



## Newsletter 21: August 2012

### This Edition: New CSP report reflects on its work to help shape the social protection agenda

Welcome to the twenty-first 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'

The field of social protection has changed significantly since the CSP was established. As social protection gains increasing prominence, policies and frameworks have been developed, both nationally in countries and in development partner agencies. This year sees the launch of a number of new strategies outlining the future social protection agenda; UNICEF and the World Bank have each recently published a new social protection strategy, while the European Commission is in the process of finalising its new approach to social protection. Social protection programmes now support more people than ever and there is a much greater understanding of its potential, and of actual impacts at the national and local levels. Global initiatives such as the Social Protection Floor (SPF) provide a far-reaching consensus and momentum behind developing and extending social protection in all countries, not just for the lucky few.

In this context, [a new report released by the Centre for Social Protection](#) (CSP) highlights the CSPs work over the last 5 years to **influence debates** and **strengthen capacities** to build social protection policies and programmes that protect vulnerable people, are sustainable and promote social justice. Since its establishment CSP members have been involved in research, policy advice and training to push the social protection debates beyond conventional thinking.

The CSP has contributed to the **creation of knowledge** through the development of ideas on what social protection *can* and *should* do, through innovative approaches such as **Transformative Social Protection**, which links social protection to social justice. The CSP has also added to the expanding evidence base on what works or not by undertaking high-profile impact evaluations of major social protection programmes, including Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net programme (PSNP), Kenya's Hunger Safety Net Programme and South Africa's Child Support Grant.

**Networks** have been mobilised that bring people together to share knowledge, disseminate research and help advocate for change. The [Social Protection in Asia Programme](#) provided a platform for partnership and a voice on social protection issues in the region.

The CSP has also **strengthened capacities** to support governments and organisations in their work in designing, implementing and expanding social protection. CSP training courses in the UK and countries across the world have brought together hundreds of social protection policy-makers and practitioners, helping organisations and government, to shape their approach to social protection and improve their understanding of it. Despite the successes, many opportunities and challenges remain. Social protection programmes need to be linked better to other development interventions to maximise their impact and ensure their sustainability. Continued crises both in the north and south threaten the funding of social protection at the same time that needs are increasing. Ensuring social justice requires us to reach out to those not easily found or often heard.

The CSP, with its secretariat at IDS and with its global network of partners, will continue to be committed to help overcome these challenges, while at the same time maximising the opportunities to help achieve our vision of social protection for all.

## SOCIAL PROTECTION NEWS AND EVENTS:

### NEWS

#### [Social protection for food security: Report to shape international action](#)

A new report entitled [Social Protection for Food Security](#) synthesizes the evidence on social protection and food security, and recommends actions for more effective policy. The report is commissioned by the [High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition](#), which serves to connect international policy debates with the best available knowledge. The report elaborates the linkages between food insecurity and social protection policies. It recommends that social protection should be legislated and should incorporate accountability mechanisms such as social audits and grievance procedures.

#### [ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation adopted](#)

The newly adopted ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202) provides guidance to countries in establishing and maintaining national social protection floors within progressively comprehensive social security systems. This recommendation represents a global consensus on social protection that is supported by the governments, employers' and workers' organizations of the ILO's 185 member States.

#### **Civil society involvement in a government-led Social Cash Transfer programme accelerates changes!**

In 2010 and 2011, STOP AIDS NOW! implemented two pilot projects in Malawi, in Chitipa district and Mangochi district, to strengthen the government-led Social Cash Transfer (SCT) programme. Four local NGOs worked together with the national government and the district councils. Recently an [external evaluation](#) took place of these innovative pilots. The main conclusion is that civil society can accelerate changes in a government-led SCT programme. [The major lessons learnt in the two projects have been described in a short document](#) to motivate other CSOs to try influence government-led Social Protection programs in their countries.

#### [Expanding Uganda's Social Protection Programme launches revamped website](#)

In a bid to increase its outreach and information sharing, the Uganda Expanding Social Protection Programme recently launched its revamped website and published its [July 2012 newsletter](#).

