



Newsletter 34: March 2016

Welcome to the thirty fourth issue of the [Centre for Social Protection](#) Newsletter. The CSP is a global network of academics, policy-makers, NGOs and others who are working together to mainstream social protection in development policy and build social protection systems and instruments throughout the developing world that are national, comprehensive, long-term, sustainable, and benefit the poor.

'TALKING POINT'

Strengthening coherence between social protection and agriculture

There is growing acknowledgement that social protection and agricultural interventions can be meaningfully combined for reducing poverty in rural areas. This occurs by facilitating productive inclusion, improving risk-management capacities, and increasing agricultural productivity. Recent policy declarations at global and regional levels emphasize that together agriculture and social protection can play an important role in tackling poverty and hunger. For example, the 39th Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) urged member states to strengthen coordination between agriculture and social protection (CFS, 2012). Several African policy initiatives and declarations explicitly call for stronger coordination between the two spheres, such as the 2003 Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and the 2014 Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods.

Efforts to strengthen links between agriculture and social protection policies are also taking place at national levels: Ethiopia's Food Security Program directly combines productive safety nets with agricultural support delivered to smallholders as a means of combatting chronic food insecurity in rural areas; the Government of Malawi is beginning to strengthen coordination between the Farm Input Subsidy Programme and the Public Works Programme for sustainable livelihoods and household food security. Similar pursuits are being undertaken in Asian and Latin American countries.

As acknowledgement of the importance of multi-sectoral and systems approaches to the design and delivery of social protection becomes increasingly more common, we are witnessing a real effort by donors and national government to draw out what this means in practice. Analysis of linkages and possible contractions between social protection interventions and agricultural interventions is an area of work that IDS (through the CSP and FAC) have been preoccupied with for some years (<http://www.future-agricultures.org/research/growth-and-social-protection>; <http://www.future-agricultures.org/publications/research-and-analysis/23-promoting-agriculture-for-social-protection-or-social-protection-for-agriculture/file>).

In order to support efforts aimed at combatting poverty and hunger the FAO, together with co-authors at the CSP, have developed (and just launched) guidance material for strengthening coherence between social protection and agriculture, specifically in relation to sub-Saharan Africa. This includes a [Framework for Analysis and Action](#) (FAA) and a [Diagnostic Tool](#).

Case studies reviewed in the Framework show that at policy and local levels interaction between agricultural and social protection policies and programmes is not always sought after, even when these have similar aims and stakeholders. Key challenges to coordination stem from inadequate policy prioritisation of smallholder agriculture; a limited vision of what programmatic coherence would look like; and a lack of incentives, resources and capacities to engage in meaningful cross-sectoral coordination. Based on a theory of change and drawing upon a range of pertinent evidence, the Framework highlights the potential of bringing together agriculture and social protection in different contexts, and identifies options for doing this at policy and programming levels.

The Diagnostic Tool assists users in identifying existing linkages between agriculture and social protection interventions in a given country and how to strengthen them. The Tool can also be used to help understand people's experiences and perceptions of the linkages between the two sectors and how these linkages (or lack of them) affect their livelihoods.

It is hoped that the Framework and the Tool will be useful for Government officials, development partners and civil society organisations who play an active role in improving the welfare of poor family farmers by supporting the design and implementation of policies, programmes and advocacy activities.

SOCIAL PROTECTION NEWS AND EVENTS:

NEWS AND OPINION

Building social protection floors for all

The ILO has just launched its Global Flagship Programme for social protection. Launched in 2016, the ILO's Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All will contribute to the implementation of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), and the achievement of several Sustainable Development Goals. Read more: <http://www.social-protection.org/gimi/gess/ShowProject.action?lang=EN&id=3000>

CROP International Studies in Poverty Prize 2015

The CROP Prize is awarded annually to outstanding monograph proposals contributing to research on global poverty eradication or prevention. The winner of the 2015 Prize is Dr. Andrew M. Fischer, Associate Professor of Social Policy and Development Studies at the Institute of Social Studies (ISS) in The Hague, Erasmus University of Rotterdam, The Netherlands. In his winning submission, *Poverty as Ideology: Rescuing Social Justice from Global Development Agendas and the Poverty Industry*, Fischer aims to examine how the ways we conceive and measure poverty instil propensities towards ideologically formed views of poverty and anti-poverty policies.

