

EMPOWERING WOMEN

IN TANZANIA IN THE CONTEXT OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL POLICY REFORMS

Edited by

Paschal B. Mihyo, Jamal B. Msami and Donald E. Mmari



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Tables	vi
List of Figure	vii
Abbreviations	viii
Acknowledgements	
CHAPTER 1	3
Introduction	3
<i>Paschal B. Mihyo, Jamal B. Msami, and Donald E. Mmari</i>	
1.1. Background	3
1.2. Objectives of the Book	4
1.3. Significance of the Book	5
1.4. Structure of the Book	5
1.5. Methodology	6
1.6. Analytical Framework	9
CHAPTER 2	13
Literature Review and Methodology	13
<i>Paschal B. Mihyo, Jamal B. Msami, and Donald E. Mmari</i>	
2.1. Background to Social Protection in Tanzania	13
2.2. Income Policies As Instruments of Social Policy 1961-1966	14
2.3. The State Welfare Experiment 1967-1992	17
2.4. Public Sector Reforms And The Shift From Social Welfare To Social Protection(1993-Todate)	21
2.5. Objectives and Modalities of the Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN)	24
CHAPTER 3	29
Towards a Productive Social Safety Net	29
<i>Jamal B. Msami and Paschal B. Mihyo</i>	
3.1. Social Assistance And Empowerment of The Poor: A Theoretical Framework	29
3.2. Empowerment of the Poor Through Social Assistance	29
3.3. Social Assistance, Social Engineering and Social Transformation	34
3.4. Making Social Assistance More Empowering	36
3.5. Concepts of Power and Empowerment	41
3.6. Ladders and Spaces of Power	42

3.7 Cash Transfers and Women’s Empowerment in Gendered Power Structures	46
CHAPTER 4	51
Evidence from the Baseline Study	51
<i>Donald E. Mmari and Paschal B. Mihyo</i>	
4.1. Introduction	51
4.2. Background	53
4.3. Some Evidence	56
4.4. Activity	57
4.5. Input on Decisions on Activity and Income	59
4.6. Resources	61
4.7. Leadership	63
4.8. Summary of Findings	66
CHAPTER 5	69
Evidence from the Follow Up Survey	69
<i>Paschal B. Mihyo and Donald E. Mmari</i>	
5.1. Introduction	69
5.2. Roles in Household Decision Making about Production and Income Generation	70
5.3. Input in Decisions	73
5.4. Decisions on Income	76
5.5. Access to Resources	78
5.6. Leadership	81
5.7. Allocation of Time	84
5.8. Summary of the Finding	86
CHAPTER 6	87
Time Allocation on Productive and Domestic Work: An Unintended Consequence of TASAF Cash Transfers on Women’s Workload	87
<i>Hubert M. Shija</i>	
6.1 Introduction	87
6.2 Debate on Cash Transfers and Women’s Workload	88
6.3 Measuring Women’s Allocation of Time	90
6.4 Concept of Time	92
6.5 Assessing The Effect Of The Programme On Workload And Time Dimension	92

6.6 Influence Of Cash Transfers On Women’s Workload	94
6.7 Chapter Conclusions	103
CHAPTER 7	105
The Impact of Cultural, Religious and Legal Factors on Women’s Empowerment through Conditional Cash Transfers	105
<i>Paschal B. Mihyo and Jamal B. Msami</i>	
7.1. Introduction	105
7.2. The Rationale for Targeting Women in Social Assistance	107
7.3. The Capabilities Approach in Women Empowerment	119
7.4. Culture and the Demarcation of Gender Spaces and Ladders of Power... ..	112
7.5. Assessing Empowerment through the WEIA Prisms	115
CHAPTER 8	153
Towards A Holistic Approach to Social Protection and Poverty Reduction	153
<i>Paschal B. Mihyo, Jamal B. Msami, and Donald E. Mmari</i>	
8.1. Introduction	153
8.2. Reversing Colonial Legacies in Rural Development and Rural Poverty	157
8.3. Building Bridgeheads Between Rural and Urban Markets	160
8.4 Multi-level planning in the fight against poverty and vulnerability.	161
8.5. Education For Local Production And Local Jobs	163
8.6 Health Beyond Healthcare	164
8.7 Governance Systems and Food Insecurity	165
8.8 Rural Road Development for Rural Poverty Reduction	166
8.9 Planning for More People in Both Urban and Rural Spaces	167
8.10 Planning for Climate and Demographic Change	168
8.11 Rural and Urban Entrepreneurism	169
8.12 Integrating Social Capital as a Critical Vehicle for Poverty Reduction	170
8.13 Future Proofing and Value Planning	170
REFERENCES	172

