

UTAFITI SERA County Forum On Social Protection



**“A government
that does not
invest in
people is not
worth being a
government”.**

- H.E Hon Oparanya,
Governor, County
Government of
Kakamega.

Forum Report

Venue: The Vic Hotel, Kisumu

Date: 14th June, 2018

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LIST of ABBREVIATIONS and ACRONYMS

APSP	-	African Platform for Social Protection
ASAL	-	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
HSNP	-	Hunger Safety Net Programme
NHIF	-	National Hospital Insurance Fund
NSNP	-	National Safety Net Programme
NSSF	-	National Social Security Fund
OPCT	-	Older Persons Cash Transfer
OVC	-	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PASGR	-	Partnership for African Social and Governance Research
PWD	-	Persons with Disabilities
PWSD	-	Persons with Severe Disability

1.0 Executive Summary

The Utafiti Sera County Forum on Social protection was held on 14th June 2018, at the Vic Hotel in Kisumu. The forum brought together 50 participants representing officers from the National Social Development Office, members of County Assemblies, Chief Executives, Chief Officers and clerks of county assemblies from twelve county governments from the Western and Lake region. The forum also had representation from members of civil society and community based organizations. These counties include Kisumu, Vihiga, Kakamega, Bungoma, Busia, Transzoia, West Pokot, Uasin Gishu, Kisii, Nyamira, Bomet, and Baringo.

The forum was held in recognition of the emerging social protection programmes at county level, and the subsequent need to develop mechanisms to harmonize the provision of social protection services between the national level and county level. It aimed to provide a platform for building synergies between county level and national level programmes and to strengthen the membership of the Utafiti Sera Platform.

The objectives of the forum were:

1. To strengthen the linkages between national and county programmes in 10 counties in the Western and North Rift regions;
2. To share knowledge and practices on county level social protection initiatives; and
3. To widen the membership of the community of practice in social protection.

An inspiring keynote address was given by the Governor of County government of Kakamega, H.E Hon. Wycliffe Oparanya.

Emerging Issues



- The need to diversify social protection programmes to cushion citizens. Different programmes should target different groups depending on the types and levels of vulnerability.
- There is need to generate evidence to inform social protection programmes. Data and evidence provide important information that can inform the design, implementation and assessment of the programme.
- The role of legislation and policy to inform social protection programming is key in promoting rights based social protection and sustainability of programmes.

- Budgeting for long-term social protection programmes is vital. Emerging social protection programmes should be integrated in County Development Plans to ensure sufficient resource allocations. County governments need to link their programmes with national development plans, including Vision 2030 and other medium-term plans to guide their social protection programmes.
- There is need for collaboration between county governments and national programmes in information management, to enhance accountability and minimize duplicity.
- Citizen engagement in design and delivery of social protection programmes is important.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Background

Since independence, the Kenyan government has implemented social protection programmes which range from social assistance, social security, and health insurance. These have been aimed at cushioning the vulnerable of the society from the adverse effects of poverty. Indeed, the Kenya Economic Survey Report 2018 indicates that overall headcount poverty at the national level is about 36.1% of the total population with the majority coming from the rural areas. A number of counties in the western region and north rift experience a high poverty rate. The poverty rates for counties in the Western and Lake region include Kisumu (33.9), Kakamega (35.8), Baringo (39.6), Bungoma (35.7), Vihiga (43.2), Kisii (41.7), Elgeyo-Marakwet (43.4), Baringo (39.6), Nandi (36.0) and Busia (69.3).

In synchrony with the national Government, the counties have embarked on Social Protection initiatives as a means to combat poverty. Cash transfers are deployed alongside other measures such as social security and health insurance. All these strategies have proved to be paramount in cushioning people from poverty, vulnerability and other related risks. It is against this backdrop and recommendations from previous Utafiti Sera House meetings that the African Platform for Social Protection (APSP) and the Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR) decided to organize this forum. The purpose of the forum was to enable representatives from national governments, county governments and civil societies from the Western and North Rift regions to share knowledge and best practices on county-level social protection initiatives.

