

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

**UNCTAD**



EXPERT MEETING ON

# Social Inclusion Programmes and Their Impact on Sustainable and Inclusive Development and Growth



## **Gender in Social Inclusion Programmes**

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# GENDER IN SOCIAL INCLUSION PROGRAMMES

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UNCTAD Expert Meeting on Social Inclusion Programmes  
Geneva, 27-28 November 2014

# Outline

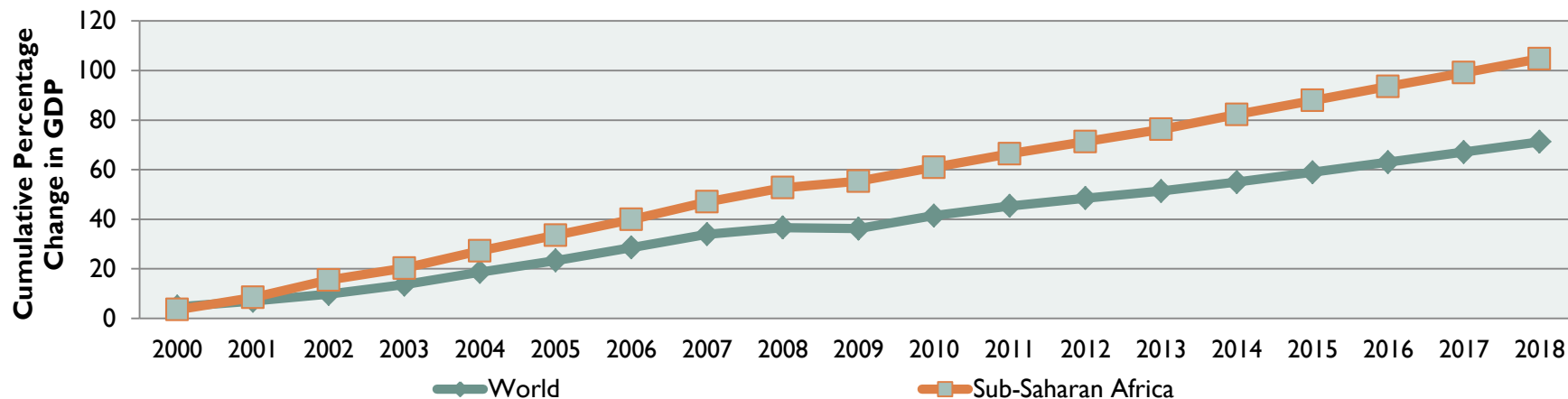
- I. Introduction
- II. The paradox of growth in Africa
  - I. *Key facts on human exclusion*
  - II. *Gender and exclusion in Africa*
- III. How can social protection programmes promote social inclusion of women?
- IV. Policy considerations
  - I. ECA's initiatives for inclusive development

# Introduction

- **Employment generation** as a key plank in the policy agenda on inclusive growth
- **The role of the state**
- Economic growth alone does not promote gender equality
- Extending **regulatory frameworks** for informal-sector workers
- The role of **social protection for women's empowerment**
- Enhancing women's **organizational capacities**

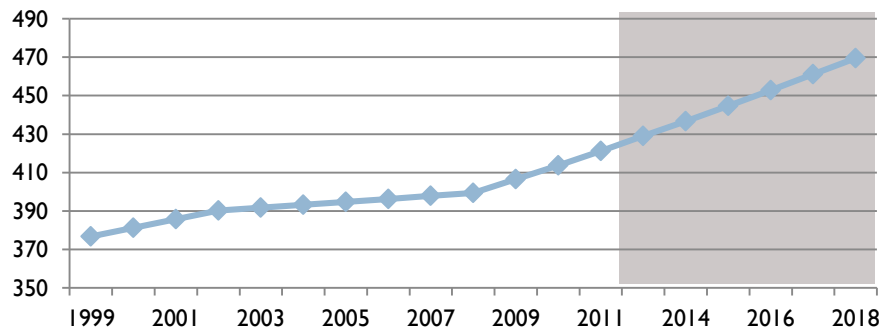
# The Paradox of Growth in Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa is outperforming the world in terms of economic growth