List of Tables

Table 1:	Measuring the Five Domains of Empowerment Using the WEAI.....	12
Table 2:	Role in production and income-generation.....	57
Table 3:	Role in production and income-generation.....	58
Table 4:	Input on decisions.....	60
Table 5:	Input on decision on use of income generated by the following activity.....	60
Table 6:	Entitlement to use of resources generated by activity.....	61
Table 7:	Membership in Groups.....	64
Table 8:	Respondents' reported level of participation while speaking on public on issues.....	64
Table 9:	Role in production and income-generation.....	72
Table 10:	Input on decisions.....	75
Table 11:	Input on decision on use of income generated by the following activity.....	77
Table 12:	Entitlement to use of resources generated by activity.....	79
Table 13:	Membership in Groups.....	82
Table 14:	Respondents' reported level of conforming while speaking in public on issues.....	83
Table 15:	Time use (mean hours) by women across some selected activities, comparison by treatment and control.....	85
Table 16:	Cross tabulation for Gender for programme beneficiaries and non beneficiaries.....	93
Table 17:	Statistics for women beneficiaries and non- women beneficiaries.....	96
Table 18:	Cross tabulation of beneficiaries Workload, Amount of Sleep and Leisure Time Views.....	98
Table 19:	Chi-Square Tests for Women Beneficiaries and Non-Beneficiaries and Workload.....	99
Table 20:	Effect Size Symmetric Measures for Women Beneficiaries and Non- Beneficiaries and Workload.....	99
Table 21:	Chi-Square Tests for Beneficiaries and Non- Beneficiaries and Amount of Sleep.....	101
Table 22:	Chi-Square Tests for Women Beneficiaries and Non-Beneficiaries and Leisure Time Satisfaction.....	102

List of Figures

Figure 1:	Participation rate based on gender.....	71
Figure 2:	Participation by women across two phases.....	73
Figure 3:	Activities women had input/no input across the two phases.....	76
Figure 4:	Input on income use across the two phases.....	78
Figure 5:	Entitlement across the two phases.....	80
Figure 6:	Entitlement across the two phases.....	81
Photograph 7:	A typical home of a TASAF Beneficiary on Mainland Tanzania.....	138
Photograph 8:	A typical home of a potential TASAF Beneficiary in Zanzibar.....	138

ABBREVIATIONS

AU	African Union
Cap	Chapter of the laws
CT	Cash Transfer
CCT	Conditional Cash transfers
CHI	Community Health Insurance
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CMC	Community Management Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DC	District Council
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FHH	Female Headed Household
GDI	Gender Development Index
GEM	Gender Empowerment Measure
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GN	Government Notice
GOT	Government of Tanzania
GrOW	Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IDS	Institute of Development Studies
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute

IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
LMA	Law of Marriage Act
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NSGRP	National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty
NUTA	National Union of Tanganyika Workers
PAA	Project Authority Area
PMT	Proxy Measurement Test
PSSN	Productive Social Safety Nets
PWP	Public Works Project
ROSCA	Rotating Credit and Savings Association
SACCOS	Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies
TAMWA	Tanzania Media Women's Association
TASAF	Tanzania Social Action Fund
TAWIA	Tanzania Widows Association
TC	Town Council
TDHS	Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey
TGNP	Tanzania Gender Networking Programme
THIS	Tanzania Health Indicators Survey
TZS	Tanzanian Shilling
UCT	Unconditional Transfer
URT	United Republic of Tanzania
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

