



A POLICY ANALYSIS OF THE SOCIAL CASH TRANSFER SCHEME IN KATETE DISTRICT: EVALUATING ITS EFFECTIVENESS IN REDUCING POVERTY AMONG THE AGED

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Abstract

The Social Cash Transfer scheme is one of the strategies nations employ in addressing the challenge of poverty. This study aimed to establish how the aged beneficiaries used the money from the social cash transfer. The research was conducted using a qualitative approach involving the descriptive survey design. Twenty respondents were sampled out from amongst the aged beneficiaries who included headpersons and other members of the selected villages in the 5 out of the 6 wards accessing the Social Cash Transfer scheme in Katete District. Information was obtained from the beneficiaries and key informants from the district, provincial and national social welfare offices using the interview guide. The research findings showed that most of the aged beneficiaries used the cash transfer funds to pay fees and buy other requirements for school going children while others used it to buy food, hire farm labour and buy farming inputs. From these findings, it is clear that the Social Cash Transfer scheme had some benefits among the beneficiary households. It improved access to education for children and enhanced food security among the beneficiary households as it was discovered that a good number of them use the money to pay for school, buy food and improve their farming activities.

Key Words: Aged, Social Cash Transfer, Poverty, Beneficiary, Household

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