



Newsletter 44: July 2019

Welcome to the forty-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'

Training Opportunities in Social Protection

From 1-4 July 2019 the **Centre for Social Protection** held the 6th round of its annual short course [Social Protection: Policies, Programmes and Evidence](#) at the Institute of Development Studies in Brighton, UK. The course aims to build participants' knowledge base on approaches to social protection, develop an understanding of challenges in the design and implementation of social protection policies and programmes, and critically assess the evidence base on social protection impacts. This year's course attracted 30 participants from 20 countries and covered topics ranging from conceptual frameworks to instruments, targeting, delivery mechanisms, financing and shock-responsive social protection.

Several other agencies offer training in social protection. From the early 2000s the **World Bank** ran an annual training course in Washington designed around its 'social risk management' framework. This evolved into the [Social Safety Nets Core Course](#), a two-week course that focuses on "the latest developments in safety nets as integral part of social protection systems". The **ILO** runs a number of social protection training courses at its International Training Centre in Turin, Italy. The [Academy on Social Security](#) is a two-week course "on the governance, financing, reform and extension of social protection systems". Since 2007 the **Economic Policy Research Institute** has run a two-week course twice each year, in South Africa and Thailand, called [Designing and Implementing Social Protection Systems](#), that "provides participants with an in-depth understanding of the conceptual and practical issues involved in effectively designing and implementing social protection systems."

As social protection thinking continues to evolve and social protection programmes expand their coverage and sophistication, so the demand for social protection training workshops seems likely to continue to grow.

This Talking Point was written by Stephen Devereux, Research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies and Co-Director of the Centre for Social Protection.

SOCIAL PROTECTION NEWS AND EVENTS:

EVENTS

Forthcoming:

[2019 International Annual SASPEN Conference - Social Protection and Climate Change: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)

14-15 August 2019, Johannesburg, South Africa

The Southern African Social Protection Experts Network (SASPEN) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Zambia (FES) will be convening the 2019 International SASPEN Annual Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa from 14-15 August 2019. The SASPEN is a not-for-profit loose alliance of stakeholders, scholars and consultants who engage with social protection in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. It promotes the fostering, expansion and improvement of social protection in the SADC and engages in dissemination and sensitisation, providing platforms for exchange regarding social protection programmes, frameworks, research and consultancies and by creating structures to link participants with each other and to relevant institutions. Over the years the international annual conference has emerged as a recognized platform in the Southern African region that brings together experts in Social protection. This year's conference will be the 7th international annual conference, and this year's theme focus will be Social Protection and Climate Change.

[Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network \(PEGNet\) Conference 2019](#)

9-10 September 2019, Bonn, Germany

Social protection is a key instrument for fostering social, economic and political development. It is well established that it is not only essential for the reduction of vulnerability, income poverty and income inequality but also for the promotion of human development as it facilitates access to education, health care, nutrition, housing and reduces gender disparities. In recent years, there has been a growing consensus that social protection is also an important requirement for fostering economic growth, social cohesion and political stability. The PEGNet conference 2019 will provide a platform for leading development scholars, practitioners and policy-makers to reflect on the determinants, elements, impacts and linkages of effective social protection schemes.

[International Conference on Resilient Social Protection for an Inclusive Future 2019](#)

19-20 September 2019, Kathmandu, Nepal

In South Asia, as in the rest of the world, there is increasing momentum towards the expansion of social protection schemes in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This conference aims to support the Government of Nepal to deliver in its vision to deliver a core package of social protection for all and become a more prosperous nation, with a focus on the next generation and the most vulnerable. Recognising that there are many paths towards universal social protection, and programmes in different countries have followed different paths towards their expansion and consolidation, the Conference aims to bring regional experience and practice to offer a realistic path to support Nepal achieve on this ambition moving forward.

Recent:

[Foundation for International Studies on Social Security \(FISS\) 26th Annual Research Conference](#)

10-12 June 2019, Sigtuna, Sweden

The world economy remains uncertain and social security systems in all countries face many challenges, including: growing inequality; persistent poverty; employment precarity; new migration flows, and severe resource constraints. The future of social security depends on its ability to respond to current challenges, but change must occur in ways that promote more sustainable societies. This conference will provide a robust but relaxed forum for researchers and policy makers to discuss issues related to the design, financing, delivery, impact, opportunities and future of social security provisions.

