

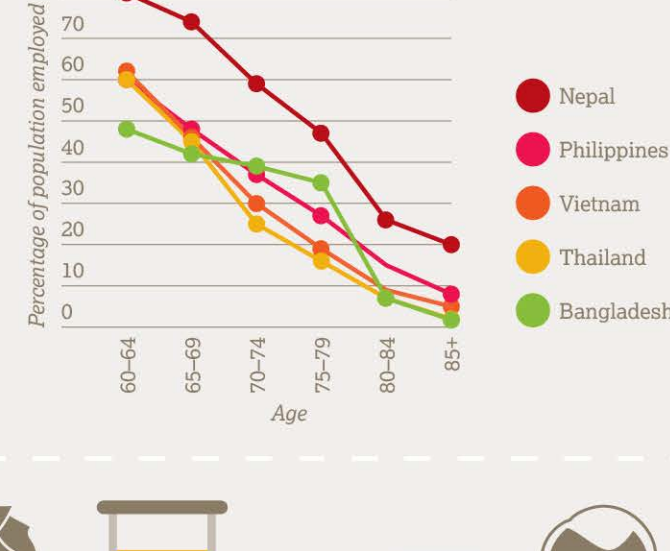
Work, family and social protection:

Old age income security in Bangladesh, Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam

To what extent do people work in old age?

Many people keep working* after age 60 ...

... but levels of employment decrease with age



People typically **reduce** the number of hours they work as they age



Older women are **less likely** to be in **paid** work than older men



The main reasons for lower levels of work are **ill health** and **disability** ...

