



MINISTRY OF GENDER, LABOUR
AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



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EXPANDING SOCIAL PROTECTION



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**SOCIAL
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Senior Citizens Grants & Vulnerable Family Support Grants

Implementation in Karamoja Region

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Social Protection...

- is concerned with measures to ensure an **adequate, acceptable standard of living for a country's vulnerable and excluded citizens.**
- **Direct Income Support** - regular, small payments to vulnerable citizens - is at the core of most national social protection systems
- **Direct Income Support**
 - directly **reduces poverty,**
 - supports excluded citizens to **access services,**
 - provides a foundation on which to build **productive livelihoods** and
 - enables citizens to live a life of **security and dignity.**

National Policy Context

- Uganda's 2010-2015 **National Development Plan** outlines objectives for:
 - extending social protection to vulnerable groups
 - developing a clear policy framework for enhanced coordination of interventions.
- The **NRM manifesto** commits to provide Direct Income Support for the elderly (page 41)

Why does Uganda need Direct Income Support?

- Economy has been growing **but a lot of people are still living in poverty (24.5% nationally, 75% in Karamoja) or risk falling into poverty (40% live just above the poverty line)**
- **Inequality** is increasing...
- Between 2005/6 and 2009/10,
 - the **poorest saw no change** in their consumption.
 - In **Karamoja region**, poverty reduced by **only 5%** compared to 21% nationally.

Why does Uganda need Direct Income Support?

- The poorest and most vulnerable are **failing to access basic services**
 - Less than 7 out of 10 children from the poorest households are enrolled in primary school, compared to 9 out of 10 from the wealthiest
 - Such children are four times more likely to be delayed by 5 or more years in school than children from the wealthiest households.

The GoU is committed to addressing these imbalances through, amongst others, provision of Direct Income Support

Direct Income Support: A new approach to solving the challenges of Uganda's poor & vulnerable citizens

- DIS is an **effective** way for the Government to **directly** reach our most vulnerable citizens, delivering **tangible benefits** directly to people...
- ...and demonstrating this **government's commitment** to ensuring that no citizens are left behind as we move forward to middle income status

Overview of ESP

- **5 year programme to Expand Social Protection in Uganda**
 - Financed by Government of Uganda, DFID, Irish Aid and UNICEF.
 - **£41 million** excluding GOU financial and in-kind support approx UGX 6bn over the 5 years.
 - Approved by Cabinet in June 2010
 - Provides **policy support** plus a **Direct Income Support pilot scheme**

ESP Direct Income Support

ESP is piloting two grants schemes: Senior Citizens Grants and Vulnerable Family Support Grants

- **UGX 23,000** per month
- 95,000 households (potentially **600,000** vulnerable people)
- **14 Districts**
- **UGX 12.5 bn to 79,000 people in Karamoja**

Pilot Districts In Karamoja

- Nakapiripirit
- Amudat
- Napak
- Moroto



Targeting in Karamoja

- Senior Citizens Grant - (SCG)
- Vulnerable Family Support Grant- (VSFG)

VSFG Targeting

Household grant:- Prioritised households with the following Characteristics ;

- Pre- school children
- Older women and (to a lesser extent) older men:
- People with severe disabilities:
- Double orphans:

Rationale for prioritising groups

Targeting workshop in December 2010 with DCDOs, MGLSD staff, other stakeholders

– Pre-school children:

- Early years are a critical time for children's development.
- Malnutrition and ill-health causes irreversible damage to children's development
- Participants felt that children in this age group should be prioritised over other age groups in the context of limited resources.

– Older women and (to a lesser extent) older men:

- Those over 65 face severe labour capacity constraints, particularly those living without the support of working-age adults.

Rationale for prioritising groups cont..

People with severe disabilities:

- Severely disabled persons have constrained **labour capacity**, **higher health care costs**
- Children with severe disabilities- place significant **additional requirements** on carers and hence reducing **the labour capacity** of the working-age adults

Double orphans:

- Double orphaned more vulnerable than children with one or both living parents.
- Even where double orphans are not more likely to live in poor households, they are likely to be vulnerable in different ways.

