

Gender Sensitive Social Safety Nets for Empowerment

Social Safety Nets core course
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Satyendra Kumar Sarkar, Hasan Maruf, Azizul Alam, Neyamat Ullah
Bhuiyan, Leonora George-Buckmire, Abu Yadetta Hateu, M. Emdadul
Haque, Terhi Paikkala, Karen Peffley



Why is gender important

- Equity argument: For reducing gender inequality / enhancing equality
- Efficiency argument: for greater impact
- For preventing harm
- Can also be differentiated between transformation/strategic needs vs addressing practical needs

1. Use of gender analysis to inform the objectives and programme type?

- Conducting analysis
- Using results to inform objectives and programme type

2. Aim of incorporating gender?

- Equity or efficiency?
- For specific gender goals or for the minimum level of preventing harm?
- Addressing practical or strategic needs?
- Recognizing reproductive or productive roles?

3. Design

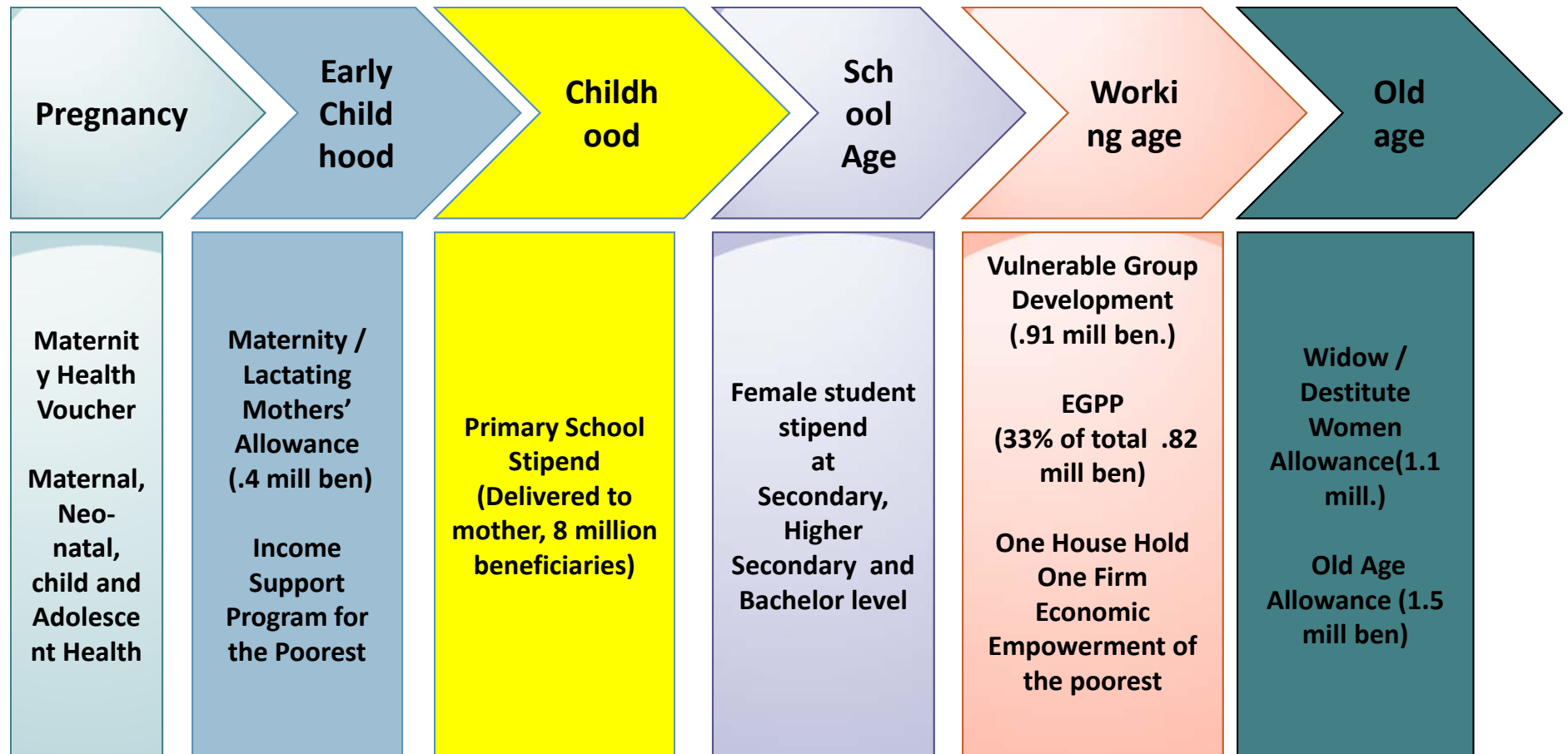
- Who is targeted?
- Who are recipients?
- Transfer systems suitable for m/w?
- Gender stakeholders
- Effects of design on control of assets, decision-making, work load of m/w?
- Win-win situations for gender equality?
- Transformative linkages and additional actions?
- Staff capacities

4. Monitoring and evaluation

- Strategic indicators to measure impact on different categories of women and men?
- Collecting feedback from women and men?

