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Abstract submission

**Giants old and new:
Promoting social security and economic growth
in the Asia and Pacific Region**

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The Asia and Pacific region is characterised by vast diversity and yet warrants distinct attention. There have been great achievements in recent years in promoting economic growth, building social security and reducing poverty but giant challenges remain, nine of which are identified. Five resemble problems prevalent in Europe 60 years ago: want; squalor; underemployment; poor education; and bad health. The four others, inequitable growth, discrimination, corruption and an aging demography, lessen the effectiveness of policies targeted on the other five. A four fold responsive strategy is sketched that includes mechanisms to extend the formal employment sector, expand coverage of social security within the formal sector and to the informal sector, and to establish and sustain social safety nets for those otherwise excluded from social protection..

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