2.2 Opening Remarks

Helen Mudora, Programme Manager at the African Platform for Social Protection (APSP) welcomed all the participants to the forum. She informed the participants that the forum was vital in sharing knowledge on how linkages between the national and county governments can be strengthened to assure consistency and enhance the impact of social protection schemes. The Africa Platform for Social Protection (APSP) is a pan-African network of organizations operating at grassroots, national and regional levels, with a commitment to promoting and strengthening the social contract between states and citizens. APSP promotes active engagement of National Platforms in the shaping of Social Protection policies, programmes and practices in Africa. APSP's mission is to create partnerships with Civil Society and other organizations to engage with the Governments and International Development Agencies (IDAs) to develop and implement innovative Social Protection strategies and programmes that make a difference in people's lives in Africa. Till date, APSP has established 27 platforms to engage at a national level. Key areas of work by the APSP include awareness raising on social protection programmes in Africa, policy and legal advocacy, citizen

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engagement through social accountability and working closely with the African Union (AU) and the East African Community (EAC) to shape social protection policies in the region.

She thanked the Deputy Governor of Kisumu County, Hon. Dr. Owili and the Governor of Kakamega County Hon. Oparanya for their insights on social protection programming at county level. She thanked the participants for finding time to be part of the deliberations and hoped that the forum would provide a platform for sharing and learning

about the emerging social protection programmes.

2.3 Dr. Samuel Kabue, Champion, Utafiti Sera House on Social Protection and Chairman Social Protection Actors Forum

Dr. Kabue began by providing a brief on the Social Protection Actors Forum (SPAF). The platform draws its membership from organizations that work with vulnerable groups including children, persons with disabilities and older persons on social protection initiatives. SPAF focuses on awareness building, advocacy, information dissemination and monitoring of social protection programmes in Kenya.

He noted that through a partnership approach, the Utafiti Sera platform on social protection aims to strengthen the use of research evidence in policy and practice. He noted that the right to social protection is outlined in article 43 subsection 6 of the 2010 Kenyan Constitution. He explained that Social protection in Kenya has three pillars. The first is social security which is typically a contributory programme targeting formal sector employees and is repaid in the form of a pension upon retirement. The National Social Security Fund (NSSF) is one example of social security. The second pillar is health care which are also often contributory. The National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) is an example of the main national public insurance scheme. County governments are increasingly developing other health insurance programmes to protect their citizens from health risks. The third pillar is social assistance programs which are non-contributory schemes targeting individuals deemed eligible for assistance by society on the basis of their vulnerability or poverty. Benefits are therefore provided on the basis of need, are subject to means-testing and funded by donors or states. National non-contributory programs in Kenya include The Orphans and Vulnerable Children cash transfer (OVC-CT), Persons with Severe Disability) cash transfer (PWSD-CT), Older Persons Cash Transfer (OPCT) and the Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP).

Dr. Kabue noted the timeliness of the county forum as the number of county programs on Social Protection is significantly expanding, signifying the need for cross county exchange of practices and closer coordination between county level and national level programmes.

APSP has established

27 platforms

to engage at a national level.



2.4 Dr. Martin Atela, Programme Manager, Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR)

Dr. Atela thanked the County government of Kisumu and the Deputy Governor, Dr. Mathews Owili for welcoming and allowing their team to hold the Utafiti Sera Forum in Kisumu County. The idea of the 'Utafiti Sera' platform on social protection emerged from the realization that research uptake in policy and practice was low, and that there was a disconnect between researchers and other policy actors. The Partnership of African Social and Governance Research (PASGR) began the process of bringing together researchers, academicians and policy actors to deliberate on various issues around social protection. Currently in its third year, the 'Utafiti Sera' platform on social protection has generated evidence and convened stakeholder platforms in areas surrounding policy, legislation, programmes and financing. Social protection actors continue to use the evidence generated from the house for advocacy and to enhance the outcomes of social protection programmes in Kenya.

2.5 Official Opening by H.E Prof Anyang Nyongo, Governor, Kisumu County

Hon. Dr. Matthews Owili, the deputy Governor of Kisumu County made the official opening remarks on behalf of the Governor of Kisumu County, Hon. Anyang Nyongo. He said that the leadership of Kisumu County is elated to be hosting the county forum on Social protection in Kisumu, which brings together representation from 11 counties in the lake region and neighboring counties. Although counties are beginning to implement social protection programmes, the programmes are not necessarily driven by research signifying the need to reduce the gap between research, policy and practice. He noted the importance of public- private partnerships in generating data and evidence to inform social protection programmes. County governments should also work closely with universities, research institutions and NGOs within their counties and at national level to develop transformative social protection programmes.

