



MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES

What does the Admin Data tell us about the 2017 SCT scale-up to national level?

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Mr Stephen Chiwele, Chief Social Welfare (MCDSS)

Mr Daniel Kumitz, Social Policy Specialist (UNICEF)



Background

- ❑ Zambia has been implementing the Social Cash Transfers (SCT) since 2003.
- ❑ The SCT falls under the **Social Assistance Pillar** of the Government's **National Social Protection Policy**.
- ❑ The SCT aims to contribute towards **reduction in extreme poverty in incapacitated households**.
- ❑ The programme currently reaches a caseload of about 564,000 households receiving the transfers in all 116 districts.

2017 Scale-Up

- The 2017 scale-up to national scale increased the caseload from 171,000 to 564,000.
- The programme was extended from 78 to 116 districts.
- The scale-up was made possible through a new mobile technology based registration system. This system allowed for more comprehensive data collection and better data integrity.
- The time pressure of the scale-up on the other hand reduced data quality on information required for secondary interventions (such as number of children in a household and their schooling status).

Different Scale-Up Cohorts

- Through subsequent scale-ups the SCT programme has multiple cohorts in the data
- Cohort 1: Beneficiaries of various pilots (17 Districts) were exited, and their districts treated as new scale-up districts.
- Cohort 2: 2014 targeting model (50 districts). These districts were not part of the 2017 scale-up.
- Cohort 3: 2016 districts (21) were harmonized, by registering beneficiaries under the new categories in addition to existing ones
- 2017 created a fourth cohort with beneficiaries added according to the 2017 targeting model in the 17 pilot districts in the 21 Cohort 3 districts and in the 28 new districts.

Proxy Means Test

household characteristics correlated with welfare levels are used as a proxy for household income (not all characteristics are present below)

Rural



Type of roofing materials



Presence of beds



Presence of basic agriculture tools



Ownership of chickens

Urban



Type of light source



Ownership / type of iron



Ownership of goats

Categorical

households are categorized into specific groups



Disabled

at least one household member has been certified by a medical officer as severely disabled



Chronically Ill on Palliative Care

at least one household member has been certified by a medical officer as chronically ill on palliative care