SOCIAL PROTECTION TRAINING AND COURSES

Forthcoming:

[EPRI Short Course 'Designing and Implementing Social Protection Systems'](#)

29 July-9 August 2019, Cape Town, South Africa

21 October-2 November 2019, Chiang Mai, Thailand

The Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI), together with UNU-MERIT/Maastricht Graduate School of Governance and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) is 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 protection systems. The course aims to build the capacity of policymakers, government officials, representatives from bilateral and multilateral agencies, programme practitioners and staff members from non-governmental organisations. The course will serve those who want to more effectively design, implement, monitor and manage social protection systems with the goal of reducing poverty and better achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).

EPRI Specialised Module 'Evidence-Building for 'Social Protection Plus''

5-9 August 2019, Cape Town, South Africa

28 October-1 November 2019, Chiang Mai, Thailand

This module provides participants with a comprehensive understanding of what "Social Protection Plus" is, the complex development impacts that "Social Protection Plus" programmes can enable and the key role of strengthened monitoring and evaluation systems in aiding more effective programming. Participants will benefit from an in-depth and practical understanding of how "Social Protection Plus" programmes can be designed and implemented so as to promote sustainable livelihoods and achieve complex developmental outcomes. The module will draw upon successful international case studies which will be applied within an evidence building framework - identifying workable approaches for different country contexts and highlighting the role of a strong evidence base as a key policy tool.

Development Pathways Training Course 'Inclusive Social Protection: Making the Case'

4-8 November 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

If social protection is to be effective, it must be inclusive and implemented as a right of all citizens. Yet, convincing policymakers to invest can be challenging. As a consequence, too many people worldwide are still unable to access social protection. Therefore, Development Pathways is launching a training course aimed at giving participants an in-depth understanding of social protection so that they are able to effectively make the case for increased investment in inclusive social protection within their countries and organisations. The training course will comprise three days of core modules alongside two days of electives in a range of topics, including the political economy of social protection, social and economic analysis, and fiscal sustainability. The course will be delivered by a team of experts who are at the forefront of global social protection policy debates and who bring a wealth of experience of working across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific.

NEW PUBLICATIONS:

Linking Social Rights to Active Citizenship for the Most Vulnerable: the Role of Rights and Accountability in the 'Making' and 'Shaping' of Social Protection

Journal Article, The European Journal of Development Research, July 2019, R. Sabates-Wheeler, N. Wilmink, A.G. Abdulai, R. de Groot and T. Spadafora

Social protection has the potential to provide a key interface between states and citizens. We consider how the institutional framing and design of social protection can be adapted from top-down forms of provision to forms that stimulate vulnerable citizens to make rights-based claims and demand accountability for their entitlements. A conceptual framework is developed that illustrates three channels through which citizenship can be engaged through social accountability mechanisms and in the context of social protection provision. Drawing on case studies, we highlight the different contexts in which the design and delivery of social protection can open up spaces for different forms of citizenship engagement. Through opening up institutional spaces where citizens can engage with the state, and each other, we conclude that social protection is uniquely placed to build the economic, social and political capabilities of citizens.

Graduating Out of Poverty Across Generations: Unpacking Children's Well-being Trajectories in Burundi

Journal Article, Children & Society, June 2019, K. Roelen and C. Leon-Himmelstine

Graduation model interventions represent a new wave of anti-poverty programming that seeks to offer a sustainable pathway out of poverty. An expanding evidence base points towards positive economic outcomes at household level but little is known about impacts on child well-being. This paper investigates children's well-being in Burundi during and after participation in a graduation model programme using a longitudinal mixed-methods approach. The programme is found to improve child well-being, particularly in relation to housing, food security and education. Covariate shocks undermine sustainability of effects but greater knowledge, experience and prioritisation of children's needs contribute to harnessing improved outcomes.

Social grants, remittances, and food security: does the source of income matter?

Journal Article, Food Security, May 2019, J. Waidler and S. Devereux

Large numbers of South Africans receive social grants (public transfers) or remittances (private transfers), and yet one in four South Africans is food insecure. This article addresses two questions: do social grants and remittances improve food security and nutritional outcomes? If so, do these impacts differ between public and private transfers? Drawing on the National Income Dynamic Survey (NIDS), a nationally representative survey that follows 28,000 individuals over time, we find significant positive impacts of the Older Person's Grant and of remittances on the dietary diversity index, but not of the Child Support Grant. Moreover, we find no effect on food expenditure or on anthropometry (BMI) by the Older Person's Grant, or remittances. However, some positive effects were found on children's BMI from the Child Support Grant. We discuss why we observe different effects from different transfers, as well as giving several reasons why income transfers are failing to close the nutritional deficits in South Africa.