The County Government of Kisumu has a Directorate of Gender, Youth Affairs and Social Services that is currently rolling out programmes to address the social protection needs of the citizens. The County works closely with

other partners to provide different services to its citizens, including provision of assistive devices to Persons with Disabilities (PWD) and building three resource centers promoting access to information for persons with disabilities. The County has also introduced a friendly tax regime where waivers are granted to persons with disabilities. The county government is currently in the process of identifying the 66 most vulnerable persons per ward to benefit from a prospective cash transfer system. The County of Kisumu is also one of the counties that is piloting universal health coverage, whereby it will pay NHIF contributions for nearly 30% of Kisumu's population. This programme is going to be implemented in partnership with the World Bank and other partners.

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Other social programmes which the County of Kisumu County has invested in include:

- Creation of resource centers and social halls in each Sub-County.
- A scholarship and bursary scheme that targets bright needy students at different levels of education.
- A sponsorship programme targeting youths interested in studying different disciplines in technical colleges to increase employability.
- Construction of 21 vocational centers with adequate facilities, adequate and qualified instructors to train youth on hard and soft skills demanded in the market. The county has this year trained 25 people per ward and is planning to improve the number to 50 per ward in the next financial year.



He urged the residents of Kisumu to familiarize themselves with the County's manifesto, which has provisions on issues related to social protection, SMEs, review of taxes and industrialization that are intended to achieve significant milestones on social security. He also requested people to register with NHIF. He stated that the county is not yet at a point where they can say that their social structure promotes social protection to its entirety. However, the county is on the right track in the securing the future of their children and protecting the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

Remarks by Mrs. Winnie Mwasiaji, Deputy Director of Social Development, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection

Mrs. Mwasiaji noted the importance of a community of practice because it brings together different skills and knowledge that can be harnessed for better outcomes in the delivery of social protection services. She pointed out that as part of its responsibility toward the citizens, the government has initiated different pillars of social protection to cushion citizens from vulnerability. The cash transfers programmes happen to be the most recognized by the general public as a tool for reducing vulnerability and poverty among the poorest Kenyan households. There has been a considerable change in how cash transfers are implemented. The efficacy of delivery mechanism, target amounts, and coverage has improved significantly. She noted that cash transfers are particularly efficient because they:

- i. Provide immediate relief to poor and vulnerable households;
- ii. Prevent long-term consequences of poverty- especially those damaging to children's growth and development;
- iii. Provide households with choice for spending;
Enable access to basic services;
- v. Advance participation of the poor households in community activities;
- vi. Increase quality of life for the benefiting households; and
- vii. Are cheap and easy to administer.

In the Financial Year 2017/2018, about 7.3 billion worth was allocated to direct cash transfers. Examples include the Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP) covering

nearly 100,000 households, the OPCT programme covering 310,000 households, the OVC program covering 353,000, the PWSD program covering 47,000 and Older Persons 70 scheme covering 523,000. She informed the participants that cash transfers have had major impacts in the lives of the beneficiaries which include:

- Improving peoples' opportunities to achieve sustainable livelihood.
- Enabling families and communities to invest in their future (purchase of small assets such as livestock).
- Helping families purchase essential commodities (food, beddings, housing materials)
- Assisting families in overcoming financial barriers to health and education.
- Supporting productivity and job creation.
- Enabling financial inclusion (savings, banking).
- Strengthening local economies.

She emphasized the need for a social assistance specific law to operationalize the provisions of the Constitution and ensure their sustainability. She noted that both the county governments and the national government require laws, rules and regulations to guarantee the cash transfers to the beneficiaries as well as provide rules and regulations to provide standards for service delivery. In this regard, there is a need to review and enact the Social Assistance Act 2013, which although signed, is yet to be implemented. The ministry is currently reviewing the provisions of the Act with the aim of ensuring that there is a legal framework. She challenged the county governments to learn from the national programmes to avoid mistakes, duplicity and to strengthen the delivery of cash transfer programmes. She further pointed out the need to develop a Sessional paper at the county level that provides a broad strategy on social protection to supplement the national social protection policy.