Elderly

households have at least one member aged 65 years or more



Child-headed household

household headed by person aged 18 years or less



Female head with 3+ children

household headed by a female and has 3 or more children aged 18 years or less

child-focused

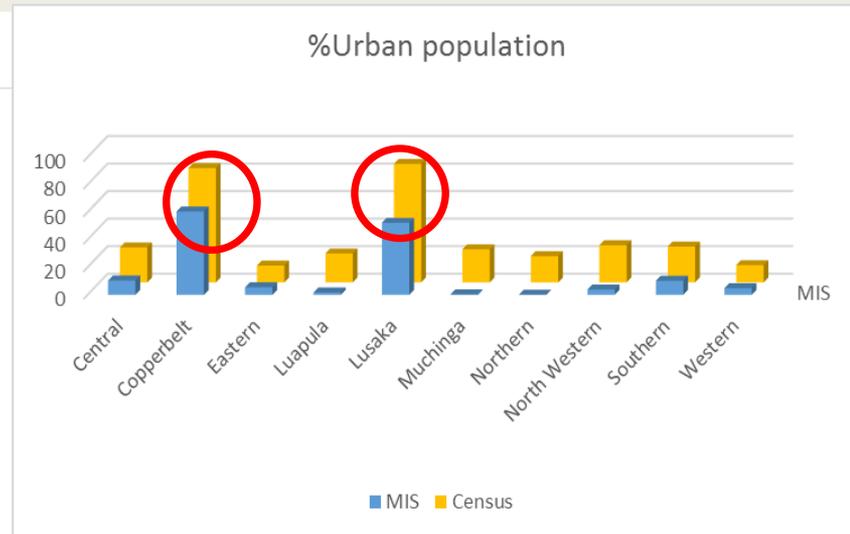
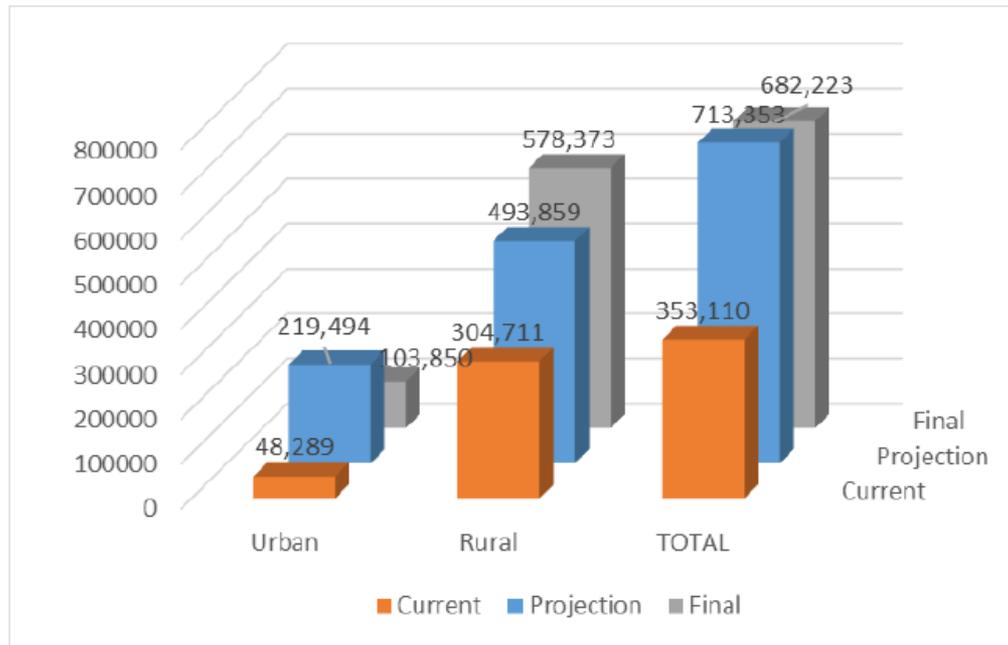
Admin Data Analysis

- Early 2017, the eligibility criteria were simulated against existing survey and census data to inform the likely caseload by District for planning purposes.
- In 2018, the actual data resulting from the caseload was then compared to the simulation with some interesting findings.
- The analysis was carried out by Oxford Policy Management on request of the Ministry and facilitated by UNICEF.

Comparing projected vs actual caseload

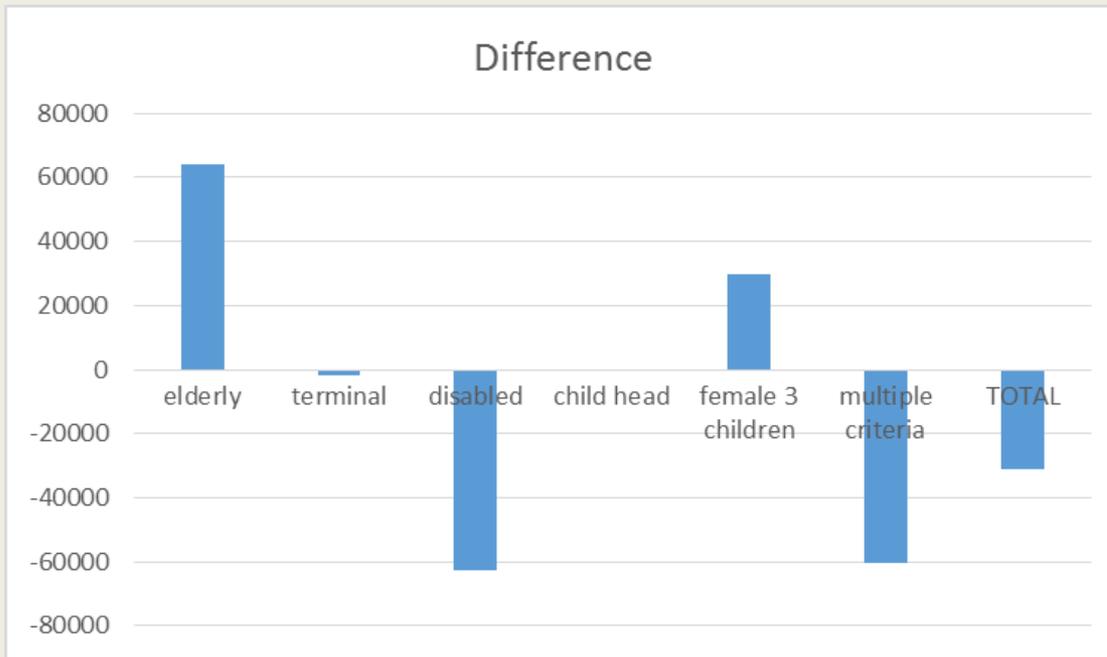
- Overall actual caseload (modelled for full harmonization of targeting criteria in subsequent years) conforms with projection with some exceptions.
- The programme registration underperformed in urban areas which conforms with rapid assessments done showing limited outreach and weaknesses in supporting structures (volunteers)

