

# **Systematic Review of the Impact of Employment Guarantee Schemes and Cash Transfers on the Poor**

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\* Disclaimer: The views presented in this paper are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of DFID

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**ODI Systematic Review**

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## Acronyms

CT	Cash Transfer
CCT	Conditional Cash Transfer
CGD	Centre for Global Development
CPRC	Chronic Poverty Research Centre
DEC	Dowa Emergency Cash Transfer Project, Malawi
DID	Difference in Difference
DFID	Department for International Development, UK
EGS	Employment Guarantee Scheme
ESAU	Economic and Statistical Analysis Unit
ESCOR	Economic and Social Committee for Overseas Research, UK
EPPI Centre	Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and Co-ordinating Centre
EPRI	Economic Policy Research Institute, South Africa
FCND	Food Consumption and Nutrition Division, IFPRI
FGT	Foster Greer Thorbecke Poverty Indicators
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
HH	Household
HHs	Households
IDS	Institute of Development Studies
IFPRI	International Food policy Research Institute
ILCS	Integrated Living Conditions Survey
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPC-IG	International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth
IPSA	International Political Science Abstracts
ISS	International Institute of Social Studies, Rotterdam
MDRC	Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation
MEGS	Maharashtra Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme, India
NREGA	National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, India
ODI	Overseas Development Institute, UK
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PARL	Poverty Action Research Lab
PSM	Propensity Score Matching
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Programme, Ethiopia
RCT	Randomised Control Trial
PRAF	Programa de Asignación Familiar, Honduras
SALDRU	Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit, University of Cape Town, South Africa
SSRN	Social Science Research Network
TIP	Cumulative Poverty Gap
UCT	Unconditional Cash Transfer
UNU	United Nations University
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WB	World Bank

## Summary

This systematic review identifies and synthesizes the current evidence on employment guarantee schemes (EGSs) and cash transfers (CTs) in order to assess the effectiveness of these interventions in terms of poverty outcomes for the poor in low and middle income countries. The review describes and analyses the empirical evidence currently available, in terms of content, quality, and comparability, and identifies research gaps, offering a contribution to future evaluation and policy development.

This review applied a systematic protocol to the identification and retrieval of published and unpublished documents relating to the impacts of i) EGSs and ii) CTs on the poor (defined in relation to national poverty lines), and examines the relative effectiveness of both interventions. Using consistent search strings, searches in 23 databases resulted in the identification of 35,991 documents for screening. Searches of 19 websites and journals, together with bibliographies and key informant interviews led to the inclusion of an additional 193 studies for screening. 222 studies were retained on the basis of full text for final quality screening after the application of inclusion and exclusion criteria. By restricting inclusion to studies using high quality datasets, and presenting evidence addressing money-metric dimensions of poverty (relating to income, expenditure, or poverty indices) and excluding those using duplicate datasets and identical methodological approaches, the final number of studies included in the review was reduced to 37.

Critically, in terms of the analytical approach anticipated within a systematic review, it was not possible to draw robust conclusions regarding the relative performance of the two instruments, since meta-analysis of evidence on programme impacts was not feasible given the diversity of intervention design, populations and impacts, the range and inconsistency of methodological approaches adopted, and the limited data on statistical significance and incidence.

The review was limited to examining i) the quality of evidence available by intervention, and ii) evidence on programme performance against three money-metric poverty indicators; poverty indices, income, and expenditure. In terms of the evidence base, there are significantly more studies available on CTs than EGSs, reflecting the relative frequency of CT and EGS implementation. The number of studies included in the review examining unconditional cash transfer programmes (UCTs), conditional cash transfer programmes (CCTs) and EGSs were 21, 18 and 7 respectively, with some studies examining both unconditional and conditional cash transfer programmes. The low number of studies into EGSs, and the preponderance of CCT programmes mean that the evidence base is skewed.

The studies reviewed presented evidence that both CTs and EGSs have a predominantly, but not exclusively positive impact in terms of reducing poverty for the three money-metric poverty indicators. In terms of impact the review found that while 39 studies found positive impacts from either CT or EGS participation, 9 found negative impacts, generally from high-quality studies. This indicates that the evidence relating to the impact of CTs and EGSs on money-metric poverty indicators is not exclusively positive. The ratio of positive to negative impacts was consistently higher for CTs than EGSs across all indicators, but the low number of EGS studies and lack of data on statistical significance means that it is not possible to draw general conclusions from this finding.

The studies did not offer comparable insights into the scale of poverty reduction from each form of intervention, and most studies did not measure the statistical significance of the impact, or account for confounding factors such as income forgone or household economy changes resulting from transfer receipt, a consideration which may explain some of the studies identifying negative impacts. Most studies focused on the immediate and direct impact of the transfer, and did not take into account indirect impacts which may accrue from, for example, skills acquisition or the assets created, in the case of public employment schemes, or other indirect benefits arising from regular and predictable access to capital, for

example in the form of increased savings or access to micro-credit, which could result in an underestimation of the net impact over time.