Source: kirkjan.is

About the Utafiti Sera House on Social Protection, by Radwa Saad

Ms. Saad welcomed the participants to the 'Utafiti Sera' House. She described Utafiti Sera as a process, a forum, a platform and a vehicle for research to policy uptake. She noted that in African context in specific where resources are scarce, the opportunity cost of not considering evidence in the policy process is high. The use of evidence is central to the Utafiti Sera model. A stakeholders' analysis and mapping of issues is conducted during the early stages of the house. After which, research evidence around key issues is collected and synthesized in a comprehensive report. The evidence is then packaged in a concise and user-friendly fashion and disseminated to relevant policy actors through various channels including forums and high-level policy meetings. Utafiti Sera also identifies gaps in research areas and pushes stakeholders to produce more evidence related to the needs of the houses. Utafiti Sera has many houses across the African continent. They include:



The house on Social Protection is one of the earliest pilot projects for the Utafiti Sera model. It was launched in 2016 and was previously hosted by AHID. Since its inception, it has proved a pertinent vehicle for advocacy of social protection initiatives, spearheading and sustaining important conversations around design, implementation and impact of social protection. She concluded by stating that more houses will be started in other spheres in the next two years.

Impact of cash transfers, Beneficiary experience - Kenan Mandela

Kenan Mandela -a beneficiary of the cash transfers for Persons with Severe Disabilities (PWSD-CT) from Busia County- gave a personal testimony on the impact of cash transfers. He said that he has been on the programme since 2006, and the money he received through the program has transformed his life. Some of the key changes in his life include by improved shelter, livelihood and family life. Through the cash transfers, he has managed to construct a house, and purchase dairy cattle that strengthen his livelihood. Since he has a source of livelihood, he has started a family, and is currently raising two children. He stated that several challenges remain in the implementation of the programme. These include challenges with the biometric identification system, long queues at pay points, delays in payment and long distance to the collection. He concluded by requesting that these challenges be addressed so that the beneficiaries can access the service efficiently.

3.0 Keynote Address by H.E Hon. Wycliffe Oparanya, Governor, County Government of Kakamega

Hon. Oparanya expressed his joy and appreciation for the invitation to share the experience of the Kakamega County in implementation of social protection programmes. He noted that his passion for social protection was ignited when he was the Minister of Planning, National Development and Vision 2030 from 2007 to 2013. As the Ministry in charge of planning, there was a lot of data generated to inform government plans. During that period data from Kenya Bureau of Statistics showed that the Kakamega County had one of the highest maternal and child mortality rates. The County of Kakamega's overall poverty level at that time was 56%. Therefore, when he was elected in 2013, maternal health was his priority and primary focus. Key social protection programmes by the County government of Kakamega include:

a) Health insurance and health care for mothers and infants.

'Imarisha Afya ya Mama na Mtoto', also popularly known as 'Oparanya Care' is the flagship internationally recognized programme for the County Government of Kakamega. The programme aims to reduce mother and infant mortality rate, increase successful delivery rates, reduce mother to child transmission of HIV and improve nutrition status of children below the age of 5. This was informed by alarming statistics and data on infant and maternal mortality rates. According to the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2014, maternal and infant mortality rates in Kakamega County stood the maternal mortality ratio stood at 316 per 100,000 live births (UNFPA, 2014), the neonatal mortality rate was 19 deaths per 1,000 births, and the mortality rate for children under five was 64 per 1,000 births (KDHS 2014). The programme targets poor and vulnerable mothers to be enable their access to health services and a continuum of care (post-natal care, immunization and growth monitoring). The programme targets infants and young children because this is a stage where the government can make a lasting impact on future generations through promoting their growth, development and wellbeing.

Under the program, all pregnant women are automatically registered with the county government for the programme, and those that are eligible for assistance are determined. Eligibility depends on three issues which include: poverty levels; HIV/AIDS patients, (pregnant mothers who are HIV positive automatically qualify for the programme) and finally the programme targets adolescent mothers. Once eligibility has been determined, the mothers are given Ksh. 2000 after childbirth and the same amount every time they visit the clinics for vaccination of the children until the child is 18 months. Till date, 45,511 mothers were registered under the programme with 38,000 mothers directly benefiting.

b) Shelter improvement programme

The county has also set up a programme that identifies poor people especially widows and widowers in need of subsidized housing. The county government allocates a budget of Ksh. 100,000 per household. Construction is done by the local polytechnics to ensure that students enrolled in those polytechnics also profit from each housing project. The beneficiaries of the houses are also issued two blankets, a mattress and an additional sum of Ksh. 2000 upon moving into their new homes.