#### **Social Policy and Poverty Research Group (Myanmar)**

This group is a joint government-NGO collaboration focusing on strengthening evidence based policy development in the social sector. Currently, research is focused on social protection and assisting government and non-government organizations to strengthen social protection systems in Myanmar. Publications can be accessed on [www.facebook.com/MSPPR](http://www.facebook.com/MSPPR)

#### **Designing a Social Protection Strategy and Policy for the Government of Liberia**

The Government of Liberia is developing a new medium-term economic growth and development strategy, 'An Agenda for Transformation'. The strategy is based on four strategic pillars: Economic Transformation; Peace and Security; Human Development; and Governance and a critical component of the human development pillar is the social protection sector. In May 2012 Concern Worldwide's was commissioned to support the national social protection secretariat in the Ministry of Planning to draft a social protection strategy and policy for the Government of Liberia. For further information please contact [Gabrielle.Smith@concern.net](mailto:Gabrielle.Smith@concern.net) or the national social protection coordinator Gabriel Fernandez [gfernandez@mopea.gov.lr](mailto:gfernandez@mopea.gov.lr)

## EVENTS

### *Recent*

#### All you ever wanted to know about the UN Social Protection Floor Initiative

**18 May 2012 12:30-14:00 Overseas Development Institute**

The International Labour Organisation's Michael Cichon, joined ODI for an [interview](#) and question and answer session exploring the [UN Social Protection Floor](#) (SPF) Initiative.

#### Civil Society Organisations Capacity building workshop in Social Protection

**9<sup>th</sup> June 2012 Civil Society Platform for Social Protection, Sierra Leone**

The Civil Society Platform for Social Protection (CSPSL) carried out a two day training workshop for Civil Society Organisations, Media Practitioners, non-governmental organisations and various stakeholders on Social Protection, Human Rights, Advocacy and Research. The purpose of the workshop was to build a professional national network of NGO's and media representatives to advocate for social protection. The training also focused on experience sharing and reviewed policy approaches on social protection within and outside of Sierra Leone. It was intended to build consensus on the future direction and strategic priorities for social protection in Sierra Leone.

#### Graduation in public policy: constructing a regional working agenda

Leaders in social development and poverty reduction took initial steps toward creating a regional working group for addressing extreme poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean at the Graduation in Public Policy Forum, organized by [Fundación Capital](#), with support from the Ford Foundation. The high-level forum, held in Cartagena on June 28-29, gathered public policy experts and government representatives from 10 countries in the region, international organizations such as the OAS, and NGOs such as Oxfam, for two days of discussion and debate on the concept of "graduation" or exit from extreme poverty and social protection programs.

#### First "International Micro-insurance Conference - Learning Sessions"

**22 and 23 May 2012 in Accra, Ghana**

The first 'International Microinsurance Conference - Learning Sessions' in Africa was organized by the National Insurance Commission of Ghana (NIC), in cooperation with GIZ (Promoting Microinsurance in Ghana), the Munich Re Foundation, the Microinsurance Network, and Making Finance Work for Africa. Participants discussed the regulatory framework in Ghana, the importance of consistent data collection and performance monitoring, the appropriate pricing of microinsurance products, the latest research findings on customers' needs and different channels and innovative technologies designed to reach out to customers. The conference ended with a clear commitment from major stakeholders in the Ghanaian insurance sector to join hands to expand the provision of microinsurance services in Ghana. This will be supported by the National Insurance Commission, which set the ambitious target of 10% market penetration for microinsurance in the next two to three years.

## SOCIAL PROTECTION TRAINING AND COURSES

### *Forthcoming:*

#### Academy on Social Security

**24 September - 5 October 2012, International Training Centre of the ILO, Turin, Italy**

The aim of the Academy is to enhance the capacity of key actors involved in the social security sector to better advise, design, manage, administer and supervise social security programmes. Applicants should complete the online nomination form no later than 21st of August 2012. More information: <http://socialprotection.itcilo.org/en/courses>

### Ageing Societies, Employment and Social Protection

19 - 23 November 2012, International Training Centre of the ILO, Turin, Italy

Demographic ageing requires advanced welfare states as well as low- and middle-income countries to address the challenges and opportunities in terms of affordable health and long-term care, gainful labour market participation, sustainability of social protection systems and income security. This course seeks to boost both, individual and institutional capacity to formulate adequate social protection responses to ageing societies. Applications need to be received no later than 5 October 2012. More information: <http://socialprotection.itcilo.org/en/courses>

### *Recent:*

#### **Social Protection Training Course for EC Staff**

**Bangkok, 12-15 June 2012**

The European Commission, DG Development Cooperation organised a training course on Social Protection for the Asia-Pacific region to introduce and familiarise staff with the forthcoming EC communication on social protection in development cooperation. CSP staff at IDS helped the EC in designing and delivering the course along with the University of Maastricht. Topics covered included the content of the EC communication, approaches to social protection of other international players, including the Social Protection Floors initiative, as well as concepts and instruments of social protection, political and financing aspects of Social Protection. 22 staff members from EC delegations in the region and from other agencies participated in the course.

#### **Social Protection Training Course Supporting Development of the Zanzibar National Social Protection Policy (16-19 July 2012)**

Members of the Centre for Social Protection ran a training course in Zanzibar to build the capacity of Members of the National Social Protection Technical Committee who will guide the development of the National Social Protection Policy (NSPP). The course aimed to provide participants with the opportunity and support to examine some of the latest global developments and thinking in social protection theory and practice; to consider the role of social protection in Zanzibar; and to facilitate a process towards thinking through options and interventions that can be incorporated in the NSSP. For further detail please contact [socialprotection@ids.ac.uk](mailto:socialprotection@ids.ac.uk)

## **NEW PUBLICATIONS:**

### **A Chance to Grow: How Social Protection can Tackle Child Malnutrition and promote economic opportunities in June**

Save the Children 2012

The report shows that if there is an escalation of the eurozone crisis, 33 million people in developing countries may be pushed into hunger by the end of 2013. The report sets out how programmes to distribute cash, food or assets have a huge role to play in protecting the poorest families from poverty. Crucially they can help families vulnerable to malnutrition to access a nutritious and diverse diet for their children, and increase their ability to cope with crises. The report summarises 5 policy guidelines to inform how this can be done at the national level.

### **Achieving income security in older age: taking stock and pushing boundaries**

Synthesis report of a meeting with global knowledge brokers Dunford, West Sussex 23-24 February 2012

This report takes stock of HelpAge's position and thinking on income security in older age acknowledging an increasingly vibrant debate around social protection, growth, employment and poverty reduction. It outlines how HelpAge aims to build on the insights and learning in its direct programming, advocacy and policy work.

### [Addressing challenges of social assistance schemes: rights-based approach in Orissa, India](#)

Development in Practice, 22:3, 279-294 Dipankar Datta & Sisir Kanta Pradhan 2012

The article documents the programme strategy that has been used to address the challenges of social assistance schemes in Orissa, India. Key aspects of the strategy are: community mobilisation; use of mobile technology, web and media for community-led evidence-based advocacy at the local level; and graduating this effort to address structural issues at the state level. Key challenges in the process were to minimise tension among different stakeholders, and to bring changes in attitude of communities who were habituated in receiving services instead of demanding them. Despite many challenges, the strategy has successfully contributed to mobilising communities to demand their entitlements.

### [Appraising productivity enhancing Public Works Programmes](#)

Overseas Development Institute, Toolkits May 2012, Anna McCord

This tool sheet provides guidance on how to determine whether a Public Works Programme (PWP) will provide 'productive' social protection, leading to higher productivity and the graduation of households out of poverty.

### [Assessing the Impact of Conditional Cash Transfer Programs on Household Behaviors in Paraguay](#)

Poverty and Economic Policy Research Network PIERI Working Papers, Fabio Soares, Clarissa Gondim Teixeira, Elydia Silva, Guilherme Hirata, Rafael Perez Ribas  
A team of PEP-supported researchers used highly sophisticated impact evaluation and decomposition techniques to assess the effect (including potential externality effects) of a conditional cash transfer (CCT) program in Paraguay (*Tekoporã*) on a variety of dimensions related to well-being and household behaviors. Outcomes are reported in two distinct PEP research papers. The first (PEP [Working Paper 2011-19](#)) reports on the impact of Tekoporã on the demand for healthcare and education, and how much of this impact was due to the cash transfers and/or due to changes in behaviour/preferences (related to non-monetary programme components, such as the conditionalities and family support visits). The second paper (PEP [Working Paper 2011-18](#)) explores further the potential effects of externalities by decomposing the observed changes in household outcomes, or more specifically the impact of cash transfers on household income, consumption and savings in Paraguay.

### [Cash Transfers and Citizenship: Evidence from South Africa](#)

Journal of Development Studies 2012, Sophie Plagerson, Trudy Harpham & Karina Kielmann

Research has assumed a role for cash transfers in forging a state-citizen contract, yet evidence is scarce regarding whether social protection promotes citizenship among claimants in practice. The article explores the implications of cash transfers for notions of citizenship in the narratives of transfer recipients in Johannesburg, South Africa.

### [CIPS newsletter on social protection in Portuguese-speaking countries Number 16 June 2012](#)

This edition highlights South South co-operation between Brazil and East Timor.

### [Etude sur la protection sociale attentive aux enfants en Algérie](#)

The report (in French only) of a study on child sensitive social protection has been released by the Algerian Ministry of Prospective and Statistics, was carried out in partnership with UNICEF Algeria country office.

### [HelpAge social pensions database](#)

This social pensions database has been comprehensively updated and now contains information on 102 social pension schemes worldwide - 18 of which have been added since 2012.