UNESCO	United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Education Fund
URT	United Republic of Tanzania
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAW	Violence against Women
VEO	Village Community Bank
VICOBA	Village Community Bank
WB	World Bank
WEIA	Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index
WEO	Ward Executive Officer
WILDAF	Women in Law and Development in Africa

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PREFACE

The policy focus on women empowerment has gathered traction lately partly as a result of encouraging growth of the world economy, renewed focus on inequality, and the initial success of large-scale income and livelihoods social programmes. Efforts aiming at empowerment have largely been distributional, characterised by income and opportunity transfers. Empowerment initiatives in Tanzania have mirrored those on the global stage, spurred on by the country's historical grounding in African Socialism, and abetted by an intersecting of priorities between the Government and its development partners.

Tanzania has since the turn of the millennium implemented multiple social protection initiatives aimed at empowering women and other marginalised groups in society. These include the establishment of two dedicated agencies in the form of the Tanzania Social Action Fund in 2000 and the National Economic Empowerment Council in 2005 to coordinate Government policy. Empowerment initiatives include: earmarking of 10 percent of Local Government Authority own revenues for women, youth, and disabled persons, provision of free primary healthcare for children under the age of 5, provision of free basic education, piloting of a universal pension for the elderly in Zanzibar, as well as a large scale expansion of health insurance (albeit at cost). Notwithstanding, the most notable empowerment scheme in the last decade has been the evolution of the Tanzania Social Action Fund into Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN) system which has seen coverage expand from a few thousand households to 250,000 in 2013 and later to over a million households in 2016. In relative terms, Tanzania's PSSN covers over a tenth of the population (9.5 percent of those below the poverty line, and 3.5 percent in transient poverty). In absolute terms, this equates to five million Tanzanians, with women making up over half of those covered.

Yet despite, positive experiences with recent empowerment reforms, little is known of how Tanzania's history and institutions have shaped the design and influenced outcomes. This present volume attempts to plug these lacunae through a careful analysis of historical processes, events and institutions that define the current framework for women empowerment in Tanzania. The production of this book was inspired by a research

programme implemented by REPOA, between 2014 and 2018, on Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women (GrOW) funded by the Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in partnership with the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the United Kingdom's Department of International development (DFID).

This book is the result of the efforts of many individuals and institutions that worked with REPOA on its GroW research programme. We extend our sincere gratitude to Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) for funding the research programme and to its staff who provided guidance, technical support and quality assurance support throughout the programme implementation. We thank the Government of Tanzania for providing us the opportunity to assess the implementation of the Productive Social Safety Net Programme, and we acknowledge the support of the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) management and programme team in providing access to data and the field sites in the project area authorities.

While we acknowledge the support and contribution that we have received, we retain the responsibility for data analysis and the results presented here and for any errors that might be associated with the analysis.

PART I

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Paschal B. Mihyo, Jamal B. Msami, and Donald E. Mmari

1.1. BACKGROUND

The production of this book was inspired by a research programme on Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women (GrOW) funded by the Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in partnership with the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the United Kingdom's Department of International Development (DFID). The GrOW programme was launched in 2013 in recognition of the fact that women are generally constrained in their economic activities and face several institutional challenges as they try to accumulate assets and manage their livelihoods. REPOA was among the beneficiaries of the programme that supported several projects in eighteen countries in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. The general focus of the GrOW programme was to support research that could provide evidence to inform social and economic policies to improve poor women's lives, while promoting economic growth (IDRC, 2017).

REPOA's research project focused on the initiatives of the Government of Tanzania through the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), particularly its Productive Social Safety Net Programme implemented since 2012. The PSSN extends social assistance to the very poor households, targeting those with disadvantaged children, sick elderly people and those suffering from chronic diseases (The Tanzania Cash Plus Evaluation Team, 2018). Since most of the households' care is provided by women, the research focused on assessing the extent to which social assistance offered by TASAF through the PSSN had contributed to the empowerment of women in terms of increasing their economic, political and social influence on their lives, their households and their communities.

In carrying out the assessment, the research team used a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, including a modified index designed to measure women's capacity to make decisions across various domains known as the Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEIA). TASAF

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