Beneficiaries are then automatically enrolled into NHIF, and the county provides electricity supply and a water tank to enable them to access electricity and store water respectively. This program has been operating for three years with approximately 360 households, and 60 homes having benefited from the programme so far.

c) Investing in human social and economic development

The County government of Kakamega has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the rural electrification board to deliver electrification to the most remote areas of the County. The project is a match up fund project, where the County government of Kakamega pays Ksh. 60 million annually, and the rural electrification board matches up the fund with an equivalent, which totals to Kshs. 120 million annually. The 120 million annually has been enough to put transformers in every ward of the County.

d) Promoting access to health through health insurance

The County government of Kakamega has begun a programme that promotes access to health through the National Hospital Insurance Fund. The County contributes funds for beneficiaries to the National health insurance program has embarked on a massive registration to the NHIF programme.

e) Promoting food security through subsidies.

Due to a high population and limited land area, Kakamega County has suffered greatly from food insecurity. The County government of Kakamega is implementing a programme where it subsidizes farm inputs including fertilizers and seeds. The county government buys a bag of fertilizer at Ksh. 3800 and sells them to the farmers at Ksh. 1800. The implementation of this programme has stabilized the prices of food within the county stabilize. The price control has seen maize, the most utilized food in the country come down from Kshs. 160 to Kshs. 60.

3.1 Lessons Learnt from Implementing the Programmes;

1. Diversification of programmes

As counties begin to develop programmes to cushion the population from vulnerability and risks, there is need to diversify the programmes. There is no one-size fit all programme. People face different risks and vulnerabilities and it is important for the counties to think outside the box.

2. Data and evidence generation

There is need to generate evidence to inform social protection programmes. Data and evidence provide important information that can inform the design, implementation and assessment of the programme.

3. Legislation for social assistance is key in the provision of services

It is important for counties that are implementing social protection programmes to develop laws to provide a legal framework for implementation of the programmes. Kakamega County developed the Kakamega Maternal and Child Act 2017, to guide the provision and implementation of the “Imarisha Afya ya Mama na Mtoto” programme.

4. Budgeting for long term social protection programmes

County governments must budget for both short-term and long term social protection goals. There is need to prioritize social protection budgeting within the demands of other development programmes like infrastructure.

5. Information Management System

There is need for information sharing between county governments and the national government. Counties can feed into existing national databases on social protection to avoid duplication.

6. Better linkages between the national and county governments.

The national government is experienced in the implementation of cash transfer programmes. County governments should align their programmes with the national government’s medium term plans and policy directions such as Vision 2030, the National social protection policy 2011, and the Sessional Paper No. 2 of 2014 on Social Assistance. It is imperative for county governments to create linkages with national government in order to align their social protection programmes for the purpose of promoting synergy and minimizing duplication and wastage of resources.

7. Developing partnerships

Social assistance programmes are complex, and hence the need to reach out to partners who have interest in the different aspects of a programme. Kakamega County is supported by UNICEF in the implementation of the Mother and Child programme. UNICEF provides technical support in the design, enrollment and verification procedures among others. UNICEF also supports in the monitoring and evaluation of the programme. There are other

partners who support other components of the programmes or other social assistance programmes.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the programme is important in tracking the delivery of the services as well as measuring impact. There is need for investment in a robust monitoring and evaluation system. Counties can seek for partnership to enhance M & E.

9. Use of ICTs is essential

The use of ICTs in the design and implementation of social protection programmes is important. Manual systems can pose administrative challenges like duplication, and lack of correct information on beneficiaries, and beneficiary tracking among others. There is need for e-platforms for registration in social protection programmes.

10. Advocacy and communication should be enhanced.

Access to social protection information by the beneficiaries and communities is a right. The communities need to know about existing or emerging programmes in social protection. This will enhance citizen engagement by allowing them to monitor programmes locally. The information and communication process should be closely linked with the complaints and redress mechanisms.

