

Building decent societies: Rethinking the role of social security in development

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This book makes the case for a comprehensive social security system to be developed in all countries, including the poorest ones, in order to eliminate desperate conditions of poverty, to reverse growing inequality and to sustain economic growth.

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The downturn of the global economy has made the scope of the problems of poverty and unemployment worse across the whole world. This book makes the case for a comprehensive social security system to be developed in all countries, including the poorest ones, in order to eliminate desperate conditions of poverty, to reverse growing inequality and to sustain economic growth.

The establishment of universal social security systems has been one of the cornerstones of OECD countries' successful economic and social development and has contributed to reducing poverty and fostering social inclusion in today's rich countries. It is increasingly recognized that universal social security systems have an enormous potential for low income countries which has not yet been sufficiently explored. Recognizing that economic and social development are inextricably intertwined across countries, new international strategies are required to design appropriate social security policies which would effectively help to reduce poverty and productively contribute to economic and social development.

Table of contents

List of Figures
List of Tables
List of Boxes
Notes on Contributors
Foreword by Assane Diop
Acknowledgements

1. Introduction
Peter Townsend

Part I: The Right to Social Security and National Development

2. Social Security and Human Rights
Peter Townsend

Part II: Issues for the Global Society of the Twenty-first Century

3. Social Protection and Nation-Building: an Essay on Why and How Universalist Social Policy Contributes to Stable Nation-States
Chris de Neubourg
4. Social Security, Social Impact and Economic Performance: a Farewell to Three Famous Myths
Michael Cichon and Wolfgang Scholz
5. Can Low-Income Countries Afford Social Security?
Christina Behrendt and Krzysztof Hagemejer
6. The Impact of Social Transfers on Growth, Development, Poverty and Inequality in Developing Countries
Michael Samson
7. Investment in Social Security: a Possible UN Model for Child Benefit?
Peter Townsend

Part III: Social Protection in Europe and the OECD

8. Three Models of Social Security in the History of the Industrialized Countries
Peter Townsend
9. Social Protection, the European Union and its Member States
Raymond Wagener
10. Can the European Welfare Model be Exported?
Peter H. Lindert
11. The Poverty Effects of Social Protection in Europe: EU Enlargement and its Lessons for Developing Countries
Bea Cantillon

Part IV: Experiences from Low-Income Countries

12. Social Security in Developing Countries: a Brief Overview
Peter Townsend
13. Introducing Basic Social Protection in Low-Income Countries: Lessons from Existing Programmes
Armando Barrientos
14. Social Protection, Rural Livelihoods and Economic Growth: the Case of Cash Transfers in Malawi, Ethiopia and Bangladesh
Rachel Slater, John Farrington, Rebecca Holmes and Paul Harvey
15. Welfare, Development and Growth: Lessons from South Africa
Francie Lund
16. From Targeting to Universality: Lessons from the Health System in Thailand
Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Phusit Prakongsai, Supon Limwattananon, Walaiporn Patcharanarumol and Pongpisut Jongudomsuk

Part V: Conclusions

17. Rethinking the Role of Social Security in Development
Christina Berendt, Michael Cichon, Krzysztof Hagemeyer, Stephen Kidd, Rüdiger Krech and Peter Townsend

References

Index