



Making Cooperation Work

COMCEC STRATEGY

For Building an Interdependent Islamic World

INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEMS OF THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET PROGRAMMES IN THE OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES



4th Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group
September 18th, 2014
Ankara, Turkey

OUTLINE

1. Case Countries
2. Concluding Remarks

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Case Countries

Azerbaijan - BACKGROUND

First Poverty Reduction Programme → 2003-2005

Second Poverty Reduction Programme → 2008-2015

Poverty rate reduced from 49 percent to 5.3 percent

Targeted SSN programmes → efforts started from 2002,
legislation in 2006

Azerbaijan – Current SSN Programmes

- Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population (MoLSPP)
 - National Subsistence Minimum
 - Social Benefits
- Ministry of Education
 - Scholarship for the orphan and IDP students
- State Committee on Refugees and Internally Displaced People (SCRIDP)
 - Housing assistance
 - Cash assistance
 - Electricity, gas and water assistance

Azerbaijan – Institutional Structure

- Policy-making process with many actors
 - Ministry of Economy and Industry → general policies
 - MoLSPP, Ministry of Education and SCRIPD → detailed policies
- Decisions for SSN system given through a top-down process
- Different actors work in coordination
- Most SSN programmes added to responsibilities of existing ministries
- SCRIDP established for specific SSN purpose

Azerbaijan – Institutional Structure

- Parliament-based, government-owned and -run SSN system
- Not a certain institution as natural home of the SSN system
- Adequate political weight
- Clear distribution of responsibilities and tasks
- Long application process and strict administrative rules lead to disincentives
- Low wages lead to personal disincentive for the providers
- Local authorities decide the beneficiaries but no power on financial decisions

Azerbaijan – Institutional Structure

- Centralized general administration but some decentralization features in the SSN system
 - Local offices take applications and decide beneficiaries, except SCRIDP
 - They obey pre-determined rules and procedures
 - NGOs are assigned responsibilities
- Several mechanisms for control and oversight
 - MoLSPP control all applicants declaring an income less than 30 percent of national poverty-line; spot-checks
 - MoLSPP local offices control the establishment of the business

Azerbaijan – Institutional Structure

- MoLSPP local offices send periodic reports
- Ministry of Education gets into contact with the school principals
- Complaints and grievances directed to any administrative level have to be answered within 15 days
- SCRIDP accept complaints and grievances every week day

Azerbaijan – Institutional Capacity

- Quality of human resources is sufficient
 - University graduates
 - On-the job trainings
- Human resources is problematic on quantity especially at local level
- Seperate MISs; do not support decision making, monitoring and evaluation
- A new comprehensive MIS is planned

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Azerbaijan – Institutional Capacity

- Cooperation is ensured by presidential decrees
- Not a regular information sharing mechanism for the similar SSN programmes
- Coordination between SSN and social insurance systems is weak

Concluding Remarks

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High and Middle Income Countries	Low Income Countries
Part of a reform process	A response to an external shock
Donors have a limited role (high income countries) or only active in policy-making process (middle income countries)	Donors have an important role in policy-making and implementation processes
Capable of implementing elaborate SSN programmes	Less complicated implementation processes
Government-led structures	Donor-led structures
Role of finance, economy and planning ministries is limited	Finance, economy and planning ministries have critical roles
Different SSN institutions are assigned similar tasks and responsibilities	Absence of the clarity about the tasks and functions
Central structures	Decentralized structures

Concluding Remarks

High and Middle Income Countries	Low Income Countries
Lack of qualified human resources in implementation phases and at local level	Lack of qualified human resources in policy-making and implementation phases, as well as at local and central levels
Conduct capacity building activities with their national financial resources	Capacity building activities are supported by donor aids via technical assistance
	bringing the MISs to advanced level is still a challenge
lack of communication between the MISs of different SSN programmes	lack of communication between the MISs of different SSN programmes
	Coordination problems among the SSN institutions
	Inter-program coordination problems across central and local authorities



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Thank You



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