Social Protection to End Extreme Poverty in Cambodia

This blog post by Ippei Tsuruga and Yumiko Locussol considers the role of social protection in the achievement of the SDGs in Cambodia.

EVENTS

Recent:

Seventh meeting of the Social Protection Inter-agency Cooperation Board

November 2015, New York

The Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board is a light, lean and agile inter-agency coordination mechanism—composed of representatives of international organizations and bilateral institutions—to enhance global coordination and advocacy on social protection issues and to coordinate international cooperation in country demand-driven actions.

Forthcoming:

18th Microcredit Summit: Frontier Innovations in Financial Inclusion

March 14 -17 2016, Abu Dhabi

The 18th Microcredit Summit is a gathering for global policy makers and microfinance experts to explore how they can capitalize on the natural synergies between different sectors to contribute to the success of the Universal Financial Access 2020 goal, the World Bank 2030 goals, and the U.N. Global Goals. Professionals from across the financial services spectrum have a role to play in improving access to financial tools and systems, and the Summit provides a global forum to share best practice and discuss new techniques that improve people's lives through enhanced opportunity and financial and social inclusion. It is a critical catalyst to the formation of new and effective financial policies and ways of working.

Webinar on Kenya's soon-to-be-launched Single Registry

Tuesday March 29 at 12.00 London time (14.00 Nairobi time)

This webinar is supported by DFAT, Oxford Policy Management and Development Pathways, and hosted by socialprotection.org. Details on registration are available [here](#).

CSP - Save the Children seminar 'Child-Sensitive Social Protection in South Asia'

Tuesday 5 April at 12.30 London time, IDS, Brighton

During this seminar, Keetie Roelen from CSP at IDS and Disa Sjöblom from Save the Children Finland will discuss work on child-sensitive social protection in South Asia, including a study on the child-sensitivity of government-implemented social protection programmes in Nepal and experiences with Save the Children's Child-Sensitive Social Protection (CSSP) programming in Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

IDS 50th Anniversary Conference States, Markets and Society

Tuesday 5 July 2016 - Wednesday 6 July

The Centre for Social Protection (CSP) will host a panel discussion 'Social protection: whose responsibility?', exploring the polarised discourse around social protection provision, as governments in 'developing' countries are being supported by 'developed' countries to set up national social protection systems, while at the same time these 'developed' country governments are shifting responsibility for securing livelihoods from the public sphere onto citizens - into the private sector and 'third sector' actors. Who is responsible for social protection - states, markets or society? - is a question that has global resonance, and this topic offers a rare opportunity to debate social policy and development policy trajectories on a common platform

Social protection systems - tying the knots: Call for papers International Symposium

September 5-6, 2016, Bonn, Germany

The department of Social Security Studies from the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences together with the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation, GIZ, the German Development Institute, and the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance are convening an international symposium on "Social protection systems - tying the knots". The symposium is meant to provide a platform for practitioners, academics, policy-makers, and experts from public and private entities, who have a special interest in (i) designing and reforming social protection systems, (ii) getting an update about best-practice and the latest research findings, and (iii) having an opportunity to network and discuss their own experiences.

Deadline for submitting abstracts on the research themes of system variation, system creation and system analysis is May 31, 2016. Contact info@ma-socialprotection.de for further information about the symposium and the call for papers.

SHORT COURSES

Forthcoming:

Centre for Social Protection short course 'Social Protection: policies, programmes and evidence'

IDS Brighton UK, 27-30 June 2016

The Centre for Social Protection (CSP) is pleased to offer a third round of our short course 'Social Protection: policies, programmes and evidence'. This 4-day course focuses on getting you up to speed with current knowledge, evidence and practice of social protection. It offers a unique opportunity for those already working on social protection or who will be working in the field in the future to broaden their knowledge base and gain critical insight into the most recent thinking about social protection. Applications are now closed but if you are interested in being informed about future courses please contact us at CSPcourse@ids.ac.uk

Designing and Implementing Social Transfer Programmes

Chiang Mai, Thailand, 3 October - 14 October 2016

The Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI) and HelpAge International, together with the UNU-MERIT/Maastricht Graduate School of Governance, are offering a two-week course including a number of specialised modules aimed at providing participants with an in-depth understanding of the conceptual and practical issues involved in the development of social transfer programmes. The Ageing and Social Pensions module, offered by HelpAge International will focus on how social protection systems will adapt to an ageing population in the world. The module equips participants with knowledge on the design, implementation and financial costs of both social (non-contributory) and contributory pensions.

