



Newsletter 38: September 2017

Welcome to the thirty eighth 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'

Social provision, migration and forced displacement: expanding the reach of social protection

There are an estimated 244 million people currently living in a country other than that of their birth (UNDESA 2016). This group of people includes wealthier migrants, able to access high levels of livelihood security and protection in their place of destination, as well as those moving away from situations of extreme poverty and insecurity, who are often unprotected upon their arrival, and may lack documents to establish resident or work status in the country they currently live in. The worsening outlook on climate and disaster-related shocks and threats implies that these figures are set to rise substantially, warning of increasing strain on humanitarian and social protection systems.

All of these mobile people groups experience vulnerabilities at different points of their journeys and all have needs for social protection and access to social services. In line with the popularisation of the human rights based approach and the resilience paradigm some 10-15 years ago, we might have anticipated an opening of economic and political space for discussing, catering and providing social provision for vulnerable mobile groups. However, recently the space for thinking about migrants' rights has been rapidly shrinking as nationalism, the rise of far right politics and popular concerns about 'floods' of migrants dominate political discussion, particularly in the west. Neither welfare regime analysis nor social protection frameworks appropriately attend to the plight of migrants and their relation to social provision. This is largely because these framings do not incorporate institutional, social and political barriers to welfare provision, which are characteristics of 'migrant'-specific vulnerability.

A progressive framing of social provision, as laid out in a book on [Migration and Social Protection](#) edited by Sabates-Wheeler and Feldman (2011) encourages us to pay attention to the design and delivery of social protection such that migrants and displaced populations are able to live and pursue livelihoods with dignity and in line with their human rights. As well as drawing attention to the increasing importance of delivering appropriate social protection for mobile groups, we take this opportunity to highlight recent work on social protection: 1) [in contexts of fragility and protracted crisis](#) by the FAO and IDS (Winder-Rossi et al, 2017); 2) [on access of Syrian refugees to SP in Jordan](#) (Hagen-Zanker et al, 2017); and 3) [in framing social protection in relation to forcibly displaced populations](#) (refugees, asylum seekers and IDPs) and low-income labour migrants (GSDRC working paper). These are all examples of adapting social protection theory and programming to incorporate the rights and needs of mobile populations. An upcoming [International Conference on Fragility and Displacement](#) will also highlight the need to design and deliver responsive long-term social protection systems for forcibly displaced populations.

This Talking Point was written by Rachel Sabates-Wheeler.

SOCIAL PROTECTION NEWS AND EVENTS:

NEWS AND OPINION

[FAO Social Protection Framework](#)

In an interview with UN radio, Natalia Winder Rossi of FAO introduced the FAO Social Protection Framework and explained how social protection for vulnerable farmers and their family's needs to be expanded in many countries across the world and how FAO can play a role in supporting governments in these efforts.

[How social protection can end extreme poverty](#)

FAO, Website Article, August 2017

FAO and UNICEF join forces to prove common perceptions on cash transfers are wrong, showing how social protection can help achieve SDG1 and SDG2. FAO and UNICEF are strengthening their partnership to promote the expansion of social protection as one pathway out of poverty. A new joint study refutes some of the misperceptions and criticisms around cash transfers in the context of sub-Saharan Africa, the region currently home for three quarters of world's extreme-poor.

[Informal workers access to health services in India, Thailand and South Africa video](#)

Video produced by Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing & Organizing (WIEGO)

The longer [20 minute version](#) of the video presents some of the solutions that informal worker organisations have developed to mitigate against barriers to access.

[Kenya to launch universal pension scheme in January 2018](#)

HelpAge International, Website Article, March 2017

Kenya's Cabinet Secretary of Finance, Henry Rotich, announced the launch of a universal pension in January 2018. Making the announcement in his 2017/18 budget speech on 30 March 2017, Mr Rotich revealed that people above 70 will get a monthly pension, but did not disclose the amount. He added that the initiative will operate alongside the existing scheme covering older people over 65 who live with a disability.

[Zanzibar and the universal pension](#)

HelpAge International, Website Article, April 2017

In April 2016, Zanzibar became the first place in east Africa to provide its older people with a universal, state-funded pension. Since then, everyone aged 70 and over, no matter their circumstances, is entitled to 20,000 Tanzanian shillings (US\$9) a month. HelpAge International and its partner organisations had been advocating for the pension for years, and since it has been introduced have supported its implementation.

[Project to strengthen coherence between agriculture and social protection](#)

FAO, Website Article, June 2017

FAO and Zambia launch a Project to strengthen coherence between agriculture and social protection. The Government of Zambia and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations have launched a Technical Cooperation Project (TCP), which will strengthen coherence between agriculture and social protection in the country. The project will mainly focus on developing human capacities within the ministries of Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock as well as the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services.

