

EC Reference Document: “Social transfers in the Fight against Hunger”

Nicholas Freeland

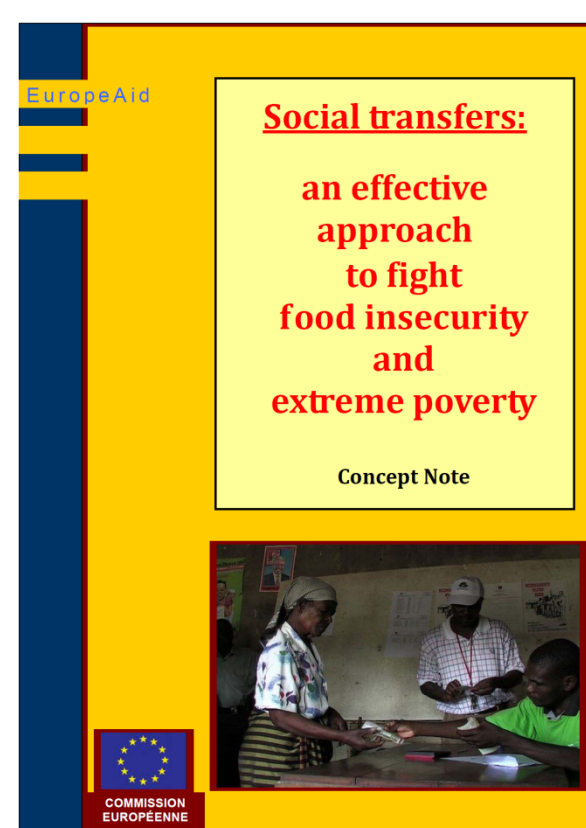
Cécile Cherrier

Rationale

- Hunger increasing as a result of global crises
- Achievement of MDGs in doubt
- Social transfers playing an increasingly important role in EC, MSs' and partners' response to food insecurity
- Need for guidance and access to resources

Concept Note

- Seminar in Bruxelles – April 2008
- Regional meetings
 - Maputo
 - Niamey
 - Dhaka
 - Dar-Es-Salaam
- Concept Note released early-2010



Reference Document

- Drafted during 2011
- Field visits to view social transfers:
 - Ethiopia
 - Yemen
 - Bangladesh
 - Rwanda
 - Palestine
 - Laos
 - Senegal
- Review with Member States
- PDF version released late-2011
- Approved for full release May 2012



Reference Document ToC

Chapters

1 Introducing social transfers

2 Conceptualising social transfers

3 Justifying social transfers

4 Using social transfers to fight hunger

5 Contextualising social transfers

6 Designing social transfers

7 Managing social transfers

8 Supporting social transfers

9 Financing social transfers

Contents

Chapter 1 – Introducing social transfers

- 1.1. Background and rationale
- 1.2. Scope and purpose of the Reference Document
- 1.3. Structure of the Reference Document

Chapter 2 – Conceptualising social transfers

- 2.1. Defining social transfers
- 2.2. Types of social transfers
- 2.3. Operational frameworks for social transfers
- 2.4. Policy framework for social transfers

Definition

- *Social transfers are non-contributory, publicly-funded, direct, regular and predictable resource transfers (in cash or in kind) to poor or vulnerable individuals or households, aimed at reducing their deficits in consumption, protecting them from shocks (including economic and climatic), and, in some cases, strengthening their productive capacity*
- *Provision ➤ Prevention ➤ Promotion*

