



KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM ON INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

THE “BUSINESS CASE” FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION

WHO KNOWS MOST ABOUT SOCIAL PROTECTION?

21 June 2018

INCLUDE synthesis: the 'business case' for social protection in Sub-Saharan Africa

The 'business case' for social protection: how can social protection programmes contribute to inclusive growth?

Synthesis based on state of the art literature on three topics

- 1) How can social protection programmes contribute to inclusive growth?
- 2) What social protection programmes are most cost-effective?
- 3) How can the coordination and implementation of social protection programmes be improved?



----- PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES -----

Protection

Prevention

Promotion

----- TYPES OF PROGRAMMES -----

Income transfers

Unconditional cash transfers

Conditional cash transfers

Social pensions (older and disabled people)

Child and family allowances

Other transfers

In-kind transfers

Public works/employment guarantee

Food for work

Vouchers (education, health)

Fee waiver

Health fee waiver

Insurances

Health insurance

Asset insurance

Unemployment benefits

Survivor benefits

Additional social policies:

- Education (primary, secondary, tertiary)
- Community and livelihood development
- Entrepreneurship promotion

- Health care (including maternal and child health)
- Work legislation (minimum wage, work standards)
- Psycho-social support

- Skills training
- Mentoring
- Infrastructure development

- Others

----- FOR WHOM -----

Universal

Targeted

Poor households

Children

Mothers

Elderly people

Disabled people

(Informal) workers

Farmers

Unemployed people

Food insecure people

Displaced people

Widows/widowers

Others

----- TYPES OF IMPACTS -----

<-- Direct effects

Indirect effects -->

Income

Access to services

Food security

Consumption

Health

Economic Growth

Reduced income inequality

Others

Human Security

Resilience

Employment rate

School attendance

Productivity

Asset building

Reduced child work

Rules of the quiz

- There are 15 questions with 4 multiple choice options, you need to guess the correct answer
- The questions will be read twice in English, then you have 20 seconds to record the correct answer
- Hold up the correct answer, every option A-B-C-D is written on a colored card
- You will keep your own score of correct answers and we expect you to keep your score truthfully
- The person(s) with the best score will gather for a final question which will determine the winner of the quiz

Let's practice: example question 1

What makes INCLUDE unique?

- A Overarching theme to promote inclusive development
- B Mix of African and Western experts
- C Connect research, policy and practice for knowledge sharing
- D All of the above

Time is up!

INCLUDE

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Answer example question 1

What makes INCLUDE unique:
overarching theme to promote inclusive development; mix of African and Western experts; connect research, policy and practice for knowledge sharing

Source: includeplatform.net

Aim

Development policies that are **more inclusive** and **more effective** in reducing inequality and generating improved social and economic conditions for all

What?

INCLUDE promotes **evidence-based policymaking on inclusive development in Africa** through 3 types of activities:

Research



Knowledge sharing



Policy dialogue



How?

• 17 research groups

27 Platform members

Question of the Week

Knowledge Base for Policy

7 African Policy Dialogues

International conferences

Themes

Inclusive Development in Africa

Productive Employment • Strategic Actors • Social Protection

Countries

Benin • Ethiopia • Ghana • Mozambique • Kenya • Rwanda • Uganda

Let's practice: example question 2

What is the primary mandate of the Economic Policy and Research Centre (EPRC)?

- A Establish policy linkages and networks at national and international level
- B Conduct evidence based research and policy analysis
- C Build capacity of stakeholders to utilize research in policy processes
- D All of the above

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Answer example question 2

What is the primary mandate of the Economic Policy and Research Centre (EPRC)?

- The Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) is Uganda's leading think tank in economic research and development policy
- The Centre's Mission is to foster sustainable growth and development of the Ugandan economy by advancing the role of research in policy processes. Therefore the Centre's primary mandate is to conduct evidence based research and policy analysis.

