

# **SAFETY NETS**

## **THE CASE OF MALAWI**

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# POVERTY SITUATION

- Population of 10 million
- 65 % below poverty line, with 28% of the poor living in dire poverty
- 2002 UNDP Human Devt Index – 163 out of 174 countries
- Shocks & Vulnerability
  - Persistent droughts & floods – low agri. Productivity
    - 80% food shortage
    - Malnutrition
- HIV/AIDS – highest prevalence rate among productive age group
  - 850 000 orphans growing at a rate of 70, 000 annually
  - Production greatly affected
- **Vulnerable groups**
  - Orphans, Female headed h/h, rural poor h/h
  - Life expectancy gone down to 37 years

# Rationale for Govt Intervention

- Coordination
  - Activities already being implemented
- Targeting
  - Number of poor too large
  - Resource constraint

# The National Safety Nets Programme

- The NSN Strategy, September, 2000
- The NSN Concept Document, Feb 2002
- Objective: to improve the livelihoods of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups
- Components: PWP, SNIP, TNP & DT
- Institutional Set-up: National Steering Committee, Four Sub-committees, SNU, District Assemblies
- Financing: Govt & Donors
- Problems: Institutional Capacity, Donor Coordination, lack of experience (lesson learning)

# INTERGRATION INTO MPRSP

- Four strategic pillars identified for PRS
- Safety nets a key strategy for pillar 3
  1. Productivity Enhancing interventions (multiplier)
    - Targeted input programs (568,000 hh)
    - Public Works (250,000 hh)
  2. Welfare Support interventions
    - Direct Welfare Program (150,000 hh)
    - Targeted Nutrition Program (100,000 hh)

# NEXT STEPS

- Two year inception phase
- Institutional strengthening, National and Local
- Donor Coordination
- Piloting targeting / delivery mechanisms
- M+E arrangements
- Integration into PRSP

**THANK YOU!**

**ZIKOMO KWAMBIRI!**