[Social Protection - Churches called to action for a just society](#)

In this short film the Church of Sweden International Department calls on churches and faith based organisations everywhere to stand up and demand for fair redistribution of wealth and social protection as a matter of social justice and human rights. Faith-based and other civil society organisations, as well as individuals, who want to show support for this message of social justice are welcome to endorse the Sigtuna Statement and the short film by sending your organisation logo or individual confirmation to gunilla.palm@svenskakyrkan.se

[Social Protection, Emergency Response, Resilience and Climate Change](#)

FAO, in partnership with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, is developing an interactive tool to facilitate learning on the potential benefits and trade-offs in linking social protection, resilience and climate change policies at local, national and global level. A [video](#) is also available.

[Social protection for rural poverty reduction](#)

FAO, Website Article, March 2017

FAO raises awareness on social protection for rural poverty reduction in the Near East and North Africa region. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) coordinated a technical meeting to promote and build government capacity for rural poverty reduction through social protection policymaking in the Near East and North Africa (NENA) region.

[Social protection is an investment in ending hunger and rural poverty](#)

FAO, Website Article, May 2017

Winder Rossi presented evidence at the technical briefing on “Using Social Protection to Promote Rural Development for All” that took place on 10 May 2017 in New York, on the social, economic and productive impact of social protection and thus the importance to integrate social protection as part of comprehensive rural development, food security and nutrition policies and programmes.

[The HIV and social protection assessment tool](#)

UNAIDS have developed this tool for a quick scan of existing social protection programmes and their sensitivity (or lack of) to the HIV response in a given country and location. The assessment provides countries and communities with a tailored analysis on HIV and social protection.

EVENTS

Forthcoming:

[Conference: Putting children first: Identifying solutions and taking action to tackle poverty and inequality in Africa](#)

23 - 25 October 2017, Addis Ababa

This three-day international conference aims to engage policy makers, practitioners and researchers in identifying solutions for fighting child poverty and inequality in Africa, and inspiring action towards change. The conference is co-hosted by the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty, the ESRC - DFID Impact Initiative, CROP, ACPF, EDRI and the MoWCA. How to make social protection work for children is one of four conference themes.

Recent:

[A universal basic income: the solution to ending extreme poverty?](#)

8 June 2017

ATD Fourth World organised a panel discussion at the UN with Philip Alston, the Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights on the subject of a universal basic income. Isabelle Doresse, the person responsible for ATD People's Universities in the north of France, talked about the reactions of people living in extreme poverty to the idea of a universal basic income.

Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors (GCSPF) at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2017

10-19 July 2017, New York, USA

Members of the GCSPF participated in the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.

Members of the GCSPF co-organised the two side events:

- “Global Partnership on Universal Social Protection: Ending Poverty by 2030” - [We need a change in paradigm](#) regarding Social Protection as a Human Right. Every right has a right holder and a duty bearer and [Universal Social Protection: End poverty and reduce inequality](#) a GCSPF article discussing the event and;
- “Universal Social Protection: End poverty and reduce inequality” - [Guaranteeing SPFs as a prerequisite for SDGs realization](#) regarding all children having the right to achieve the full development of their capabilities and potentialities.

Strengthening coherence between agriculture and social protection - recorded webinar

18 May 2017

FAO have launched this Social Protection Technical Network webinar which includes learning from the experiences of Lesotho and Rwanda.

SOCIAL PROTECTION TRAINING AND COURSES

Forthcoming:

CSP short course ‘Social Protection: Policies, programmes and evidence’

25-28 June 2018, Brighton, United Kingdom

The fifth round of the Centre for Social Protection’s annual short course ‘Social Protection: Policies, programmes and evidence’ is planned to take place from 25 June to 28 June 2018 (to be confirmed). More information will be available on the IDS website soon.

Designing and Implementing Social Transfer Programmes

2-13 October 2017, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Annually held in Chiang Mai, this short course provides policymakers, government officials and practitioners with an in-depth understanding of the conceptual and practical issues involved in the development of social transfer programmes. The course is offered by the Economic Policy Research Institute and HelpAge International in partnership with UNU-Maastricht and the Institute of Development Studies. The [Ageing and Pension Systems course](#), 9-13 October 2017, offered by HelpAge International and the International Labour Organisation will prepare participants to engage in policy processes in their own countries on the design and implementation of pension systems. This five-day course is being offered as an elective for the wider two-week course. Participants have the option of attending the whole course or attending the elective on its own.

Recent:

Diakonia in the time of Inequality - Sigtuna Statement on Theology, Tax and Social Protection

January 2017, Sigtuna, Sweden

The Church of Sweden International Department organised for representatives of 25 churches and ecumenical organisations from 20 countries to gather to explore the role of the Church and the resources of diakonia in promoting just societies, where wealth is shared fairly for the good of all and social protection is guaranteed as the right of all - so that no one shall be left behind. They present a theological justification for taxation and social protection, and what they believe is the Church’s response and mandate in this time of inequality.

