



GENDER EQUITABLE
AND
TRANSFORMATIVE
SOCIAL POLICY FOR
POST-COVID-19
AFRICA (GETSPA)
PROJECT: AN
INTRODUCTION

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Genesis

- A pandemic.... Complex, multi-dimensional
 - COVID-19's grim reminder of social policy failures and weaknesses of social policy institutions and infrastructure
- **The Gender Equitable and Transformative Social Policy for Post-Covid-19 Africa (GETSPA)**
 - An ambitious pan-African project of **Research, Capacity Building, Policy Engagement and Network Building to support the construction of** social policy regimes fit for the ambitions of real structural transformation- Agendas 2063; 2030
 - Long term project to support Africa 's resilience in the face of complex crises.
 - Building on longstanding critique of social protection agenda- CODESRIA; UNRISD; SARchi Chair in Social Policy; individual scholars- Kpessa-Whyte.
- **With OSF Support**



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3. Guided by 2 questions, an assumption and overarching goal

Qn 1: How to make social policies that can catalyze and support agrarian transitions and structural transformation in informal non-industrialized economies (recognize where we are at and where we want to go.

Qn 2: How to make social policies that address longstanding gender as well as class and spatial inequalities and their intersections?

Goal: The transformation of the discourses, approaches to and cultures of social policy making and implementation to establish Gender Equitable and Transformative Social Policy approaches in Africa.

Assumption: Knowledge important but not sufficient- building constituencies, changing mindsets and orientation; achieving a new consensus and social contract between state and society.



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3. GETSPA- Aims and objectives

- Map the current social policy landscape and its elements, opportunities, and challenges.
- Understand the interface between social and economic policies in African countries and bring economic policy into conversation with social policy and promote a co-constitutive approach.
- Identify positive approaches to social policy in Africa and the global South, explaining why and how they work, and their potential for replicability.
- Design a framework for the reorientation of social policy regimes to ensure that they are gender equitable and transformative.
- Build a repository of documentation and an observatory to monitor developments in approaches to social policy.
- Provide opportunities for pan-African learning and learning from history
- Grow a new generation of dedicated researchers of social policy.
- Capacitate constituencies to struggle for transformative social policy.
- Engage with policy makers and advocate for social change.



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Country studies-
10 Country
clusters; 31
Countries (pan
African; much
studied and less
studied)

- i. Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia
- ii. Senegal, Mali, Mauritania
- iii. Ghana and Nigeria
- iv. Cote D'Ivoire, Benin and Burkina Faso
- v. Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco
- vi. Ethiopia, Sudan and Djibouti
- vii. Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda
- viii. Congo DRC, Gabon and Cameroon
- ix. Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau
- x. South Africa, Mauritius and Zambia



ON CAPACITY
BUILDING – A
Virtual
Inception
Workshop held
on 1st and 2nd
April 2021



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Outputs So Far

31 Country research and 10 cluster reports on the histories and trajectories of social policies in Africa since the colonial period- being published on GETSPA Website

Policy briefs and blogs for dissemination and advocacy

Building an online repository of social policy documents in Africa

Nascent **network of scholars of social policy**- an interdisciplinary home for the work that scholars of social policy have been doing within disciplinary and sectoral silos over the years.

Africa's Social Policy Trajectories since the Colonial Period
Gender, Liberal Democracy and Social Policy Making in pre- and post-independence South Africa



Newman Tekwa



Africa's Social Policy Trajectories since the Colonial Period
An Analysis of the Unfolding of the Mauritian Welfare State



Ramola Ramtohul



Africa's Social Policy Trajectories since the Colonial Period
Towards an Understanding of Social Policies and Gender in Zambia



Nkumbu Nalwimba



Africa's Social Policy Trajectories Since the Colonial Period
An Analysis of the Gender Dimensions of Social Policy in Mauritius, South Africa and Zambia



Newman Tekwa,
Ramola Ramtohul
Nkumbu Nalwimba



Africa's Social Policy Trajectories since the Colonial Period:
The Egypt Case.



Amira Mahmoud Othman
Ahmed Ali Abd El Sadek



Africa's Social Policy Trajectories since the Colonial Period:
Ghana's Journey from the model Colony to Star pupil of Economic Liberalisation.



Nana A. Anyidoho
Michael Kpessa-Whyte



Africa's Social Policy Trajectories since the Colonial Period:
Nigeria's Evolution from Model Protectorate to Transformative Socio-Political Economy.



Hauwa Imam



Africa's Social Policy Trajectories since the Colonial Period:
Uganda's oscillatory trend through the decades up to the COVID-19 pinnacle.



Julius Omona



Africa's Social Policy Trajectories since the Colonial Period:
Mainland Tanzania's progressive policies for gender transformative outcomes.



Rosemarie Mwaipopo



Africa's Social Policy Trajectories since the Colonial Period
The classic case of Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda as the African gazelles in causing gender transformation



Julius Omona
Samuel M. Mwangi
Charles Rutikanga
Rosemarie Mwaipopo





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GETSPA TODAY

- Started with history in order to prepare the groundwork for a deep understanding of the trajectories of social policy in Africa.
- Now moving into a second phase of GETSPA
- There is keenness among its members to continue this work which allows us to build a strong presence in the policy space, grow a new generation of researchers of social policy and engage with the policymakers and policy activists.
- GETSPA's focus will be on five broad areas: a) knowledge management and the production of additional knowledge; b) knowledge dissemination and policy engagements; c) building presence and influence; d) strengthening our network and constituencies; e) learning from successful social policy approaches of the global South.



WE LOOK INTO THE FUTURE WITH GREAT EXPECTATIONS



THE GETSPA NETWORK



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Webinar on Debt

- A response to a continuing crises since COVID-19- war in Ukraine, and now a global debt crisis.
- A combination of factors, Africa's export commodity dependence with its cyclical crises of collapsing prices, the COVID-19 pandemic's deleterious effects on economies, and high levels of government borrowing to finance the covid-19 response, the effects of the war in Ukraine, and capital flight in response to rising interest rates in the Global North have come together to create a perfect storm.
- A contributory factor in this mix is the lack of accountability and corruption in the use of borrowed money.
- Accompanying the debt crisis has been the savage devaluation of currencies, rising interest rates, high rates of inflation, and the rapidly rising costs of essential goods and services such as energy, education, health and transportation.
- What is different about the debt crisis this time is that the increase in public debt has been accompanied by a rise in its cost, partly because of the higher proportion of private lenders involved.



Webinar on Debt

- Domestic debt default with implications for entire economies, exposed entities- pension funds, the banking and financial sector and individual bondholders.
- Affected institutions and individuals are key non-state actors in social provisioning and social protection- ramifications for the social conditions of citizens who depend on them, at a time of threats to return to austerity policies.
- Situation constitutes a social policy crisis- implications for the social fabric and social cohesion.
- Groundwork of country and synthesis studies allow us to reflect on the debt crisis and the policy responses of governments.
- We reached out to African and global networks that work on economic justice issues, the IDEAS Network and Third World Network Africa.
- Enables us to bringing constituencies that would otherwise not be in conversation- gratitude and hopes for a substantive conversation and concrete ways out.

The logo for GETSPA (Gender Equitable and Transformative Social Policy for Post-COVID-19 Africa) is located in the top left corner. It features the acronym 'GETSPA' in a bold, dark blue font. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic of a person's profile in blue, with a map of Africa in the background. Below the acronym, the full name of the organization is written in a smaller, dark blue font: 'Gender Equitable and Transformative Social Policy for Post-COVID-19 Africa'.

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Thank you !

Asante!

Merci!