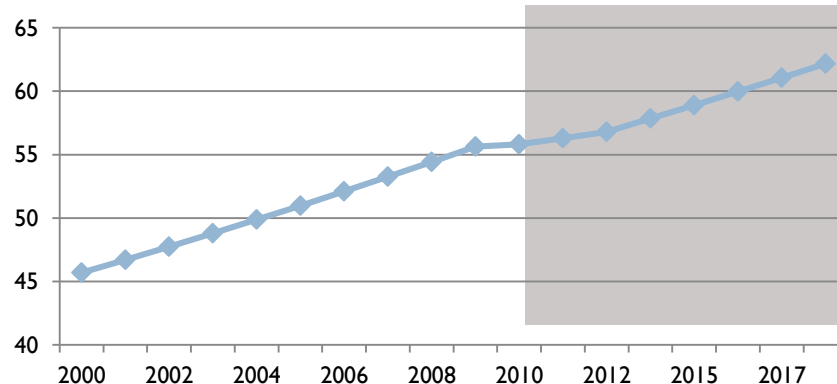


However, Africa is also growing in the number of people living in poverty, hunger and stunted children

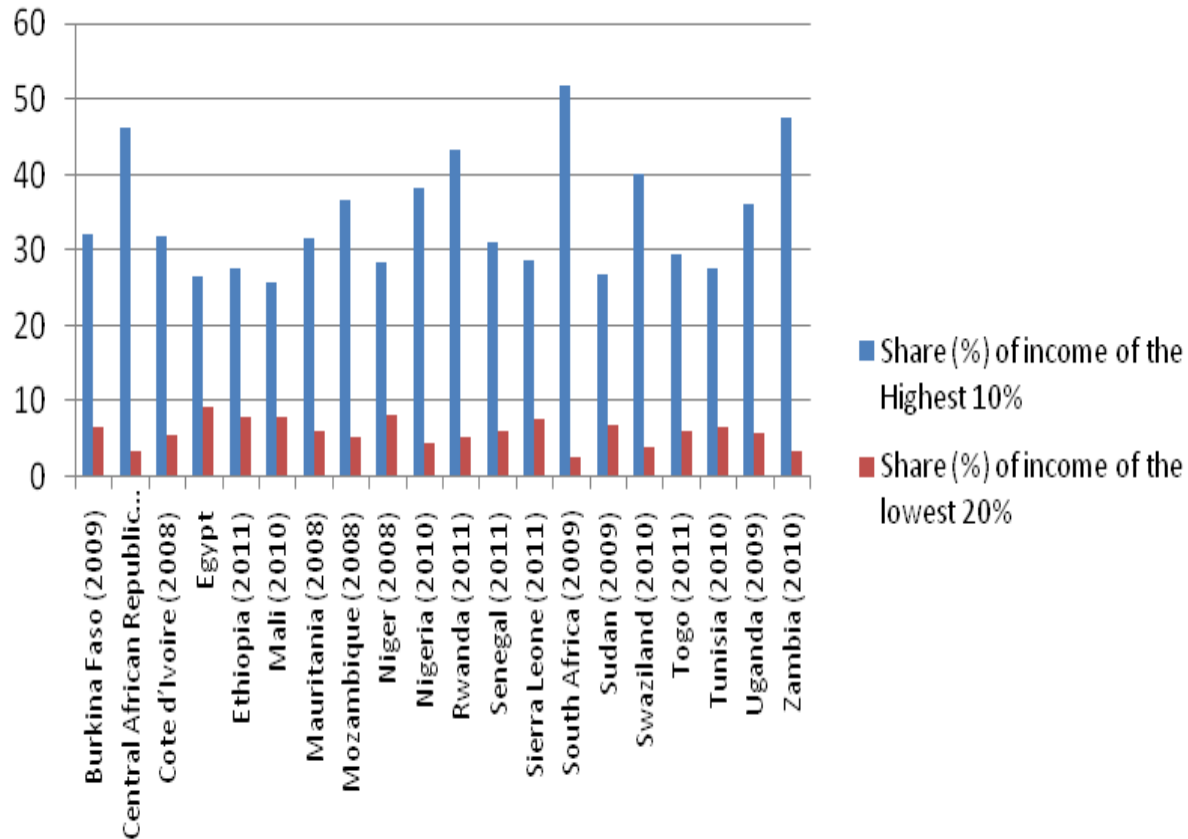
Number of People in Poverty (in million)



