

Social Assistance for Specific Vulnerable Group in China

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Background and policy design



In this century, social assistances for the rural poor have been highly valued by Chinese government. Among the rural poor, the majority belongs to income poverty group and one of the rest part, about 7% to 8%, belongs to physical poor group. For these people, such as the elderly, children and people with disabilities, lack of income source and with physical difficulties are their main characteristics. They are the most vulnerable groups and generally referred to as Specific Vulnerable Group (SVG).

Background and policy design



In 2006, the State Council issued “The regulations on the Work of Providing Five”

In 2016, the Interim Measures for Social Assistance stipulated one chapter on support to Specific Vulnerable Group.

These Regulations are formulated for the purpose of bringing to success the work of providing FG in rural areas, ensuring a normal life to persons enjoying the FG in rural areas and promoting the development of the social security system in rural areas.

The Five Guarantees: 1) Providing grain, oil, subsidiary food and fuel; 2) providing clothes, bedding, mattress and pocket money; 3) providing qualified house; 4) providing medical treatment and daily care; 5) providing funeral arrangements.

Background and policy design

Article 6 indicates that villagers who are aged, disabled or under the age of 16 and have no ability to work, no source of income, and no legal guardian to provide for them, bring them up or support them, or whose legal guardian have no ability to provide for them, shall enjoy the FG in rural areas.

In the Regulation, the local governments should include FG within their fiscal budget.

Types of SVGs

Table: Numbers of different types of SVG

	Female SVG	Elderly SVG	Children SVG	Disabled SVG	Total
Collectively supported	302894	1550755	50061	278069	1878885
Individually supported	631459	2995118	157411	637649	3790178
Total	934353	4545873	207472	915718	5669063

In the last season of 2014, there were total 5,669,063 supported SVG, of which 934,353 were female, about 1/6 of total. Of the total, 4,545,873 or 80% were aged SVG, and 207,472 were children, 915,718 were disabled SVG.

Approaches for Supports to SVGs



► According to recipients' health condition, willingness and local capacity, there are mainly two modes of support for SVG:

- Collective support,
- Individual support, and some cases of third part fostering support.

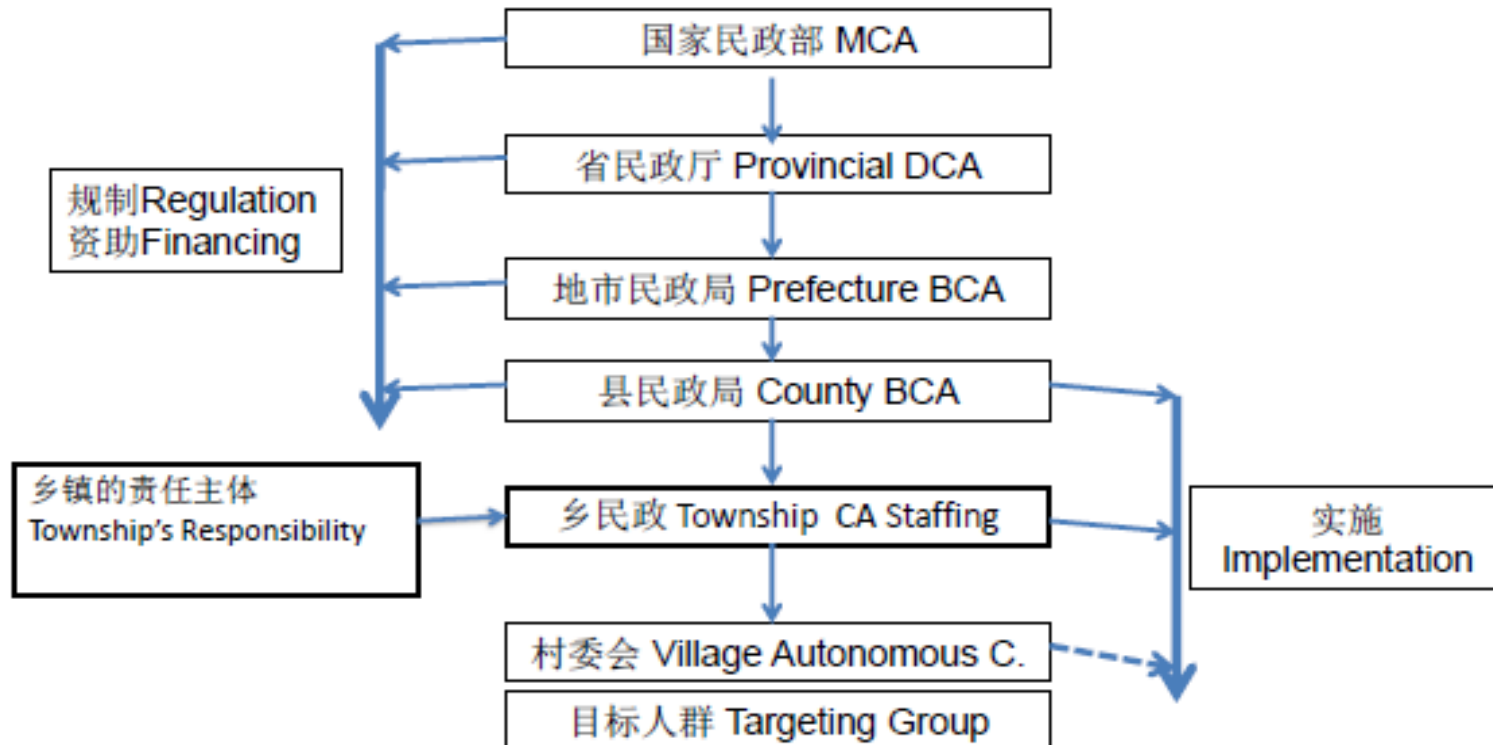
Of the total, about 1/3 SVG people were collectively supported, the rest 2/3 were individually supported.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF GENERAL SA SYSTEM AND THE SA FOR SVGs

