Social Protection: Concepts and Lifecycle Approach

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Earliest Social Protection

- Mahasthan Brahmi Inscription (3rd Century BC)
- Tela (oil), duma (tree), dhanya (paddy) and two varieties of small coins to be deposited in storehouse.
- As provisions against any emergency caused by flood, fire and devastation of paddy by parrots.
What is Social Protection

Policies and programmes designed to reduce poverty and vulnerability by promoting efficient labour markets, diminishing people's exposure to risks, and enhancing their capacity to manage economic and social risks, such as unemployment, exclusion, sickness, disability and old age (UN).
A specific set of actions to address the vulnerability of people’s life through social insurance..., social assistance... and inclusion efforts...(NSSS)
Poverty is the total absence of opportunities, accompanied by high levels of undernourishment, hunger, illiteracy, lack of education etc. Poverty is usually measured in two ways:

<table>
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<th>Absolute poverty</th>
<th>Relative Poverty</th>
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<tr>
<td>• A set of constant standard</td>
<td>• Percentage of average income</td>
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<td>• 1.90 $ a day</td>
<td>• 50-60% of median income</td>
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Vulnerability is a combination of exposure to shocks and stresses, susceptibility or sensitivity to such adverse events.

While poverty describes the state of affairs in the present day, vulnerability is concerned with what the situation could be in future with respect to poverty.
Types of Social Protection

Social Assistance
- Cash transfer
- Social Pensions
- In-kind transfers

Social Insurance
- Medical insurance
- Old age Pensions
- Unemployment benefit
- Survivors’ assistance

Labour Market Intervention
- Job centres
- Training
- Compensation

Informal Social Protection
- Community based SP
- Charity

Other types
- Subsidies
- Price support
Social Protection & Social Services

- Social protection
- Social assistance
- Social insurance
- Social justice

- Education
- Health

- Cash transfers
- Access to social services
- Unemployment insurance
- Social Security
- Social rights
- Non-discrimination
Social insurance is a programme where risks are transferred to and pooled mostly by government organizations. Insurance programme has the following characteristics:

• The benefits, eligibility requirements, and other aspects of the programme are defined by statute;

• Explicit provision is made to account for income and expenses (often through a trust fund);

• It is usually contributory.

• Many programmes are funded by the government.

• Participation is often compulsory for particular groups.
Social assistance is a type of social protection in which non-contributory, tax-financed, regular and predictable cash or in-kind resources are transferred to poor and vulnerable individuals or households.

Cash and in-kind allowances, school feeding and public works programmes are usually included in this type of programmes.

Social Assistance is need based, not based on contribution. It is provided to people who may not be covered by social insurance.

- Medicare in USA is an example of social insurance
- Medicaid in USA is an example of social assistance
Social Protection Functions

- Enhancing incomes and capabilities (e.g. inputs)
- Social equity and inclusion, empowerment and rights (e.g. labour laws)
- Averting deprivation (e.g. savings clubs, social insurance)
- Providing relief from deprivation (e.g. income benefits, state pensions)

Protective
Preventive
Transformative
Promotive

Enhancing incomes and capabilities (e.g. inputs)
Impacts of Social Protection

- Poverty reduction
- Human capital
- Livelihoods
- Economic resilience
- Risk management
- Social cohesion
- Economic reform

Social protection
Two Broad Approaches

**Poor Relief Approach**
- Used in 19th century Europe;
- Adopted in some developing countries – Mexico, Colombia;
- Short term planning - tries to resolve poverty immediately;
- No focus – usually fails because of large targeting errors and small budgets.

**Lifecycle Approach**
- Initiated in UK in 1945
- Used across developed countries; also, in a range of developing countries;
- Long term planning - programs directed at particular stages of the life cycle;
- Focus resources on particular lifecycle risks
Lifecycle Framework

- Pregnancy & Childhood
  - Unsafe birth
  - Less natal care
  - Wasting
  - Stunting
  - Less mental development

- School Age
  - Child labour
  - Violence
  - Drop out
  - Abuse
  - Orphan

- Working Age
  - Unemployment
  - Illness
  - Disability
  - Debt
  - No insurance
  - Gender discrimination

- Old Age
  - Frailty; illness
  - Medical costs
  - No income
  - Discrimination;
  - Neglect

- Covariate Risks
  - Disasters
  - Climate change
  - Food Price Shocks

- Youth
  - No training
  - Unemployment
  - Alienation
Sensitivity in Early Development of Children

- Binocular vision
- Central auditory system
- Habitual responding
- Language
- Emotional control
- Symbol
- Peer social skills
- Relative quantity
Everyone, as a member of society, ... has the right to social security through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality (Article 22)
the right to social security, that is to say to public assistance in cases of undeserved want arising from unemployment, illness or disablement, or suffered by widows or orphans or in old age, or in other such cases. Art 15d
Voluntary Insurance

Mandatory Social Insurance/Social Security Benefits of Guaranteed Levels for Contributors

The FLOOR: Four Essential Guarantees

- Access to essential Health Care for all
- Income Security
  - Children
- Assistance
  - Unemployed and Poor
- Income Security
  - Elderly and Disabled
Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.
Evolution of Social Protection in BD

1970s
  • Poor Relief

1980s
  • Relief + development

1998
  • Social Safety Net

2000
  • Safety Ladder

2015
  • Lifecycle Based Social Protection

Incremental

Strategic
Limitation of Present Practice

Unspecific goals
- Short-term planning
- Weak M&E

Proliferation of programmes
- Coordination gap
- Overlapping

Leakage
- Targeting errors
- Ghost beneficiary
- Double dipping

Inefficient delivery system
- Deprivation
- Rent seeking
Targeting of Beneficiary

- Categorical targeting
- Self-targeting
- Community-based targeting
- Household Assessments
  - **Means Test**
    In this method the income and expenditure and the wealth of a household or individual is taken into consideration.
  - **Proxy Means Test (PMT)**
    In this method the economic conditions are assessed based on statistical estimate of the probability of a household being poor. In this process a score card is prepared and the scores indicate the poverty condition of the households.
The participants will be divided into 8 groups for group discussion and presentation.

Group discussion and preparation of PPT: 30 Mins
Group Presentation: 5 Mins
Q/A for each group: 3 Mins
Observation of reviewers: 2 Mins
Group – 1:
Evaluate the Functions of Ekti Bari Ekti Khamar Promramme in the framework of 3P+T (Protection, Prevention, Promotion + Transformation).

Group – 2:
Recommend a structure of social protection system for a post 2040 developed Bangladesh.

Group – 3:
What are the expected impacts of school stipend programme in Bangladesh?

Group – 4:
Medical costs push 6 million Bangladeshis into poverty every year. What type of social protection intervention would you suggest for preventing people from falling into poverty for bearing medical expenditure.
GROUP WORK

Group – 5:
Innovation in social protection for reducing scopes of leakages

Group – 6:
What programmes would you recommend for ensuring child nutrition in Bangladesh?

Group – 7:
Discuss the importance of lifecycle based comprehensive social protection in Bangladesh

Group – 8:
What measures would you suggest for accurate targeting of social protection beneficiaries?
Thank you