

MIDOCEAN UNIVERSITY

College of Management

Department / Master of Business Administration



Social Protection programs and multidimensional poverty

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I. Introduction:

Social protection programs have become a central tool in addressing poverty and inequality, especially in developing countries. Traditionally, poverty has been measured using income-based indicators. However, this approach fails to capture the complex and multidimensional nature of deprivation.

The concept of multidimensional poverty goes beyond income to include factors such as education, health, living standards, and social inclusion. Governments and international organizations increasingly adopt social protection policies—such as cash transfers, social insurance, and public works programs—to reduce these overlapping deprivations.

This study explores how social protection programs contribute to reducing multidimensional poverty and improving overall well-being.

II. Research Problem

Despite the expansion of social protection programs worldwide, multidimensional poverty persists in many regions. The key issue is:

To what extent do social protection programs effectively reduce multidimensional poverty?

Sub-questions:

Do social protection programs address all dimensions of poverty?

Are certain programs more effective than others?

What are the implementation challenges?

Importance of the Research

This research is important because:

It contributes to the academic debate on poverty measurement beyond income.

It helps policymakers design more effective poverty reduction strategies.

It supports achieving global development goals such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

It provides insights relevant to developing countries, particularly in Africa.

III. Research Hypothesis

Main hypothesis:

Social protection programs significantly reduce multidimensional poverty.

Sub-hypotheses:

h1: Cash transfer programs improve education and health outcomes.

h2: Social insurance reduces vulnerability to shocks.

h3: Integrated programs are more effective than single interventions.

IV. Literature Review

The literature review covers:

a. Concept of Poverty

Monetary vs multidimensional poverty

Introduction of the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

b. Social Protection Programs

Definition and types:

Cash transfers

Social insurance

Labor market programs

c. Theoretical Frameworks

Capability approach

Human development theory

d. Empirical Studies

Evidence from developing countries

Success stories and limitations

V. Research Methodology

a. Research Design:

Quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-method approach

b. Data Collection:

Secondary data (World Bank, UNDP, national statistics)

Surveys or case studies

c. Variables:

Dependent variable: Multidimensional poverty

Independent variable: Social protection programs

e. Data Analysis:

Statistical analysis (regression, correlation)

Comparative analysis (before/after programs)

VI. Research Structure

The thesis is structured as follows:

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Literature Review

Chapter 3: Methodology

Chapter 4: Data Analysis and Findings

Chapter 5: Discussion

Chapter 6: Conclusion and Recommendations

VII. Research Limits:

Limited access to recent or reliable data

Geographic focus (developed countries and Comoros lifestyle)