Table: Comparison of SA for SVG with Other SA Programs^o

Programs ^o	Characteristics of targeted Groups ^o	Methods for recipient identification ^o	Means of support ^o
Support to Most Vulnerable Group, or FG, or <u>Wubao</u> ^o	Both economic poor and physically vulnerable, including poor elders, children and disabilities ^o	Naturally verifying and disability certification ^o	Collective support service or individual support through allowance transfer ^o
Development oriented poverty reduction ^o	Economic poor, but with development potentials ^o	Means-test in Income verifying, community discussing ^o	Development project ^o
Minimum Subsistence Allowance, or <u>Dibao</u> ^o	Economic poor ^o	Means-test in Income and assets verifying, community discussing ^o	Allowance transfer ^o
Temporary Assistance ^o	Temporary needy ^o	Case by case ^o	Cash <u>transfer</u> ^o
Medical Assistance ^o	Economic poor, particularly physically vulnerable ^o	Link to situation of <u>Dibao</u> and <u>Wubao</u> ^o	Subsidy for medical insurance, directly cash transfer ^o

Administration and Delivery System of Rural SAs



OTHER DEDICATED SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS for SVG



- 1 Rural Medical assistance
- 2 Supports to Disabled
- 3 Support to Child-Lost Family
- 4 Support to Street Children
- 5 Nutrition Improvement for Poor Children and Students
- 6 Support to Maternal and Infant
- 7 Subsidy to Seniors
- 8 Temporary Assistance

Main Challenges



- ▶ The Low Standard of FG Support Standard
- ▶ Incomplete Support in FG Care
- ▶ Insufficient Number of Staff, Shortage of Skillful Staff of FG Support Organization
- ▶ Lower Collective Support Rate, Smaller Scale of FG Support Organization
- ▶ Identification for SVG

Suggestions



- ▶ To Improve Cross Sector Institution Building
- ▶ To Enhance Financial Input from Central and Local Budget
- ▶ To Strengthen Organizational and Staff Building for Rural Organization
- ▶ Rural and Village Community should play more roles
- ▶ To Encourage more Local Intervention to Local Support System



Thank You!