Number of Stunted Children (in million)



# Inequalities in Africa are on the rise



*7 of the 10 most unequal societies in the world are in Africa – most of them in Southern Africa*

Affecting social cohesion and stability

Reducing socioeconomic opportunities in life

...and undermining Governments' efforts to reduce poverty and sustain economic growth

# Some key facts on human exclusion

**Child mortality** affects 6.9 million children globally, mostly from preventable diseases. In SSA, 1 in 9 children still die before 5 years - more than 16 times the average of developed countries

2 out of 5 children under five in Africa today are stunted. **Child malnutrition** affects cognitive and physical growth, critically reducing the opportunities for a healthy development

About 133 million young people (more than 50 per cent of the youth population) in Africa are **illiterate** – most of them young women

**Youth unemployment** reached 20 per cent in SSA and 30 per cent in NA in 2012 –triggering social and political instability

In Africa, there is more **poverty** today than in 1990. In 2010, 414 million people were still living on less than \$1.25 a day

In most parts of the world, people live significantly longer than in previous decades. However, trends in **life expectancy** in Africa are still far behind the global average of 76 years

# Features of growth in Africa

- ❑ The capital-intensive nature of growth in Africa is not creating decent job opportunities
- ❑ Low-productivity of labour-intensive sectors (agriculture, manufacturing)
- ❑ Limited contribution of growth to inequality and exclusion/poverty reduction



# Gender and exclusion in Africa

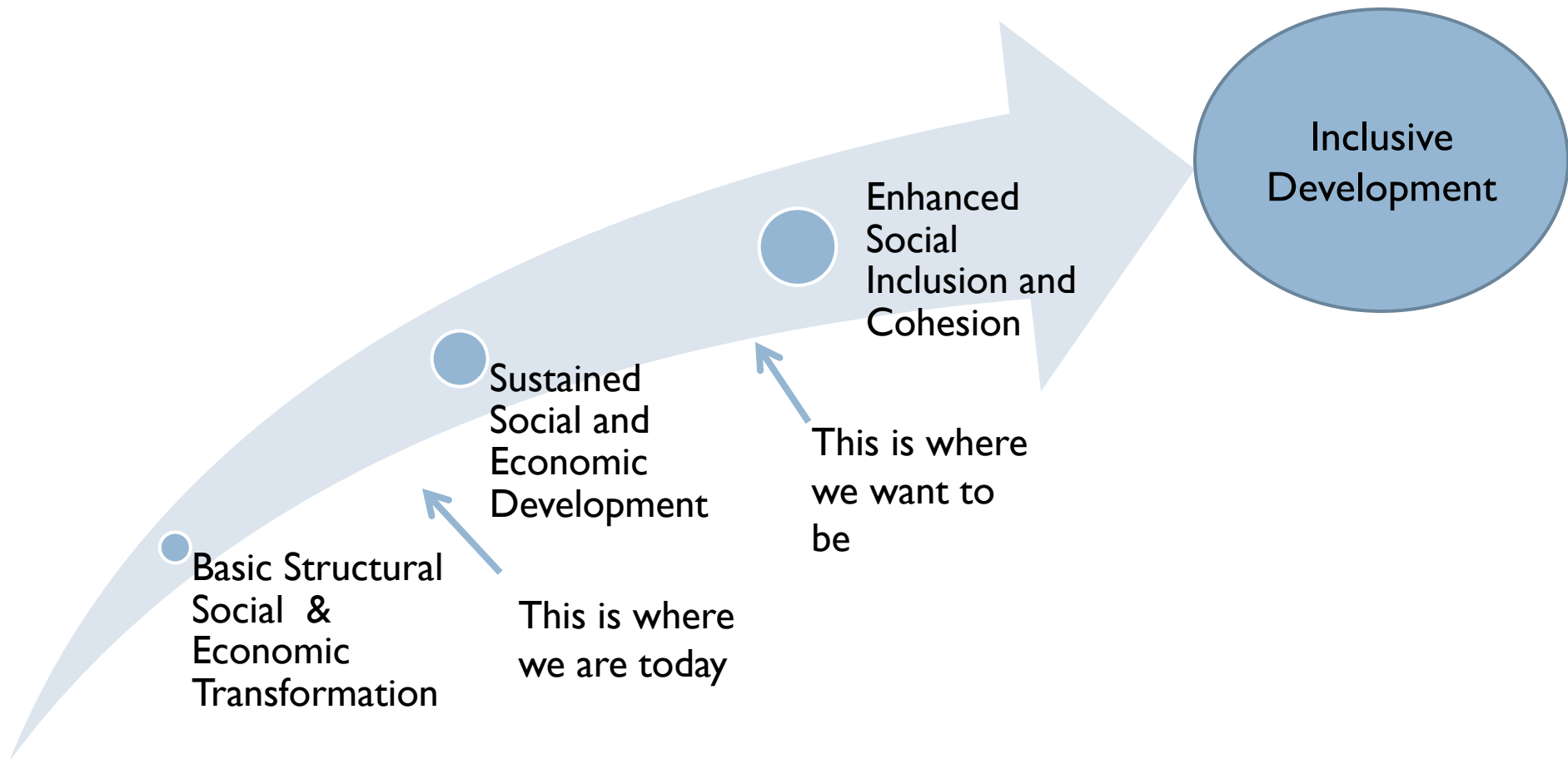
*Women bear the brunt of social exclusion...*