Eligibility

- **Labour Capacity and Dependency targeting** : scores allocated to individuals according to age, sex, disability and orphan hood status.
- Highest scoring 15% of HHs in a S/C targeted every 2-3 years
- DATA for this is generated from a civil registration process done by the Uganda registration services bureau /UBOS. A birth certificate is also provided to ALL FREE of charge.

Senior Citizens Grant

Eligibility criteria: older people aged 60 years and above (65 years in rest of country)

Rationale:

- Responsive to public concerns – reflects Ugandan values of support for the elderly.
- Socially non-devisive.
- Effective at reaching other vulnerable groups, e.g. PwDs, orphans.
- Simple, cost-effective, scalable.
- Old age poverty and vulnerability.

Historically Senior Citizens Grants are the starting point for developing social protection systems.

Targeting for Senior Citizens Grant

1. Automated Targeting;

- A list of all individuals 60 years and above is generated by the Social Protection Secretariat using the civil registration database
- The list is sent to the Sub-County CDO by the District SAGE Unit for onward communication to the Parish Chief.
- Verification done by the village council with facilitation of the Parish Chiefs

2. Community Registration Model

- Potential beneficiaries complete or are supported to complete an SCG Registration Forms.
- Verification done by the village council with facilitation of the Parish Chiefs
- Eligibility verification are based on; Official ID documents such as Voters cards, baptism card, marriage certificates.
- Incase of persons with no documents there is a provision for peer verification in the village council meeting.

Trainings

All structures involved in the implementation of SAGE are trained. The trainings include;

- Orientation of District Councillors
- Orientation of sub-county Council
- Training of technical staff
- Training of financial management, MIS and M&E
- Training of PDCs and Village chairpersons
- Training of beneficiaries

How will payments be delivered?

- Monthly cash transfer amount = UGX 23,000 in 2011.
- Reviewed annually to allow for inflation.
- Based on:
 - *Affordability at national scale*
 - *Sufficiency to achieve desired impacts*
 - *Social acceptability*
 - *Regional compatibility*
- **MTN MobileMoney** selected through a competitive procurement process.



The first SAGE SCG beneficiary enters her SIM card into the MTN EasyTalk phone

Communications Strategy

- Radio Programs (talk shows and Jingles)
- IEC materials- Translated in local language
- Integrated communication in the training roll out –strategy.

Accountability and Transparency

The program- accountability, empowerment , Justice and Citizenship. (Service Charter). It Includes;

- Right to access information for informed decision
- Right to access independent appeal
- Right to full and timely payment
- Right to complain and receive timely redress

Responding to Karamoja-specific implementation challenges:

- Provision of **dedicated training** to district local governments.
- **Recruitment** (in partnership with DLGs) of temporary support units for local government authorities during the initial roll-out phase.
- Recruitment of a dedicated Karamoja Liaison Officer.
- Provision of **vehicles and other necessary equipment**.
- Working with traditional authorities to build **awareness** and understanding and support dispute resolution.
- Engaging local politicians to build awareness and understanding.
- Working with Irish Aid to conduct a conflict sensitivity analysis.

Relevance of Programme to Karamoja

- While Karamoja is shifting into a developmental mode, the most vulnerable households will continue to require protection.
- They will need specific targeted interventions to guarantee their **income security, food and nutrition security** and **access to basic services** .
- Else where in Africa, Direct Income Support has effectively been used to **respond to drought related vulnerability** in Kenya, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho

Relevance to Karamoja

- DIS allows a **strategic shift** to take place in development strategies.
- By ensuring that the **poorest and most vulnerable are protected** from the worst forms of deprivation, governments and aid agencies are able **to effectively scale down blanket food assistance** whilst scaling up activities to support the growth of **productive livelihoods** for those individuals and households who are able to work.
- Households with some labour capacity will be more able to take advantage of productive livelihood opportunities.

Role of the Local Leaders

- Mobilisation and sensitisation of the community
- Verification of beneficiaries at village council level
- Grievance management and referral
- Monitoring the program implementation
- Participating in reviews and providing feed back to the relevant authorities

Karamoja Pilot Districts Roll Out- Plan