Figure 1: Projections v.s. actual caseload, by location



Comparing projected vs actual caseload by categories

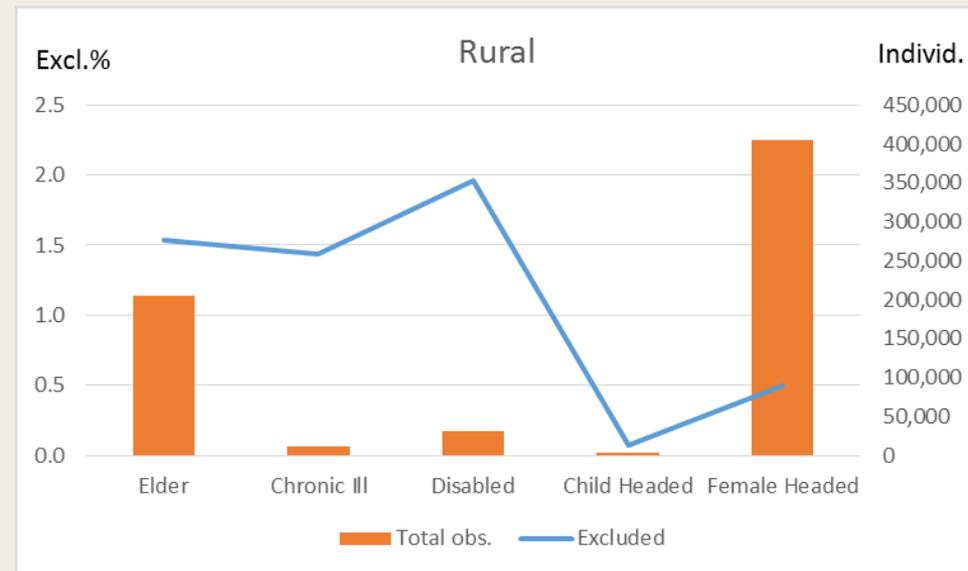
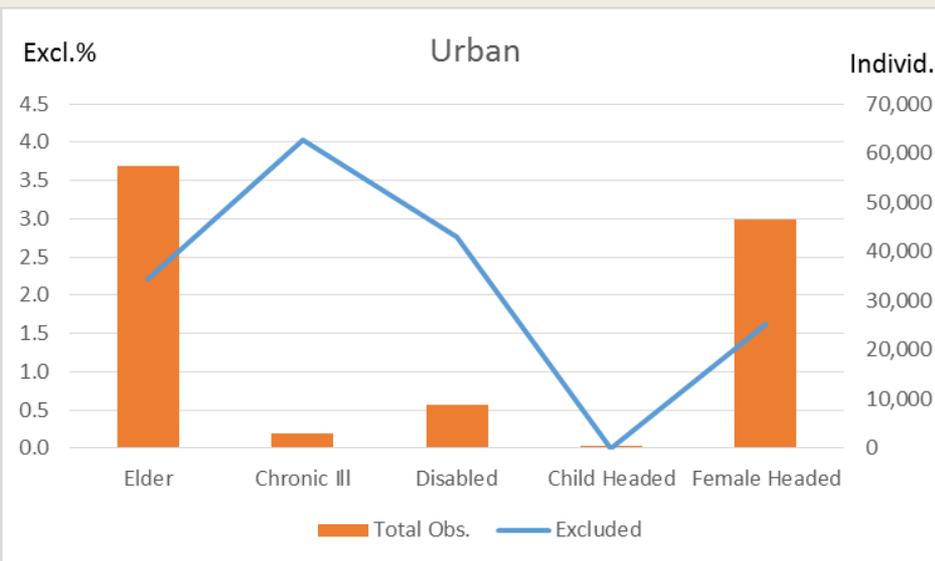
- Overall actual caseload (modelled for full harmonization of targeting criteria in subsequent years) conforms with projection with some exceptions.
- The programme registered many more households with members age 65+ or headed by a female with 3 or more children. Much lower on disability and multiple categories.
- The higher 65+ may point to data quality issues with the Survey/Census data used for projection
- The higher count on female headed may point to weakness in certification, variance in interpretation or data quality issues with the survey/census data used for projection