Source: EPRCUG.org

Question 1

Question 1

There is a fear among policy makers that cash transfers, particularly targeted towards young children, will increase fertility of families trying to gain eligibility for programs. This is:



- A True, however most evidence is from Latin America where programs are conditional
- B Mostly false in the context of SSA, with the exception of South Africa
- C False, in fact early pregnancy declines among female youth in several countries
- D False, but only in cases where there is good access to health services

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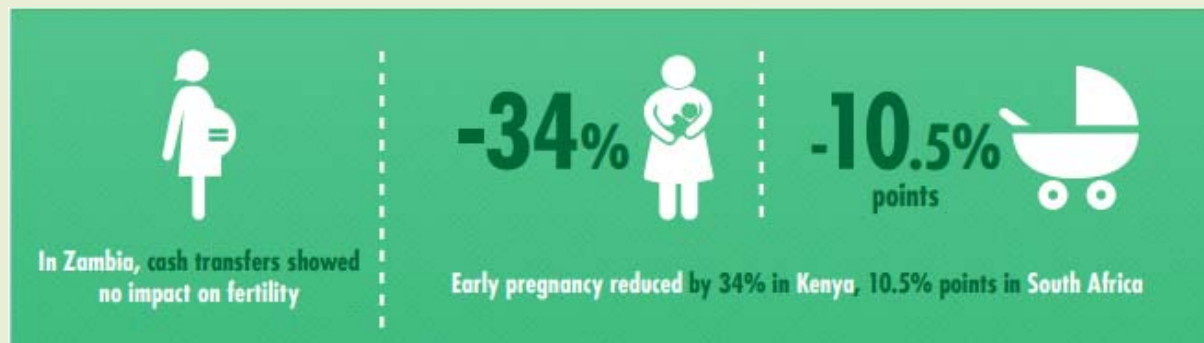


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Answer question 1

There is a fear among policy makers that cash transfers, particularly targeted towards young children, will increase fertility of families trying to gain eligibility for programs. This is *false: in fact early pregnancy declines among female youth in several countries*

- Across evaluations in Kenya, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, we find no impacts on household composition (young children) or on individual fertility



Source: [FAO & UNICEF, 2016](#)

Question 2

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In 2013, the Kenyan government introduced free maternity care and free primary care (FMC-FPC). According to INCLUDE's research, which of the following improvements in the use of maternal health care facilities in Kenya can be attributed to this policy?

- A An increase in women who had 4+ antenatal care visits (to 68% in urban areas and 51% in rural areas)
- B An increase in women who had deliveries in skilled health care facilities (to 83% in urban areas and 51% in rural areas)
- C A decrease in households making catastrophic out-of-pocket payments for health services (from 4% to 1%)
- D An increase in the number of visits to health services for babies (from 3 visits per child per year to 7 per year)

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- The INCLUDE research project 'Maternity fee waiver in Kenya' investigated the impact of the national FMC-FPC, introduced in Kenya in 2013.
- All of the trends (increase in antenatal care visits, deliveries at skilled health facilities, decrease in out-of-pocket payments, postnatal care visits) were observed by this research project.
- Yet.... 3 of the 4 trends have been observed before the introduction of the FMC-FPC already. Hence, the continuation of this trend cannot be fully attributed to the FMC-FPC
- Only the increase of antenatal care visits was a new trend.

Source: Elbers et al., 2017/ www.includeplatform.net

Question 3

Question 3

A common critique of cash transfers is that they will cause “dependency”—beneficiaries will become lazy and stop working. According to the FAO, UNICEF, WFP Transfer Project, the result of cash transfers is:



- A No change in labor participation
- B Increases in labor participation across all countries
- C No change for most countries, however increases in own farm work and decreases in casual labor for the remaining
- D Increases in labor participation, however only for households with able-bodied members

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A common critique of cash transfers is that they will cause “dependency”—beneficiaries will become lazy and stop working. 8 countries were examined and results showed that *no change for most countries, however increases in own farm work and decreases in casual labor for the remaining*

- Households are reducing participation in hard casual piece labor and switching to own farm and small business participation.



Source: FAO & UNICEF, 2017

Question 4

Question 4

Social protection programmes not only have a direct economic impact, indirect effects are substantial. For instance, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development in Uganda found that as a result of the Social Assistance Grants for Empowerment programme, the percentage of households eating fewer than two meals a day decreased by 11%. For every 1% reduction, this led to:

- A An increase in the number of students attending school and in the employment rate
- B A decrease in the number of students attending school and an increase in the employment rate
- C An increase in the number of students attending school and a decrease in the employment rate
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- **Increases in food and nutrition security are not only outcomes of social protection programmes, but means to other results as well. Food security can improve:**
 - Labor participation/productivity
 - School attendance
 - Etc.

Under SAGE, for every 1% reduction in households eating fewer than two meals a day, there has been a 2.79% increase in school attendance of students, and 1.47% increase in employment rate

Source: INCLUDE African Policy Dialogues / www.includeplatform.net

Question 5

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Studies measuring the impact of social protection on local economies often use the Local Economy-Wide Impact Evaluation Model (LEWIE). The evaluations found that the returns on investment for each dollar invested were:

- A An additional \$0.27–1.52 generated in the local economy (through multiplier effects)
- B A loss of \$0.27–1.52 in the local economy (as a result of inflation)
- C No clear impact (positive and negative spill overs even out)
- D Spillovers are too hard to measure: no results available

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- Spillover effects are hard to measure, because they are often second-order effects that go beyond the research population
- Yet, the LEWIE model is used in reviews to assess the impact on local economies
- Thome et al. (2016) used LEWIE to measure impacts in 7 countries:
 - *Income multipliers* range from 1.27 in Malawi to 2.52 in Ethiopia.
 - After accounting for inflation, the *real income multiplier* are still positive and range from 1.08 in Ghana to 1.81 in Ethiopia

Source: Thome et al., 2016

Question 6

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Research on the impact of the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) and Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) in Ghana showed different results for the extreme poor compared to other recipients. This difference was:

- A A significant increase in per capita food consumption and the size of land possessed
- B A significant increase in per capita food consumption, but no increase in the size of land possessed
- C A significant increase in the size of land possessed, but no increase in per capita food consumption
- D No improvement at all

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- The INCLUDE research project ‘Social and Health Policies for Inclusive Growth’ found:

- Explanations:

- 1) As a result of the transfer (and health expenses waived through national insurance), poor households replace lower priced with higher priced goods, formerly out of reach (e.g. buying land instead of renting land)
- 2) The lack of impact on food consumption can be explained by poor implementation and functioning to the detriment of the extreme poor

Indicator:	Full population:	Extreme poor:
Food consumption	0.198*	-0.017
Medicine expenditures	6.148*	9.900*
Land size	-0.045	0.291*
* Significant results		

Source: Pouw et al. 2017 / www.includeplatform.net

Question 7

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Insurance programmes are increasingly recognized as promising social protection programmes for inclusive growth. One example is weather index insurance (WII) for poor farmers in areas that experience drought. Research has shown mixed results: in Ghana, WII contributed to increased agricultural production, while in Ethiopia there were little to no results. Why is this the case?

- A In Ethiopia, WII interfered with the Productive Safety Net Programme
- B In Ethiopia, WII did not seem to be useful (sufficient rainfall)
- C In Ethiopia, farmers are more constrained by a lack of cash/credit than by the risk of drought
- D In Ethiopia, farmers possessed insufficient knowledge about WII for it to function well

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Insurance programmes are increasingly recognized as promising social protection programmes for inclusive growth. One example is weather index insurance (WII) for farmers in areas that experience drought. Research has shown mixed results: in Ghana, WII contributed to increased agricultural production, while in Ethiopia there were little to no results. Why is this the case? *In Ethiopia, farmers are more constrained by a lack of cash/credit than by the risk of drought*

- The INCLUDE research project 'Weather Index Insurance in Ethiopia' shows that in Tigray, Ethiopia, the farmers studied were very poor. Adding WII to the PSNP did not have large impacts on productive activities (inputs purchased, land use and labor days)
- Providing agricultural input subsidies was a more promising alternative
- Explanation: as cash/credit constraint is larger than risk constraint, increasing access to capital has larger impact.

Source: Bahray and Wong, 2018 / www.includeplatform.net

Question 8

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Research on cash transfers has shown mixed results on its impact in the long term. While some indicate that positive impacts increase over time, others have found that these impacts dissipate over time. Which factor(s) explains the difference?

- A Political stability in the country of implementation
- B Predictability, duration and the regularity of cash transfers
- C Inadequate microsimulation models to measure long-term impacts
- D All of the above

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- There is no clear explanation for the differences in impacts
- Yet, the differences between the programmes that showed positive results in the long-term and those with dissipating effects, can be found in the:
 - Regular and predictable payment of the transfer (ad hoc/lump sum or periodically)
 - Duration of the transfer programme (long-term)

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Source: INCLUDE Secretariat, Gassmann & Timar (UNU-MERIT), 2018

Question 9

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Some studies make use of microsimulation models to measure long-term impact. How did the rate of return (RoR) on education develop over time for grants under the SAGE programme in Uganda?

- A Positive RoR in the short term, negative RoR in the long term (after 10 years)
- B Negative RoR in the short term, positive RoR in the long term (after 10 years)
- C Positive RoR in the short term, negative RoR in the midterm (3–10 years), positive RoR in the long term (after 10 years)
- D No clear direction, RoR fluctuated over time

Time is up!

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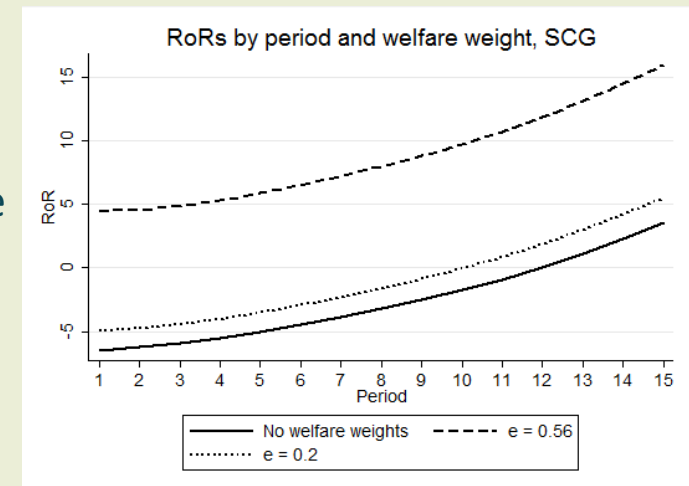
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Answer question 9

Some studies make use of microsimulation models to measure long-term impact. How did the rate of return (RoR) on education develop over time for grants under the SAGE programme in Uganda: *Negative RoR in the short term, positive RoR in the long term (after 10 years)*

- The INCLUDE research project 'Social protection in Uganda' finds negative RoR in the long-term
- Yet.. When indirect returns to education are considered, the RoR, the benefits exceed the costs after 10 years
- When additional weight is given to transfers to poor households, the RoRs are even larger.



Source: Gassmann, 2018 / www.includeplatform.net

Question 10

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Cash+ programmes or graduation programmes integrate cash transfers with complementary programmes and services (such as asset transfers, education and mentoring) in different stages of the intervention. Data collected in Ghana, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Peru after the introduction of an intervention have shown an increase in:

- A Household consumption + household assets
- B Household assets + food security
- C Household consumption + food security
- D All of the above + income, access to finance, labour, mental health and women's decision making

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- Sequenced programmes providing cash transfers, productive assets, training sessions, home visits, health information or services and financial inclusion services in different stages found results on 8 out of 10 dimensions.
- Benefits outweighed costs in 6 out of 7 locations: apart from Honduras, the benefit-cost ratio was positive, ranging from 133% in Ghana to 433% in India
- Long-term assessments showed no or only very little decline over time

Source: Banerjee et al., 2017

Question 11

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Apart from which type of programme is most effective, it is also important to ask if the programme is worth the costs incurred. In a review of three types of programmes, which was most cost-effective?

