

# Social Protection for Resilient Pastoral Systems in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA): What Next?

*Bereket Tsegay*

*Senior Researcher at PENHA &  
Research Associate at SOAS, University of London*

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**SOAS**  
University of London<sup>1</sup>

# Outline

- ❑ Introduction: An Overview: Why social protection?
- ❑ Nature of safety nets
- ❑ Safety nets within the local, national and global development goals: PSNP Ethiopia
- ❑ The Nexus Approach: PRSP
- ❑ Safety net programmes performance
- ❑ Safety nets Policy Implications: What next?
- ❑ Contribution of the book

# Introduction

## Why Social Protection/Safety Nets?

- Pastoralists in harsh ecology - mobility
- A response for the challenges with household and community resilience
- Major global events: Financial crisis 2008/09 and then COVID-19
- Frequent droughts
- Floods and cyclones
- El Niño
- Wildfires
- Conflicts and violence
- And/or
- Gaining political capital
- Dev't partner's influence
- Leveling up/inequalities

Africa, Civil Unrest Index 2023-Q2 and 2023 strikes and riots

### Legend

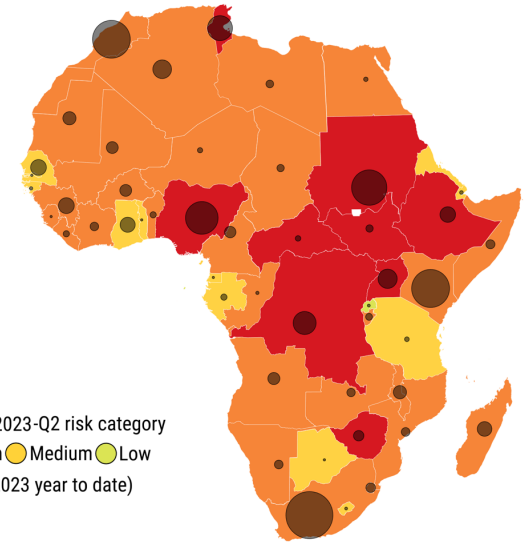
Civil Unrest Index 2023-Q2 risk category

● Extreme ● High ● Medium ● Low

Strikes and riots (2023 year to date)