OPPORTUNITIES

Consultant for Research on Social Protection and Access to Health in Old Age

HelpAge International is seeking a consultant to undertake desk based research and field work on the links between social protection and health services in four countries: Ethiopia, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Junior Researcher (internship/volunteer)

Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre is looking for a junior researcher to work with them on their adaptive social protection work program. They are looking for a candidate/s to help in the generation and dissemination of knowledge and consolidation of evidence, as well as the development of innovative tools and approaches for learning, design and evaluation in this area.

NEW PUBLICATIONS:

Social Protection and Safety Nets in the Middle East and North Africa

IDS Research Report 80, February 2016, Stephen Devereux

Countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region face a number of challenges, including ongoing civil unrest with associated displacement of people and disruption of services, stagnant economic growth and high unemployment, food insecurity and rising malnutrition, exacerbated by import dependence and natural disasters. Safety nets and broader social protection instruments offer partial solutions to some of these challenges.

Despite the pervasive political instability in this region, especially since the Arab Spring, social protection systems must be established that deliver predictable and reliable social assistance to those who need it, and the 'subsidy dividend' should be invested in expanded, flexible and more cost-effective safety nets. Social protection can and should make a more substantial contribution to reducing poverty and achieving food and nutrition security in all MENA countries.

Social Protection for Rural Poverty Reduction

FAO Rural Transformation - Technical Papers Series #1 2015, Stephen Devereux

This paper reviews the major conceptual frameworks and analytical frameworks for applying social protection in rural and agricultural contexts. The paper

reviews the evidence base on the impacts of social protection on agricultural production and rural poverty reduction, and presents a consolidated conceptual framework that illustrates how social protection can contribute to food security and rural development.

Strengthening coherence between agriculture and social protection to combat poverty and hunger in Africa - diagnostic tool

FAO 2016, Maja Gavrilovic, Marco Knowles, Pamela Pozarny (FAO) and Rachel Sabates-Wheeler (IDS)

This Diagnostic Tool can assist in: identifying and mapping the scope and nature of linkages between agriculture and social protection interventions in their countries, including supportive and constraining factors; and understanding people's experiences and perceptions of linkages between agricultural and social protection programmes and how these linkages (or lack of them) affect their livelihoods. This will provide a basis for identifying options for strengthening coherence, which will inevitably depend on specific country contexts.

Strengthening coherence between agriculture and social protection to combat poverty and hunger in Africa: Framework for Analysis and Action

FAO 2016, Maja Gavrilovic, Marco Knowles, Pamela Pozarny, Benjamin Davis, Giulia Calcagnini (FAO) and Rachel Sabates-Wheeler (IDS)

FAO and its partners, to support efforts aimed at combatting poverty and hunger, have developed guidance material for strengthening coherence between agriculture and social protection.

Bridging the Gap: Synthesising Evidence from Secondary Quantitative and Primary Qualitative Data

CDI Policy Paper 2016, Keetie Roelen

This paper explores the 'matching problem' and a participatory tool for overcoming this challenge in a bid to offer wider reflections about the combination of secondary and primary data as well as quantitative and qualitative data in mixed-methods studies and evaluation. It does so in reference to research on child poverty in Burundi, Ethiopia and Vietnam.

Access to Social Protection by PLHIV and Key groups

Stop Aids Now! 2016, Michael Loevinsohn, Asrat Ayalew and Getnet Tadele

Effective social protection is vital to reducing the disadvantages and inequalities that make people vulnerable to HIV infection, enabling People Living with HIV to live healthily and adhere to treatment, and mitigating the impact of HIV and AIDS on households. This study commissioned by STOP AIDS NOW! explores the availability and accessibility of Social Protection programs for PLHIV and key groups in operational areas of 4 NGOs working on HIV and Livelihoods in Ethiopia.