NEW PUBLICATIONS:

[Shame, Poverty and Social Protection](#)

IDS Working Paper 489, June 2017, Keetie Roelen

Despite long-standing conceptual considerations of shame in understanding poverty and debates about its moral, social and emotional qualities, the role of shame in poverty reduction policies remains largely unexplored. Notions of shame or mechanisms leading to shame - such as stigma or lack of dignity or respect - feature in many studies and policy evaluations, yet few studies have considered the interaction between shame, poverty and policy as its core focus. A recent blog post also discusses the issues of shame and shaming: [‘Is there such a good thing as ‘good shame’ or ‘positive shaming’?’](#)

[How to Make ‘Cash Plus’ work: Linking Cash Transfers to Services and Sectors](#)

UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti Working Paper WP-2017-10, 2017, K. Roelen, S. Devereux, A-G. Abdulai, B. Martorano, T. Palermo; L. G. Ragno

This paper aims to identify key factors for successful implementation of increasingly popular ‘cash plus’ programmes, based on (i) a review of the emerging evidence base of ‘cash plus’ interventions and (ii) an examination of three case studies, namely, Chile Solidario in Chile, IN-SCT in Ethiopia and LEAP in Ghana.

[Social Protection and resilience building: Supporting Livelihoods in Protracted Crises, Fragile and Humanitarian Contexts](#)

FAO Position paper, 2017, N. Winder Rossi, F. Spano, R. Sabates-Wheeler, S. Kohnstamm and P. Harvey

This paper discusses the role social protection can play in saving livelihoods while also enhancing the capacity of households to respond, cope and withstand threats and crises. It focuses on social protection’s role in protracted crises and fragile and humanitarian contexts, as well as discusses the importance of shock-response systems, even in stable contexts.

[Assessing the capacity of local administration and community structures to deliver social protection programmes](#)

OPM Working Paper, May 2017, Andrew Kardan, Andrew Wyatt, Ramlatu Attah, Paul Quarles van Ufford

With the expansion of social protection programmes and services and emergence of nascent social protection systems in Sub-Saharan Africa, greater attention is being paid to the capacity of these systems to deliver. In a number of these countries, there is greater reliance on local government structures in management and delivery of these programmes. Moreover, these local administrative units, in turn, depend heavily on voluntary community structures to support delivery of these programmes. Taking a pragmatic and problem driven approach, this paper focuses on the performance of these local and community-based structures in delivering the social protection systems that they are tasked to support. It draws in particular on evidence from assessments carried out Zambia and Kenya, which seek to answer how well the systems are performing and assess the capacity of existing structures to deliver cash transfer and other social protection programmes in accordance with their original design.

[Bihar Child Support Programme: Impact Evaluation Endline Report](#)

OPM, Impact Evaluation Endline Report, July 2017

Oxford Policy Management (OPM) has recently completed the mixed methods impact evaluation of the BCSP, a conditional cash transfer pilot which targeted pregnant women and mothers of young children with the aim of reducing maternal and child undernutrition, operating in Bihar, India. A [visual executive summary](#) and [infographics](#) are also available.

[Cash transfers and older people access to healthcare: a multi-country study in Ethiopia, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe](#)

HelpAge International Report, 2017, Flavia Galvani Silvia Stefanoni and Camilla Williamson

This report presents the findings of the Social Protection and Access to Health Services for Older People in Ethiopia, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe study into the relationship between cash transfers and older people's access to health services.

Cash transfer programmes for managing climate risk. Evidence from a randomized experiment in Zambia

FAO, Report, 2017, S. Asfaw, A. Carraro, B. Davis, S. Handa, D. Seidenfeld

Cash transfer programmes are increasingly being used to combat poverty and hunger as well as to shape the human capital of future generations. Even though most of these programmes are not explicitly designed to help households manage climate risk, there are good reasons to expect that cash transfers can help build household resilience against climatic risk. This study aims to provide an empirical analysis of the effect of weather risk on the welfare of rural households using impact evaluation data from the Zambia Child Grant Programme (CGP), together with a set of novel weather variation indicators.

FAO Social Protection Framework: Promoting rural development for all

FAO, Framework, 2017

This Framework presents the FAO vision and approach to social protection. FAO recognizes the critical role social protection plays in furthering and accelerating progress around food security and nutrition, agriculture development, rural poverty and resilience building. French, Spanish and Russian versions will be available shortly.

