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His interests encompass the empirics and practice of social protection from high-income countries to fragile states. With a PhD in economics, he has published extensively on social assistance, including recent books such as *Exploring Universal Basic Income (2020)*, *Adaptive Social Protection (2020)*, and the *1.5 Billion People Question (2017)*, as well as several flagship reports (e.g., *World Development Report 2019* and is the co-inventor of the *State of Social Safety Nets in World* series). Before joining the World Bank in 2013, he served at the UN World Food Programme (2002-2012) where he supported the organization's policy and operational transition to cash-based transfers. Since 2016, he produces a weekly newsletter on social protection reaching thousands of subscribers (ugogentilini.net).