Scoping Social Protection

Daniel Kumitz
daniel.kumitz@fes-zambia.org
Programme Manager, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Zambia

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Defining Social Protection

- Ferreira and Robalino (2010):
  - “Together, social assistance and social insurance make up a country’s social protection system”.
- But what is social assistance and social insurance?
So many concepts

- Social Protection
- Social Security
- Social Insurance
- Social Assistance
- Social Inclusion
- Poverty Reduction
- Social Policy
- Social Justice
Narrow vs. Broad

Barrientos et al. (2005)
“one can identify a contest between two different visions of social protection. One is a narrow vision: social protection is a means of providing short-term assistance to individuals and households to cope with shocks [...]. The other is a broader vision that sees social protection as having both short-term and long-term roles in poverty reduction.”
World Bank Social Risk Management (2000)

• SP as public interventions to (i) assist individuals, households, and communities to better manage risk, and (ii) provide support to the critically poor
• Present SP as a safety-net as well as a springboard for the poor.
• View SP not as a cost, but rather, as one type of investment.
• Focus less on the symptoms and more on the causes of poverty
Transformative SP

Sabates-Wheeler and Devereux (2007)

“A transformative approach [goes] beyond targeted [...] transfers that address chronic poverty and livelihood threats. [It] must address the social justice that arises from structural inequalities and abuses of power, and transformative social protection must aim to achieve empowerment, equity and the realisation of economic social and cultural rights.”
Social Protection Cycles

Guhan, 1994
- protection
- prevention
- promotion

World Bank, SRM
- prevention
- mitigation
- coping

Sabates-Wheeler and Devereux, 2007
- provision
- preventive
- transformative
- promotive

Source:
- Brunori & Reilly 2010
SADC Code on Social Security (2007) 1/2

• Social protection is broader than social security. It encompasses social security and social services, as well as developmental social welfare.
• Protect individuals against life-cycle crises
• Enhance human welfare.
SADC Code on Social Security (2007) 2/2

• Social Security, protects individuals and families against income insecurity caused by contingencies
  – Unemployment
  – employment injury
  – Maternity
  – Sickness
  – Invalidity
  – old age
  – death.

• objectives of social security
  – (a) to maintain income,
  – (b) to provide health care, and
  – (c) to provide benefits to families.
ILO Rec. 202: Social Protection Floor 1/3

• Countries should establish as quickly as possible social protection floors
• These comprise basic social security guarantees over the life-cycle.
  – access to essential health care
  – basic income security for children
  – basic income security when unemployed
  – basic income security in old age and for PWDs
ILO Rec. 202: Social Protection Floor 1/3

- Countries should scale up from the floor and include
  - child and family benefits
  - sickness and health-care benefits
  - maternity benefits
  - disability benefits
  - old-age benefits
  - survivors’ benefits (orphans and widows/widowers)
  - unemployment benefits and employment guarantees
  - employment injury benefits
- in cash or in kind.
- Schemes may be
  - universal benefit schemes,
  - social insurance schemes,
  - social assistance schemes,
  - negative income tax schemes,
  - public employment schemes
  - employment support schemes.
ILO Rec. 202: Social Protection Floor 3/3

• Social Protection should
  – combine preventive, promotional and active measures, benefits and social services
  – promote productive economic activity and formal employment
  – ensure coordination with other policies

• Part of Decent Work Framework
Social Protection Staircase

**Voluntary insurance**

Mandatory social insurance/social security benefits of guaranteed levels for contributors

**THE FLOOR:**

Four essential guarantees

1. Access to essential health care for all
2. Income security Children
3. Assistance Unemployed, underemployed & poor
4. Income security Elderly & disabled

Level of protection:

- **Low**
- **High**

Individual/household income:

- **Low**
- **High**

- Social Protection includes social security measures and furthering income security
- Strong developmental focus, such as job creation, health services, social welfare, quality education etc.
- Social protection has multiple beneficial impacts on national economies
- Essential to build human capital
- Breaks the intergenerational poverty cycle
- Reduces the growing inequalities that constrain Africa’s economic and social development.

- **Minimum Package** of essential social protection should cover:
  - essential health care
  - benefits for children,
  - benefits for informal workers
  - benefits for the unemployed
  - benefits for older persons
  - benefits for persons with disabilities.

- Minimum package helps **poverty alleviation, living standards, reduction of inequalities and promotion of economic growth**

- Has been shown to be **affordable**, even in low-income countries, within existing resources, if properly managed.
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• Economic Growth
• Human Rights
• Poverty Reduction
• Food Security
• Human Capital
• Decent Work
• Decent Life
• Empowerment
Social Protection – Why? 2/3

• Nature of Social Protection
  – Is Social Protection an emergency response?
  – Is it a prevention programme?
  – Is it an economic growth model?
  – Is it all three?

• Why engage in Social Protection?
  – Is Social Protection a Human Right and are citizens rights-holders and states duty-bearers?
  – Is Social Protection the economically smart answer to poverty?
  – Is Social Protection a means of charity which is the right thing to do?
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- Contributory vs. Non-Contributory
- Universal vs. Targeted
- Insurance vs. Basic Income/Benefits vs. Free Services
- Tax-funded, donor-funded, levee-funded
- Formal vs. Informal economy
Social Protection – How? 2/3

- In-kind vs. Cash
- Direct vs. Indirect
- Transfers vs. Standards/Rights
- Input Oriented vs. Output Oriented
  (Subsidies vs. Social Markets)

• **Rights based**
  - Need to deliver to the letter.
  - Benefits defined by rights.
  - Inclusion Error
  - Recipients are “Citizens”
  - Social Assistance: Categorical or Universal
  - Social Insurance public mandate

• **Needs based**
  - Need to deliver what is acutely needed.
  - Needs defined by government
  - Exclusion Error
  - Recipients are “Beneficiaries”
  - Social Assistance: Means-tested and Targeted
Thank you for your kind attention