Poverty Reduction, MPI and Social Protection

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Social Protection is key element of SDG1 alongside poverty

Three Questions of Interest

- **How to co-ordinate and align poverty & social protection optimally for policy outcomes**

- **How to measure poverty reduction ($ & MPI) arising from Social Protection**

- **How to design & evaluate poverty reduction ($ & MPI) using Social Protection**

Social Protection & Poverty

Poverty is about lack of 'material well-being'

- – $ Monetary (income or consumption)
- – Material deprivations : education, health & nutrition, water & sanitation, assets, domestic energy use etc

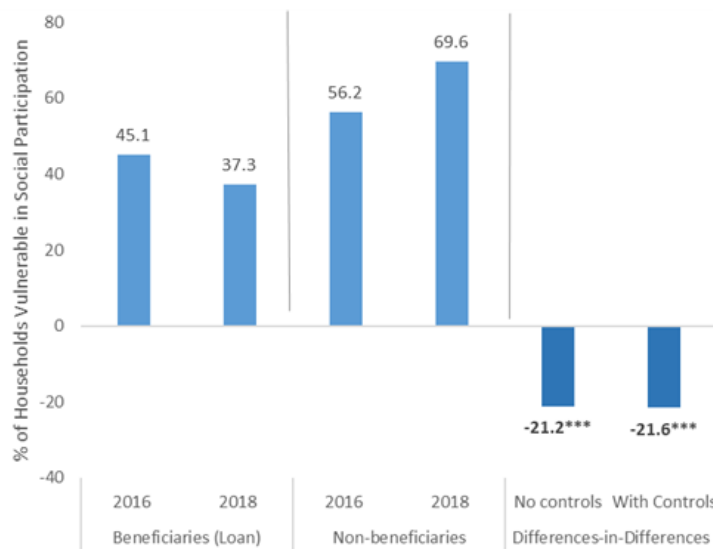Social Protection is about improving $, & related deprivations & access to services

- – Cash Transfers (& in-kind and loans)
- – Service access (school & health fee reductions, health insurance,
- – Sometimes 'conditional' to link $ to enrolment, health-checks, employment etc

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Measuring poverty reduction effects of Social Protection?

- SP 'cash' income does not lead necessarily to a $ to $ improvement in household monetary well-being: EG
  - Even the poorest share income with other households (eg Malawi & Zimbabwe evaluations: FAO/UNIEF/UNC)
  - There are 'debts' to repay
- **BUT national monetary measures capture these differently (definitions of income & consumption)**
- SP 'Cash' and 'Cash Plus'
- **BUT, we know little about underlying relationships between $ and deprivations of different kinds. E.G. $ has effect on primary – but different for 2ndry education**
- **Capturing non-monetary outcomes often seen in evaluations but not monitored in regular statistics**

Clear Evidence of non-monetary outcomes from cash SP

- Food Security evidence good – nutritional outcomes less so. Nutritional outcomes better with 'information' programmes for mothers of younger children (Bangladesh – Hoddinot et al)

- Social Participation evidence good -

Tabita, Kenya · Rabiya, India · Stephanie, Madagascar · Agathe, Madagascar · Dalma, Kenya · Ann-Sophia, Kenya · Valérie, Madagascar

So, there is much to do in both 'measurement' and 'policy' terms

Thanks a lot!