50 ● 500

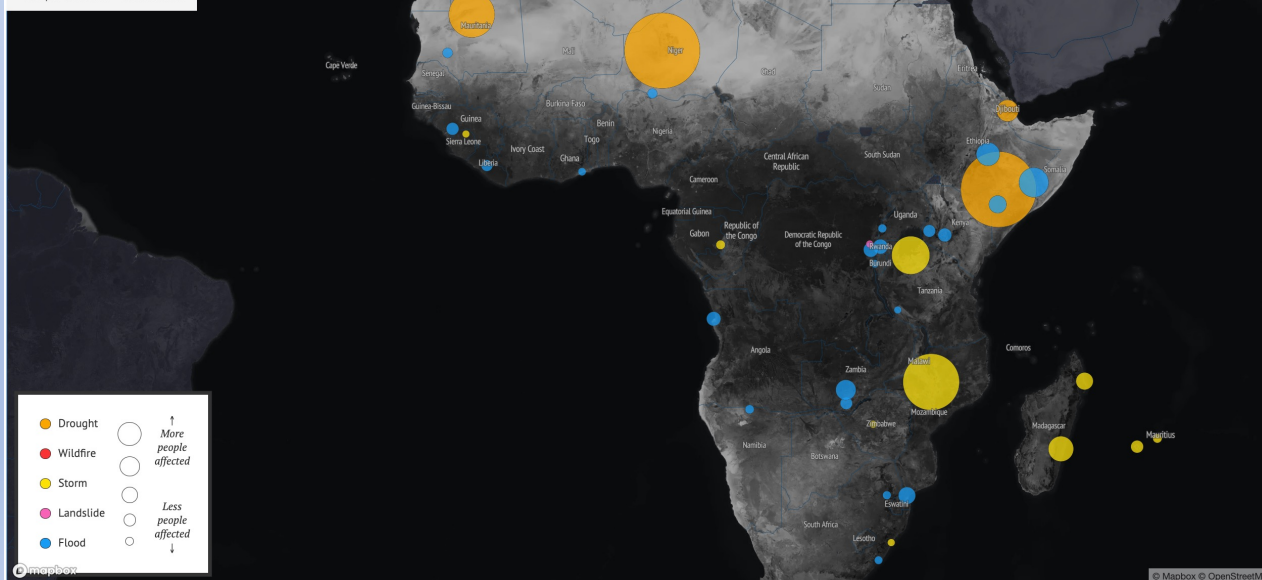
Source: ACLED, Verisk Maplecroft



### Extreme weather events in Africa in 2023

Data Source: Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT).  
Not all extreme events are captured by EM-DAT.

● People affected ○ Total deaths



Source: <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-africa-extreme-weather-have-killed-at-least-15000-people-in-2023/>

# Nature of safety nets

- **Consolidated social protection**  
– institutionalised in national domestic budgets and political processes
- **Emerging social protection**  
(Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Latin America) – minor role of international assistance
- **Limited social protection**  
(Ethiopia) – national fiscal capacity is limited and are at the stage of scaling up.

## Framing the agenda:

- - Human rights approach
- - National development approach

## Forms – regular and periodic:

- Cash, food aid, subsidies, vouchers, insurance, public works, etc.
- Conditional vs Unconditional
- Traditional and contemporary safety nets

• Source: Gentilini & Omamo (2011) in Devereux et al. (2015)

# Some facts about Safety nets

## SSA

- Spent \$16 per individual per annum (one of the lowest)

Globally – 36% escaped from extreme poverty and 45% reduced inequality and poverty gap

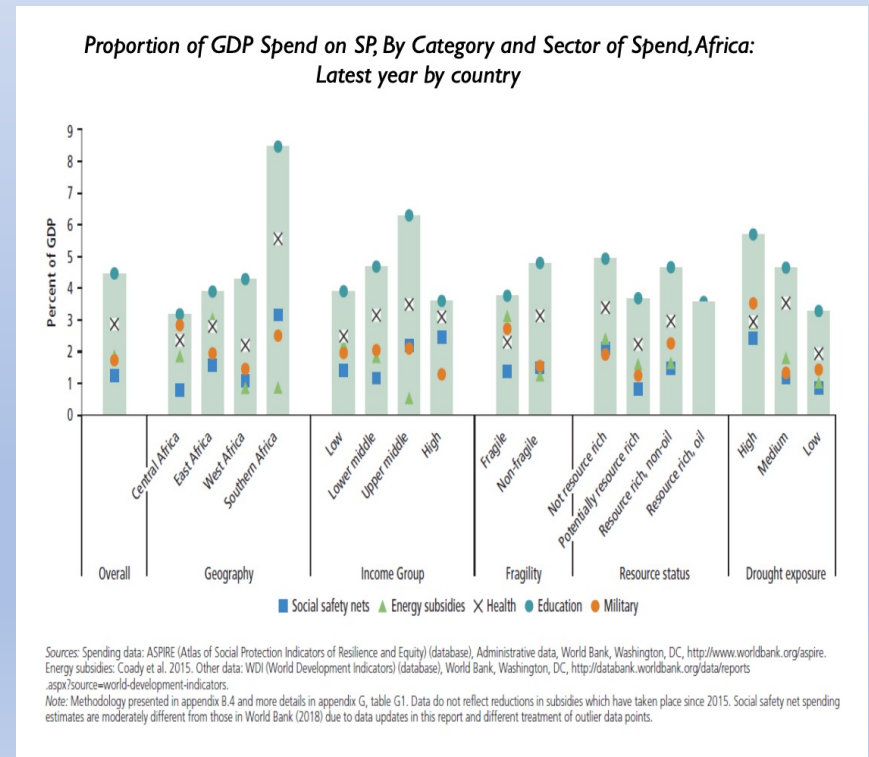
Globally: Developing and emerging economies spent 1.5% of their GDPs on safety nets

Globally – 2.5 billion are covered by safety nets but still over 5 billion are remaining

Source: World Bank data,  
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/safetynets>

## Latin America and Caribbean

- Spent \$158 per individual per annum



# Putting social protection and safety nets in the context of local, national and global development goals (SDGs): what are the missing links?