- Women disproportionately represented in informal, low-paid jobs
- Large share of women among the working poor, underemployed and unemployed
- Occupational segregation in the labour market
- Large gender wage gaps
- Increased vulnerability to risks and external shocks
- Limited opportunities for skills' development

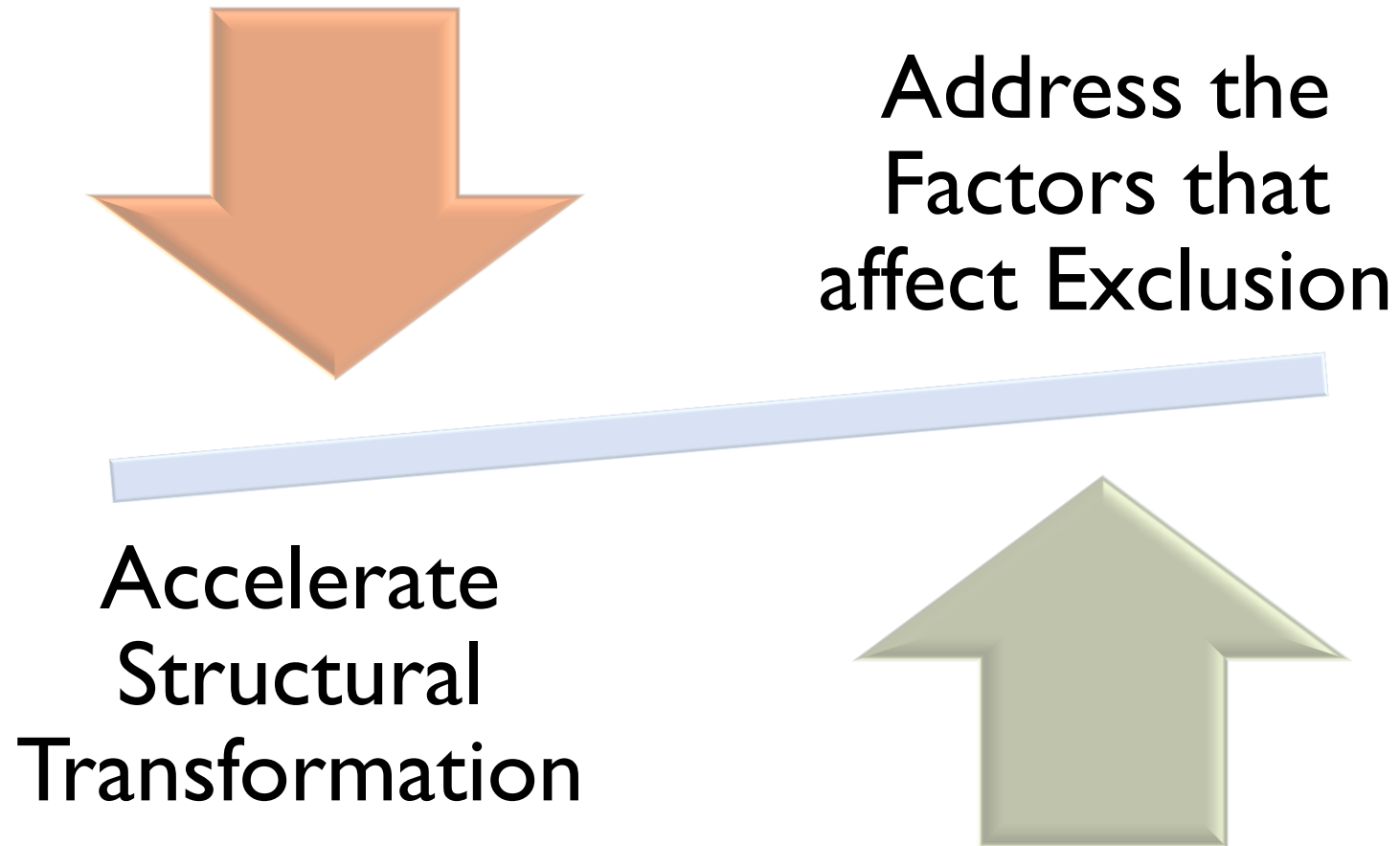
# Inhibiting factors

- Gender-based discrimination / gender biases
- Lower access to public services
- Lack of effective social protection programmes for women
- Lower access to and control over resources
- Lower bargaining power
- Predominant role in the care economy – between production and reproduction
- Traditions, cultural norms

# The Challenge: From **Structural Transformation** to **Inclusive Development**



# A New Paradigm for Inclusive Development



# *How can social protection promote social inclusion of women in Africa?*

## A Transformative approach to social protection

- A powerful tool for social empowerment of women
- Ability to build resilience, generate income and enhance participation of women in development
- The role of non-state/informal actors in providing social protection
- Women as *active agents of change* (rather than passive beneficiaries of social protection)

# Best practices from Africa:

## The crucial role of inclusive policies

- Egyptian CCT programme
- Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP)
