



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL
PROTECTION

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL
PROTECTION & SENIOR CITIZEN AFFAIRS



2023 KENYA SOCIAL PROTECTION CONFERENCE

CONCEPT NOTE

 April 3rd - 6th

 Kenya School Of Government,
Lower Kabete

1.0 Background

Social protection interventions have grown significantly in Kenya since the introduction of cash transfers by the Government. The Orphan and Vulnerable Cash Transfer programme was launched in 2004 to cater for vulnerable children orphaned by HIV/AIDS. It began as a pilot project in Garissa, Kwale and Nairobi supporting 500 children each receiving Ksh. 500 monthly. Since then, the Government has scaled up social assistance and other social protection interventions that cushion the poor and vulnerable.

The Government of Kenya's commitment to providing social protection is enshrined in the Constitution. Article 43(1) provides that 'every person has a right to social security and guarantees all Kenyans their economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to health, education and decent livelihoods'. It further asserts in Article 43(3) that the State "shall provide appropriate social security to persons who are unable to support themselves and their dependents". Article 21 of this Constitution directs the state to work towards the progressive realization of social and economic rights and binds the State to "observe, respect, protect, and fulfill the rights and fundamental freedoms in the Bill of Rights. This is further demonstrated by various policies and legislative frameworks deployed by various bodies of Government.

Social protection is geared at ensuring the development and enhancement of human capital through poverty reduction and inclusive growth. Since the enactment of the Sessional Paper No.2 of 2014 on the National Social Protection Policy, there has been increased investment in social protection interventions in Kenya. Notable expansion has been witnessed in social protection programmes, systems, capacities and shock responsiveness.

Social Protection Week Conference 2023 is the high point to celebrate and take stock of the sector since the 2018 Conference whose theme was "Scaling Up Investment in Social Protection for the Delivery of Kenya's Vision 2030 and Achievement of SDGs". Further, the objective of the Conference was to create an opportunity for learning and sharing of experiences amongst various social protection actors with a view to stimulating, motivating, promoting and advocating for increased investment in social protection by all actors, at all levels in a coherent and coordinated manner.



2.0 Objective

The objective of the SP2023 Conference is to chart the way towards inclusion and expansion of social protection for all Kenyans. It will provide an opportunity for the sector to advance the social protection agenda with a view to ensuring increased coverage and access.

This also includes strengthening coverage and adequacy of social protection in the country. Limited coverage in social protection is experienced by some segments of the population including children, older persons, persons with disabilities, youth, and women. This is also experienced more specifically by minority groups, workers, migrants, refugees, unemployed persons and those in the informal sector.

Promoting inclusive social protection will ensure that vulnerable groups are cushioned from poverty, social exclusion and deprivation throughout their lifecycle. Inclusion will then promote active participation of citizens in the different facets of society. It is key to building resilience for all against shocks and crises over the life cycle.

3.0 Justification

Kenya Government is committed to universal social security, eradicating malnutrition within five years in children under 5, through integrated package services, inclusion opportunities for people with disabilities, scaling up coverage for vulnerable groups and increasing financing to the National Safety Net to 1.7 percent of their GDP to be at par with other lower middle-income countries.

Social Protection Inclusion agenda: There has been scale up in the social protection interventions over the years. Complementary Programmes such Economic Inclusion, Enhanced Single Registry and the Nutrition Improvement through Cash and Health Education have expanded however, inclusion of Vulnerable and marginalized groups (VMG) and the missing middle need to be scaled up.

The Covid 19 pandemic and Climatic shocks have exposed the gaps in building shock responsive social protection interventions.



4.0 Scope

The Conference will bring together national and international participants. Global and national speakers will be identified depending on the topics of the Conference and their expertise.

5.0 Execution

The planning of the Conference shall be undertaken by the Main Committee chaired by the Principal Secretary. The Main Committee will be charged with the overall responsibility of organizing the Conference with a meeting monthly. This Committee will have support Committees:

- a) Program and Conference Sub-Committee;
- b) Protocol and Logistics Sub-Committee
- c) Communications and Publicity Sub-Committee
- d) Budget and Resource Mobilization Sub-Committee

6.0 Methodology

The Conference will be delivered through:

- a) Presentations will take the following forms:
 - Round tables - Presenters deliver the content of specified topics followed by interactive discussions by the audience.
 - Traditional presentations of not more than 20 minutes by one or more speakers with participants given a chance to ask questions.
 - Panelist discussions - Integrated panels that include multiple presenters focusing on an issue for a maximum duration of 90 minutes.
- b) Plenary discussions - Interactive sessions by all the participants to allow the exchange of practical experiences with the participants.
- c) Exhibitions – These will provide the social protection actors an opportunity to promote and create publicity for their products and services.



7.0 Timeline and Duration

The Conference Week shall run from 3rd – 6th April 2023, with His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya officiating the opening of the Conference.

8.0 Conference Venue

The Conference is proposed to be held in Kenya School of Monetary Studies, Nairobi.

9.0 Participants

Relevant line Ministries, civil society organizations, development partners, academic institutions, county governments, media, private sector, humanitarian agencies, individuals, Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies and international participants.

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Thank You!

***We Are Looking Forward To Having You
At The Conference***

 **April 3rd - 6th**

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