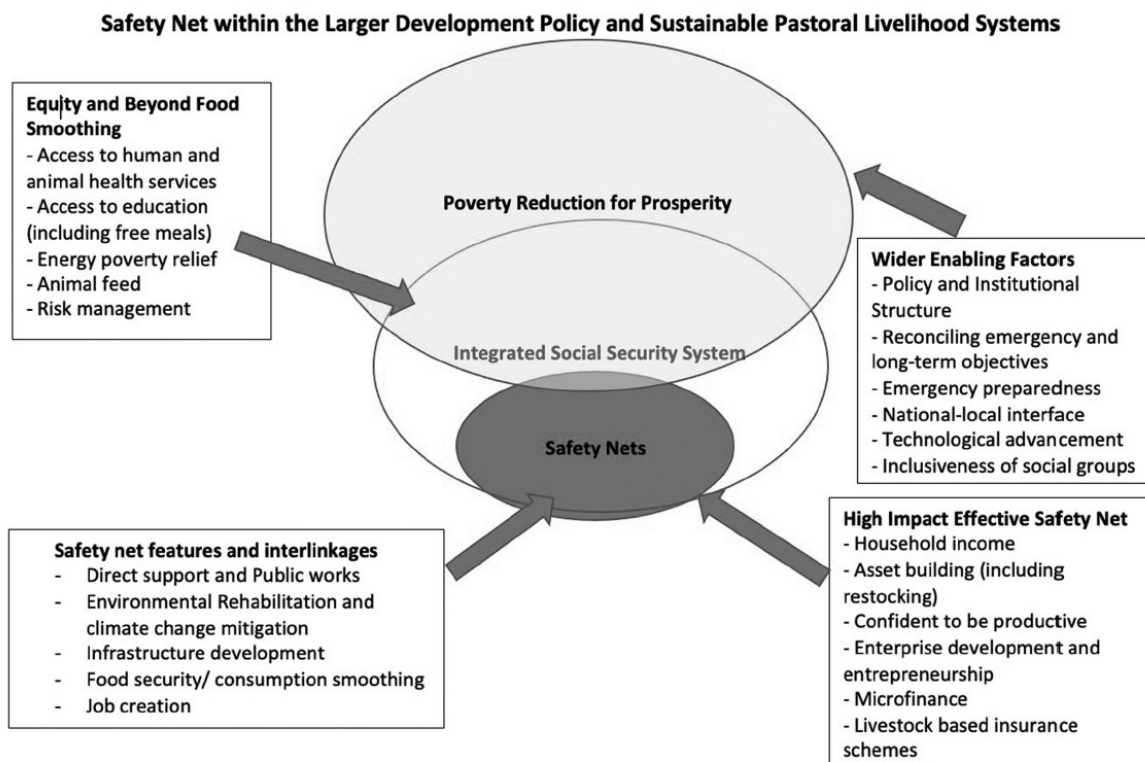


Figure 1.1 Linking safety nets with sustainable pastoral and agro-pastoral development policy. Source: Adapted from Grosh et al. (2008:12).

# Social Protection - the state of Safety net: PSNP



Why the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) in Ethiopia?

PSNP started in 2005 and rolled up in 2009 to Afar Region and in 2015 for the urban areas (UPSNP)

PSNP – a move from an ad hoc and emergency to a predictable and consolidated assistance

## **Phase IV**

Direct and Indirect beneficiaries [Conditional and unconditional supports] (climate change mitigation/access to social services)

Total budget: \$2616 million (9 donors are involved where World Bank commitment includes \$600 million; Government covers 14% of the total budget; DFID about £276 million which is 11% of the total)

Period: 2014-2020

Target population: 7.9 million [6.9 million to engage in public work and 1.3 million are elderly]

## **Ethiopia launched its Social Security Policy in 2014**

### **UPSNP**

Dec 2015-July 2021

Total budget: \$450 million (\$300 million a loan from World Bank and the rest from the government)

Implemented in 11 major cities

Targets 604,000 people (that is, 55% below the poverty line and 12% of the total population)

UPSNP is managed by Urban Food Security and Job Opportunity Agency Office

# Ethiopian case: Institutional and Policy System

Growth and Transformation Plan

Regional Economic growth

The missing institutional and impact link?