- Botswana's Labour-Intensive Rural Public Works Programme
  
- Kenya: The Women Enterprise Fund (WEF) and public procurement for economic inclusion
- Micro-credit programmes for women
- Systems of quotas for political inclusion

# Policy considerations

- Actively promoting **“cultural transformation”**
- Establishing mechanisms to **increase employability** and transition of women from informal to formal sectors
- Promoting specialized **skills development programmes for women and girls** – to increase their productive capacities
- Promoting a **broad-based approach to gender equality**
- **Scaling up systems of quota** and electoral provisions
- Ensuring a **strong and committed political leadership** in the implementation of gender policies

# ECA's initiatives for Inclusive Development



- Cost of Hunger in Africa
- African Social Development Index
- Monitoring Investments in Social Protection
- SPIREWORK



# The African Social Development Index

A tool to **assess the depth of human exclusion** in Africa based the individual's life-cycle

A tool for member States to **monitor, advocate and guide policy making** towards increased inclusion and equity on the continent

# The African Social Development Index (ctd)

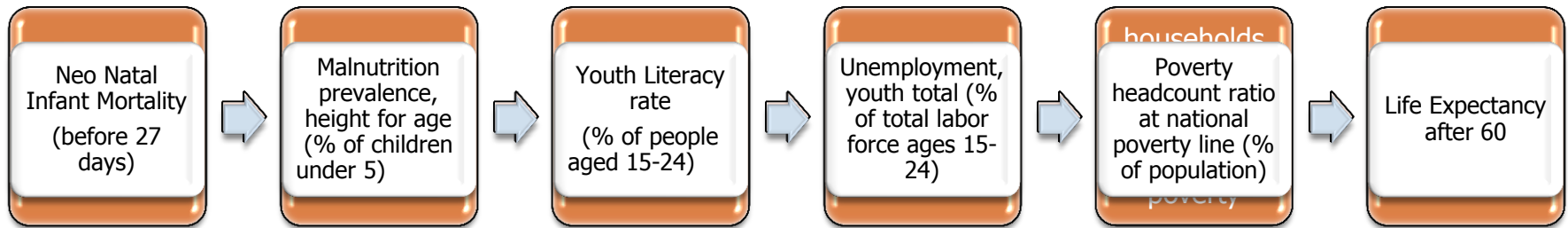
**Address the African-specific challenges of inequality and exclusion** – in line with the post-2015 CAP and AUC Agenda 2063

**Promote a more inclusive and *transformative* social development agenda** on the continent

**Assist M/S in developing more inclusive social policies and social investments** – at national and sub-national levels

**Improve collection, disaggregation and quality of data** – particularly at subnational level

# Six Dimensions of Inclusive Development

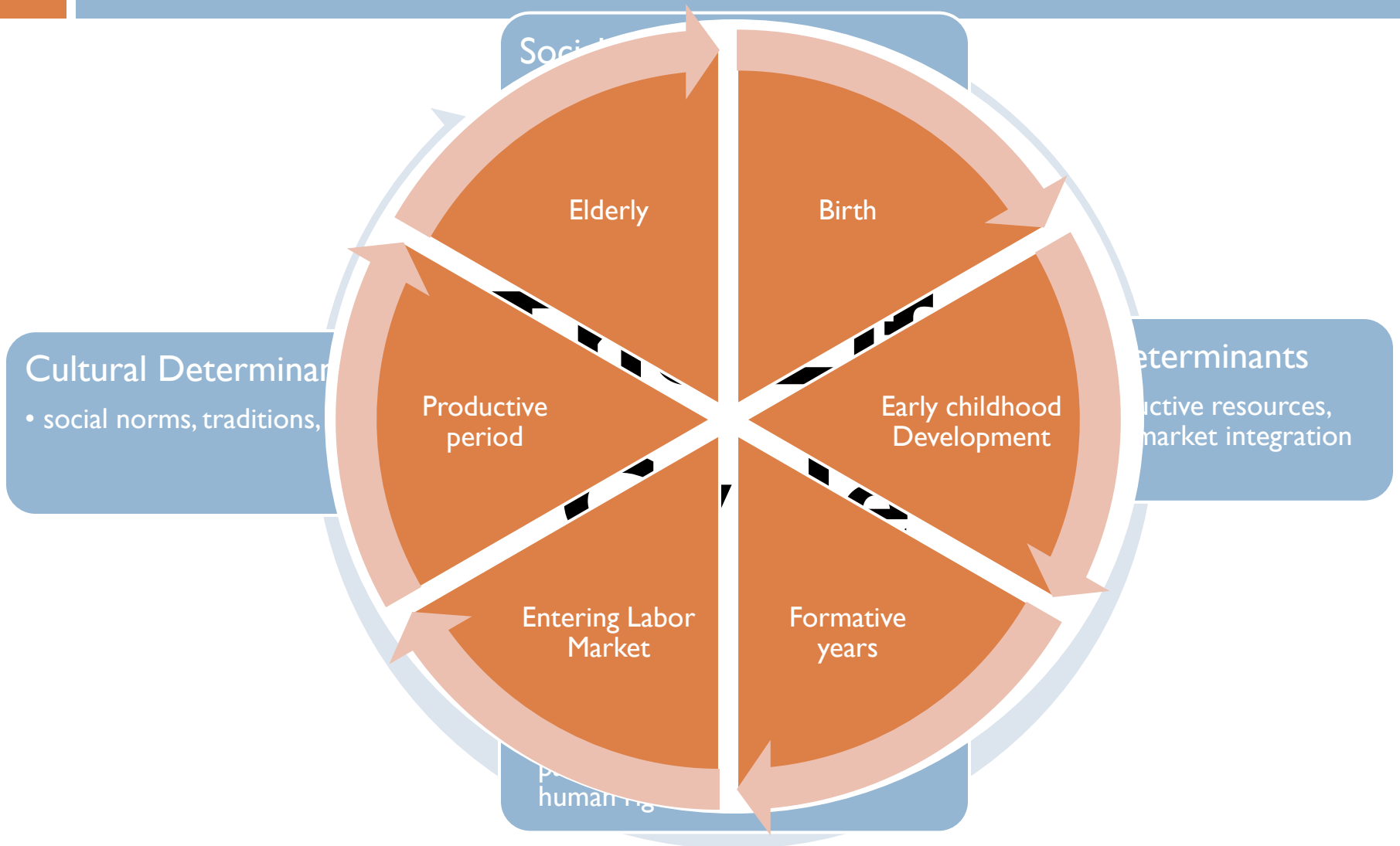


## Six Impact Indicators

# African Social Development Index

## Human Exclusion in Africa

# An Analytical Framework for the ASDI



# A tool for effective policy targeting