Accountability in social pension programmes: A baseline mapping of the Old Age Grant in South Africa

HelpAge International, April 2015, Alice Livingstone

This report presents the findings of an exploratory study of accountability mechanisms in South Africa's Old Age Grant (OAG). The purpose of the study was to explore the types of grievances and identify the roles and responsibilities of key actors in making programmes and systems more accountable. By drawing on examples of practice from South Africa, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda, the study highlights good practice and challenges for achieving accountability in social protection programmes.

Cash transfer programmes, poverty reduction and empowerment of women in South Africa

GED Working Paper No. 4 / 2015, ILO, Sophie Plagerson and Marianne S. Ulriksen

This comparative analysis aims to help the ILO generate new thinking on ways to improve the impact of cash transfer programmes on women's poverty alleviation and economic empowerment. It also provides useful knowledge for a set of good practice guides on social protection currently in preparation.

Child Poverty: What drives it and what it means to children across the world

Save the Children 2016

The report explores the realities of child poverty across the world how poverty profoundly affects the lives of children through 8 case studies from different countries focusing on different drivers of poverty

Evaluation of the Kenya Hunger Safety Net Programme Phase 2 Drought Emergency Scale-up Payments Process Review - Final report

OPM, January 2016

Scaling up Kenya's Hunger and Safety Net Programme (HSNP) cash transfers during droughts is one of its core objectives, how is this being done? This review provides an independent account of stakeholders' experiences in the implementation of the first two rounds of emergency payments in April and May 2015.

There is also an account on this [same topic within the Humanitarian Practice Network](#) (by Catherine Fitzgibbon).

France - RSA: Providing income security and supporting return to work

Building Social Protection Floors Country Note Series November 2015, ILO

This brief presents the Active Solidarity Income (Revenu de Solidarité Active - RSA - in French). The creation of the RSA in 2008 in France had a twofold objective: ensuring access to universal income security for the active age population coupled with placement services and skills development, and generating incentives for return to work. The Active Solidarity Income provides a minimum income and measures aimed at supporting employability and return to work for the working poor and unemployed who receive insufficient income replacement.

How can lump-sum cash transfers be designed to improve their productive potential?

OPM Working Paper, February 2016, Rodolfo Beazley and Maham Farhat

Cash transfer programmes are one of the most popular welfare policies in the developing world and are also backed by a large and rigorous evidence base. Besides the effects on consumption and human capital, the productive impact of cash transfers has been increasingly scrutinised. Despite the fact that this is often not the core objective of these programmes, transferring substantial amounts of cash could have productive effects at household and community levels. From this viewpoint, cash transfers could not only reduce poverty by increasing consumption expenditure but also by enhancing the productivity of beneficiaries and stimulating local growth. If this were true then the potential of cash transfers would be enormous. This paper looks at lump-sum cash transfers and explores how these can be designed to improve this productive potential.

ILO World Employment and Social Outlook - Trends 2016

ILO, 2016

This ILO WESO report 2016 includes a forecast of global unemployment levels, looking at the situation in developed, emerging and developing economies, with detailed charts and numbers. The report also focusses on the share of vulnerable employment as well as on the scale of the informal economy. It provides policy guidance to boost decent work opportunities around the globe.

Literature review on linkages between social protection systems and humanitarian emergencies

OPM Updated 2016

This newly released literature review from the DFID-funded Shock-Responsive Social Protection research project synthesises theory and global experience as to how social protection interventions have responded, or might respond, flexibly to environmental, social or political crises.

Mongolia. A one-stop shop for accessible, transparent and efficient public service delivery

Building Social Protection Brief February 2016, ILO

This brief presents the One-Stop-Shop (OSS) in Mongolia. The OSS is a response to the challenge of providing quality social services in Mongolia, the most sparsely populated country in the world.