Despite the adoption of minimum quality criteria relating to the selection of studies for inclusion in the review, the quality of the included studies varied widely. Quality varied not only across interventions (CCTs, CTs, EGSs etc), but also across outcome indicators (poverty, income and expenditure). Studies examining CCTs were consistently of higher quality than studies examining the other interventions, while studies examining UCTs were consistently lower quality. Similarly studies adopting expenditure indicators were also consistently higher quality than those using the other indicators.

This study shows that the indicator used to measure impact matters greatly; poverty index, income and expenditure indicators provide different evidence in terms of the impact of an intervention on poverty, and hence the choice of indicator can affect an assessment of the efficacy of a given intervention. Changes in household expenditure may be a more sensitive indicator of the impact of an intervention on poverty than changes in income, as household economy effects, which may not be captured when income indicators are used, are implicitly included in expenditure analysis.

Most of the high quality studies examined conditional cash transfer programming, and/or programmes from the Latin America region. This indicates a need for more studies on the impacts of EGSs, and for improvements in the quality of studies relating to UCTs and EGSs and programmes outside the Latin American region generally. Furthermore the review has highlighted a need for improvements in the quality of studies into the impact of CTs and EGSs on money-metric dimensions of poverty in general, and in particular to include an analysis on programme incidence (the extent to which programmes are successfully targeted to the poor) and the statistical significance of findings. In addition, greater methodological consistency in terms of analytical approaches adopted, and indicator selection and definition is needed to enable more meaningful cross-programme performance analysis, so that robust comparisons of performance both within intervention types (UCTs, CCTs, EGSs) and between types can be drawn, in order to inform future programming decisions.





## 1. Introduction

This systematic review assesses the evidence on the impact of *employment guarantee schemes and cash transfers on the poor*. The poor are defined as people living below the nationally defined poverty line in low-income countries (LICs) and middle-income countries (MICs). The review identifies and synthesizes the available evidence to assess the impact of two social protection interventions on the poor; employment guarantee schemes (EGSs) and cash transfers (CTs). Both interventions can have a positive impact on the poor, primarily in terms of a direct impact on household income, the latter through the provision of a direct payment, and the former through the provision of a wage, and potentially also through indirect benefits accruing from the assets created and skills and experience acquisition.

This review was commissioned by the UK Department for International Development (UK DFID) to assess the impact of these interventions and where possible to compare performance across the two interventions which are often considered as programme substitutes. The review assesses the empirical evidence presented in the literature documenting the impacts of these interventions in practice, the extent to which they affect the poor, the magnitude of the impact, and its significance at household level. This assessment of the currently available evidence will contribute to future policy development.

The systematic review approach requires an initial review of the availability and quality of evidence. A systematic scoping review found that there was an extremely limited number of articles making a direct comparison between the two interventions and where they did exist, they were not empirical. An additional limitation affecting the literature is that there are very few EGSs currently being implemented, and even historically the number of such schemes has been limited. In the light of these limitations, this review aims to identify two separate sets of literature, relating to i) the impact of employment guarantees, and ii) the impact of cash transfers, and to draw conclusions comparing the two approaches in as much as this is empirically feasible and methodologically meaningful.

This report is structured as follows. Section 2 gives the background to this review, discussing previous research and the policy and practice background. The specific objectives of the review are outlined, as are the defining elements of a systematic review question- *intervention, population, outcome* and *comparator*. These are described further in section 3, which also discusses the review methodology in detail, outlining how studies were identified and described and the methods adopted for analysis. Section 4 lists and describes the search results at different stages of the search process. Section 5 presents the results, analyses them by interventions type, and discusses them with conclusions presented in Section 6.

## 2. Background

This section gives background information on the review, first comparing and contrasting the two interventions (section 2.1), employment guarantee schemes (EGSs) and cash transfers (CTs), and the second presenting definitions (section 2.2). The objectives of the review are discussed next, and sections 2.4 and 2.5 give the policy and research background, respectively.

### 2.1 Comparison of the interventions

EGSs and CTs are social protection programmes which are intended to have a positive impact on the poor primarily in terms of increased household income, the former through the provision of a wage on the basis of a work requirement, and the latter through the provision of a cash transfer. EGSs provide a guaranteed amount of employment each year, hence a guaranteed income, usually providing payment in the form of cash. CTs provide a direct cash payment, to households or individuals, which may be unconditional (UCTs), or may have conditions attached such as a requirement for school or clinic attendance by children, in which case they are known as conditional cash transfer programmes (CCTs). EGSs are sometimes considered to be a particular form of conditional cash transfers, with the condition being the work requirement. The work requirement however represents a significantly greater time contribution from recipients, than that required to adhere to conditions related to accessing public goods (typically health or education services), and for this reason, the two interventions may be considered as alternative, and materially different policy options, as in this review.

For policy makers it is important to be able to assess the impacts of these interventions in practice, the extent to which they positively impact on the poor, the way they do this, the magnitude of the impact, and its significance at household level. As the two interventions are often considered as substitutes, it is also relevant to consider how they compare in terms of their impact. For this reason an assessment of the empirical evidence currently available will contribute to future policy development.

