

# Social protection, agriculture and the PtoP project

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# What do we mean by social protection and agriculture?

- Small holder agricultural policies focus on improving
  - Productivity
  - Access to markets
  - Integration into value chains
  - Sustainable management of natural resources
- Social protection policies focus on
  - Reducing social and economic risk and vulnerability
  - Alleviating extreme poverty and deprivation
  - Taking into account
    - Context, age and gender-specific risks and vulnerabilities throughout lifecycle
  - Without forgetting that most important insurance and safety net mechanism is informal—**social networks of reciprocity**

# Social protection can address demand and/or supply constraints

- Demand side
  - Overcoming economic (and social) barriers to access and utilization of services by increasing demand
    - From education to health to livelihoods
- Supply side
  - Special efforts to make services available to vulnerable populations
  - Certain types of programs geared towards vulnerable populations
    - ECD
    - Farmer field schools

# When is an agricultural intervention a social protection intervention?

- High Level Panel of Experts: agricultural interventions such as input subsidies are social protection
- Prefer to call them agricultural interventions that have a social protection function
  - May help reduce vulnerability and management of risk by increasing output and overall welfare of **most marginalized**
  - Otherwise confuse objectives
    - Increase output and production, or support most vulnerable?
- When specifically focused **on poorest and most vulnerable**, can become social protection interventions
  - Same for all sectoral interventions (from education to health to agriculture)

# When social protection and agriculture come together

- Small holder family target of both agricultural and social protection policy
- Most SP beneficiaries work for themselves
- For example, agriculture is fundamental part of livelihoods of Kenya CT-OVC beneficiaries
  - Over 80% produce crops; over 75% have livestock
  - Most grow local maize and beans, using traditional technology and low levels of modern inputs
  - Most have low levels of assets
    - few acres of agricultural land, few small animals, basic agricultural tools and low levels of education
  - 1/4 of adults worked in casual wage labor, 1/3 in own non ag business, 1/5 private transfers
  - 42% of children worked on family farm

# When social protection and agriculture come together

- Missing/poorly functioning markets link production and consumption activities
  - Credit, insurance, labor and input market failures
  - Constrain economic decisions in investment, production, labor allocation, risk taking
    - “Safety first”, short time horizon, etc
- Implications for “social” — conditioned by livelihoods
  - Labor allocation (adults and children), including domestic chores
  - Investment in schooling and health
  - Food consumption, dietary diversity and nutrition
  - Intra household decision making (dynamic between men and women, old and young)

# 6 ways in which social protection is related to agriculture



# 1. Improve human capital

- Nutritional status
- Health status
- Educational attainment

enhance productivity  
(agriculture and non agriculture  
business, wage labor)

improve employability



Typically core objectives of CT programs

Underlying rationale for CCTs, school bursaries, school feeding programs, elimination of user fees, etc.

## 2. Facilitate change in productive activities

By relaxing credit, savings and/or liquidity constraints

- Accumulation of productive assets
  - Farm implements, land, livestock, inventory
- Investment in productive activities
  - Increased use of modern inputs
  - From working off farm (ganyu) to working on farm
  - From sharecropping out to working own land
- Change in productive strategies
  - New crops, techniques
  - New line of products or services
  - New activities (retail, food preparation, migration, etc)

# 3. Better ability to deal with risk and shocks

By providing insurance via regular and predictable social protection

- Avoid detrimental risk coping strategies
  - Distress sales of productive assets
  - Children school drop-out
  - Risky income-generation activities
  - Premature sales
- Avoid risk averse production and income generation strategies
  - Reduce reliance on ganyu/agricultural wage labor
  - Permit specialization or diversification

## 4. Relieve pressure on informal insurance mechanisms

By providing regular and predictable social protection to the poorest and most vulnerable

- Reduce burden on social networks
  - Local networks of reciprocal relationships
- Rejuvenate social networks
- Allow poorest to participate in social networks