National experiences in building social protection floors. India's Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme

ESS - Paper No. 49 ILO, 2015, Ellen Ehmke

This study reviews the legislation and implementation of the Indian Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the light of the provisions of [Social protection floors Recommendation, \(No. 202\), 2012](#). The study highlights three central themes: first, the innovative policy framework of the Act, which brings together rights-based entitlements, demand-driven employment, and citizen-centred monitoring. Second, it assesses the practices of access, benefit allocation and labour protection in the MGNREGA works. And third, it reviews the administrative organisation of governance, finances and coordination

within the larger policy framework. The study concludes that the employment guarantee schemes based on MGNREGA reflect many of the provisions of Recommendation No. 202. They show some remarkable features from which other countries - or also other states and regions within India - can learn.

Romania: Builders' Social Fund: A bipartite sectoral approach for construction workers

Building Social Protection Floors Country Note Series February 2016, ILO

This note describes the Builders' Social Fund in Romania or the *Casa Sociala a Constructorilor* (CSC). This system provides an allowance to workers in the construction sector during the interruption of work in winter period. The CSC is a bipartite organization which has further extended its scope to a wider range of services for the construction sector in Romania.

The state of social protection in ASEAN at the dawn of integration

ILO, 2015, Cheng Boon Ong and Céline Peyron Bista

This study provides an overview of the social protection situation in each of the ten ASEAN Member States, using the framework of the four Guarantees adopted in 2012 under the [ILO's Social Protection Floors Recommendation \(No. 202\)](#). The report documents country experiences that can inspire ASEAN Member States in their work to develop effective social protection systems. The study also offers recommendations for practical strategies and policy options for extending social protection coverage in the region and provides baseline information against which to measure progress.

Social Protection through Work: Supporting the Rural Working Poor in Lower Income Countries

OPM Working Paper, November 2015, Rodolfo Beazley and Kirit Vaidya

Extending social protection to the rural population engaged in the informal economy in lower income countries is a global a priority. In spite of a lack of evidence about its costs and benefits and the small scale of many programmes, workfare as opposed to welfare is often put forward as a favoured option for providing social protection for the rural working poor. This paper studies the reasons behind the renewed interest in workfare, outlines the key characteristics of different types of workfare and welfare schemes, and proposes a simple conceptual framework to assess the relative cost-effectiveness and efficacy of different welfare and workfare policies for labour surplus households facing a diverse set of 'states' and 'shocks'.

Social protection assessment-based national dialogue guide

Joint UN response to implement social protection floors and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals: ILO February 2016

This guide helps users to conduct an assessment-based national dialogue (ABND) exercise, which is the first step towards implementing nationally defined social protection floors (SPFs). It is based on real ABND experiences across the world. The guide benefits from a previous version that was developed in South-east Asia and can be used for conducting ABNDs in countries, training and self-learning.

South Africa: Extending social protection to children

Building Social Protection Floors Country Note Series February 2016, ILO

This note describes social protection for children in South Africa, particularly the Child Support Grant (CSG). The CSG provides ZAR330 (US\$27) per month to poor children up to 18 years of age, thereby addressing the needs of the large number of children living in poverty.

The Philippine Social Pension at Four Years: Insights and Recommendations

Coalition of Services of the Elderly/HelpAge International Report, 2016, C. Knox-Vydmanov, D. Horn, A. Sevilla

This study assesses the social pension in the Philippines four year after it was introduced. The focus of the study is on the impact of the scheme and lessons from its implementation.

Videos from ILO

1. Three videos produced by the ILO in the context of an [awareness raising campaign on the informal economy and undeclared work in Moldova](#):
 - [I contribute, therefore I benefit from social security](#)
 - [Ask for your employment contract!](#)
 - [Say NO to wages in envelopes...](#)
2. [Ecuador ¿Por qué la protección social es importante para nosotros?](#)

3. [Realizing the Right to Social Protection: The Role of ILO Social Security Standards](#)
4. [Basic Social Protection in Mozambique - Grandma Regina](#)

SECRETARIAT:

The Centre for Social Protection network now has over 1000 members. If you have events, research, or publications to promote, or are looking for partners or people with particular skills, send us an email and we will look to include it in future newsletters and e-mails. If you know others who you think would want to be part of the Centre, please ask them to email socialprotection@ids.ac.uk to be added to the mailing list.

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