Interlinkages between social protection and FSN outcomes

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In 2020:
- 22% of children <5 y were stunted, 6.7% were wasted, and 5.7% overweight
- 40% of all adults were overweight, 772 million obese
- 2.3 billion people were moderately or severely food insecure
- Healthy diets are unaffordable for 3.1 billion people

In 2018:
- 8.6% lived below the international poverty line
- Covid, conflict, CC have further exacerbated the situation

(GNR, 2021; SOFI, 2022; WB)
Social protection’s goal
• Has the potential to tackle both poverty and malnutrition
• Role recognized by the 2030 Agenda and ICN2
Causes of malnutrition

- Not just food insecurity
- UNICEF framework
- Importance of diet quality
- Good nutrition is achieved when healthy, diverse, safe, nutritious, sustainable diets available are affordable and accessible to all, all year round
SP and food security and nutrition outcomes

- Positive impacts on all 4 pillars of Food Security
- Can address underlying, basic and immediate causes of malnutrition, by:
  - Increasing availability of household resources
  - Increasing availability of health and nutrition services
  - Strengthening stability and resilience
  - Avoiding negative coping strategies
  - Improving school attainment and performance
Interventions can be implemented across the entire food system.
Transfers to small-scale farmers can:

- Enhance their access to markets;
- Provide greater economic certainty and security;
- Minimize their credit access constraints.

⇒ Increase the availability of and access to nutritious foods
In-kind transfers, vouchers, or cash

⇒ Improve availability of and access to nutritious foods

Ex: nutrition-sensitive school feeding programmes can increase diet diversity, impact the wider community and local farmers
Targeted social transfers can:

- Improve food consumption, feeding and caring practices for young children (through the inclusion of nutrition education and BCC)

- Increase the demand for nutritious foods, health and nutrition services;

- Increase supply by local producers and providers

⇒ Increase diet diversity
Double-duty actions

- Impact on overweight and obesity: unintended consequences of some cash or in-kind programmes
- Cash+ programmes: can successfully address all forms of malnutrition
- Conditions:
  * Include nutrition education and BCC;
  * include health check-ups;
  * be linked to retailers providing nutritious food;
  * reward transfers spent on nutritious foods;
  * implement complementary measures as restrictions on marketing, taxes, and nutrition labelling.
Levers to maximise FSN impacts

- Include nutrition education and BCC
- Make linkages with health and sanitation
- Target the most vulnerable
- Be flexible (ex. Adaptation during Covid: horizontal and/or vertical expansion)
- Adopt a gender perspective
- Avoid unintended consequences
- Include FSN indicators

The seven key areas of the ISPA-FSN tool
Thank you!

For further information:

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