

# Social Policy in West and Central Africa

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Florence, February 2012

For every child  
Health, Education, Equality, Protection  
ADVANCE HUMANITY



# Outline of the Presentation

1. Promising work
2. Emerging directions
3. 'Success-defining' areas

# Promising work (1)

## Evidence/advocacy

### Equity based SITAN

- Equity profiles
- thematic SITANs

### Child deprivation studies

- Multi-dimensional child poverty analysis

### Social protection studies

- costing and impact simulation scenarios

## PRSPs

PRSPs are the main national development framework to influence

- Supporting the formulation of the PRSPs and to the managing of the process; most countries in the region are low income countries, and are eligible for the HIPC initiative.
- making the PRSPs pro-poor, child-sensitive and equity focus based on the studies, evidence and with strong advocacy

## Social budgeting

Support to MTEFs

- Public Expenditure Review;
- Child budgeting exercises;
- Social expenditure floor with the IMF;
- Advocacy for safeguarding and improving budgetary allocations to social sectors, incl. Social protection

# Promising work (2)

## Economic Crisis Response Plans

**Model-based simulations** of the impacts of the crisis at macro and micro levels;  
**Alignment of policy positions** and recommendations;  
**Social safety nets**;  
**Improved working relationships with the World Bank and IMF** in many countries

## Social Protection

**Policy Development** and strengthening institutional capacity;  
Supporting countries to **formulate policies and elaborate operational social protection action plans**;  
Advocating for an **integration of Social Protection into National Development Plans (PRSPs)**;  
Developing **Social Protection Floor**;  
**Training and sensitizing** on social protection, particularly cash transfer;  
**Collaborating with the World Bank** on Social Protection;  
**Technical work on social protection** (costing, impact estimate, targeting, etc.)  
**Leading agency of government-donor coordination working groups** or committees on social protection

## Community Socio-Economic Resilience

**Social Protection in emergencies**  
**Transitional measures**  
**Long-term socioeconomic resilience building**  
**Socio-economic security**  
**Livelihoods** and access to services

# Emerging directions

- **Decentralization and local development**
  - (i) national guidelines for local planning and budgeting
  - (ii) national strategy for capacity building of local actors;
  - (iii) Municipalities Development Plans; etc.
- **Corporate Social Responsibility**

# 'Success-defining' areas of work

1. **Governance:** How to improve programmes efficiency and impacts?
2. **Decentralization:** How to better use local level institutions to achieved results?
3. **Demographic transition/urbanisation/youth and adolescents**
4. **Climate change and environment issues and how they affect children wellbeing**