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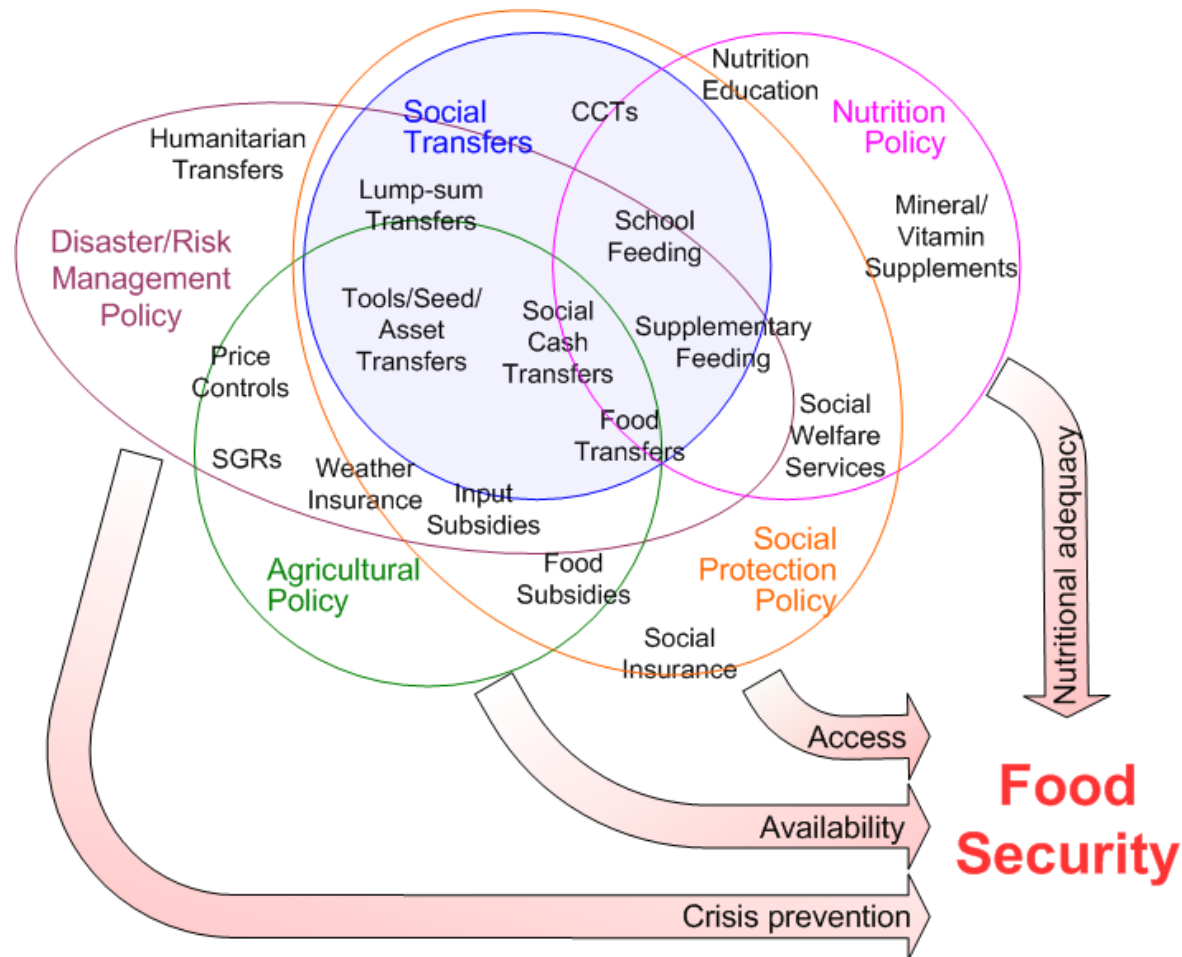
Chapter 3 – Justifying social transfers

- 3.1. Poverty reduction and risk management
- 3.2. Economic growth and capital-based production
- 3.3. Political stability and state building
- 3.4. Social justice and human rights
- 3.5. Food security

Chapter 4 – Using social transfers to fight hunger

- 4.1. Social transfers to increase availability of food
- 4.2. Social transfers to improve access to food
- 4.3. Social transfers to improve nutritional adequacy of food intake
- 4.4. Social transfers to enhance crisis prevention and management

Conceptual basis



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Chapter 5 – Contextualising social transfers

- 5.1. Nature and causes of food insecurity
- 5.2. Policy framework
- 5.3. Existing social transfer initiatives
- 5.4. Institutional context and capacity

Chapter 6 – Designing social transfers

- 6.1. Objectives
- 6.2. Targeting
- 6.3. Work requirement
- 6.4. Graduation
- 6.5. Transfer form
- 6.6. Benefit level
- 6.7. Delivery mechanisms
- 6.8. Conditionality

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Chapter 7 – Managing social transfers

- 7.1. Cost, affordability and sustainability
- 7.2. Implementation
- 7.3. Monitoring and evaluation

Chapter 8 – Supporting social transfers

- 8.1. Policy dialogue
- 8.2. Capacity development
- 8.3. Financial resources
- 8.4. Implementation

Chapter 9 – Financing social transfers

- 9.1. Procurement and grant award
- 9.2. Common pool funds
- 9.3. Budget support

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- **Annexe 1 – Glossary of terms**
- **Annexe 2 – Further information and guidance**
- **References**
- **Plus:**
 - 54 boxes
 - 25 resources