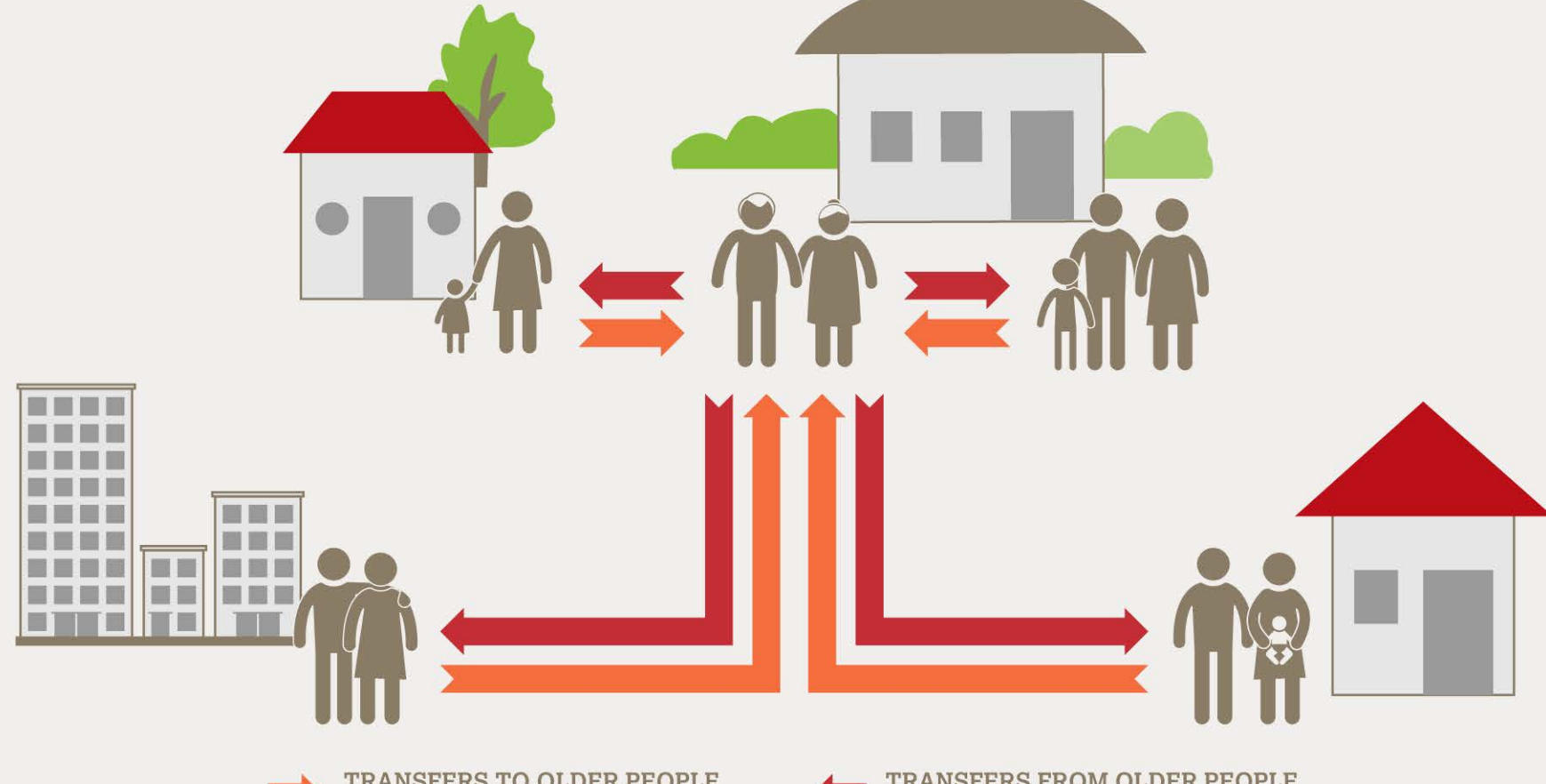


Work in old age is more likely to be **informal** than work at younger ages and more likely to be in agriculture



Families struggle to fill the gap

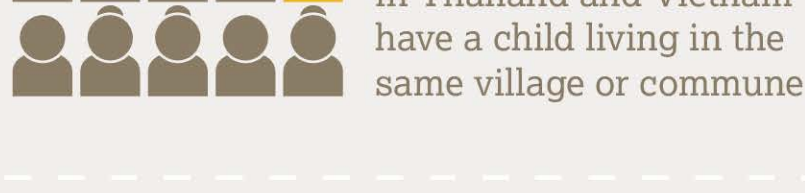
Support from families is diverse, and flows in both directions



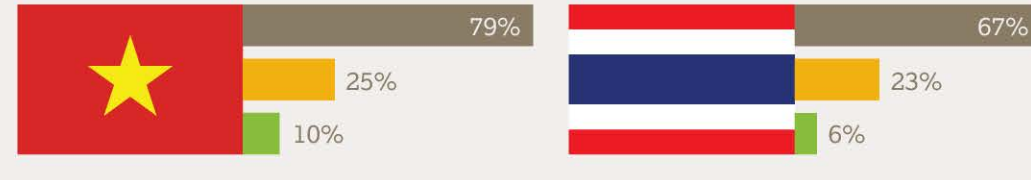
Income from family is common ...

Most older people live with children or grandchildren ...

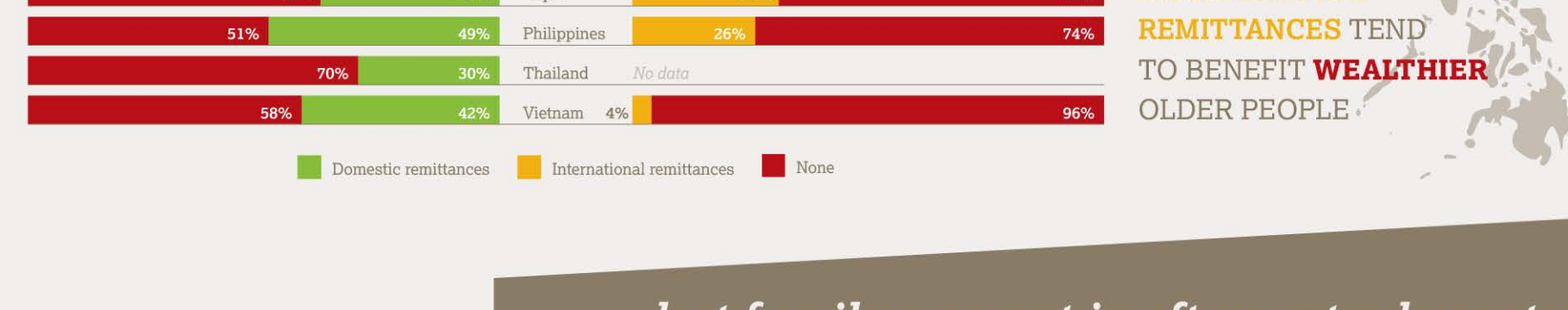
... and many have children living in their community or elsewhere



Most older people **receive at least some income from children**, and spouses can also be an important source of income



Remittances are a **common source of income** for many older people, but a large proportion live in households that don't receive remittances