11. Participation of stakeholders in the design of social protection programmes

Inclusion of all the relevant stakeholders in the formulation and implementation stage of all programmes is vital and will contribute to success and acceptance of the programme.

12. Fairness in targeting

Any social protection programme should be fair in targeting and administration. Any social protection programme that is biased in targeting will not succeed.

13. Tracking impact and transformation

The delivery of cash transfer programmes is not a linear means of eliminating poverty and vulnerability. It takes time to experience positive change and transformation.

Opportunities created by the Lake Region Economic Bloc

Hon. Oparanya noted that the recently established Lake Region Economic Bloc (of which he is the Chairperson) provides an opportunity for harmonizing the delivery of

social assistance programmes in the 14 counties around the Lake Victoria region. Some of the key development pillars of the block for the next five years include; establishing a regional bank, conserving the Mau forest, enhancing agricultural productivity and improving maritime transport within Lake Victoria.

3.2 Challenges Experienced by Counties in Implementation of Social Protection Programmes

The governor expressed several difficulties experienced in the implementation of his programmes. They include:

1. Sustainable Financing for social assistance.

Sustainable financing for social protection remains a big challenge for counties, especially with competing demands of infrastructural development. Social protection programs risk discontinuation depending on the priorities of the next governor. That is why there is need to anchor them in law.

2. High levels of vulnerability

Targeting of social protection programmes is challenging in view of the fact that a considerable

percentage of the population is poor and deprived. If funds allow, some programmes are easier to operate when they are universal as opposed to means testing.

3. Political interferences

Many programmes at county level face political interferences. Political opponents and detractors are machineries for spreading misinformation and negative propaganda on social protection programmes. This is why information and communication must be effective.

4. Identification and citizenship

Identification and citizenship is a challenge for many people living near the border. In western Kenya, there are many women from neighboring Uganda, who are married in Kenya, but they have not acquired Kenyan citizenship. This becomes a challenge during targeting. One of the main requirements for consideration in the social protection programme is Kenyan Citizenship. In the Imarisha Afya ya Mama na Mtoto programme, some women do not possess National Identification cards and therefore face challenges in accessing funds.

3.3 Question and Answers Session



Does the County Government of Kakamega have a development strategy to protect citizens throughout the process of economic transformation?

The County has a plan that integrates all sectors of development including the economy, agriculture, infrastructure, services, and political units.

What measures are in place by the county government to address challenges related to coordination, coverage, capacity and costs?

The county works with partners to support the different facets of the social protection programmes. Partners have provided technical support in the design of the programme. Staff capacity is also enhanced to promote effective service delivery.

What are the opportunities for linkages with the national government?

Counties need to align their programmes with

national development plans. Other areas include linking with the national registry, and creating a national registry which counties can also feed into.

How does the County government control abuse of the 'Afya ya Mama na Mtoto' programme?

It was noted that the beneficiaries of the programme allows the household a benefit of only two children. This is also a measure to control population explosion in a county that already has a high population.

Bench marking and learning

Officials from the County Government of Vihiga informed the participants that Vihiga County has visited Kakamega County to learn about the Mother and Child programme. Vihiga County is soon rolling out a health programme based on the learning from Kakamega County.

4.0 Group Work

Participants were divided into three groups to brainstorm on key questions that are crucial to the success of social protection initiatives led by national and county governments. Each group was assigned a question and asked to present outcomes of discussions.

Group 1: How can social protection interventions at county level be effective? (Design and Targeting)

After exhaustive brainstorming the following issues emerged:

1. There is need for more public knowledge and awareness on social protection. Awareness levels on existing social protection programmes remain low hence the need for awareness raising to enhance knowledge and awareness on social protection.
2. There is need for capacity building of county staff and officials to enhance the understanding of concepts and design of social assistance programmes. Capacity building could take the form of training or development of guidelines on implementation of social assistance programmes to promote a harmonized approach.
3. Participants noted the importance of data to inform the design of social protection programmes. Counties need to have a repository of data on poverty and vulnerability levels.
4. There is need for counties to strengthen public- private partnerships in the development of social protection programmes. It is important that Memorandum of Understanding are done to cushion counties and beneficiaries.
5. Participants noted the importance of long-term planning and budgeting for sustainability of the programmes. This should also include a robust resource mobilization strategy.
6. In order to strengthen the provision of social protection services, there is need for lobbying the national and county assemblies to ensure there is adequate legislation to guide the provision of social protection services at County and National level.
7. Capacity building for the implementation of social security.
8. There is need to strengthen the management information systems between counties, national government and other non-state actors providing cash transfers to prevent duplication of beneficiaries.