- A Lump-sum unconditional cash transfers
- B Livelihood development programmes
- C Graduation programmes
- D None were cost-effective

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Apart from which type of programme is most effective, it is also important to ask if the programme is worth the costs incurred. In a review of three types of programmes, which was most cost-effective: *Graduation programmes*

- Lump sum cash transfers (LSCT) had the largest immediate impact-cost ratio, followed by livelihood programmes and graduation programmes.
- Yet, in the long-term, LSCT did not produce significant impacts, while graduation programmes have the highest cost-effectiveness

Source: Sulaiman et al., 2016

Question 12

Question 12

The 'Crowding out-theory' suggests that increased public spending (such as on social protection) decreases private sector spending, including in the informal sector. INCLUDE's research in Uganda and Ghana found:

- A No clear evidence: results were mixed in the different countries
- B Evidence: cash transfers were not used for investments in informal settings
- C Evidence: due to lack of access to formal financial savings, households were not able to access the grants under SAGE
- D Counter-evidence: grants increased productive assets and participation in informal village saving groups

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- The research project 'Social protection in Uganda' found an increase in the participation in informal saving groups as a result of social cash transfers, both in integrated and remote areas
- The research project 'Social and Health Policies for Inclusive Growth' found positive impacts on productive assets, such as livestock, and land for the poor

Source: Gassmann, 2018; Pouw, 2018

Question 13

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Considering the efficient allocation of resources, which of the following types of transfers was considered most efficient in implementation?

- A Cash transfers
- B In-kind food transfers
- C Food vouchers
- D Depends on the objectives of the programme

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Answer question 13

Considering the efficient allocation of resources, which of the following types of transfers was considered most efficient in implementation: *cash transfers, but it also depends on the objectives of the programme*

- Cash transfers are considered least costly in implementation compared to food vouchers and in-kind food transfers. The latter have high administrative and delivery costs. Especially hidden costs (including transaction costs for retailers, the reduction of competitors in the markets, and increasing prices) were lower for cash transfers
- Yet...it depends on the objectives set:
 - cash+food and cash are both most cost-efficient when looking at increasing income
 - cash for work is most cost-efficient when looking at increasing savings
 - food for assets is most cost-efficient in terms of targeting

Differences are explained by programme design features (targeting mechanisms, target group, and direct and indirect costs)

Source: INCLUDE secretariat, Gassmann & Timar (UNU-MERIT), 2018

Question 14

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INCLUDE research on the SAGE programme in Uganda shows that additional interventions are required to optimize the economic impact of social cash transfers (SCTs) in remote areas. What is considered the most promising policy area to focus on?

- A Extending the senior citizen grant (SCG) to remote areas
- B Investing in rural infrastructure
- C Improving access to credit/markets
- D Investing in increasing demand for rural products

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- As compared to integrated areas, remote areas have smaller or no indirect benefits on trade, communication, productivity and transport.
- INCLUDE research project 'Social protection in Uganda' concluded that investments in infrastructure in remote areas can induce more positive indirect effects of cash transfers.

Source: Gassmann, 2018

Question 15

Question 12

Combining cash transfers and psychological support is considered promising for traumatized women in fragile and (post-) conflict areas. INCLUDE research measuring the perceived impact of a combination of cash and therapy on women empowerment showed:

- A That the impact of the interventions diminished when they were combined, compared to when they were implemented separately
- B That they had the highest overall impact, but with no complementarity between the two
- C Better results than the sum of the two separate interventions (high complementarity)
- D High results in the short term, which dissipated over time

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- The research compared four treatments:
 - Cash transfers
 - Counselling
 - cash transfers + no counselling
 - no social protection

Outcomes:

- Counselling has a positive impacts on women empowerment; cash transfers do not
- Highest result of cash transfers and counselling combined, but no positive interaction effect between cash transfers and counselling on women empowerment
- Yet, positive interaction effects were found for other indicators; income and capabilities

Source: van Reisen, 2018

Finished! Count your scores

INCLUDE

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Bonus question

Bonus question 16: By estimation

What percentage of the extreme poor in Africa (defined as those in the lowest income quintile) are covered by social protection programmes?

Time is up!

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Bonus question 16: By estimation

What percentage of the extreme poor in Africa (defined as those in the lowest income quintile) are covered by social protection programmes?

29 percent

And the winner is..

INCLUDE

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Key messages

- 1. Social protection is on the rise in Africa, and it works!**
- 2. Yet, there is room for improvement. How?**
 - a. Reaching the poorest of the poor requires more**
 - b. Looking beyond right here, right now**
 - c. What we do now can be done better**
- 3. Broaden your horizon!**

Thank you

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