Emerging themes: Govt

- Elaboration and support of a national vision
- Use of existing national systems (eg financial, M&E)
- Integration of different instruments and target groups in a comprehensive programme
- Operation of basic programme so system is in place
- Enshrining in legislation/constitution as a right
- Engaging civil society, private sector, NGOs, beneficiaries in areas of comparative advantage
- Links and synergies with other sectors and policies

Emerging themes: donors

- Coalesce and collaborate around national vision (UN SPF; EC and MS)
- Understanding of political economy and local concepts of vulnerability and food security
- Funding through a single channel (BS; pool funds)
- Funding of one-off start-up costs (ID systems; delivery; evaluation)
- Provide long term commitments (>10 years)
- Build in flexibility to allow index-linking
- Underwrite ability to expand/extend national systems as a response to shocks
- Develop training materials for use by national institutions

Emerging themes: NGOs

- Keep DPs on the straight and narrow
- Concerted effort to influence
- Build capacity in national Government
- Build capacity in national civil society
- Leverage private sector involvement/innovation
- Foster South-South learning
- Disseminate lessons, tools, case studies
- Build national policy linkages (eg climate change)
- Specialise in social accountability
- Deliver complementary programmes

Emerging themes: private sector

- Delivery systems (telcos; Point-of-Sale)
- Financial inclusion (MFIs; banks; POs)
- Monitoring & evaluation
- Impact assessment
- Insurance products
- Corporate Social Responsibility

Advisory Service on Social Transfers (ASiST)

- Overall objective
 - Increase the impact, quality, sustainability and coverage of social transfer schemes to address poverty and hunger
- Specific objectives
 - raise awareness among public authorities and civil society in the most vulnerable partner countries and in the donor community
 - promote quality throughout the project cycle in designing, strengthening and promoting sustainable national social transfer schemes for food security;
 - share lessons learnt among development partners, supporting the EC in actively participating in global discussions on comprehensive systems of social transfers.

ASiST resources

Position	Name	Days
Team Leader/Senior Food Security Expert	Nicholas Freeland	77 days
Senior Food Security Expert	Cécile Cherrier	41 days
Senior Public Finance Expert	Nazy Sedaghat	40 days
Senior Rural Development Expert	Martin Caldeyro-Stajano	40 days

Web platform

- Capacity4Dev and/or ROSA
- Web platform
 - Reference Document in PDF/interactive form
 - new interesting publications
 - new case studies
 - interesting findings from the ASiST field missions
 - Frequently Asked Questions
 - discussion forum
- Collect feedback, comments and suggestions

Regional seminars

Region	Sahel	East & Southern Africa	Central Asia
Main participating countries	Burkina Faso Mali Niger Senegal Mauritania Chad	Mozambique Rwanda Zimbabwe Tanzania Kenya Uganda	Kyrgyz Republic Kazakhstan Tajikistan Uzbekistan Turkmenistan Armenia Georgia
Other possible participating countries	Gambia	Madagascar Zambia Malawi Swaziland Lesotho	Nepal Afghanistan Mongolia

Technical support

- Respond to requests from partner countries (through Delegation and Unit C1)
 - pragmatic and small scale, sowing the seeds
 - Country Strategy Plans for next EDF cycle
 - ToR for short studies or identification/action fiches
- Three substantive field missions
 - support next programming phase
 - compile case studies
 - feed into a thematic papers
 - be incorporated into Ref Doc
 - used to inform policy development

Thematic papers

- Two thematic studies on:
 - Social transfers and nutrition (focus on the Sahel)
 - Role of the private sector in social transfers and nutrition
- Desk reviews of the existing literature
- In collaboration with EC Nutrition Advisory Service

Reference Document

- Update in late 2013 to:
 - present the 2012 state of food insecurity
 - make reference to documents published in 2011/2012
 - incorporate new case studies, lessons learnt and findings of ASiST
 - consider other feedback on improvements.
- Print in English and French, and make available online in digital format
- Launch at a European “splash” event

EC policy development

- Reflect findings in EU policies
 - EC Communication on Social Protection
 - Social transfers in the Horn
 - Social transfers in the Sahel
- Missions to Brussels (overlap with NAS and SUPRA)
 - meeting with the private sector unit (C4)
 - InfoPoint on social transfers and nutrition,
 - Liaison with Capacity4Dev and/or ROSA teams.
- Closing “splash” event (eg in European Parliament)
 - clear political message on social transfers for food security
 - need to support social transfers for inclusive growth
 - present updated version of the Reference Document