Scaling up Pilot Labour Intensive Public Works – The Case of Ghana –

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• Population: 24.7 million (2010)
• GDP: $39.15 Billion (2011)
• GDP Per Capita: $1,598
• Poverty Rate: 28.5% (2006)
• Extreme Poverty Rate: 18.2%
• 10 Regions and 216 Districts
BACKGROUND

• The Savannah Regions of Ghana have the highest poverty incidence (about 80%)

• One of the many reasons that explains the chronic poverty is the climatic condition that allows for only one cropping season.

• During the lean season, most of the active population migrate to the southern sector in search for jobs as survival strategy

• 2006-7 Review of Social Protection Sector identified CCT and Labour Intensive Public Works (LIPW) as Gaps

• One key trigger to roll-out LIPW was the Floods that hit northern Ghana in 2007 and the subsequent droughts

• 2010 LIPW piloted as part of Ghana Social Opportunities Project (GSOP) in 40 out of 170 Districts
THE PILOT LIPW

Objectives:
1) Increase access to employment and cash-earning opportunities for the rural poor during the agricultural off-season, and
2) Improve economic and social infrastructure in target districts.

Projected outcome:
To provide work opportunity to 64,400 extremely poor and vulnerable persons (6,150,000 worker days) at an average rate of GHC150.00 ($ 75.00 per annum)
IMPLEMENTATION OF PILOT LIPW

• First Year of Full Scale Implementation
• Implementation Arrangements
  – Use of Existing Local Government Structures
  – Use of Collaborating Agencies
  – Flexible Work Arrangements to increase High female participation
  – Community Participation in Identification, Implementation & Monitoring
CASE FOR SCALING UP

• Ensuring inter and intra-regional equity

• Positive qualitative results of case studies on selected on-going subprojects:
  – Reduced seasonal migration
  – Smoothened consumption

• High demand for LIPW

• Conducive political environment (LIPW is high on government agenda as strategy for employment creation “Jobs for all”)

• Institutionalizing LIPW nation wide

• Potential to use of LIPW as an instrument for addressing disaster risk vulnerability
TARGETING MECHANISM

• Geographical targeting employed in selecting beneficiary DAs and Communities

• Self targeting employed through setting the wage rate lower than the prevailing market rate

• Community Based Targeting used in cases where the programme is over subscribed.

• PMT employed as verification tool
WAGE SETTING

• National Minimum Wage

• Agricultural Casual Worker day wage

• General Casual wage rate
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Extensive Training Programs for staff of Collaborating Agencies, Local Authorities & Contractors

• **At Subproject Identification**

• **At Subproject Design & Tender**

• **At Subproject Implementation**

• *Use of contractors with imposed targeted labour*

Strengthening District Assemblies’ capacity in carrying out effective targeting and supervision

Establishment of a Regional Training Centre for LIPW
MENU OF SUBPROJECTS

• Revised to ensure high labour content

• Reduced emphasis on Social infrastructure,

• Rural Feeder and Access Roads,

• Small-dams and Dug-outs/Irrigation systems, and

• Soil and water conservation activities including watershed management and afforestation/Re-forestation, etc.
TARGETING WOMEN

• Ensuring full female participation in all aspects of project implementation i.e. form sensitization to completion (Pilot 55% female)

• Flexible work arrangements for women

• Makeshift creche for kids

• Suitable location of subprojects
GOING FORWARD...

• Governance

• Payment mechanism
  – Effect of up scaling on payment

• Activation
  – Exit strategy
  – Linking beneficiaries to other livelihood support/ empowerment interventions
IN CONCLUSION

• Ghana is only a year into full implementation of the Pilot LIPW

• Field observations point to LIPW as an effective Safety Net Program for improving access to employment

• Ghana has developed strong implementation mechanisms

• The objective now is to achieve equity and greater opportunities for the poor and vulnerable in Ghana through the institutionalization of LIPW
THANK YOU !
MEDASE !
GRAZIE !