GAPS AND SUCCESSES IN SOCIAL PROTECTION PROVISION IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF AFRICA

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STRUCTURE OF THE PRESENTATION

Part I

THE CONCEPT OF SOCIAL PROTECTION IN SSA

Part II:

THE 3 CAUSES OF POVERTY AND VULNERABILITY IN SSA

Part III:

SOCIAL PROTECTION INTERVENTIONS
According to the ILO,

1) Only 27% of the global population enjoy access to comprehensive social security systems.

2) Whereas 73% are either covered partially or not at all.

3) In countries of sub-Saharan Africa 90% of the population is not covered under any social security scheme.

4) The ILO estimates further that ‘about 84%’ of the labour force is excluded.

5) Many of those who are covered receive benefits that fall short of their basic needs.

6) Basic health care remains out of reach for most Africans who live in poverty.
Part I

THE CONCEPT OF SOCIAL PROTECTION IN SSA
“Social protection refers to policies and practices that **protect and promote the livelihoods** and welfare of people suffering from critical levels of **poverty and deprivation** and/or vulnerable to risks and shocks.”

**Zambia** – Fifth National Development Plan (2006)

“Social Protection in Kenya is defined as: policies and actions aimed at enhancing the capacity of the **poor and vulnerable** to better manage their livelihoods and welfare.”

**Kenya** – National Social Protection Strategy [draft} (2009)

“Social Protection: Policies and practices that protect and promote the livelihoods and welfare of the **poorest and most vulnerable** people and cushion the livelihoods of poor people vulnerable to risks and shocks.”

"Poverty is not an accident. Like Slavery and Apartheid, it is man-made and can be removed by actions of human beings"

"Overcoming Poverty is not a task of charity, it is an act of justice"

Nelson Mandela
Part II:

MAIN CAUSES OF POVERTY AND VULNERABILITY IN SSA
Poverty and Vulnerability in Africa: What are the causes?

1. Food Insecurity

Figure 1. Prevalence of under-nourishment in Africa, 2007

Source: FAO 2008: Food Security Statistics
2. HIV & AIDS

Figure 2. Global adult (15–49) HIV prevalence rates, 2007

- Latin America: 0.5
- Caribbean: 1.1
- North Africa and Middle East: 0.3
- Eastern Europe and Central Asia: 0.8
- South and Southeast Asia: 0.3
- Oceania: 0.4
- East Asia: 0.1
- Sub-Saharan Africa: 5
- Global: 0.8

Source: UNAIDS (2008)²
2. HIV & AIDS

Figure 3. Numbers of people living with HIV/AIDS globally and in sub-Saharan Africa

- People living with HIV/AIDS: Global 33.0, Sub-Saharan Africa
- Adults (15+) living with HIV: Global 22.0, Sub-Saharan Africa
- Women (15+) living with HIV: Global 20.3, Sub-Saharan Africa
- Living orphans (0-17) due to AIDS: Global 8.0, Sub-Saharan Africa
- Children (0-14) living with HIV: Global 6.5, Sub-Saharan Africa

Source: UNAIDS (2008)
3. **Conflicts**

- Between 1980 and 2000, as many as 28 Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa went to war, either with their neighbors or internally (Ford Foundation report, 2009)
  - Southern Africa (Angola, Mozambique)
  - Central Africa (DRC)
  - West Africa (Liberia, Sierra Leone)
  - East Africa (Somalia, Sudan)

- Conflict results into several socio-economic challenges including
  - Disruption of production & trade
  - Displacement of millions of people
  - Disability and death
Part III:

SOCIAL PROTECTION INTERVENTIONS
1. **Before Working Age**

- Countries take several efforts to reduce child mortality rates in accordance with their national policies & MDGs
  - Free health care for children of a defined age
  - Eg. Beyond Zero Campaign in Kenya
  - Maternity benefits by Contributory Programs
- Provision of free primary education in Tanzania and other countries in the region
- Cash transfers and school feeding programs also exist in some countries eg. South Africa
2. **During Working Age**

ACTIVE CONTRIBUTORS TO A PENSION SCHEME IN THE WORKING AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Developing Countries of Africa</th>
<th>Developed Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>S/N</strong></td>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Angola</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Congo</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Swaziland</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: ILO, 2015
Some Challenges in the SSA

- Size of the informal sector & Institutional designs that limit coverage to the informal sector

- Public Confidence in Social Security Schemes

- Withdrawals

- Migrant workers and absence of portability mechanisms

- Inadequacy of benefits in retirement
3. After Working Years/Old age

- Social Pensions are vibrant in developing Countries eg. SA, Lesotho, Kenya, Zanzibar, Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia.....
- Provision of free medical services and free transport eg. Tz, Mauritius
- Sustainability and scaling-up of these programs remains a key concern
### 3. After Working Years....

Table 1. Selected social transfer programmes in Africa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Agencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>Old Age Pension (OAP)</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Destitutes Support</td>
<td>Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP)</td>
<td>Government + donors</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Meket Livelihood Development Project</td>
<td>NGO (Save the Children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)</td>
<td>Government + donors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP)</td>
<td>Government + donors</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cash Transfers for Vulnerable Children</td>
<td>Government + donors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesotho</td>
<td>Cash &amp; Food Transfers Pilot Project (CFTPP)</td>
<td>NGO (World Vision)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Old Age Pension (OAP)</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>Food &amp; Cash Transfers project (FACT)</td>
<td>NGO ( Concern Worldwide)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dowa Emergency Cash Transfers (DECT)</td>
<td>NGO ( Concern Worldwide)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Cash Transfer Pilot Scheme</td>
<td>Government + donors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>‘Food Subsidy Programme’ (PSA)</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>National Pension Scheme (NPS)</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Disability Grant</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Child Support Grant</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Old Age Pension</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Disability Grant</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swaziland</td>
<td>Emergency Drought Response (EDR)</td>
<td>NGO (Save the Children)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Old Age Grant (OAG)</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>Social Cash Transfer Pilot Project (5 districts)</td>
<td>Government + donors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Welfare Assistance Scheme (PWAS)</td>
<td>Government</td>
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</table>
A Few Concluding Points

- Despite efforts made in the recent past, Social Protection remain out of reach to majority in developing countries of Africa

- Collectively professional Associations, Activists, members of academia and Policy Makers need to come up with Social Protection agenda for Africa through progressive realization

- Affordability will never be a good excuse for doing nothing!!
“Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer. Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future”

John F. Kennedy
Thank You For Your Kind Attention!

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