- Disability explained by using blanket indicator for projection (programme only targets severe disability)
- Multiple criteria may be lower, because officers may not have recorded all criteria (no need)

Urban Exclusion Rate by PMT

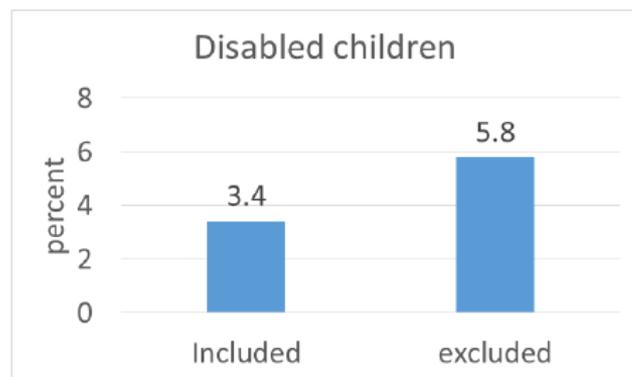
- PMT exclusion of households with severe disabilities in urban areas 2.8% compared to 2% in rural areas. Can this be explained by existence of more income opportunities in urban areas? → need for further study
- Overall exclusion in urban areas low (between 1.5 and 4%). The expected exclusion was between 10 and 30%. There may have been self-filtering aspects of who registered themselves and which dwelling areas the Ministry prioritized for registration campaigns.



Why do some children with disabilities not make it into the SCT Programme?

- The analysis showed that households with disabled children were more likely not to be included in the programme.
- At the point of data entry into the MIS, administrative barriers such as certification, have already been taken. The main reason for exclusion at this stage is the PMT.

Figure 8: Proportion of households with disabled children (new districts), by application status



Source: SCT-MIS 2018

Excluded households tend to be larger than included households

- Multiple explanations are likely why the average household size is larger for households excluded.
- The main explanation may be that officers were careful to register any possible breadwinners, but not all of dependents, especially children (which have been underreported in the data).
- The mere fact of having average 4 persons in a SCT household points to the policy question whether household size needs to be taken into account for determination of transfer size.

Figure 10: Average household size (new districts), by application status



Source: SCT-MIS 2018

THE
TRANSFER
PROJECT



SOCIAL CASH TRANSFER

INVESTING IN PEOPLE'S LIVES, TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

THANK YOU

Stephen Chiwele (Mr) stevechiwele@yahoo.co.uk

Daniel Kumitz (Mr) dkumitz@unicef.org



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