



## **Social Protection Systems Course: Targeting, Social Registries and Cash Transfers**



## **Social Protection Systems Course: Targeting, Social Registries and Cash Transfers**

### **Introduction:**

Social protection systems training on targeting, social registries and cash transfers is a 5-day course for policy, programme and delivery managers that ends with a Cash Transfer Programme Design Note for a case target group. Agencies lose public trust and budget when transfers reach the wrong households, registries hold stale records, payments arrive late and errors go unchecked. Nominees already set eligibility rules, manage beneficiary data or oversee payments, and work through case studies built on household survey extracts, registry records and payment files. CoreConcept Training Center delivers this social protection systems course.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Map social assistance, social insurance and labour market measures against life-cycle risks and the social protection floor concept
- Analyse poverty and vulnerability data to define target groups and estimate coverage gaps
- Compare means test, proxy means test, categorical and community-based targeting by their inclusion and exclusion errors
- Specify social registry data fields, data-sharing links and update rules that support eligibility decisions
- Set benefit levels, conditionality, payment channels and grievance routes for a cash transfer scheme
- Design fraud and error controls, graduation pathways, shock scale-up triggers and a costed financing plan

### **Target Audience:**

- Managers responsible for designing social assistance and safety net schemes in social affairs bodies
  - Managers who run beneficiary enrolment, eligibility verification and social registry operations
  - Managers responsible for benefit payments, payment service providers and reconciliation
  - Managers in social security funds who oversee contributory benefits and their links with assistance
  - Charity and foundation managers who run cash or voucher assistance for vulnerable households
  - Budget and planning managers who cost and forecast transfer schemes
-

## **Course Outline:**

### **Day 1: Social Protection Foundations, Life-Cycle Risks and Vulnerability**

- Social Assistance, Social Insurance and Labour Market Measures Compared
- Life-Cycle Risk Map From Childhood to Old Age
- Social Protection Floor Concept and Coverage Gap Diagnostic
- Poverty Line Methods and Household Consumption Survey Analysis
- Vulnerability Profile Matrix for Chronic and Transient Poverty

### **Day 2: Targeting Methods and Social Registry Architecture**

- Means Test Design With Income and Asset Verification
- Proxy Means Test Scoring Formula and Weight Calibration
- Categorical and Community-Based Targeting Selection Criteria
- Inclusion and Exclusion Error Analysis Using Survey Data
- Social Registry Data Model, Interoperability and Update Cycle

### **Day 3: Cash Transfer Design, Payment Delivery and Grievance Handling**

- Benefit Level Setting Using Poverty Gap and Household Size
- Conditional Versus Unconditional Transfers and Co-Responsibility Monitoring
- Digital Payment Channels, Mobile Wallets and Bank Account Options
- Payment Reconciliation Workflow and Payment Service Provider Agreements
- Grievance and Appeals Mechanism With Case Tracking Log

### **Day 4: Integrity Controls, Graduation, Shock Response and Financing**

- Fraud and Error Typology With Data Matching Checks
- Graduation Pathway Linking Beneficiaries to Employment Services
- Shock-Responsive Scale-Up Triggers With Vertical and Horizontal Expansion
- Transfer Scheme Results Indicators and Process Monitoring Dashboard
- Fiscal Cost Projection and Financing Mix for Transfer Schemes

### **Day 5: Case Study Practice and the Cash Transfer Programme Design Note**

- Case Target Group Briefing With Household and Registry Data
  - Targeting Method Choice and Eligibility Rules for the Case
  - Benefit Schedule, Payment Channel and Grievance Route for the Case
  - Multi-Year Cost Projection and Integrity Control Plan for the Case
  - Cash Transfer Programme Design Note Completed and Defended
-

## Skills You Will Gain:

- Vulnerability Analysis
- Proxy Means Test Calibration
- Social Registry Data Governance
- Benefit Level Costing
- Payment Reconciliation
- Grievance Case Handling
- Fraud and Error Detection
- Shock-Responsive Scale-Up Planning

## Why Attend This Course:

- Deliver a Cash Transfer Programme Design Note for a case target group to the director of social assistance and the budget committee
- Choose between means test, proxy means test and categorical eligibility with evidence on inclusion and exclusion errors
- Avoid payment delays, duplicate enrolments and unrecovered overpayments through reconciliation and data matching controls
- Share scoring formulas, registry data checklists and grievance logs with enrolment, payment and policy colleagues

## Conclusion:

Back at work, the participant hands the Cash Transfer Programme Design Note to the director responsible for social assistance, the registry manager and the finance unit. They use it to decide which households qualify, how much each receives, how payments flow and how the scheme scales up after a shock, within an agreed budget ceiling. After the first payment cycle, the unit should review exclusion complaints, payment failures and detected errors against the design assumptions, then recalibrate targeting weights and benefit levels where gaps appear.

## Frequently Asked Questions FAQ:

### What should participants know before a social protection systems course on targeting and cash transfers?

Participants should already work on eligibility, beneficiary data, payments or policy for an assistance or social security scheme. Basic comfort with household survey tables and spreadsheets helps. Bringing anonymised eligibility rules or payment data lets participants test the methods on their own scheme.

## **How does a social protection systems course on targeting and cash transfers differ from a social services management course?**

It covers the design of income transfers at scheme level: eligibility formulas, registries, benefit levels, payments and financing. A social services management course covers casework, supervision and service quality for individual families, which this course treats only as a referral link.

## **Why do social protection systems use a proxy means test for cash transfers?**

A proxy means test estimates household welfare from observable characteristics such as housing, assets and household composition when incomes are informal or hard to verify. It costs less than full income checks but carries inclusion and exclusion errors that need regular recalibration and an appeals route.

## **What do participants take back from a social protection systems course on targeting and cash transfers?**

Participants take back a Cash Transfer Programme Design Note for a case target group, with eligibility rules, a benefit schedule, payment and grievance routes, integrity controls and a cost projection, plus scoring and reconciliation templates they can adapt for their own scheme.

---