SOCIAL PROTECTION LANDSCAPE IN GHANA

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- BACKGROUND
  - Poverty Trends in Ghana

- SOCIAL PROTECTION LANDSCAPE IN GHANA
  - Overview of SP Programmes
  - Social Protection and Food Security
  - Social Protection Financing

- CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD
GHANA - BACKGROUND

- Population of 24.4 million
  - 45% below 18 years

- GDP of $38 Billion;
  - economic growth rate of 14.4% in 2011.

- Lower Middle Income Country
  - GDP Per Capita of $1,300

- Poverty halved between 1991 and 2005;
  - Poverty Rate: 28.5%, Extreme Poverty Rate: 18.2%

- Improving HDI: 0.38 in 1990, 0.54 in 2011; ranked 135 out of 187 Countries

- But inequality persists:
  - Gini Coefficient: 42.8 (2006)
CHILD POVERTY AND DISPARITIES

- An estimated **3.4 million** children live in poverty (2.2 million live in extreme poverty).

- But Ghana has seen a significant reduction in Child Mortality.

WIDE DISPARITIES IN CHILD MALNUTRITION AND EDUCATION

More than 30% of children in Upper East, Northern, Eastern and Central Regions are stunted.

Net enrolment in primary schools is fairly high, although enrolment is not the same in all regions...
Vision for Social Protection in Ghana

An inclusive equitable society in which ordinary and extremely poor and vulnerable citizens are protected from risks and shocks and are empowered with improved capability, to overcome social, economic and cultural challenges in order to realize their rights and responsibilities and to make meaningful contributions to society.

The Ghana National Social Protection Strategy portrays social protection as integral to the overall development architecture of Ghana, which is rooted in the human rights-driven philosophy of the 1992 Constitution. It is based on the conviction that all citizens irrespective of their peculiar circumstances should live in a safe, just and peaceful environment led by good governance ideals. The GNSPS Framework further links the GNSPS to the medium term planning framework that drives the country’s development agenda. Social policy issues and social protection are consequently situated within the medium-term development framework of the country.
SOCIAL PROTECTION IN GHANA: THE NSPS (2012 DRAFT)

General Objective: The National Social Protection Strategy aims to spearhead the prioritisation of sector-wide social protection interventions and to facilitate collaborative implementation of social protection in Ghana, which will protect the rights of extremely poor and vulnerable people, able to have decent lives through income support, livelihoods empowerment and improved systems of personal safety.

Ghana National Social Protection Strategy is a people-centred national intervention framework aimed at poverty alleviation. It seeks to spearhead the provision of livelihood support and empowerment for both the abject and chronically poor and categories of the working poor, who are vulnerable to transitions into poverty, as well as poor unemployed youth.
SOCIAL PROTECTION IN GHANA: THE NSPS (2012 DRAFT)

Ghana’s GNSPS adopts a holistic integrated approach to social protection as two tier social protection mechanism.

1. In the first tier, the focus is on extremely chronic poor people who are automatically also very vulnerable.

2. In the second tier, the focus is on poor households vulnerable to fall into extreme poverty.

- It is expected that the GNSPS will guide the Legislature, MDAs and MMDAs and their partners to develop social assistance programmes that include both contributory and non-contributory schemes to meet the needs of different categories of people. The Framework further enjoins the Government and her partners to work towards capacity development programmes.
EXISTING SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMES

- **HEALTH**
  - Health Insurance Scheme and the pro poor exemptions for indigents, aged 70+
  - Free Maternal and Child Health Care

- **EDUCATION**
  - Free Compulsory Basic Education
  - School Feeding Programme
  - Free School Uniforms

- **LIVELIHOODS**
  - Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)
EXISTING SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMES

- Labour Intensive Public Works (LIPW)
- Block Farming Initiative
- Fertilizer Subsidies
- ENERGY
  - Electricity Cross Subsidy
- Contributory Pensions Scheme.
SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FOOD SECURITY

- Labour Intensive Public Works Programme (LIPW)

  The objective is to provide jobs and income security to the poor during off season farming activities. Currently being implemented in 40 food insecure districts in Ghana.

  Activities being implemented include: Construction of Small Dams, Maintenance of Irrigation, Road construction. LIPW has great potential to increase food production in those districts.
SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FOOD SECURITY

SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

The programme ensures food security, reduce hunger and malnutrition among school going children. It is being implemented in deprived public schools across the country currently benefiting approximately 2.5 million school children.

It also relies on locally produced food items to a large extent and has a great potential for providing ready market for local farmers thereby increasing food production.
SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FOOD SECURITY

- Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)
- LEAP provides conditional and unconditional cash transfers to the extremely poor and vulnerable households (Approximately 20% of the poorest households) in order to smoothen consumption and increase access to services and opportunities. 87% of Caregivers of the households are women
- LEAP has a greater potential in improving the local economy thereby increasing food production
Impact of LEAP on Food Security – Quotes from Beneficiaries

“LEAP has allowed for improvements and changes in the diets of beneficiaries. Beneficiaries now able to cook with good magi and more fish. There is also more variation of foods we eat …” (Female Beneficiary, Dalung, Northern Region).

“Some of the beneficiaries have started small businesses. They have put up temporary tables where they sell sweets, biscuits, matches etc. Others also fry koshe and kulikuli and they sell them in the market on the road”. (Female beneficiary, Tali)

“Before LEAP it was all about survival. Some people might have died, but for LEAP”. (beneficiary in Agona Abrim community)
SOCIAL PROTECTION FINANCING IN GHANA

- Government of Ghana is the major funding source for most of the Social Protection Programmes with additional support from our Development Partners, thus there are different sources which include:

  - **Statutory Payments (Taxations)**
    - National Health Insurance Scheme
    - Schools Capitation Grants
    - **Multi Donor Budget Support**
      - School Feeding Programme
      - LEAP Programme
SOCIAL PROTECTION FINANCING

- Labour Intensive Public Works (LIPW)
- Support from World Bank Loan

Grants from Development Partners
LEAP <<<<< UNICEF and DFID
## LEAP FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS -2013

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<th>LEAP Budget 2013</th>
<th>GHc</th>
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CHALLENGES OF SP PROGRAMMES

- Fragmented and Uncoordinated Social Protection Interventions
- Limited GoG Budget Allocations and Frequent Delays in Release of funds
- Weak Targeting and M&E Methods Used by most SP programmes
- Limited and unclear roles of CSOs in Monitoring
WAY FORWARD

 On going Rationalization of Social Protection Programmers by MoFEP.

 Adoption of a Common Targeting Mechanism (CTM) MOU signed with 3 Govt Depts

 Stronger engagements with CSOs in 2013 Work Plan and Budget

 Creation of a Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection for effective and stronger Coordination of SP programmes
THANK YOU