Violations of farm workers' labour rights in post-apartheid South Africa

Journal Article, Development Southern Africa, May 2019, S. Devereux

Transformative approaches to social protection include introducing and respecting economic, social and cultural rights, including the rights of workers. In South Africa, centuries of exploitation of commercial farm workers supposedly ended in the 1990s, when progressive legislation was promulgated that aimed at improving living and working conditions, including a statutory minimum wage. However, violations of labour rights are widespread in the agriculture sector, and farm workers are arguably more vulnerable than before as they face under-payment, occupational health and safety risks, forced evictions and casualisation. This article reports on a research study that documents violations of labour rights of women farm workers in South Africa's fruit and wine industry. Apart from farmers themselves, government is responsible for failing to enforce compliance with its pro-worker legislation, and trade unions are failing to hold farmers and government to account.

How Social Protection Can Empower Women

Article, Project Syndicate, May 2019, P. Ntshongwana, N. Ansell and K. Roelen

Social protection is at the centre of strategies for ending global poverty by 2030, the first of 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. But, if those strategies are to work, they must go further - especially with regards to women. In recent years, many countries - particularly in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean - have made great strides toward improving social protection. But most policies and initiatives are inadequate, and nearly 4 billion people still lack any social protection at all. Because women are the leading providers of unpaid labour, they are the most likely to suffer from this failure. This opinion piece reflects on how social protection can support women, arguing that efforts to increase employment need to go hand-in-hand with social support and services.

Pathways to Stronger Futures in Haiti: The role of graduation programming in promoting early childhood development

Research Report, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), March 2019, K. Roelen, S.K. Kim, I. Barnett and D. Chanchani

It is widely understood that poverty undermines early childhood development (ECD). In turn, poor ECD reinforces the intergenerational transmission of poverty. Economic strengthening through comprehensive social protection may offer a 'double boon': it can improve child wellbeing in the short-term and reduce poverty in the long-run. This report presents findings from a mixed-methods study that investigated how so-called graduation programmes can affect outcomes for young children, particularly seeking insights into pathways, dynamics and contextual factors that underpin positive or negative linkages. It does so in a context of widespread poverty, low levels of child wellbeing and limited availability of services in rural Haiti.

Social Protection: an essential building block to reduce inequality

Policy Brief, Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors (GCSPF), July 2019

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) place a key focus on the pivotal role that the reduction of inequalities plays for ending poverty. SDG 10 explicitly aims to *Reduce Inequality within and among Countries*, recognizing that development requires sharing progress more widely with everyone, including the most disadvantaged groups in society. However, inequality has been rising in many countries, a trend that has benefitted especially those at the very top. And even where it has not risen in recent years - such as in many Latin American countries that strengthened their social protection systems - disparities remain vast.

Productivist social protection in Ethiopia's 'developmental state'

Blog Post, Effective States and Inclusive Development (ESID), June 2019, T. Lavers

Two recent ESID papers published in African Affairs and Social Science and Medicine analyse the political drivers of Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), one of the largest social assistance programmes in Africa, and Community Based Health Insurance (CBHI), one of the largest health insurance schemes on the continent, covering the rural and informal sector. The papers demonstrate that the adoption of these programmes and the specifics of their design were closely shaped by the developmentalist ideology of the ruling Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) and the centralisation of power during the 2000s within a small group of political elites. Together these programmes constitute a distinctly 'productivist' orientation to social protection that seeks not only to provide basic forms of protection, but also to mobilise all available resources in the pursuit of national development.

[How to Finance Inclusive Social Protection](#)

Policy Guide, UNESCAP, June 2019

A guide to financing social protection developed by UNESCAP to support policymakers and practitioners in Asia and the Pacific in their efforts to strengthen social protection. Development Pathways contributed to the policy guide, the fourth and final part of a series, which examines ways to finance social protection and outlines options for securing increased investment through government revenues.

