



DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL PROTECTION STRATEGY



The process of developing the National Social Protection Framework (NSPF)/draft policy started in August 2006, with Permanent Secretary (PS), Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (MGSCSS) convening a meeting of all stakeholders of Social Protection in Kenya to discuss the need for a national social protection framework that would consolidate all social protection initiatives under a policy framework.

The output of this meeting was the establishment of a National Social Protection Forum (NSPF) whose membership is relevant Government institutions, NGOs, and development partners. A subsequent meeting of the NSPF in early 2007 established a National Social Protection Steering Committee (NSPSC) made up of key Ministries implementing social protection to start the process of developing a National Strategy and Policy.

In August 2007, Ministry of Gender Sports Culture and Social Services together with DFID in consultation with other development partners, and members of the National Steering Committee (NSC), developed a Terms of Reference (TOR) and contracted the Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI) as lead consultants to the process.

Two local consultants were also identified to support the EPRI team. The two deliverables for this consultancy are:

- A National Social Protection Strategy document
- A draft National Social Protection policy

The following activities have so far been undertaken;

Discussions with key stakeholders engaged in Social Protection

A meeting was held in Nairobi in 2007 during which UNICEF and GOK presented an analysis of Social Protection interventions in Kenya. The document was seen as laying a background for the implementation of the National Social Protection Framework (NSPF).

Discussions with stakeholders at different levels

Eight provincial workshops were held between August and September 2007 with two aims:

- Introducing the concept of social protection to the stakeholders;
- Seeking the participants' views regarding the implementation of a national programme.

The meetings brought together an average of 22 participants per province representing the government, local authorities and non-state actors.

Summary report

The provincial consultations were followed by a meeting with Non-State Actors in October 2007 with the aim of enhancing the results from the provinces and getting their input into the National Social Protection Framework. This meeting was attended by 22 people representing NSA engaged in SP work. Details of the deliberations will be contained in the draft report of this process.

Discussions with the Ministry of Finance on taking forward the Social Protection agenda

Discussions were initiated with the Ministry of Finance in the context of this consultation process, which highlighted the need for further consultations and firming up of the engagement with the Ministry in the process of developing and finalizing the framework and draft policy.

The consultants noted the need to consult with the Sector Working Groups (SWG) which determined priorities for budgeting to facilitate the inclusion of Social Protection in the national budget processes.

Drafting of the Social Protection Strategy

The consultants drafted the National Social Protection Strategy, covering among others the need for Social Protection for Kenya, Poverty and Vulnerability assessment in Kenya, existing Social Protection Interventions, and financing for social protection among others.

The draft is currently being discussed at various levels with the objective of coming up with a Social Protection Strategy for Kenya.