PEI Impact Evaluation Workshop

Moving Economic Inclusion to scale







Opportunities and Challenges in Scaling up Economic Inclusion Programming

Sierra Leone: Productive Social Safety Net and Youth Employment





Delegation members

Government counterparts:

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WB project focal point:

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Primary Client agency implementing the operation:

National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA)



Background and context

- The Sierra Leone PSSNYE project aims to improve access to social safety nets and income generating activities for target beneficiaries
 - The Economic Inclusion (EI) subcomponent aims to deliver an integrated livelihood package to extreme-poor households to provide them with a foundation to carry out activities with income generating potential
 - This subcomponent will combine grants with accompanying services and measures to address multiple constraints faced by rural households in the country
- The EI builds on the foundations provided by the existing Social Safety Net Project (*Ep Fet Po*), which has so far provided unconditional cash transfers to more than 60,000 extreme poor households in Sierra Leone
- The main target beneficiaries for the economic inclusion package will be:
 - households who have previously received the Ep Fet Po and are no longer receiving the program
 - households who are currently receiving the *Ep Fet Po* but will exit the program within the next year



Project innovations

The EI package will include:

- (a) a start-up capital grant
- (b) training and mentoring
- (c) support for behavior change

(d) links to existing government and nongovernment program in agriculture

(e) links to markets

- Specific innovations of the intervention include:
 - the climate adaptation-mitigation component
 - the strong leveraging of the existing delivery systems
 - strong previous experience of the implementing agency in social protection programming in the country.
- A particular attention will be given to targeting vulnerable groups, namely female-owned household enterprises and households with persons with disabilities.



Scale-up/Scalability

Opportunities for scaling up:

The PSSNYE project leverages on existing delivery systems and a longstanding engagement between the World Bank and NaCSA, which has resulted in a rich implementation history and scale-up of the existing cash transfer program during periods of health crises and natural disasters

Challenges/Questions of interest:

- 1. How effective is the economic inclusion package in raising consumption and income level of extreme poor households in Sierra Leone? How does this compare to simply providing unconditional cash transfers at regular intervals, such as through the complementary activity supported by the project?
- 2. Because all the beneficiaries of the economic inclusion package will be previous cash transfer recipients who have exited the program, how does economic inclusion differentially impact cash transfer recipients based on when they exited the program?
- 3. Who is the economic inclusion package most suitable for? Does the impact depend on depth of poverty, household vulnerability status (elderly, persons with disability), gender, or age?
- 4. What is the cost-benefit ratio of the economic inclusion package compared to regular unconditional cash transfers?
- 5. How does the impact of economic inclusion and unconditional cash transfers vary over time?



Thank you!

Presenter's name Contact

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