### [School Attendance, Child Labor and Cash Transfers: an Impact Evaluation of PANES \(an Emergency Social Assistance Program in Uruguay\)](#)

Working Paper 2011-22 and see also [Policy Brief 85](#) Veronica Amarante, Andrea Vigorito, Arim Rodrigo, Mery Ferrando

In this Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) supported study, a team of local researchers set out to assess the impacts of a cash transfer program on school attendance and child labor in Uruguay. The researchers relied on specific methodological approaches, fostered through the PEP Policy Impact Evaluation Research Initiative (PIERI), to compare outcomes for beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. The team also explored the role of some of the potential impact channels highlighted in the literature on cash transfer programs: household income, adult labor supply and conditionality.

### Shocks and social protection in the Horn of Africa: analysis from the Productive Safety Net programme in Ethiopia

IDS Working Paper 395 CSP Working Paper 005, June 2012, Christophe Béné, Stephen Devereux, and Rachel Sabates-Wheeler

Using panel data from the Ethiopian Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) this paper explores the degree to which this social protection programme has been successful in protecting its beneficiaries against the various shocks that have affected the Horn of Africa in the recent past. The analysis suggests that although the PSNP has managed to improve households' food security and wellbeing, the positive effects of the programme are not robust enough to shield recipients completely against the impacts of severe shocks.

### Social protection and cash transfers to strengthen families affected by HIV and AIDS

International Food Policy Research Institute, Research Monograph 2012 Michelle Adato and Lucy Bassett

This research monograph looks at how cash transfer programs can make a difference for families affected by poverty and HIV and AIDS. The authors review the impacts of a range of cash transfer programs and discuss how these and other social protection programs can be designed to address the needs and conditions of families and children in regions hard hit by HIV and AIDS.

### Social Protection: A Question of Delivering on Rights and Resources

Commonwealth Secretariat Discussion Paper Series 13, April 2012, Anit Mukherjee, Elizabeth Reid, Marilyn Waring, Meena Shivdas

The definition of social protection and what it might encompass is currently a contested space for 'framing' the debate and practice. Who is making the decisions about its nature and the responses? Who controls what 'social protection' means?

This discussion paper situates the current debates, analyses practices, and puts forward the Commonwealth Secretariat's approach to social protection which promotes models of both transformative and 'anticipatory' social protection.

### Sustaining European social security systems in a globalized economy

Council of Europe 2012, Wouter van Ginneken

The report investigates key mechanisms to achieve social cohesion as well as short- and long-term financial viability and examines the main policy issues in sustaining individual social security programmes, including health care, social assistance and family benefits, pensions, unemployment and work incapacity benefits, as well as long-term care.

### The Continuing Effects of the Great Recession on Women and Families

Global Women's Project Briefing Paper 14 Julia Wartenberg May 2012

The Great Recession is said to be officially over. Yet, millions remain unemployed, families continue to struggle and social protection programs are being cut. This briefing paper looks at the economic barriers millions continue to face.

### The Human Rights Approach to Social Protection

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland, 2012 Magdalena Sepúlveda and Carly Nyst

This publication constitutes a summary of the analyses and arguments presented by the Special Rapporteur in her reports to the Human Rights Council and General Assembly over the past three years in regard to the human rights approach to social protection.

New publications from ILO Social Security Department

[Analysis of the Viet Nam National Social Protection Strategy \(2011-2020\) in the context of social protection floors objectives. A rapid assessment,](#)  
Extension of Social Security Series, ESS Paper 32 Cichon, M.; Bonnet, F.; Schmitt, V.; Galian, C.; Mazelkaite, G. 2012

[Can the European elderly afford the financial burden of health and long-term care? Assessing impacts and policy implications,](#)  
Extension of Social Security Series, ESS Paper 31 Scheil-Adlung, X.; Bonan, J. ; ILO Social Security Department 2012

[Social security and food security successful policy experiences in Brazil,](#)  
Extension of Social Security Series, ESS Paper 30 Delgado, G. C. 2012

[Evidence on gender inequities in social health protection. The case of women living in rural areas,](#)  
Extension of Social Security Series, ESS Paper 29 Scheil-Adlung, X.; Kuhl, Catharina; ILO, Social Security Department 2012

[The concept of fiscal space and its applicability to the development of social protection policy in Zambia.](#)  
Extension of Social Security Series, ESS 28, Aguzzoni, L. 2011

[The political economy of pension reforms in times of global crisis. State unilateralism or social dialogue?,](#)  
Sarfati, H.; Ghellab, Y.; GESS Policy Briefing 9

## 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](mailto:socialprotection@ids.ac.uk) to be added to the mailing list.

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