PSNP

HARP

Emergency Relief

School feed

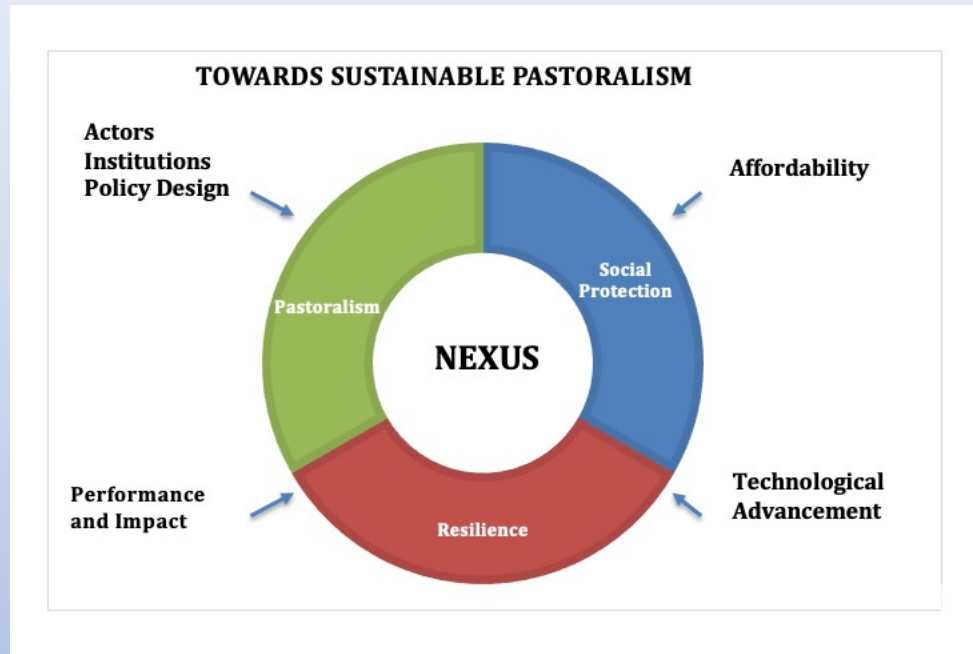
Informal safety Net

Remittance

Impact on Education, health and employment



## Framing the Nexus Approach: Pastoralism-Resilience-Social Protection (PRSP)



*Tsegay, B. (2022).*

What benchmarks are to be deployed for looking at the impact and sustainability of safety net programmes?

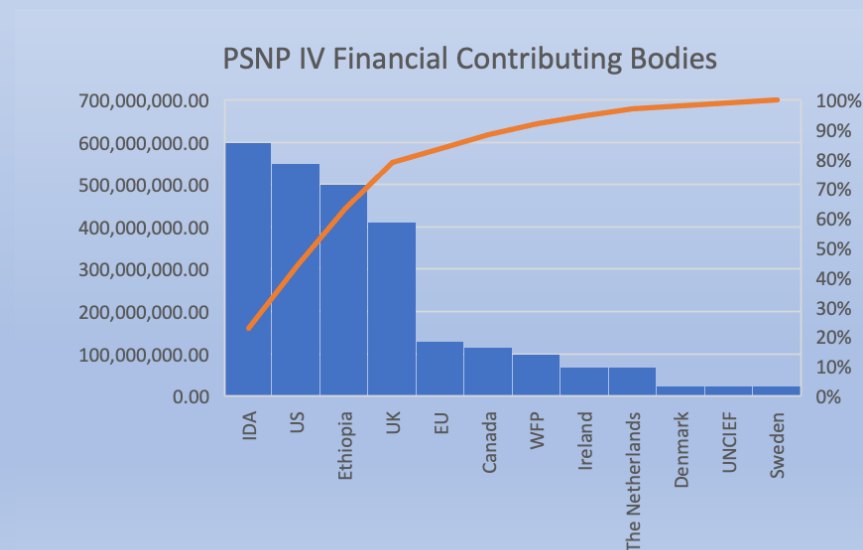
# The Pastoralism-Resilience-Social Protection Nexus (i)