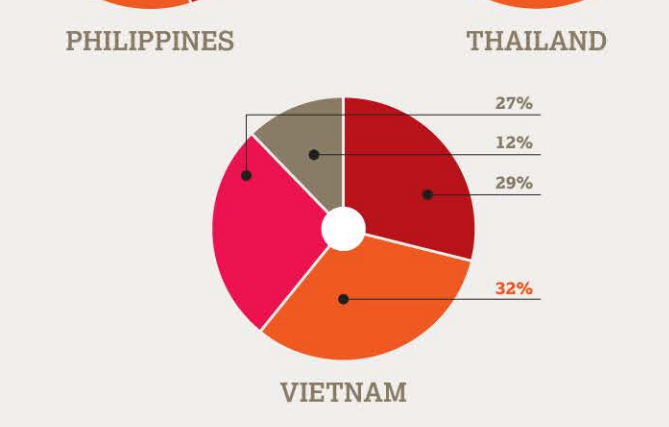


IN THE PHILIPPINES, INTERNATIONAL REMITTANCES TEND TO BENEFIT **WEALTHIER** OLDER PEOPLE

... but family support is often not adequate

For most older people, **children** are not their main source of income

Support from children, who also struggle to make ends meet, is often low

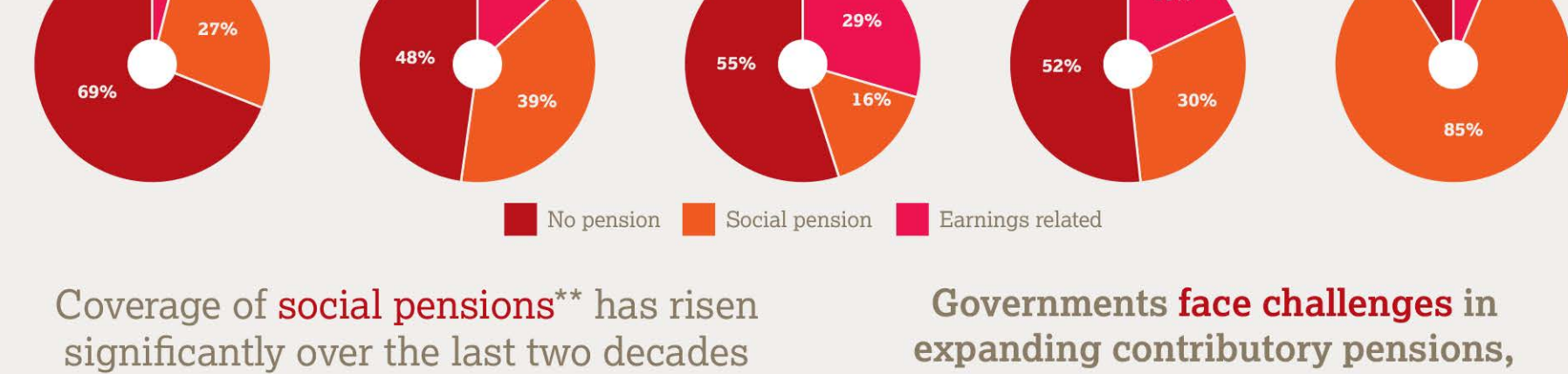


"You cannot really ask help from or rely on any of your children. Sometimes they also do not have enough for themselves."



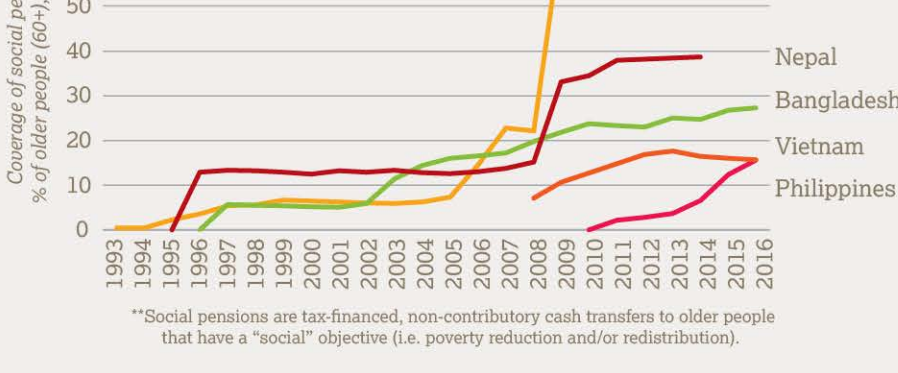
Social protection is growing, but has some way to go

In 4 of the 5 countries, pensions protect only around **HALF OR LESS** of the older population



Coverage of **social pensions**** has risen significantly over the last two decades

Governments **face challenges** in expanding contributory pensions, mainly owing to high levels of **poverty** and **informal** work



Most older persons (60+) receiving earnings-related pensions are wealthier; e.g. in Nepal:



Means-tested social pensions have struggled to reach the poorest older people

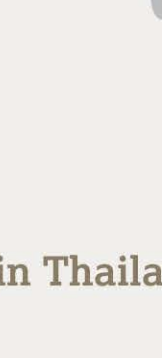
Universal pensions have been more successful

