

Invitation to seminar: Cash transfers, resilience and agriculture development

Date: 11th of September 2012, 10-15.30

Location: Musiksalen, Norra Latin, Stockholm

Moderator : Erika Bjerström

Speakers: Annalisa Conte, Chief of the Cash-for-Change Service ,WFP, Solomon Asfaw, Economist , FAO, Kate Donald, Adviser to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extreme Poverty and Human Rights , Laura Rawlings, Head of Strategy and Results in Social Protection and Labor , World Bank , Uhuru Dempers, *Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Republic of Namibia*, Kerstin Jonsson Cisse, Lead Policy Specialist, Agriculture, Forestry and Lars Johansson, First Secretary Program Officer, Sida, Desiree Pethrus and Annika Lillemets, *Swedish Parliament*

Sida, Svenska Kyrkan, FAO Norden and SIANI invite you to seminar where the role of cash transfers in the context of social protection in stimulating local production and increasing resilience's of rural communities will be scrutinized.

Cash transfers, in the context of social protection programs are emerging in many developing countries as a leading initiative in tackling poverty and vulnerability. During the last decade, middle income countries such as Brazil, Mexico and the Republic of South Africa have rapidly expanded their cash transfer schemes. The rapid and successful introduction of these programs indicates that cash transfers can contribute to increased resilience and pro-poor growth by serving as an effective risk management tool, empowering poor households to lift themselves out of poverty. There is currently a huge demand for the introduction and provision of basic social protection schemes in the Least Developed Countries-LDCs.



Several studies indicate that social protection schemes have multiplier impacts by creating demand for locally produced food, goods and services. Beneficiaries have been shown to use transfers to buy food and other goods and services that to a large extent are provided by local producers. Some are able to save money and invest in seed and livestock. Studies from South Africa suggest that poor families receiving cash transfers in rural areas are significantly more likely to continue farming activities. Cash transfers can be an important development mechanism to improve household resilience in terms of maintaining agricultural production in the face of an overall downward economic trend. More knowledge is still required to understand the direct links between social cash transfers, economic growth and rural production - particularly in the context of low-income countries

Cash transfers, resilience and agriculture development Programme

10.00-10.15 Introduction and welcome – Kerstin Jonsson Cisse, Lead Policy Specialist, Agriculture, Forestry , Sida

Morning Theme: Cash transfers, poverty reduction, resilience and agriculture development

10.15-10.55 Background on social cash transfer programs and the impact on agriculture development in Africa - Solomon Asfaw, Economist, FAO,

10.55-11.15 Basic income grant pilot project in Namibia - Uhuru Dempers, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Republic of Namibia

11.15-11.25 Short break (fruits)

11.25 -11.50 Cash transfers for poverty reduction: a human rights perspective- Kate Donald, Adviser to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights

11.50- 12.30 Panel discussion: Uhuru Dempers, Solomon Asfaw, Kerstin Jonsson Cisse and Kate Donald

12.30 -13.30 Lunch

Afternoon Theme: The role of ODA in the development of social cash transfer systems

13.30-13.50 Social security VUP Rwanda - Lars Johansson, First Secretary Program Sida

13.50-14.10 Cash and voucher transfers for food security – Annalisa Conte, Chief of the Cash-for-Change Service, World Food Program

14.10-14.30 The social protection and labour strategy - Laura Rawlings, Head of Strategy and Results in Social Protection and Labor , World Bank

14.30- 15.30 Panel discussion: Lars Johansson, Laura Rawlings, Annalisa Conte, Annika Lillemets, Green Party and Desiree Pethrus, Swedish Christian Democrats .

15.30 Coffee for Seminar Participants

Registration:

Register for the seminar via this link: www.siani.se/event/cash-transfers

Last day for registration is the 5th September

This seminar will be available to watch online on the following link:

<http://www.siani.se/CT-webcast>

If you have questions regarding the seminar, please contact:

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