Effect of SSN programmes on empowerment of women		Cash transfers	Asset transfers	Public works
Economic advancement	Access to health	Green	Red	Red
	Access to education	Green	Red	Red
	Access to productive assets	Light Green	Green	Red
	Access to finance	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green
	Access to technology and extension	Red	Light Green	Light Green
	Productive and beneficial labour status	Yellow	Green	Red
	Infrastructure tailored to women's needs	Red	Red	Light Green
Power and agency	Membership in rural organizations and networks	Light Green	Green	Light Green
	Legal empowerment	Light Green	Red	Red
	Positive change in gender roles	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
	Intra-household decision-making	Yellow	Yellow	Red

Bangladesh: Lifecycle Programs for Women



Global Gender Gap Index (WEF 2015)

Year	Bangladesh Rank (number of countries)	
2006	107	(115 countries)
2010	82	(134 countries)
2015	64	(145 countries) Italy, Japan 69, & 104

Human Development Report, 2015

Bangladesh ranked 142 in Human Development Index in 2014, but its rank in Gender Inequality Index is 111. This rank improved from 116 in 2008.

Education: Almost 100% enrollment at primary level. Gender parity in primary and secondary level achieved. Ratio of boys and girls in primary 1.06 and in secondary 1.14.

Health: Maternal Morality Rate dropped (at 3.3% per year) to 1.7 in 2003 from 2.4 in 2005. Infant mortality and under 5 mortality dropped to 33 & 41.1

Poverty: Dropped from 57% in 1991 to 24% in 2014. HIES, 2010, depth, severity reduced, inequality restrained. Poverty without SSN would be 2% higher.

Accomplishments / Good Practices

- National Social Security Strategy, 2015 and Five Year Plan (2015-20) mandates life cycle programs and instrumental for gender and empowerment
- Women Development Policy, 2011 induced SSN and empowerment
- Gender Budget Report produced every year and disaggregates data
- Women targeted programs conditional/ unconditional /cash/in kind/ training/asset transfer and empowerment
- Primary School Stipend is “Brand Success”- UNICEF independent evaluation
- Nation wide network and participation of local governments

Challenges

- Absence of social registry (National Household Database is under preparation)
- Targeting / selecting beneficiaries based on individual assessment
- Too many programs (more than 100) and by many ministries
- Absence of electronic transfer or G2P
- Coordination at nascent stage

Ethiopia



- Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) started in 2005 as a component of the country's food security program
- PSNP covers 8 M clients in 2016 of which 50.9% are women
- Gender equity one of the principles of the PSNP



Accomplishments / Good Practices

- All program governance structures make mandatory for active participation of women
- Priority is given to women headed households in targeting beneficiaries for livelihood transfers (a once off grant for engaging in IGA)
- Allocation of light activities to women in public works



Accomplishments / Good Practices

- Late arrival to and early departure for women from public works
- 50% of workload for women in PW
- Women are allowed to move to direct support upon proof of evidence from a health institution on pregnancy and until one year postpartum
- Availability of child care centers in PW cites

Challenge

- Even though IE of the PSNP is carried every two years, impact on gender is not captured

Grenada



- Conditional Cash Transfers Programme: Support for Education Empowerment & Development (SEED)
- SEED is unified from 3 previous programmes
- Target group: poorest and most vulnerable families
- Goal: To reduce poverty and invest in human capital development
- Gender important for equity, specific groups have specific vulnerabilities to be addressed

Achievements/good practices

- Use of gender analysis: statistics from Ministry of Education show that boys have high drop-out rate at secondary schools. Looking the different conditions of family members to empower families.
- Strengthening of partnerships with partnering ministries. Division of Gender and Family Affairs is providing skills training to single mothers for employability (empowerment in productive roles).
- Beneficiary education to all beneficiaries, emphasising compliance to education and health protocols.
- Parenting programmes for both women and men (empowerment in reproductive roles like family care)

Challenges

- No impact evaluation conducted yet to see the impact on women, men, boys and girls
- Limitation in number of beneficiaries that can be accommodated in the trainings
- Limited staff capacity, e.g. no education officer

Commonalities and Differences

Commonalities

- Explicit focus on gender
- Recognize equity gaps
- Cash transfers are the primary intervention with added activities for transformation
- Gender focal points present (albeit at different levels)

Differences

- Budget/Analysis
 - Gender disaggregated budget report
 - Family focus situational analysis/ both men and women
- Starting points
- Tools for empowerment
 - Cash transfer
 - In kind transfer
 - Comparative Programs
 - Skills development (employment, gardening)
 - Children workshops



Conclusion

- Despite different country contexts, empowerment is the shared objective to achieve transformational results.
- Importance of gender analysis to identify and address the specific vulnerabilities of men/women/boys/girls within the specific country contexts
- Linking to equity gaps
- Monitoring the progress and impacts