## Actors, Institution, Policy design

- Local, federal and international actors (long-term support in question)
- Revisiting institutional configuration
- Synergy and learning

## Affordability

- short-termism vs Long-termism
- Macro economic policies
- Budgetary strain (social services, conflict, disasters – locust infestation)



Source: Tsegay and Kenton, figure produced based on the World Bank data (2022)

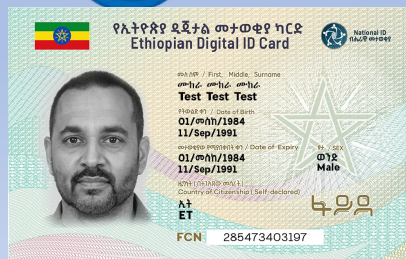
# The Pastoralism-Resilience-Social Protection Nexus (ii)

## Performance and result

- A clash between saving lives and impactful measurement
- Business-as-usual vs result-based
- Focus at household level – social auditing

## Technological advancement

- Ethiopia as ‘one of Africa’s sleeping mobile money giants’ (World Bank report).
- Access to information, reducing inequality and bureaucratic hurdles and improve delivery
- Incidence reporting and managing massive data
- Digital financial service - First mobile money of Ethio Telecom – *Telebirr (Mpesa of Ethiopia)*: Can digital welfare services be viable options?
- Issuing National Digital ID for safety nets



# Safety net programmes performance



- What factors determine the resilience of pastoral livelihood systems in the face of climate change and socio-economic challenges? Mixed results –

## **Positive contribution in:**

- Increasing their coping mechanism
- Increased consumption smoothing role
- Saving lives and partly protecting productive assets

## **Lacking in:**

- Centring at food security
- Lifting them up of poverty, e.g. 10 years in PSNP, lacks to play a transformational role
- Less impact in increasing HH productivity (especially the youth) and nutritional value

# Safety Nets Policy Implication in SSA: What next?

- Expansion of digital services for financial inclusion through like *M-PESA, Telebirr*
- The question of ownership of the flagship programmes
- Consolidation and systematisation of the programmes: New ways of institutional models of scaling up and sustaining the programmes (affordability within the budgetary limits) e.g. Ethiopia PSNP's labour-intensive public works' relevance to pastoral systems
- Looking at the links towards the long-term impacts of the safety net programmes
- Emphasis on alternative income-generating approaches and productivity, particularly with a focus on youth and women
- Strengthening of IGAD, the AU and the regionalisation agenda – create a platform for sharing knowledge and policies in social protection

# The book's contribution to policy

- It advances the policy discussions on welfare, socio-economic and development discourses for the global South.
- Strengthened the global North-South cooperation – through a consortium
- About 94% of the researchers involved are from the Horn of Africa.
- Knowledge co-creation - Engaged with policy makers at local, regional and federal levels

## Challenges:

- Decolonisation of knowledge - the book price is expensive, £130 for hardcopy and £20 for paperback (a negotiated price).
- The e-book is about £30.

# Key References

- Beegle, K., Coudouel, A., & Monsalve, E. (Eds.). (2018). *Realizing the full potential of social safety nets in Africa*. World Bank Publications.
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- Tsegay, B. (2022). [Critical reflections on safety net policies and practices: Social protection among pastoral peoples in sub-Saharan Africa](#), Chapter 8, in Fre, Z., Tsegay, B., Teka, A. M., Kenton, N. and Livingstone, J. (eds) *Social Protection, Pastoralism and Resilience in Ethiopia: Lessons for Sub-Saharan Africa*, Routledge.
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Thank you!

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