

The Brazil-Africa Cooperation Programme on Social Protection aims at promoting technical assistance from the Brazilian Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger (MDS) to African countries in the development of social policies and programmes. It is an initiative financed by the British Ministry for International Development and supported by the International Poverty Centre.

## Social Protection in Ghana *The Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)*

Along the second half of 2007, the Ministry of Social Development and Fight against Hunger took part in three technical missions to Ghana to give assistance to the newest and most significant Social Protection Programme in this African country: the *Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)*.

Ghana designed its **National Social Protection Strategy** focusing on LEAP, which is based on the Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy II (GPRS II) of the country. The Programme starts with a 5-year pilot experience in which the main components are conditional and unconditional cash transfers to orphans and vulnerable children (OVC), the elderly above 65 years old and the disabled. In the next five years, the Programme aims at reaching about 160,000 families living in extreme poverty. Last March, LEAP had already made its first cash transfer, and by June, the Programme should cover about 3,200 families in 20 districts throughout the country. By the end of 2008 the Programme expects to cover 15,000 families in 50 districts.

Inspired by the Brazilian experience, throughout 2007, the Programme developed a **Single Registry** to help with the integration of different social protection initiatives in Ghana. The Programme, run by the Social Welfare Department, is under the coordination of the Ministry of Manpower, Youth and Employment. There are plans for the creation of a Directorate of Social Protection within that Ministry, which would be an embryo of a future Ministry of Social Development. Motivated by LEAP, the Ministry's current plan for institutional strengthening includes the hiring of new staff and training for all staff members.

A National Committee is also being created to give guidance and manage this initiative.

Along the Pilot experience, the Social Welfare Department expects to expand the **beneficiaries group**, including extremely poor farmers and subsistence fishermen as well as people who are incapable of working and those living with HIV/AIDS.

The **selection of recipients** will be made through geographical targeting, combined with an initial verification of the list of beneficiaries by the community, the ranking of likely recipients with indicators previously selected and latter submission of the list of the recipients to the community.

The **amount paid** by LEAP will be of GHC 8.00 (about US\$ 8.00) and this amount may reach up to GHC15,00 depending on the number of beneficiaries in the family (max. of four). The payments will be made every two months via the country's post offices. Through LEAP, the Government expects to promote the recipients' access to other programmes which target the most vulnerable.

The beneficiary families will be expected to:

- Enroll and keep all school-age children in school;
- Register all members of the family in the National Health Insurance Scheme;
- Register newly-born children (0-18 months-old) at the Registry of Births and Deaths, take them to post-natal clinics and enroll them in the Expanded Immunization Programme;
- Prevent all children in the family from children traffic and from being involved in any of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

***Ghana's Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty, the country's pilot cash transfer scheme, developed with the assistance of the Brazilian government, should be benefiting about 3,200 families in 20 districts throughout the country by June.***

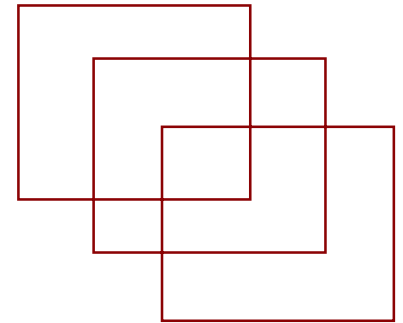
***By the end of 2008, 15,000 families in 50 districts should already be included.***

LEAP's **budget** for the first year is of US\$ 8 million and it may be raised up to US\$ 26 millions by the fifth year. Due to the investments in infrastructure, cash transfers will represent only 22% of the total budget during the first year. Nonetheless, in the following years, cash transfers will become the main expense in the Programme (between 58% and 75% from the second to the fifth year). From 2008 and 2012 the total cost of the Programme should be between 0.1% and 0.2% of the public expenses.

On **Monitoring and Evaluation**, the programme might carry an initial

evaluation; a monitoring of the activities, implementation and outcomes; an evaluation involving beneficiaries; operational audits and an independent impact evaluation at the end.

The Ghanaian Government has shown interest in continuing the cooperation with the Brazilian Government, which should take place through visits of Ghanaian technicians to Brazil. Brazilians are also interested in receiving Ghanaian in a study tour mission that should involve other African governments.



