TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE: BUILDING A CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM THROUGH SOCIAL PROTECTION MECHANISMS

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Presentation at the Conference on “25 Years of the CRC”
Leiden, the Netherlands
November 2014
INTRODUCTION: THE STORY OF MARTA AND MELINA*

*Names have been changed

Articles 9, 10 and 11
- Life in a family environment

Articles 7 and 8
- Social Protection
- Name and Identity

Articles 24 and 28
- Access to health and education

Articles 26 and 27
- Social Protection

Article 19
- Protection from Violence

Article 34
- Protection from Sexual Abuse

Article 19
- Protection from Violence

*Names have been changed
Aligning and even integrating Child Protection and Social Protection systems is not only possible but indeed is desirable.
MOZAMBICAN CONTEXT: CHALLENGING...

Data are from 2008-2009

- Poverty line: 54%
- HIV prevalence: 11%
- OVC: 17%
- Teenage pregnancy: 41%
- Child marriage: 48%
- Birth certificate: 31%
- Enabling legal and policy framework, supportive Parliament and increasing fiscal space for Social Protection

- High levels of engagement: donors, international financial institutions, civil society organisations and UN agencies

- Oldest cash transfer programme in Africa, currently reaching over 400,000 beneficiaries
  — Targets ultra-poor and labour constrained households, mainly consisting of the elderly,
  — An estimated 60% of indirect beneficiaries are children – but many exclusion errors

No. of beneficiary households covered by Social Protection programmes

Budget allocated to MMAS and INAS

STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR SUPPORTING CP SYSTEMS

- Promote justice for children within the Rule of Law agenda
- Ensure that SP reform contributes to the achievement of CP outcomes
- Strengthen coordination amongst child protection system actors
- Incorporate CP into national and decentralized planning processes, including SP strategies
- Strengthen the social welfare sector
- Support Birth Registration

Source: UNICEF. Child Protection Strategy. 2008
STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR SUPPORTING CP SYSTEMS (I)

Ensure that SP reform contributes to the achievement of CP outcomes

Evidence-based advocacy

- Inclusion of vulnerable children in Social Protection target groups
- Case management incorporated into revised SP Information Management System and training for SP outreach workers
STRAEGIC ACTIONS FOR SUPPORTING CP SYSTEMS (II)

Strengthen the social welfare sector

- 346,773 children benefited from psychosocial support
- 6,800 of the 15,000 children living in institutions have been removed and placed in a family environment

Concerted capacity building
Support Birth Registration

Move to Civil Registration & Vital Statistics

- Birth registration rates increased from 31% in 2008 to 47.9% in 2011.
Incorporate CP into national and decentralized planning processes, including SP strategies

Technical assistance
- SP as key strategy in PRSP
- National Plan of Action for Children II
- Annual costed programme of action for social and child protection
STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR SUPPORTING CP SYSTEMS (V)

Strengthen coordination amongst child protection system actors

*Technical assistance*

- Government-led Technical Working Groups
- Inter-ministerial referral systems
- UN Joint Programmes and civil society partnerships
STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR SUPPORTING CP SYSTEMS (VI)

Promote justice for children within the Rule of Law agenda

*Engagement with social norms*

- Child marriage declined from 17% to 14.3% of girls below 15 years of age
- Age of criminal responsibility increased in revised Criminal Code from age 10 to age 16
Leadership ... with strategic partnerships

- Cross-fertilisation of ideas ... but pacing

- Systems-building with a human face
CONCLUSIONS

- **Relevance**: common target groups
- **Effectiveness**: common modalities
- **Efficiency**: cost-savings
- **Sustainability**: common systems

Impact
OBRIGADA