[Social Protection in an Era of Increasing Uncertainty and Disruption: Social Risk Management 2.0](#)

Discussion Paper, World Bank Group, May 2019, S.L. Jorgensen and P.B. Siegel

This paper updates the Social Risk Management (SRM) conceptual framework; the foundation of the World Bank's first Social Protection Sector Strategy. SRM 2.0 addresses the increasingly risky and uncertain world; with opportunities and outcomes driven by possible disruptions from technology, markets, climate change, etc. SRM 2.0 is a spatial assets and livelihoods approach to household well-being featuring a risk chain covering all households across the lifecycle and for both positive and negative events. Operationally, SRM 2.0 points to the need for a greater focus on asset and livelihood building programs in addition to traditional poverty alleviation and risk sharing programs, better integration between rights-based and risk-based approaches, more inclusive targeting, and consideration of global social protection.

[The potential of Nepal's social security allowance schemes to support emergency flood response](#)

Report, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), May 2019, R. Holmes, F. Samuels, M. Evans, A. Ghimire and J. Twigg

Nepal's approach to disasters has shifted in recent years to promoting resilience and preparedness as well as response. The role of social protection in responding to shocks is one of these approaches and has seen increased high-level policy attention in recent years. This includes a focus on the potential use of cash-based responses through the existing social security allowance (SSA) system to respond to emergencies, as well as identifying the need for feasible and sustainable approaches to respond to shocks under the evolving federal system. In this context, the aim of this study is to complement ongoing work on the role of social protection in responding to emergencies in the country. The study uses a mixed-methods research approach to assess the potential role of the social SSA schemes to support emergency response efforts in future floods. Specifically, it assesses the robustness of targeting and coverage in the context of flood response, the social acceptability of using SSA schemes to support emergency response, and capacity and coordination issues in delivering a timely response to a flood-affected population.

[Inua Jamii Senior Citizens' Scheme](#)

Brief, International Labour Office (ILO), May 2019, A. Tran and R. Chirchir

The Inua Jamii Senior Citizens' Scheme is a tax-financed pension-tested social pension offering universal pension coverage for all citizens of Kenya once they reach 70 years of age. This ILO country brief outlines: the rationale for the social protection scheme and how the inclusive scheme evolved; the scheme's coverage, transfer values, institutional arrangements and legal framework, and registration and payment processes; and the next steps.

[Towards Universal Health Coverage in Ethiopia's 'developmental state'? The political drivers of health insurance](#)

Journal Article, Social Science & Medicine, May 2019, T. Lavers

With Universal Health Coverage (UHC) now entrenched among the top global development priorities, questions arise as to the conditions under which politicians commit to UHC and why certain strategies for health financing and access are favoured over others. The Ethiopian government has been piloting and scaling-up Community-Based Health Insurance (CBHI) for the informal sector since 2010 and is establishing Social Health Insurance for formal sector workers as a means of achieving UHC. This paper employs a process tracing methodology to examine the political drivers of the adoption and evolution of state health insurance based

on 28 key informant interviews conducted between 2015 and 2018 with politicians, policymakers and donor officials. The paper highlights the inadequacy of existing theories - focusing on interest group mobilisation, electoral competition and bureaucratic actors - for explaining the Ethiopian case.

[Social protection in an aspiring 'developmental state': The political drivers of Ethiopia's PSNP](#)

Journal Article, African Affairs, April 2019, T. Lavers

Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) is among the largest social protection programmes in Africa and has been promoted as a model for the continent. This article analyses the political drivers of the programme, arguing that elite commitment to the PSNP needs to be understood in the context of shifts within Ethiopia's political settlement and the government's evolving development strategy. While food security had long been a priority for the ruling party, the 2002/03 food crisis - coming on the back of a series of other political shocks - was perceived as an existential crisis for the ruling coalition, prompting the incorporation of the PSNP into the existing rural development strategy.

[Leaving No-one Behind: Building Inclusive Social Protection Systems for Persons with Disabilities](#)

Working Paper, Development Pathways, March 2019, S. Kidd, L. Wapling, R. Schjoedt, B. Gelders, D. Bailey-Athias, A. Tran and H. Saloman

How do we make social protection systems and schemes more inclusive of persons with disabilities? This report is the result of a DFID project involving a review of the literature, an analysis of household survey datasets, and consultations with key stakeholders and persons with disabilities in Brazil, India, Kenya, Mauritius, Rwanda, South Africa and Zambia. It identifies a wide range of barriers persons with disabilities experience in accessing social protection to be overcome; calls for better data on disability, disability-specific and old age pension schemes and expanded coverage; adapting communications about social protection schemes; and improving disability assessment mechanisms. It concludes: "If no-one is to be left behind, it is imperative that a much greater focus is placed on building disability-inclusive social protection systems and schemes."

