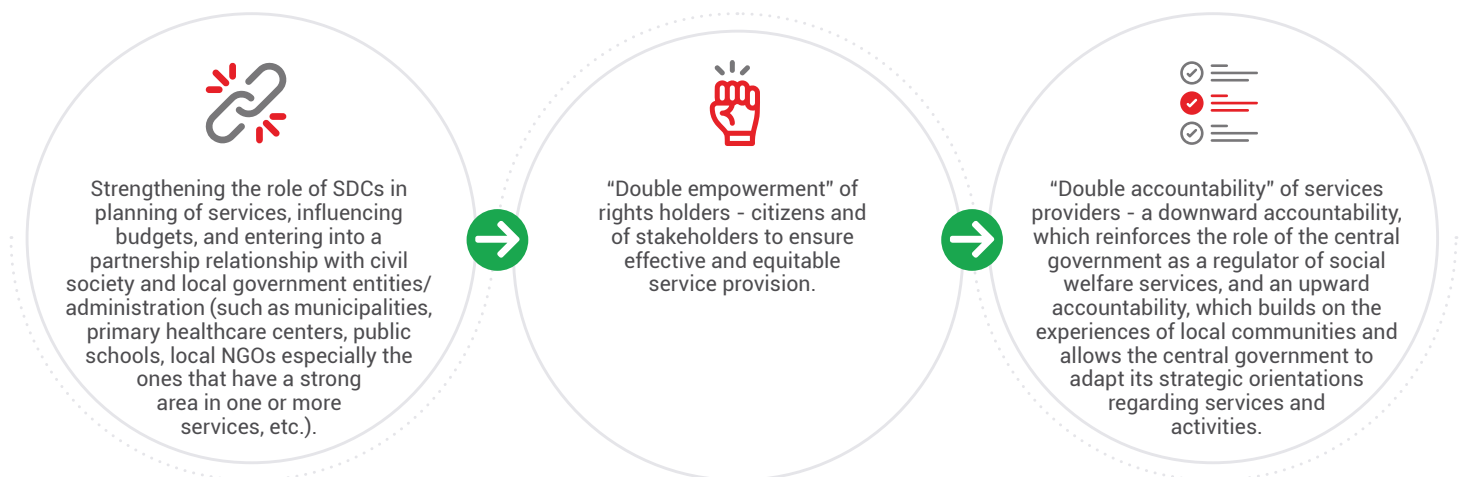


SOCIAL WELFARE

The aim of the Social Welfare Pillar is to have an integrated system which ensures quality care services at the community level that foster family unity and preservation with a high degree of oversight and regulation from government. Gradually, the model that the social protection framework aspires for is a shift towards public service provision ensuring basic welfare services to priority vulnerable groups through MoSA SDCs, complemented by public-private partnerships and engagement with civil society for specialized services (through MoSA contracted and non-contracted NGOs). SDCs would assume the role of a “one-stop shop” and act as a coordination hub for local actors, including municipalities, NGOs, other civil society stakeholders.

To facilitate transformation in the field of social welfare, reforms must be implemented across three main axes:



The main components of the social welfare pillar include 1) the provision of a continuum of care to address multiple vulnerabilities and needs of vulnerable groups, which encompass primary prevention, secondary prevention, individual case management, specialized services, and intensive social services; 2) further investment in the Ministry of Social Affairs (and SDCs) as the epicenter of social welfare policy execution, oversight, and gradually service delivery; 3) improvements to the enabling environment (legal and policy changes) of the sector; and 4) driving social and behavioral change under a socio-ecological, multi-sectoral framework.

POLICY OUTCOMES

Accordingly, the following policy outcomes are proposed:

P3.01:

All marginalized/vulnerable groups have effective access to inclusive and quality social welfare services.

P3.02:

The range of service interventions, outreach and case management services provided to vulnerable groups is expanded to address their multi-dimensional vulnerabilities and needs within a global community development approach.

P3.03:

Social welfare services adhere to high quality standards and are well coordinated to address the holistic needs of vulnerable groups.

STRATEGIC ORIENTATIONS AND INITIATIVES

Strategic Orientation 1:

Strengthen the legal and policy framework for social welfare services.



Initiative 1.1:

Develop a broad vision for social welfare services within a legal and policy framework that clearly defines roles and responsibilities of relevant governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.



Initiative 1.2:

Review relevant laws and pass required legislative amendments to ensure their consistency with international conventions.



Initiative 1.3:

Ensuring the alignment of existing policies and strategies and achieving coherence among them and adopting policies that provide additional protection for marginalized groups.



Initiative 1.4:

Ensure effective enforcement of national laws and improve access to justice systems for vulnerable groups.



Initiative 1.5:

Rationalize and reallocate spending on social welfare services based on a planning process that is mutually reinforcing between the central and local levels to ensure efficiency and sustainability.

Strategic Orientation 2:

Gradually consolidate social welfare service provision, improving the quality and access to services for the most vulnerable, and complement this with partnerships between service providers from the private and civil society sectors to ensure coherence.



Initiative 2.1:

Restructure SDCs to become community centers where service providers and beneficiaries can meet and hold discussions on how to improve the efficiency and quality of services.



Initiative 2.2:

Strengthen family and community-based care services as part of a vision to reduce reliance on institutional care of vulnerable groups (particularly children and PWDs).



Initiative 2.3:

Expand the scope of service provision to include the entire continuum of care which can address multiple vulnerabilities and needs throughout the lifecycle, paying particular attention to increasing coverage of services for vulnerable groups not currently covered.



Initiative 2.4:

Strengthen and build on the existing inter-sectoral referral system, case management and coordination for social welfare beneficiaries and families at risk.

Strategic Orientation 3:

Develop the capacity of the Ministry of Social Affairs to assume its functions in policy-making, service provision, and oversight within the social welfare sector, in parallel with strengthening the protection functions of other relevant institutional entities.



Initiative 3.1:

Adopt an evidence and results-based approach to social welfare service delivery by developing and enforcing improved standards for quality service provision and terms of contracting with institutions.



Initiative 3.2:

Improve organizational performance, human resource competencies and allocations across Ministry of Social Affairs departments/units, including SDCs capacity building.



Initiative 3.3:

Build on existing efforts to drive coordination and internal referral pathways within MoSA.



Initiative 3.4:

Strengthen the capacities of relevant ministries and local authorities (including municipalities) for early identification of cases, risk mitigation, and timely referral to appropriate services under a unified approach.

Strategic Orientation 4:

Influence family and community awareness, attitudes and social norms to empower households, address the normative drivers of socio-economic vulnerability, and improve uptake of social welfare services.



Initiative 4.1:

Enhance behavioral and social change through various communication approaches that build trust in the social welfare system and enable social cohesion.



Initiative 4.2:

Enhancing the role of the family as a primary nurturer and strengthening its capacities to preserve its components.



Initiative 4.3:

Enhance community outreach to identify vulnerable groups and the package of services that responds to current needs, including engaging with mukhtars and municipalities, but also through household visits and referral to services.

