Relief, Farm Consolidation Stamp Duty Relief, and Farm Restructuring Capital Gains Tax Relief (all three are extended to 31 December 2024); Young Trained Farmer Stock Relief, and Registered Farm Partnership Stock Relief (both are extended to 31 December 2025)

¹¹⁷ Based on info from 31 countries.

- ¹¹⁸ Based on data from 100 measures.
- ¹¹⁹ Based on 34 programs.
- ¹²⁰ Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritius, Nigeria, Burundi, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia
- ¹²¹ Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Réunion, Senegal, Togo, Seychelles
- ¹²² Benin, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, The Gambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Nigeria, Réunion, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo
- ¹²³ Botswana, Cape Verde, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mozambique, Senegal, Togo.
- ¹²⁴ Angola, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Zambia, and Zimbabwe
- ¹²⁵ Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Namibia, Sudan, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.
- ¹²⁶ Hong Kong, Thailand, Australia, China, Macao, Singapore, Cambodia, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, New Zealand, Taiwan, Fiji, Philippines, South Korea, Vietnam, Lao, and PDR.
- ¹²⁷ Anguilla (UK), Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Montserrat, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Maarten, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay
- ¹²⁸ Anguilla (UK), Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, The Bahamas, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Maarten, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Uruguay.
- ¹²⁹ Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guayana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Uruguay.
- ¹³⁰ Anguilla (UK), Argentina, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Sint Maarten, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Uruguay
- ¹³¹ Aruba, Bahamas, The, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Panama, Paraguay, Sint Maarten, and St. Lucia
- ¹³² Anguilla (UK), Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Paraguay, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, Turks and Caicos Islands, and Uruguay.
- ¹³³ Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, West Bank and Gaza, and Yemen
- ¹³⁴ Based on 33 measures.
- ¹³⁵ Based on 48 measures.
- ¹³⁶ Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Israel, Kuwait, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and West Bank and Gaza
- ¹³⁷ Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Oman, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen
- ¹³⁸ Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Malta, Morocco, Oman, and West Bank and Gaza
- ¹³⁹ Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria, and Tunisia
- ¹⁴⁰ Based on info from 3 countries.
- ¹⁴¹ Based on data from 39 measures.
- ¹⁴² Based on 17 programs.
- ¹⁴³ Based on 38 measures,
- ¹⁴⁴ Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka
- ¹⁴⁵ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019). Database on Household Size and Composition 2019. The database is accessible on the website of the Population Division: <https://population.un.org/Household/index.html>.
- ¹⁴⁶ France, Italy, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, United Kingdom.
- ¹⁴⁷ N.B: This is different from the methodology used in our previous versions, where one-offs were considered bi-monthly given that the average transfers for the one-off were double that of monthly. In such cases, the one-off transfers were divided by 60 to get the daily rate. But, we no longer use this methodology.
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ABSTRACT

Between September and May, the number of social protection and other related measures announced or implemented in response to inflation rose by a factor of 1.5. The latest tally includes 120 countries across 100 economies. Overall, subsidies claim 40% of such measures and take four main forms: fuel, food, fertilizers, and various fees/subsidies. Social assistance accounts for 30% of responses, of which 60% is provided in the form of cash transfers. Tax measures represent 15% of the global responses, and trade, agriculture, and market policies and social insurance claim a share of 15% each. Based on planned coverage data from 100 economies, social protection programs intend to cover 1 billion people or a quarter of the world's population. But so far, a total coverage shows that 1 billion individuals, or a quarter of the global population, are reached based on data from 100 economies. Next, based on expenditure data from 100 programs across 100 economies, a total of \$1 trillion is being invested in social protection responses. This includes an average country's ending of 10% of GDP. The average size of other social assistance and subsidy transfers represents slightly over a quarter, i.e., 25% of the daily median income, while their average initial duration is 12 months. Almost one-fifth of the responses to inflation have been extended, and the average duration of such extensions is 12 months. Over half of social assistance transfers are non-targeted and are provided on a one-off basis.

ABOUT THIS SERIES

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