## Regional Experts Meeting Investing in Social Protection in Africa

Since early 2008, the African Union and HelpAge International have been promoting experts meetings in various countries in Africa to discuss social protection. These meetings are being organized as a means of follow-up to the Livingstone and Yaounde Calls for Action on Social Protection.

The Regional Conference of Livingstone, Zambia took place in March 2006 and gathered representatives of 13 African countries – Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique,

Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe – as well as Brazilian representatives, United Nations agencies and NGOs. In this meeting measures were discussed to implement social protection policies in Africa, emphasizing the need to incorporate strategies of social development to reach the Millennium Development Goals up to 2015.

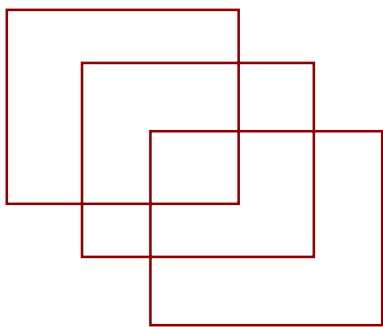
The efficacy of cash transfer programmes to reduce poverty and inequality was also discussed, as well as the availability of financial resources to develop more social programmes. The Declaration of Livingstone calls the governments of African countries for a greater interaction and exchange of information and experiences in the area of social protection and cash transfer programmes. Later, in September of the same year, the International Workshop on Ageing took place in Yaounde, Cameroon. In this meeting, there were mainly discussions related to the vulnerability situation of the elders in Africa, as well as the importance of this group in the care of children in vulnerability situation which became orphans due to HIV. From this meeting, there was the Declaration of Yaounde, which emphasized the importance of fulfilling the recommendations

of the Declaration of Livingstone and determining a series of measures to be taken by the governments of African countries to adopt social protection systems focused on the elderly.

Following up on this work, last March, the African Union and Help Age International organized national meetings in six African countries – Burkina Faso, Rwanda, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Cameroon and Tunisia – in order to assess the situation of social protection policies in each country.

The results obtained in this meetings were the basis to start the discussion on social protection investment in Africa in three Regional Conferences, the East and South in Uganda (April 28-30); the North, in Egypt (May 13-14) and the West, in Senegal (June 9-11).

The results obtained in the three Regional Conferences will contribute for the first Ministerial Meeting on Social Protection in Africa, which will gather the Ministries in charge of Social development in the participating countries, in Namibia (October 2008). The Brazilian Minister of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger, Mr. Patrus Ananias was already invited to join the meeting and contribute with the process of development of the Continent.



# Brazilian Participation in the Regional Experts Meeting in Uganda

The First Regional Experts Meeting on Social Protection in Africa took place in Kampala, Uganda between April 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The meeting assembled representatives from Governments of 16 countries from Eastern and Southern Africa – Cameroon, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe – and also international cooperation agencies, NGOs, international organizations, representatives from the Brazilian government and experts from local and international institutions.

During the three days of the meeting, over 150 participants discussed the progress of African governments in the development of social protection policies, emphasizing the need to take specific action to enable the implementation of these policies. There was further focus on the need to sensitize the actors holding financial resources – Ministries of Finance – thus showing the importance of investing in social protection for the development of the African continent as a whole.

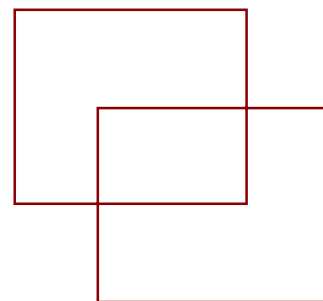
Three representatives from the Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger from Brazil (MDS) took part in the meeting: Bruno Câmara Pinto, Advisor of the Cabinet of the National Secretariat of Citizenship Income, José Cesar de Medeiros, Director of the Department of Management of the Integrated Policy of the Secretariat of Food and Nutritional Security and Celso Augusto Rodrigues Soares, expert from the General Coordination of the Management of Benefits. The MDS was also joined by Fábio Soares, researcher of the International Poverty Centre. Experts from MDS explained the Programmes of the Ministry and also the Cooperation Programme with Africa, further meeting the delegations of Mozambique, Kenya and Tanzania. Inspired by the meeting, MDS started to discuss the scope of the Study Tour to Brazil which will probably take place in August and also the technical assistance which will be given to the partner countries.

