

# Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty Programme (LEAP)



*Impact and Linkages to Health Care Access;  
Evidence from Ghana*

*BY*

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# Outline of Presentation

2018  
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invest • implement • impact



❖ Background

❖ Linkage to Complementary Services

❖ Evidence of Impact

- Health

- Education

- Income

❖ Way Forward

❖ Conclusion

# BACKGROUND



- ❖ The Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Programme is the Government of Ghana's flagship Social Protection intervention which was initiated in 2008 to reduce poverty among the extreme poor and vulnerable households in Ghana.
- ❖ LEAP is both a conditional and unconditional Cash Transfer Programme and **one of the Five (5) Social Protection Interventions** of Ghana's Social Protection Policy.
- ❖ Targeted and categorical Programme



# BACKGROUND



## *Target Population – Who Qualifies ?*

❖ Extremely Poor Persons - ( determined by a Proxy Means Test - PMT score) who belong to one or more of the following categories:

– *Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs)*

– *The Aged – 65years+ without support*

– *Persons with severe disabilities without productive capacity*

– *Extremely poor pregnant women and mothers with children <1year*



# BACKGROUND



## ❖ *Objective :*

To smoothen consumption in the Households to enable vulnerable HH take advantage of complementary SP Interventions to improve HH income

❖ currently covers **213,044** Households (translates to **936,000** individuals) as at February, 2018

❖ 43 per cent of the extremely poor population of 2.2 million.

❖ Beneficiaries are paid regular cash grants through e-payment every two months using the Ghana Interbank Payment and Settlement System (GHIPSS)'s E-zwich



# LINKAGES TO COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES



- ❖ **155,000 (73%)** - households out of **213,044** LEAP beneficiary households have been registered and are benefiting from NHIS free of charge
- ❖ 3,054 LEAP beneficiaries have been linked to Labour Intensive Public Work (LIPW) to boost HH income
- ❖ Free school uniform, text books, capitation grants etc
- ❖ Access to other complementary services such as school Feeding Programme, Agricultural inputs support etc.

# IMPACT ON HEALTH



In terms of access to health, the findings revealed that:

- 67 per cent of beneficiaries were registered on the NHIS
- Beneficiary households increased desire to seek preventive as well as curative healthcare when sick
- 72 per cent of LEAP beneficiaries indicated that they purchase prescribed drugs
- Improvements in sanitation facilities and hygiene practices at home thus improving the overall health environment where a child live have been documented

# IMPACT ON EDUCATION



Independent evaluation studies have revealed that the LEAP Programme has contributed to :

- ❖ 12 per cent increase in school enrolment of children (CDD), 65% stated that children were much motivated to attend school after enrolment of households onto the LEAP Programme,
- ❖ 66% beneficiaries stated that school attendance has improved, while 65% indicated that school absenteeism has decreased after the receipt of the LEAP cash grants (CDD)
- ❖ 7% increase school secondary school attendance and reduced grade repetition among both primary and secondary aged children and reduced absenteeism by 10 per cent (ISSER and the University of North Carolina)
- ❖ 13% of adults in beneficiary households to enroll in adult literacy and education programmes. This is an unintended impact of the LEAP Programme.





# IMPACT ON HOUSEHOLD INCOME



- ❖ 75 % of beneficiaries reported improved affordability of staple food consumption
- ❖ Significant improvement in ability to purchase agricultural implements and inputs such as cutlasses, spraying machines, fertilizers and pesticides for farming activities
- ❖ The LEAP cash grant has also assisted the beneficiaries to improve social networks and participate in communal activities thereby improving their social status
- ❖ Local Economy Wide study has that for every GH¢1 spent has the potential to generate GH¢2



# WAY FORWARD



- ❖ At the moment, LEAP is in the process of expanding from 213,044 households to 456,000 by the end of December, 2018. This translates to 1.7 million individuals of Ghana's extreme poor population of 2.2million
- ❖ Expand LEAP using the Ghana National Household Registry (GNHR) single database to cover all district
- ❖ Productive and Financial Inclusion component is being developed to support all LEAP and LIWP beneficiaries to boost family income
- ❖ At the end the objectives is to create a well-functioning and resourced social welfare system for Ghana to support the President's vision of a Ghana Beyond Aid.



# WAY FORWARD



- ❖ Government commitment towards LEAP and Social Protection continues to grow, to increase each year, - e.g - GH¢ 80,000,000.00 (\$18,000,000.00) in 2017 to GH¢ 168,000,000.00 (\$37,333,333) for 2018
- ❖ The productive and financial inclusion will formulate the graduation of LEAP beneficiaries from cash transfer programme

# CONCLUSION



- ❖ In conclusion it is important to reiterate that the LEAP Programme was developed with the objective of increasing consumption and providing complimentary services - health, education and productive inclusion
- ❖ The LEAP Programme has made some significant improvement on the lives of its beneficiaries – *evidence from Research Findings*



THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME