



GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Structure
- Programme Design and Implementation
- Achievements and Targets



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- ❑ To contribute to functioning of Constitutional principle of social state, the Social Assistance and Solidarity Fund, which was affiliated to Prime Ministry, was created in 1986 with a aim of providing benefits to vulnerable people and carrying out nation-wide poverty reduction programmes.
- ❑ Local Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations, which in fact are not public entities but seem like quasi non-governmental organisations, were established in each province and sub-province centre in parallel with the establishment of a General Secretariat to coordinate the Fund activities and manage resources at the central level.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- ❑ The General Secretariat was re-organized as General Directorate of Social Assistance and Solidarity (GDSAS) that reports to Prime Ministry in 2004 due to the growing need for a specialized institution and staff and to enhance efficient use of the Fund resources.
- ❑ In 2011, GDSAS was affiliated to the recently-established the Ministry of Family and Social Policies in line with a wider Government plan to reform ministries and public organizations and it has been re-organized as the General Directorate of Social Assistance.
- ❑ General Directorate of Social Assistance implements nation-wide benefit and poverty reduction programmes through SASSE using SASF resources.



SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND SOLIDARITY FUND

- ❑ The SASF provides financial funds for the implementation of benefit and poverty reduction programmes that are designed by GDSA and carried out by SASFs at local level.
- ❑ The SASF is managed by the Fund Board headed by the Secretary of Family and Social Policies. The Board also includes undersecretaries from different ministries.



LOCAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND SOLIDARITY FOUNDATIONS

- ❑ Local SASFs are founded in each province and sub-province centre, a total of 973 points.
- ❑ They not only serve as channel in conveying national GDSA benefits to vulnerable groups and individuals but also implement local poverty reduction programmes and projects.
- ❑ Each local SAS Foundation is managed by a Board of Trustees headed by province or sub-province governors. The Board members consists of local civil servants, village headmen (mukhtars), charitable citizens and NGO representatives.
- ❑ Local SASFs have also secretariat including social workers.



BENEFIT PROGRAMMES AND PROJECT SUPPORTS

Periodic Transfers

- Family Benefits
- Nutrition Benefits
- Housing Benefits
- Heating Support

Health Supports

- Conditional Cash Transfer Programme Health Benefits

Education Benefits

- CCT Programme Education Benefits
- School Book Support
- Education Materials Support
- Lunch Supports for School Children
- Transfer of Disabled Children to Schools
- Supports for construction residence halls and accommodation of students at secondary schools

Benefits for Disabled Persons and Special Purposes



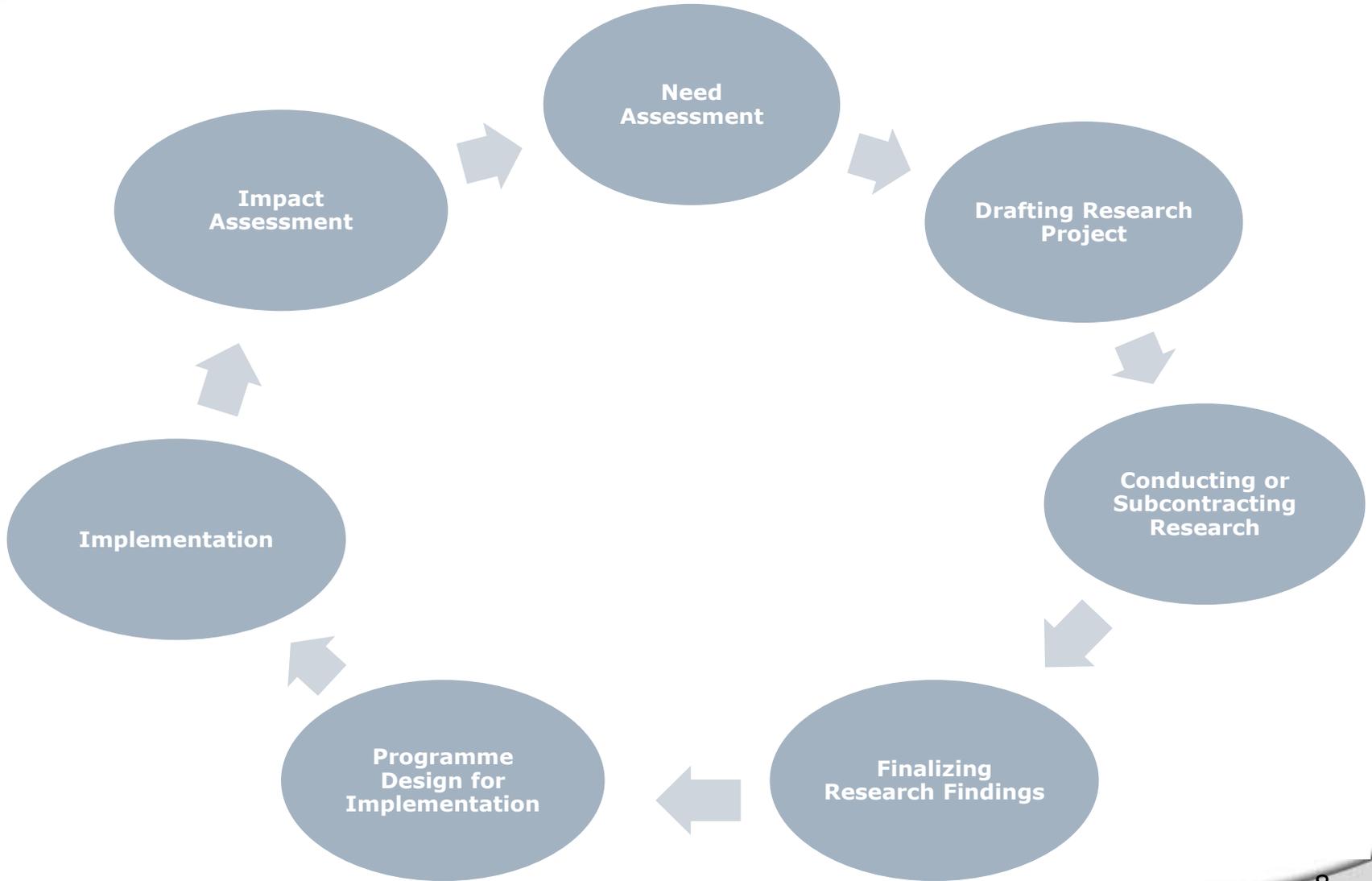
PROJECT SUPPORTS

In addition to benefit programmes, GDSA supports projects aiming to integrate members of poor households into employment market and active social life. These project supports that use nearly 20 % of SAS Fund resources are as follows:

- Social Support Project for Rural Areas (KASDEP)
- Income Generating Projects
- Social Service Projects
- Temporary Employment Projects
- Community Development Projects



PROGRAMME DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION





IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES

- ❑ Welfare or poverty reduction programmes are typically designed to achieve very specific goals, for instance, to increase employment or employability, to reduce poverty, or to enhance human development capacity.
- ❑ Whether or not these pre-envisaged goals are actually accomplished occupies a crucial place in public or social policy debates.
- ❑ It has been widely argued that policy makers and programme practitioners tend to focus on measuring the success or efficiency of the programmes by using their immediate and more apparent outputs (such as the amount of financial resources that are used for the programmes, or the number of beneficiaries) rather than by trying to examine whether they have actually achieved or contributed to the well-being of the target audience.



IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES

- ❑ To avoid this axis-shift in assessing impacts of programmes in different sectors, an “evidence based policy making” approach was introduced into the agenda of public policy making. The evidence based policy making approach is also a vital instrument to enhance governments’ transparency and accountability
- ❑ Impact Assessment studies are at the centre of this approach. They provide reliable and valid evidence on the achievements of the programmes or policies.
- ❑ They can also reveal what mechanisms do or do not serve for overall goals of the programmes or policies. In other words, an impact evaluation is structured to assess “the changes in the well-being of individuals that can be attributed to a particular project, program, or policy” by identifying “the causal relationship between the project, program, or policy and the outcomes of interest”
- ❑ Therefore, GDSA has been conducting impact assessment studies for the benefit programmes and project support that it conducts or finances

IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES

- ❑ **CCT Impact Assessment Studies:** These evaluations were conducted by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to assess “the effectiveness of the program targeting and its coverage [and] get an unbiased estimate of the impacts of CCT on an agreed set of indicators”. To achieve these objectives, several studies were carried out. These studies were as follows:
 - ❑ First Qualitative Assessment in Fall 2005,
 - ❑ Quantitative Assessment in Winter-Spring 2006,
 - ❑ Second Qualitative and Anthropological Study in Summer-Fall 2006, and
 - ❑ Follow-up panel survey in Fall-Winter 2006
- ❑ Impact Evaluation 2007 study on social assistance programmes and project supports



IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES

- Impact Assessment Study for CCT Programme** : expected to be concluded in 2012
- Impact Assessment Study for Income Generating Projects** : expected to be concluded in 2013



TO CONCLUDE

- ❑ 2.5 million households benefit from social assistance and projects support programmes of GDSA, annually.
- ❑ 85 per cent of these benefits are provided in-cash while 15 % is delivered in-kind.
- ❑ In parallel to increase in the amount of resources allocated for social expenditures since 2002, SAS Fund resources were also ascended. While 1,376 million TL, which is equivalent to 0.5 per cent of GDP, was transferred for social expenditures in 2002, 14,677 million TL, which is 1.34 per cent of GDP, was transferred for social assistance and service in 2010.



TO CONCLUDE

- ❑ As a result of boost in resources and extensive use of professional staff and information technologies, benefits programmes and projects supports have started to reach a wider audience.
- ❑ Hence, food poverty was reduced from 1,35 per cent in 2002 to 0,48 per cent in 2009.
- ❑ Complete poverty (food+nonfood) happened at 18,08 in 2009 per cent while it was 26,96 per cent in 2002.
- ❑ There is currently no one who lives under the threshold of 1 USD per a day and The ratio of people who live under the threshold of 4,3 USD per a day reduced from 30,3 per cent in 2002 to 4,35 in 2009.



TARGETS

GDSA aims to

- Contribute to dropping the complete poverty (food+nonfood) level below 10 per cent by 2023.
- Contribute to reaching the targets that there will be no one who lives below the threshold of 2.15 USD per a day by 2015 and threshold of 4.3 USD per a day by 2019.
- Assist to constructing an integrated social support and care mechanism.
- Complete the construction of 100 thousand social houses by 2023.