9. There is need for collaboration between national governments and county governments in the implementation of social protection programmes. This collaboration can be achieved through organizing joint forums as well as using existing national policy documents to guide the establishment of social protection programmes. Other possible actions include mapping of existing social protection service providers at national level and at county level so as to promote collaboration among the various actors.

Group 2: What are the current opportunities for linkages and complementarity between National and County level social protection interventions? (Complementarity, Coordination, and Linkages)

After exhaustive brainstorming, the following issues emerged:

- There is need to develop a common registry to be used by both County governments and National government.
- There is need to develop a structure for identifying beneficiaries at both national and county levels.
- Mechanisms should be put in place to ease the process of accessing benefits by the vulnerable groups..
- Decentralization of the registration of persons to the grassroots levels.
- Need for a coordinated monitoring and evaluation system at both county and national levels.

Group 3: How can county governments make their social protection interventions sustainable and accountable?(Financing, Monitoring, and Evaluation)

After exhaustive brainstorming, the following issues emerged:

Financing

1. County government should budget adequately for social protection programmes. Financing should be based on the unique needs of each county. The County budgeting process should include consultative forums between the legislature and executive so that there is a common understanding of the needs of the county.

- 2. County governments should seek collaboration with private companies in financing of social protection programmes.
- 3. There is need for county governments to use electronic platforms for collection of revenue. This is to enhance revenue collection, which will in turn finance county level social protection initiatives.

- 2. Civil societies should build the capacity of communities to conduct social accountability through social audits among other methods.
- 3. It was agreed that there is need for baselines and feasibility studies to be conducted before the beginning of any social protection programmes. Such studies help to track changes and impact.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- 1. Monitoring and Evaluation to be done at both national and county government levels.

5.0 Closing Remarks

Ms. Mudora thanked everyone for finding time to participate effectively in the forum. She invited partnerships with county government and APSP in promoting social accountability by citizens in tracking the delivery of cash transfer programmes. She said that APSP can support CSOs in counties in generating evidence to inform the delivery of social protection programmes by County governments. Some of the issues that are tracked by APSP and its local partner the Social protection Actors Forum include; timeliness of payments, distance to collection points, dignity in service delivery, impact and transformation among others. She hoped that the participants will enhance the work of the Utafiti Sera Community of Practice through collaboration. She said that APSP and PASGR look forward to a closer working relationship with the County governments. She emphasized the need of generating evidence to inform the policy formulation process as well as practice.



“If you are not in it for the long haul, don’t even think about starting social assistance programmes”. H.E. Hon. Wycliffe Oparanya.



Annexe 1 - Participants List

	Name	Gender	Title	County
1	H.E Hon. Wycliffe Oparanya	M	Governor	Kakamega
2.	H.E. Dr. George Owili	M	Governor	Kisumu
3.	Dickson Rayori	M	Council of Governors	Kakamega
4.	Bramuel Shikanda	M	Council of Governors	Kakamega
5	Antony Atinda	M	Council of Governors	Kakamega
6	Brian Mwanzi	M	Council of Governors	Kakamega
7	Jacinta Aluoch	F	Council of Governors	Kakamega
8	Evance Adala	M	Council of Governors	Kakamega
9	Hon. Betty Birchogo	F	Chair Welfare, labour and gender Committee	Baringo
10	Charles Nerima	M	PSDO	Baringo
11	Joseph Koech	M	Clerk –Assembly	Baringo
12	Edmond Ndombi	M	Bungoma	Bungoma
13	Dominic Oyaya	M	ADSD	Kakamega
14	Hon. Phitalis were Masakhwe	M	Chief Officer Labour and Social Welfare	Kakamega
15	Hon. Godfrey Wambulwa	M	Chairperson County Labour and Social welfare	Kakamega
16	Hon. Nickson Butiya	M	Vihiga County Assembly	Vihiga
17	Grace Jepkoech	F	ADSD	Uasin Gishu
18	Ruth Kemboi	F	County Community Development Officer-Gender Development	Uasin Gishu
19	Leah Nyaga	F	CCS	Transzoia
20	Lucy Maina Waitthera	F	CSSD	Nandi
21	Philip Towett	M	Chief Officer Social Development	Nandi
22	Hon. Cynthia Munge	F	Chairperson County Labour and Social welfare	Nandi
23	Margaret Ogajo	F	CCSS	West Pokot
24	Richard Bosire	M	PSDO	Kisii
25	Alice Oyioka	F	PSDO	Nyamira
26	Caleb Bunyasi	M	PSDO	Elgeyo Marakwet
27	Andrew Kimeto	M	Ass. Director Social Protection County Government	Bomet
28	Erick Siele	M	Social Welfare Assistant	
29	Lynett Atieno Ochuga	F	ADSD	Vihiga
30	Hon. Clement Wycliffe Manyulu	M	County Chief Officer	Vihiga
31	Hon. Erick Odei	M	Chairperson County Assembly	Vihiga
32	Hon. Sella Mutsotso	F	Chief Officer Social Development	Bungoma
33	Edmond Ndombi	F		Bungoma

