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- Protecting the poor from social risks, in particular in health, is a big challenge
  - For individuals: essential needs and human right
  - For the states: public goods
  - For the international community: global public goods
- Universal coverage of a minimum package of essential services is a necessity
- Big financial constraints for all actors
- How to combine a minimum of protection to everyone with limited resources
- Obligation to find innovative systems, realistic and as efficient as possible and based on a pertinent and reasonable package of essential services



- Various actors:
  - Individuals
  - States
  - Social security institutions
  - Private insurers
  - Private non profit insurers: mutual, cooperatives...
  - CBOs, NGOs,
  - Private sector...
- Various mechanisms:
  - Universal benefits systems
  - Social assistance: targeted social transfers conditional or not
  - Social insurance: mandatory
  - Voluntary insurance
  - Informal micro-insurance,...



- They have all different characteristics, advantages and disadvantages
- None of them is in a position to solve the problem alone
- No panacea
- There are potential complementarities, synergies and subsidiarities
- Emerging innovative approaches in different countries combining in a coherent mix different actors and mechanisms are showing impressive results
- They show that it is possible and realistic to reach universal coverage in developing countries
- The New concept of « linkages » seems promising and needs more research and experimentation