The social pension in Bangladesh is means tested, as was the social pension in Thailand until 2009

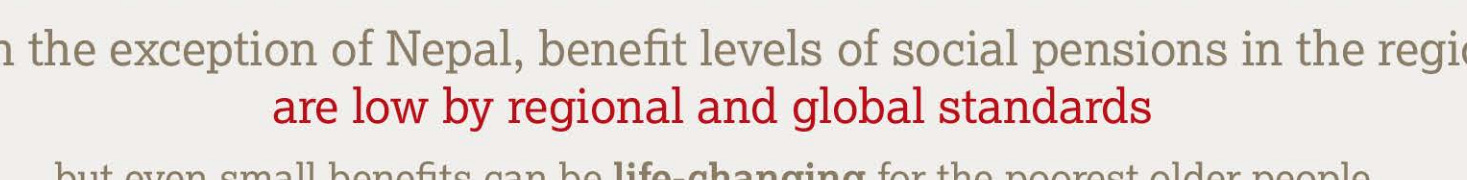
THE NEAR-UNIVERSAL PENSION IN THAILAND

In both cases, **OVER HALF OF INTENDED RECIPIENTS** were found to be erroneously

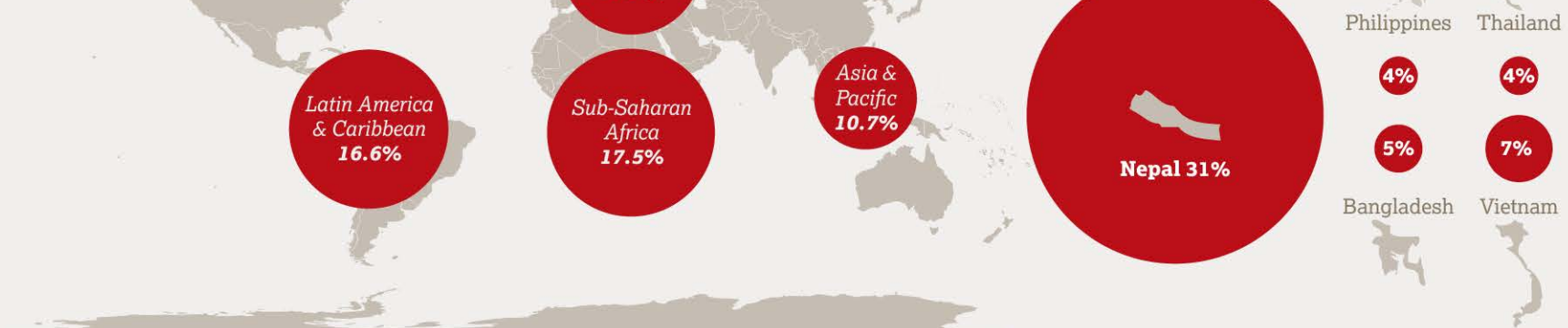
REACHES 96% OF THE POOREST OLDER PEOPLE



Increased coverage of social pensions in Thailand has not led to reduced income from children



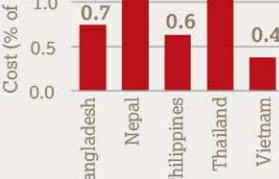
With the exception of Nepal, benefit levels of social pensions in the region are **low** by regional and global standards but even small benefits can be **life-changing** for the poorest older people



THE BENEFIT LEVEL IN NEPAL IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD (RELATIVE TO GDP PER CAPITA)

Spending on these social pensions is currently a **LOW OR MODEST** proportion of total government expenditure

Expanding coverage and adequacy of social pensions can be done in a way that is **AFFORDABLE** today, and **SUSTAINABLE** into the future



Some of the biggest sustainability issues relate to earnings-related pensions

Most countries spend **SIGNIFICANTLY MORE** ON TAX-FINANCED SCHEMES FOR **PUBLIC SERVANTS** than on social pensions for the general public

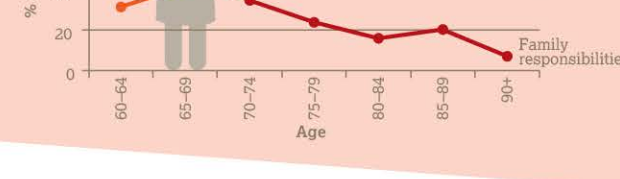


Some important gender dynamics

As women get older, ill health increasingly surpasses family duties as the main reason for being out of the labour force

WIDHOOD MEANS WOMEN ARE LESS LIKELY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM SPOUSES

FEWER women receive contributory pensions than men ...



... but **MORE** receive social pensions



Download the full report now