[Hit and Miss: An assessment of targeting effectiveness in social protection](#)

Working Paper, Development Pathways, March 2019, S. Kidd and D. Athias

This paper is the result of a global review of the effectiveness of different methods of selecting social protection recipients, both targeted and universal schemes. The work, supported by the Church of Sweden, considered the effectiveness of 38 programmes across 23 low- and middle-income countries, including means-tested schemes and those using proxy means testing, community-based targeting, self-targeted and pension testing. The research sought to answer both how effective the different types of targeting mechanism are in reaching their intended recipients, and the effectiveness in reaching those living in extreme poverty specifically. The researchers found no evidence that targeting can be undertaken with any degree of accuracy, with only one scheme with an exclusion error of less than 50%.

[All work and no pay: The invisibilisation of women's labour in public works programmes](#)

Blog Post, Development Pathways, March 2019, A. Sengupta

Much effort is invested in mainstreaming gender within public works programmes. In reality, many include a basic design flaw that violates women's rights and is not addressed. Development Pathways' Senior Social Policy Specialist Anasuya Sengupta highlights a hidden scandal as the world marks International Women's Day.

[Could the Who's Who Agree on What's What? Reflections on the Universal Child Grants \(*aka* UCB\) Conference](#)

Blog Post, Development Pathways, February 2019, S. McClanahan

Were attendees of the Universal Child Grants conference united around a vision of a world in which every child has a right to, and receives, a child benefit? Shea McClanahan, Senior Social Policy Specialist at Development Pathways, on how the targeting-universalism debate dominated the agenda of the UNICEF/ILO/ODI event, and a plea to recall the overarching objective of a child benefit.

[Guidance Package on Social Protection across the Humanitarian-Development Nexus](#)

Guidance Package, European Commission, February 2019

Social protection holds significant potential to transform short-term humanitarian interventions into development processes to achieve resilience, peace, stabilisation and economic growth in countries in crises. But while a wealth of knowledge exists on providing social protection in relatively stable environments, research on how to bridge the humanitarian and development interventions in crisis contexts is still relatively new. In order to fill this gap, the European

Commission (EC) created the Guidance Package (GP) on Social Protection across the Humanitarian-Development Nexus (SPaN). The GP provides concrete and practical guidance to social protection as an effective short- and long-term response to multivariate shocks, protracted crises and displacement based on the current body of knowledge, including brief definitions, and processes of social protection approaches in most challenging settings.

Child Multidimensional Poverty in Indonesia

Newsletter, SMERU Research Institute, January 2019

The SMERU Research Institute has conducted various studies observing child poverty and poor families' access to public services and provided policymakers with research-based information on vulnerable groups. This newsletter edition presents a summary of the findings of these studies.

Feed Thy Neighbour: how Social Ties shape Spillover Effects of Cash Transfers on Food Security and Nutrition

Working Paper, Università degli Studi di Firenze, 2019, A. Carraro and L. Ferrone

Economic development in Sub Saharan African countries is strongly tied to households' ability to cope with exogenous events affecting their well-being. Using data from the Lesotho Child Grant Program dataset, we provide evidence on whether households' food security and nutrition are influenced by the presence of a particular network structure, and if there is any spill-over effect of the program on ineligible households living in treated villages. We take advantage of information on money and in-kind transfers to build a set of indicators representing quantitatively and qualitatively the network architecture of each household. We find relevant spill-over effects of the CGP on the food security and nutrition of ineligible households living in treated villages and embedded in a social network.

SECRETARIAT:

The Centre for Social Protection network now has more than 1,200 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.

Directors: Stephen Devereux
 Keetie Roelen
 Rachel Sabates-Wheeler
Programme Administrator: Simon Jeavons

Email: socialprotection@ids.ac.uk

Website: <https://www.ids.ac.uk/programme-and-centre/centre-for-social-protection/>

Disclaimer

The Centre for Social Protection cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions in this newsletter. The views and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Centre for Social Protection or IDS.