## Regional Experts Meeting in Egypt

The Regional Experts Meeting in Egypt took place on May 13-14 and had the participation of representatives from the governments of Egypt, Tunisia, Liberia, Algeria, Libya and Zambia. From the part of the Programme, Melissa Andrade (International Poverty Centre) attended the meeting and informed the participating countries about the Cooperation between Brazil and Africa. The representative of the government of Zambia, Bestone Mboosi, invited to present the study case of the cash transfer programme in the country, reported that the programme is under assessment

and there is still not a definition about the continuity of the pilot, due to the lack of structure from the part of the government to maintain the initiative.

The Social Protection Agenda in Northern African countries looks more at social security issues, different from Sub-Saharan Africa, more focused on social assistance policies. This region, indeed, has greater chances of fulfilling the Millennium Development Goals. All the presentations of the meeting will be available in the programme's webpage to be launched in July.



## Regional Experts Meeting in Senegal

Between June 9th and 11th, Senegal will host the third Regional Experts Meeting promoted by the African Union and which will have representatives from the Ministry of Social Development, the Director of Cooperation and Development from the Brazilian Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA), Mario Theodoro, the Coordinator of IPEA in the International Poverty Centre, Milko Matijascic and Melissa Andrade, responsible for the programme at IPC. The Brazilian delegation will present the mechanisms of the Social Protection System in Brazil, and will speak about the programme and the role of the International Poverty Centre in facilitating the South-South Cooperation. In this meeting, Ghana will also be present, a country which was a partner of Brazil in 2007 and will also join the new cycle of the programme. It is expected that there will be considerable interest from the part of West Africa to know more about the Brazilian experience. From the Brazilian side, it will also be an excellent learning opportunity about the reality of the continent.

# Seminar: Social Protection in Africa

On May 20th, the International Poverty Centre promoted the Seminar: Social Protection in Africa: a mapping of the growing cash transfer experiences in the continent delivered by Melissa Andrade. The study presented was the result of a demand from the Brazilian Ministry of Social Development to better understand the African reality. The results of the mapping are already available in IPC's website and will be later published in the format of a Working Paper for future reference of those interested in the Cooperation.

To view the presentation: [http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/publications/cct/africa/Social\\_Protection\\_Africa.pdf](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/publications/cct/africa/Social_Protection_Africa.pdf)

## A Mapping of the Growing Cash Transfer Experiences in the Continent

## Sharing Experiences

### Call for Publications

The Brazil-Africa Cooperation Programme on Social Protection involves the dissemination of the experiences of Social Protection in African Countries in the format of Working Papers of the International Poverty Centre. Thus, African governments and researchers in the area are invited to submit their work to IPC and to help increase the debate and the level of information available about Social Protection in Africa and the South-South Cooperation.

To view IPC's publications on Sub-Saharan Africa:

[http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/publications/cct/brazil/news\\_eng.pdf](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/publications/cct/brazil/news_eng.pdf)

## Cooperation with Africa in the Media

The Cooperation with Africa has called the attention of the Brazilian media. In the week of April 14<sup>th</sup>, this was the theme of the TV programme 'Brazil seen by IPEA', where Mr. Ernesto Jeger from DFID and Melissa Andrade from IPC were interviewed by Ricardo Wegrzynovskie. They reported about the Cooperation programme, the strategic work of DFID in this area and the growing interest in the initiative. The magazine 'Challenges of Development' published by IPEA has also put a spotlight on the cooperation and detailed the work supported by DFID. See more: [www.ipea.gov.br](http://www.ipea.gov.br)

### Further information and contact of the Programme:

Melissa Andrade: 2105 5016, [melissa.andrade@undp-povertycentre.org](mailto:melissa.andrade@undp-povertycentre.org)

Agenda of the Brazil-Africa Cooperation Programme on Social Protection:

- Regional Experts Meeting in Senegal: June 9-11
- Meeting Steering Committee: June 25



#### International Poverty Centre

SBS – Ed. BNDES, 10º andar  
70076-900 Brasilia DF  
Brazil

[povertycentre@undp-povertycentre.org](mailto:povertycentre@undp-povertycentre.org)  
[www.undp-povertycentre.org](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org)  
Telephone +55 61 2105 5000

