

EADI “Social Protection” Working Group

3rd Social Protection Brief – 03/15

STUDY PROGRAMMES

➤ **Call for Application: Master of Arts in “Analysis and Design of Social Protection Systems”**

The master was created as an **international study programme** and is now offered **tuition free** by the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences in Germany. It aims to reach students from low- and high-income countries, who are particularly interested in gaining deeper insights into the characteristics, determinants and instruments of social protection systems and want to engage in an interdisciplinary and intercultural exchange. The blend of face-to-face (1st Semester) and online learning (2nd Semester) courses offer highest possible flexibility, without compromising on personal mentoring and network building.

Interested candidates may apply now until **April 30, 2015**. In order to apply please follow this link: <http://ma-socialprotection.de/master-programme/application/>

For **more information** contact info@ma-socialprotection.de or via phone at +49 (2241) 865 161.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

➤ **Launch of the DFID-funded research on shock-responsive social protection systems in March 2015.**

The overall aim of this programme is to strengthen the evidence base on efficient and effective shock-responsive social protection, particularly in slow-onset and protracted crises contexts. Applying the learning to our bilateral programmes in LICs (Low Income Countries) and FCAS (Fragile and Conflict Affected States), and strengthening our multilateral investments particularly in the Sahel, will contribute to reduced household vulnerability to shocks and minimise disaster losses. More broadly the overarching purpose of the research is to invest relatively small amounts of money to influence and improve larger social protection programming investments, and reduce humanitarian response needs. The UK will provide up to £1million over 2 years (2014-2016) to improve the evidence base on where, when and how social protection programmes and systems in LICs and FCAS can scale-up in response to shocks, thus minimising their impact and reducing the need for humanitarian interventions.

The research will be conducted by a consortium composed of OPM (lead), ODI, CaLP and INASP.

The project manager can be contacted at: Clare O'Brien, clare.obrien@opml.co.uk

- **Launch of the NWO-WOTRO funded research project “Breaking the Vicious Circle between Poverty and Ill-Health. Are cash transfers and social health protection policies in Ghana and Kenya mutually complementing?”**

The research project aims at developing new strategic knowledge on the effectiveness of cash transfer programs and social health protection policies in Ghana and Kenya with respect to the accumulation of health-related human capital and its spill-over effects on further intermediate inclusive growth objectives, including labour participation, asset accumulation and equality. It seeks to understand if and under which conditions these policies are mutually complementary. It further extends existing research by combining cost-effectiveness with political-economic considerations. The research employs a within-country comparison across time using existing household level data. Thereby, it addresses in particular poor women and children as these groups are among the most vulnerable population groups

This project is funded by NOW-WOTRO with 300 000 Euro. The duration of the project is 2 years, starting as of mid-May 2015. The international consortium consists of the University of Amsterdam, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, University of Nairobi in Kenya, University of Ghana in Accra and the University of Development Studies in Tamale, Ghana, as well as the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI). Furthermore, the project will work together with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP), Government of Ghana, the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Services (MoLSSS), Government of Kenya, and the two NGOs Social Enterprise Development Foundation Western Ghana (SEND) and Kenya Community Based Health Financing Association (KCBHFA).

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ADVISORY PROGRAMMES

- **In January 2015 the third phase of the Advisory Service in Social Transfers (ASiST) was launched.**

ASiST is a service of the European Commission to deliver technical assistance to partner countries and European Union Delegations in addressing food and nutrition security through national social transfer programme. The team leader can be contacted at Nicholas.Freeland@ASiST.support

RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

- **Cécile Cherrier, 2015:** 'Examining the Catalytic Effect of Aid on Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Transfers in Low-Income Countries', UNRISD Working Paper 2015-3, available at <http://www.unrisd.org/cherrier>

- **Stephen Devereux, Keetie Roelen and Martina Ulrichs, 2015:** Where next for Social Protection? Final report of the project commissioned from the Centre for Social Protection (CSP) under an Accountable Grant between the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

The report describes the evolution of social protection thinking and practice, from its origins in 1980s safety nets through to current agendas around systems and 'social protection floors'. It compares social protection trajectories across different regions – Latin America, Asia and Africa. Drivers of change that might influence social protection in the future are identified in five categories: social (e.g. demographic shifts and urbanisation), technological (delivery mechanisms, social media), economic (e.g. 'casualisation' of labour), environmental (climate change) and political (national political commitments, global development policies). Other issues that are likely to dominate social protection debates include: building national systems, challenges of fiscal affordability, understanding political drivers, strengthening linkages with labour markets, and extending coverage to reach the excluded. Finally, the Foresight workshops affirmed that the future evolution of social protection is likely to be context-specific rather than convergent, and that the trajectory in each country will mainly be determined by shifting interactions between political regimes and institutional capacities.

- **Markus Kaltenborn, 2015:** Social Rights and International Development. Global Legal Standards for the Post-2015 Development Agenda, SpringerBriefs in Law, Heidelberg: Springer, available at <http://www.springer.com/law/international/book/978-3-662-45351-3>

- **Contribution of the Centre for Social Protection (CSP) at IDS** to online consultation process for **Promoting inclusiveness in the Dutch policy agenda on trade and international cooperation**

In October 2014, Dutch Minister Lillianne Ploumen for International Trade and Development Cooperation committed to sending a letter to Parliament in spring 2015 regarding the inclusiveness of Dutch international development, considering how inclusiveness can be more strongly integrated in projects and programmes within the framework of current policy for trade and international cooperation. An online consultation process welcomes contributions from in- and outside of the Netherlands to inform the preparation of this letter. The Centre for Social Protection (CSP) at IDS argues for an inclusive approach to social protection – 'Inclusive Social Protection', in support of inclusive social and economic development. Key steps towards achieving this include the acknowledgment that social protection is a human right, a scaling up and institutionalisation of interventions and the inclusion of everyone - poor and vulnerable - in comprehensive social protection systems. The contribution can be found here: <http://includeplatform.net/contribution/inclusive-social-protection-inclusive-development/>