## 5. Strengthen the local economy

By injecting relatively large amounts of cash into a local economy, and/or building community assets

- Multiplier effects on local goods and labor markets via economic linkages
- Public works: creation of public goods/assets

## 6. Increase resilience

Earlier pathways together lead to **increasing resilience** and **reducing vulnerability** at the level of the individual, household, community and local economy

1. Human capital formation
2. Change/adaptation in productive activities
3. Better ability to deal with risk
4. Reduced pressure on informal insurance networks
5. Strengthened resilience of the local economy



**climate change adaptation**

# What does the evidence say?

- Lots of evidence on human capital
  - Poverty, food security and food consumption
  - Nutrition, health and education
- Relatively few studies on risks and shocks
- Relatively even fewer studies on
  - Productive activities
  - Social networks
  - Multiplier effects
  - Climate change adaptation

# Social protection unlikely to be enough to bring households out of poverty—the role of agriculture

- Cannot replace sector economic development strategy, nor a motor of growth in and of itself
- Over two thirds of rural Africa dependent on agriculture for livelihoods
  - Over 60 per cent of all employed women have jobs related to agriculture
- Almost three quarters of economically active rural population are smallholders, most producing significant share of own food
- Small holder agriculture as key for rural poverty reduction and food security
  - Relies on increased productivity, profitability and sustainability of small holder farming
- **Social protection and agriculture need to form part of strategy of rural development**



# The emerging role of FAO

- Interface between social protection, food and nutrition security, agriculture and livelihoods
- Our work focuses on supporting government and development partners in
  - Maximizing synergies between social protection and agricultural policies
  - Articulating coordinated strategy for rural development
- This involves
  - Developing capacities, policy and programming advice, facilitating policy dialogue, **generating actionable knowledge, and developing analytical and policy tools**

# What is PtoP?

## The From Protection to Production Project

- Within the Transfer Project, a focus on understanding economic impacts of cash transfer programs
- Works with government and development partners in 7 countries in Sub Saharan Africa
- Joint with UNICEF-ESARO
- Primary funding from DFID (2011-2014)



# The seven government-led cash transfer programs

- Kenya
  - Cash Transfer Program for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (CT-OVC)
- Lesotho
  - Child Grants Program (CGP)
- Ghana
  - Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty program (LEAP)
- Ethiopia
  - Tigray Social Cash Transfer Program (SCTP)
- Malawi
  - Social Cash Transfer program (SCT)
- Zambia
  - Child Grant Program (CGP)
- Zimbabwe
  - Harmonized Social Cash Transfer program (HSCT)

# Main topics of study

- Impact of cash transfer programs on
  - Household and individual level productive decisions (or livelihoods)
    - Investment/change in productive activities (agricultural and non agricultural)
    - Labor supply on and off farm and domestic activities
  - Risk coping strategies
  - Social networks
  - Community dynamics
  - Local economy income multiplier

# Extensions

- Child labor
  - Understanding Child Work
  - UNICEF, ILO and World Bank
- Climate change adaptation
  - Economics and Policy Innovations in Climate-Smart Agriculture (EPIC) project at FAO

# Mixed method approach

- Household and individual level impacts via econometric methods based on impact evaluation design
  - **FAO**
- Local economy effects via CGE (LEWIE) modeling
  - **UC Davis**
- Perceptions on household economy and decision making, social networks and local community dynamics via qualitative methods
  - **OPM**

# PtoP research activities

- Preparation of methodological guidelines
- Finance, design, pilot and supervise implementation of
  - Business enterprise survey,
  - Additional modules in household surveys, and
  - Qualitative field work
- Provide technical assistance/quality assurance on impact evaluation design, data collection and analysis
- Prepare and distribute analytical outputs
  - Integrating mixed method approach in national studies
  - Cross country studies

# And from research to policy

- Prepare and distribute research and policy briefs
- Integrate analysis into national, regional and global policy processes
- Supporting the Transfer Project community of practice on impact evaluation
- Supporting the World Bank-UNICEF community of practice on cash transfer programs in Sub Saharan Africa

# PtoP feeds into better understanding of linkages between social protection and agriculture

- Contribute to policy debate
  - Understand overall contribution of social protection programs to poverty reduction (cost-effectiveness)
  - Political economy: more support for social protection programs
  - Articulation as part of rural development strategy
- Contribute to program design
  - Confront potential synergies and constraints
  - Insight into complementary interventions
  - Link to graduation strategies

# Partnerships

Guiding principle:

piggy-back on/add value to existing impact evaluations

- Under the umbrella of the “Transfer Project”
- Strong partnership with Government and UNICEF country offices currently implementing impact evaluations
  - Plus DFID and World Bank country teams where applicable
- Collaboration with independent external evaluators
- EU/FAO Improved Global Governance for Hunger Reduction
- World Bank on local economy effects
- IPC-IG (UNDP) on global studies/policy briefs
- UCW on child labor
- FAO-EPIC on climate change adaptation
- FMM on governance and targeting



# Where are we now?

	household level analysis	local economy analysis	qualitative analysis
Ghana LEAP	Draft	Final	Final
Kenya CT-OVC	Final	Final	Final
Lesotho CGP	2013	Final	Final
Ethiopia SCTP	2014	Draft	2014
Zimbabwe HSCT	2015	2014	Final
Malawi SCT	2015	2014	2014
Zambia CGP	Draft	Draft	NA
Cross country	2015	2014	2014

- Ongoing outputs: reports, policy and research briefs, videos and peer-reviewed journal publications

# Update on country activities

- Kenya CT-OVC
  - 3 rounds of household survey (2007, 2009, 2011)
  - 1 round of business enterprise survey (2011)
  - 1 round of qualitative field work (2012)
  - Household, local economy and qualitative reports finalized
  - Partner: UNC and Research Solutions
- Lesotho CGP
  - 2 rounds of household survey (2011, 2013)
  - 1 round of business enterprise survey (2011)
  - 1 round of qualitative field work (2013)
  - Local economy study finalized
  - Draft qualitative study
  - Partner: OPM and Sechaba Consultants
- Ghana LEAP
  - 2 rounds of household survey (2010, 2012)
  - 1 round of business enterprise survey (2012)
  - 1 round of qualitative field work (2012)
  - Local economy and qualitative reports finalized
  - Draft household study
  - Partner: UNC and ISSER

# Update on country activities

- Ethiopia Tigray SCTP
  - 2 rounds of household surveys (2012, 2014)
  - 1 round of business enterprise survey (2012)
  - 1 round of qualitative field work (2014)
  - Draft local economy study
  - Partner: IFPRI, IDS and Mekelle University
- Malawi SCT expansion
  - 2 rounds of household surveys (2013, 2014)
  - 1 round of business enterprise survey (2013)
  - 1 round of qualitative field work (2014)
  - Partner: UNC and CSR
- Zambia CGP
  - 3 rounds of household surveys (2010, 2012, 2013)
  - 1 round of business enterprise survey (2012)
  - Draft household and local economy studies
  - Partner: AIR, UNC and Palm Associates
- Zimbabwe HSCT
  - 3 rounds of household surveys (2013, 2014, 2015)
  - 1 round of business enterprise survey (2013)
  - 1 round of qualitative field work (2012)
  - Qualitative study finalized
  - Partner: AIR, UNC and Ruzivo Trust

# What do we want to get out of this **workshop**?

- Presentation and discussion of results
- Improved integration of different components of project
  - As we continue to carry out field work and analysis
  - As input into policy process
- Discussion of experiences/best practices as we move across countries
- Discussion and resolution of challenges and constraints we may be facing
- Some critical perspective on our approach and our work
- Where should we go next?

# Our websites

From Protection to Production Project

<http://www.fao.org/economic/PtoP/en/>

The Transfer Project

<http://www.cpc.unc.edu/projects/transfer>

