

SOCIAL PROTECTION WORKING GROUP

SOCIAL PROTECTION BRIEF

22 - DECEMBER 2022

AT A GLANCE

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DEAR MEMBERS OF THE EADI SOCIAL PROTECTION

WORKING GROUP,

This is the **29**th **edition** of our Social Protection Brief. On the left-hand side you can find a short list of the sections included.

> Best Regards, Callistus Agbaam

PUBLICATIONS

Was COVID-19 good or bad for Social Protection by Stephen Devereux. In SASPEN Brief, 2022/4.

This Special Brief is based on the Keynote Address by Prof. Stephen Devereux at the 9th SASPEN Annual Conference in 2022, themed, "Social Protection at a Crossroads: Between COVID-19 and the SDGs — Southern African Perspectives." It looks at the onset of COVID-19, the impact of the pandemic, and the response to the pandemic by African countries. But before delving into this key question, the author looks at the recent history of social protection in Africa broken down into 4 phases; the inception, expansion, consolidation and institutionalisation of social protection. The brief then addresses the key question by showing the influence the pandemic had on social protection systems in African countries, drawing particular attention to the gaps in the systems, as well as possible outcomes when it comes to the individual countries' priorities in the next few years.

^{*} The content of this Brief lies within the responsibility of the working group members.

<u>Social Protection and Social Cohesion in times of the COVID -19 Pandemic: Evidence from Kenya.</u>
By Strupat Christoph in European Journal of Development Research (2022)

This paper examines empirically whether social protection in the form of social assistance programmes are affecting social cohesion during the COVID-19 pandemic. Using unique primary data from nationally representative, in-person surveys from Kenya allows for the exploration of the effect of social protection on attributes of social cohesion. The analysis employs a difference-in-differences approach that compares households with and without social assistance coverage before and after the first wave of the pandemic. The main findings show that social assistance does not influence attributes of social cohesion. One potential explanation of this result is that social assistance benefits were in general too small to entirely offset the negative economic consequences of the pandemic. Overall, these results point to the limitations of social assistance programmes that do not necessarily affect social cohesion in times of large covariate shocks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

<u>Social Protection Intervention: Evaluation Design</u> by Giel Ton, Keetie Roelen, Neil Howard and Lopita Hug In CLARISSA Research and Evidence Paper 3.(2022)

This paper describes the research design for investigating and evaluating the Child Labour: Action-Research-Innovation in South and South-Eastern Asia (CLARISSA) social protection cash-plus intervention in a slum in Dhaka, Bangladesh. After an introductory section, the second section elaborates on contribution analysis — the methodological approach underpinning the research design. The third section provides an overview of the intervention, and the fourth explores the overall design of the evaluation, its guiding framework, and the timeline of the intervention rollout and data collection. The fifth and sixth sections address the project's suite of quantitative and qualitative methods, and the approach to data analysis.

BLOGS/PODCAST

 Blog post by Ugo Gentilini detailing 10 suggested readings on cash transfers: https://blogs.worldbank.org/developmenttalk/10-suggested-readings-cash-transfers?auHash=oUzZYLVitDHjH4cPsywuT9yMzrGYLbyFr_3_6SwY8k0

OTHER NEWS

IDS Social Protection Conference - September 2023

The Centre for Social Protection at IDS is organizing a conference in September 2023. The organizers invite both academic and policy-oriented proposals for presentation of (i) full papers, (ii) poster or (iii) outputs using other formats (e.g. digital or arts-based), to be prepared ahead of the conference. Please specify the type of output in your proposal. Proposals must not exceed 500 words (one page). The conference will be conducted in English. Submissions should be sent to CSPconference@ids.ac.uk.

DEADLINE: 15 January 2023

For more details please see the link below

https://www.ids.ac.uk/download.php?file=wp-content/uploads/2022/11/CSP_Conference_2023_Call-for-Papers_final.pdf

Apply Now for the Master's Programme in Social Protection (M.Sc.)

Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences is happy to announce that the application period for its **winter semester 2023/2024** intake will be opening on January 15. If you want to gain deeper insights into the constitutive elements, driving forces and instruments of social protection systems, covering low-, middle- as well as high income countries, learn how to analyze, reform and finance social protection interventions, and build an interdisciplinary network, the two-year tuition-free master's programme "Social Protection" might be exactly what you are looking for.

More information is available on the programme website.

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