34	Martin Pepela	M	Chairperson County Assembly	Bungoma
35	Langat Elijah	M	PSDO	Busia
36	Hon. Allan Mabuka	M	Chairperson County Assembly	Busia
37	Fredrick Odera	M	New Kengeles Association	Busia
38	Mary Okaya	M	New Kengeles Association	Busia
39	Maxwell Mandela	M	New Kengeles Association	Busia
40	Francis Makamani	M	New Kengeles Association	Busia
41	Tom Mboya	M	Maseno University	Kisumu
42	Treza Anyango	F	APDK	Kisumu
43	Hon. Caroline Agwanda	F	Head of Disability Project Delivery unit-Office of the Governor, Kisumu.	Kisumu
44	Dr. Samuel Kabue	M	APSP	Nairobi
45	Josephine Rotiken	F	APSP	Nairobi
46	Winnie Mwasiagi	F	State Social Department of Social Protection	Nairobi
47	Helen Mudora	M	APSP	Nairobi
48	Elizabeth Akinyi	F	APSP	Nairobi
49	Dr. Martin Atela	M	PASGR	Nairobi
50	Dr. Wangui Kimari	M	PASGR	Nairobi

Annexe 2 - Forum Agenda

Objectives of the forum To strengthen the linkages between national and county programmes in 10 counties in the Western region. To share knowledge and practices on county level social protection initiatives. To widen the membership on the national level community of practice.	
8.00- 8.30 a.m	
Registration 8.30 – 9.00 a.m Opening RemarksWelcome Remarks, Helen Mudora, Programme Manager, Networks and Partnerships, APSP. Brief of the Utafiti Sera House on Social protection. Dr. Martin Atela, PASGR.	
Setting the stage. 9.00 – 10.00 a.m Remarks - Dr. Samuel Kabue, Champion, Utafiti Sera House on Social Protection. Remarks - by Prof. Tade Aina, Executive Director, Partnership for African Social and Governance Research. Opening Remarks, - Mrs. Winnie Mwasiqi, Deputy Director Social Development, Ministry of Labour and Social protection. Impact of Cash transfers, Beneficiary experience – Maxwell Mandela Moderator: Helen Mudora	
10.00 – 10.30 a.m	Health Break
10.30 a.m – 1.00 p.m	Social protection interventions by county governments. Panel discussion Sella Mutsotso, Bungoma County Government Clement Manyulu, Vihiga County Government Everline Tanui , Baringo County Government Phitalis Were, Kakamega County Government Q and A Group work Group 1 – How can social protection Interventions at county level be effective? (Design and targeting,) Group 2 – What are the existing opportunities for linkages and complementarity between National and County level social protection interventions? (Complementarity, Coordination and Linkages) Group 3 - How can county governments make their social protection interventions sustainable and accountable? (Financing, Monitoring and Evaluation) Moderator/Facilitator: Tom Mboya.
1.00 p.m	Lunch
2.00 – 3.30 p.m	Group Reports/feedback
3.30 – 4.00	Closing remarks and way forward Dr. Atela PASGR Dr. Kabue, Utafiti Sera House.
4.00 – 5.00 p.m	Tea

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