Livelihood Impacts of Cash Transfers in Sub-Saharan Africa: Beneficiary Perspectives from Six Countries

World Development Volume 99, November 2017, Pages 299-319, Eleanor Fisher, Ramlatu Attah, Valentina Barca, Clare O'Brien, Simon Brook, Jeremy Holland, Andrew Kardan, Sara Pavanello, Pamela Pozarny

Cash transfers (CTs) are a social protection mechanism to reduce the poorest households' vulnerability to shocks and build human capital by smoothing consumption and sustaining expenditure on education and social welfare. This study examines whether and how CTs go beyond welfare objectives to promote livelihoods. Presenting a cross-case analysis using original qualitative data on beneficiary perspectives from six African countries—Kenya, Ethiopia, Malawi, Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Ghana—it explores CT livelihood impacts within household economies and social networks, paying attention to gender issues.

Non-State Social Protection Actors and Services in Africa. Governance Below the State

Routledge, 2018, Nicholas Awortwi and Gregor Walter-Drop (eds)

This book outlines insightful and valuable research generated by teams of established scholars. It is divided into nine studies exploring the governance of non-state actors in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda. It examines the numerous self-help groups and their effectiveness, and argues that if the modern management model is right - why do so many Africans avoid interacting with it? The book provides a warning against undermining what is possibly the single greatest social protection resource throughout Africa in the name of "reform", and suggests that the modern welfare establishment needs to adapt to (and learn from) self-help groups - not the other way around.

SDG Baseline Report on Children in Indonesia

Government of Indonesia and UNICEF Report, July 2017

This report establishes a disaggregated baseline for children across priority SDGs in Indonesia. This important policy tool helps to make children visible in data and to monitor progress towards the achievement of the SDGs.

Shock-Responsive Social Protection Systems Research

OPM, Literature Review, 2nd Edition, March 2017

The Shock-Responsive Social Protection Systems study is a two-year research programme (2015 to 2017) led by Oxford Policy Management (OPM), in consortium with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), the Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP) and INASP. Its aim is to strengthen the evidence base as to when and how social protection systems can better respond to shocks in low-income countries and fragile and conflict-affected states, thus minimising negative shock impacts and reducing the need for separate humanitarian responses. A range of evidence from case studies on shock responsive social protection has also been published by OPM:

- a recent [review with a Latin America focus](#);
- a [Philippines case study report](#) and [summary policy brief](#);
- a [Pakistan case study report](#) and [summary policy brief](#);
- and a [case study on Ecuador's experience](#) ([Spanish version](#) and [webinar](#)).

[The economic case for the expansion of social protection programmes](#)

FAO Brief, 2017, FAO, UNICEF, ILO

This brief brings together the critical mass of evidence emerging from recent rigorous impact evaluations of government-run cash transfer programmes in seven countries in sub-Saharan Africa. These assessments have been developed under the Transfer Project / From Protection to Production (PtoP) initiative, led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in partnership with national governments and research organizations.

[The feasibility of a universal social pension in the Philippines](#)

Coalition of Services of the Elderly and HelpAge International Report, January 2017, Charles Knox-Vydmanov, Daniel Horn, and Aura Sevilla

Following the first report "[The Philippine Social Pension at Four Years: Insights and Recommendations](#)" published last year, this report focuses on the question of whether a universal social pension would be appropriate and feasible in a country like the Philippines. It presents the current state of the pension system, rationale for a universal pension, its design options and affordability.

[The household and individual-level economic impacts of cash transfer programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

FAO, Cross country report, 2017, S. Daidone, B. Davis, P. Winters, S. Handa

This report synthesizes the analysis and findings of a set of seven country impact evaluation studies that explore the impact of cash transfer programmes on household economic decision-making, productive activities and labour allocation in sub-Saharan Africa. The seven countries are Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[The Social Cash Transfer Programme and the Farm Input Subsidy Programme in Malawi](#)

FAO, Report, 2017, N. Pace, S. Daidone, B. Davis, S. Handa, M. Knowles, R. Pickmans

The Government of Malawi is currently reviewing the Farm Input Subsidy Programme (FISP), which was initiated in 2005/2006, as a programme to combat poverty and food insecurity. This paper is intended to inform the FISP review and, in particular, how it can be coordinated with the Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP), in order to enable the FISP to more effectively fulfil its objectives of reducing poverty and food insecurity.

[Women Informal Workers Mobilizing for Child Care](#)

WIEGO Child Care Initiative, 2017, Rachel Moussié

Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing & Organizing (WIEGO) recently launched its Child Care Initiative which aims to support informal workers to mobilise for quality public child care provision as key component of livelihood protection.

[Zanzibar universal pension: baseline survey](#)

HelpAge International Report, April 2017, Flavia Galvani and Charles Knox-Vydmanov

This report documents the findings of a baseline survey conducted in Zanzibar by the ESRF on behalf of HelpAge International. As well as providing a baseline for researching the impact of the Zanzibar Universal Pension Scheme, the survey also gives a sense of the situation of older people aged 70 and over in Zanzibar.

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.

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