



International
Labour
Organization

► Social Protection Training for Lao PDR





Social Protection Training for Lao PDR

Module 1 Introduction to Social Protection

Session 4

The role of social protection

This session aims to help participants understand why social protection is important

► Activity 7: Myths or facts?

	Procedure:	1. Instruct the participants to line up shoulder-to-shoulder. 2. Tell the participants that you are going to read them a series of statements, and they will have to determine whether each statement is a “fact” or a “myth”. 3. Begin reading the statements. 4. Ask the participants to step forward if their answer is “fact” and backward if their answer is “myth”. 5. Instruct them to return to the line after each question
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► Activity 7: Myths or facts?

Welfare makes people lazy

Myth

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Fact

There is too much fraud in social assistance

Myth

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Fact

There is enough money to fund social protection

Myth

|

Fact

► Activity 7: Myths or facts?

**Social and health services only
benefit the poor**

Myth | Fact

**Public health, education, and
social services are good for
economy**

Myth | **Fact**

Module 1: Session 4

Activity 7: Myths or Facts



Key roles of social protection

- Realizing the human right to social protection for all, reducing poverty and inequality, and supporting inclusive growth – by **boosting human capital and productivity, supporting domestic demand and facilitating structural transformation of national economies** (International Labour Organization, n.d.-a).

Key roles of social protection

- **Developing the full productive potential** of the population, contributing to the formalization of employment, supporting economic and social change, fostering **sustainable and equitable growth**, **reduce vulnerability** and **boosting economic and social development** (International Labour Organization, n.d.-a).

Case study: Child Support Grant in Thailand

- The Child Support Grant provides social protection for children from low-income families in Thailand
- **Child support grants – Regular cash payments made to the parents or caregivers of children living in poor households to help meet essential living costs;** in some countries, they are called child allowances or child benefits.



Case study: Child Support Grant in Thailand

Thailand's Child Support Grant provides a minimum level of social protection for children under 6 years of age. Since its landmark adoption in 2015, the scheme has undergone two expansions and is currently providing a 600-baht monthly cash grant to 2.3 million children under 6 from families with a per capita annual income below 100,000 baht.

In September 2020, the National Child and Youth Committee (NCYC) approved extending the Child Support Grant to cover all children under 6, with the decision now pending the Cabinet's approval. If endorsed, the scheme will benefit all 4.2 million children under 6 in Thailand.

According to an evaluation conducted by the Thailand Development Research Institute in 2018, about 30 per cent of children from poor families who were eligible for the grant were missing out due to errors during screening and registration – a common and well-documented challenge globally for cash assistance schemes that aim to reach the poorest.

The universal Child Support Grant scheme will require an additional budget of 1.5 billion baht, which will bring the total spending on the grant to around only 0.16 per cent of projected GDP in 2024. In 2027, an estimated 27 billion baht will be required for the universal Child Support Grant. However, the total budget needed is going to decrease in the coming years due to a declining child population. Evidence shows that the country can afford expanding the cash assistance scheme while maintaining its fiscal sustainability.

Impacts of the Child Support Grant

- **Better nutritional outcomes:** Children in households receiving the CSG faced a lower risk of wasting compared to children in similar households not receiving the grant.

Impacts of the Child Support Grant

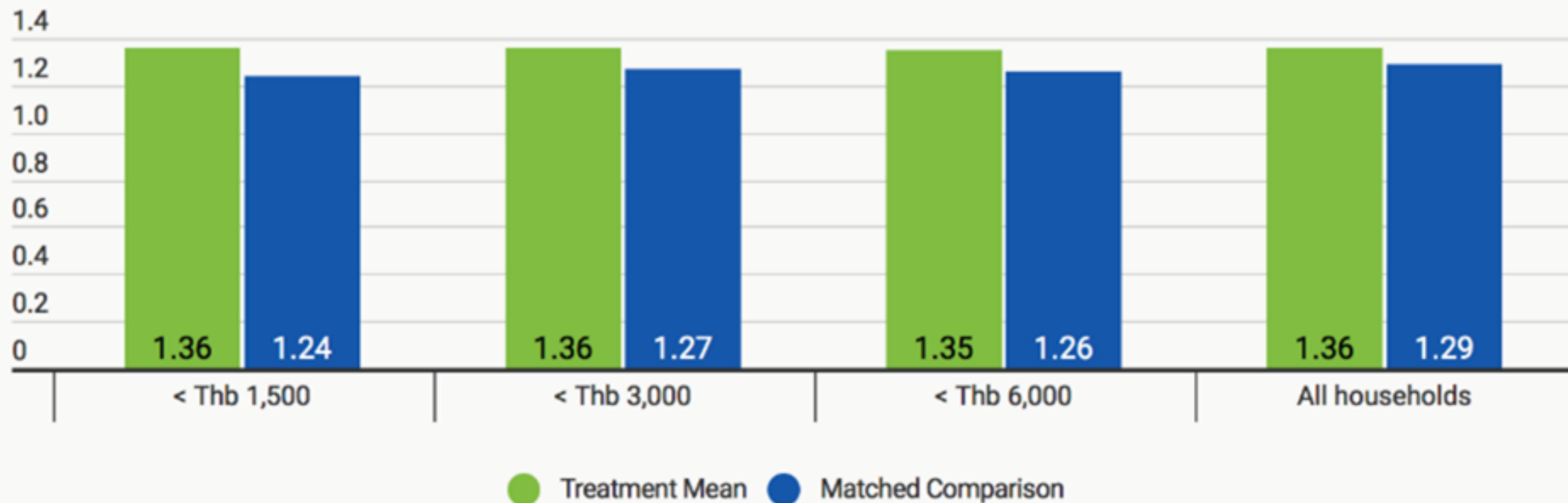
- **Better access to post-natal services:** Infants in households receiving the CSG accessed post-natal care more than comparable infants in similar households that did not receive the CSG:
 - 9% higher number of post-natal care visits among extremely poor households receiving the grant.
 - 7% higher number of post-natal care visits among poor and near poor households.

Impacts of the Child Support Grant

- **Women's empowerment**

- Mothers in extremely poor households receiving the CSG were more likely to be the primary decision-makers in food expenditure decisions and had more control over their income.

Impacts of the Child Support Grant



Question for reflection

What did you learn from Thailand's Child Support Grant that can be applied in Lao PDR context?

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