A systematic scoping review indicated that it was not possible to review papers which compared the two interventions, as such papers are extremely limited in number and where they do exist, are literature reviews rather than empirical studies. An additional limitation affecting the literature is that very few EGSs are implemented internationally and historically the number of such schemes has been extremely limited. Therefore the approach taken in this review has been to identify two separate sets of literature, relating to both i) the impact of employment guarantees and ii) the impact of cash transfers, and to draw conclusions comparing the impact of the two different interventions in as much as this is empirically feasible and methodologically meaningful.

It is important however to note that the two interventions are in many senses not substitutes. Many CTs do not provide guaranteed or regular transfers, on a sustained basis, and it is only programmes which do provide such support that are directly comparable with EGSs, unlike other forms of short term or *ad hoc* transfer programmes. EGSs and CTs are often seen as substitutes by policy makers, since only one or the other is accessible by a particular group of beneficiaries. In the few instances they are treated as complements, and implemented in parallel for different population groups, as in the case of the Productive Safety Nets Programme (PSNP) in Ethiopia, which has both CT and EGS components, with the CT component being available for households unable to participate in the EGS. As a consequence, it is not possible to make generalised comparisons between the impacts of the two different interventions as they are often implemented in different contexts and target populations. Questions of theoretical and empirical lack of comparability are elaborated in sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2.

## 2.2 Definitions

This review considers two *interventions*: EGSs and CT programmes. EGSs are a subset of Public Works Programmes (PWPs), but should not be confused with this broader category of interventions, which typically provide only one off and short term employment opportunities. EGSs are distinctive in that they *guarantee* employment to a specified population over a sustained or indefinite period, in effect representing a form of unemployment or income insurance. They differ from CTs in that receipt of a transfer is conditional on satisfying a work requirement, usually, but not exclusively, relating to manual labour. While EGSs are rare, CT programmes are significantly more diverse in conception and execution, far more frequently implemented, and may or may not offer sustained or guaranteed transfers. Transfer receipt may either be unconditional or conditional on satisfying requirements such as participating in health checks, school enrolment, or the cessation of child labour. All forms of CTs are included in the study, in accordance with the research question.

The differences in programme design are likely to affect impacts, as is the fact that the two types of intervention may be targeted at different groups, with EGS participation limited to households with available labour (adequate numbers of members of working age), while CTs target households or individuals on the basis of a more diverse set of criteria, which are often demographic (including the presence of elderly, orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) or young children within households, or the absence of members of working age). For these reasons general comparisons by intervention type may not necessarily be meaningful. Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 further elaborate on comparability issues.

The *population* of the review is defined as all participants in EGSs or CT programmes living in lower income countries (LICs) or middle income countries (MICs), (following World Bank, 2010). The *poor* are defined as all those living below nationally defined poverty lines, with definitions of poverty taken from the studies analysed. While the study aimed to analyse only the impact on poor beneficiaries, this was not possible, as many studies did not provide information on the poverty status of participants or the targeting incidence of the intervention.

Based on a scoping review the populations were drawn from a limited number of countries in the case of EGSs; India, Ethiopia, South Africa and Argentina, and given the scarcity of contemporary evidence, the USA in the 1930s. However, a wider selection of countries are included in the cash transfer component of the review, as many Latin American, sub-Saharan African and South and East Asian countries adopt CT programming. At least 36 LICs and MICs have adopted CT programmes (Hanlon et al., 2010).

The *outcome* examined in the review is the direct impact of EGS and CT interventions on poverty in beneficiary households.

Poverty was not limited to monetary definitions of poverty in the initial searches, although in order to promote comparability, it was limited to money-metric definitions at the final review stage. In the final review poverty is measured using three different indicators; income, expenditure and summary poverty indices.

## 2.3 Objectives

The research question addressed in this study asks “What is the evidence of the impact of employment guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers? This question was derived from the original question (“What is the evidence of the impact of benefits of work guarantee schemes on poor women and men as compared with cash transfers?”); this change was made in order to simplify the question, in particular reducing the number of comparators, and make it more suitable for the systematic review methodology.

The primary objective of this study is to review what evidence is available on the impact of i) cash transfer programmes and ii) employment guarantee schemes on the poor and to synthesise the evidence as appropriate. The secondary objective is to assess the quality and range of studies measuring these impacts and to identify possible research gaps.

### 2.4 Policy and practice background

CTs have been implemented internationally for many decades in developed, as well as developing countries. They have been implemented in low - and middle - income countries in all regions of the world, and have been particularly popular in Latin America in recent decades (for an overview, see Hanlon et al., 2010). These programmes have been implemented by governments and also donor and non-governmental organisations, both nationally and regionally and with various time horizons, with some offering one-off transfers in time of need, and others providing regular payments on a multi-year or ongoing basis. Current policy discussion is focussed on a range of design and implementation issues, including targeting criteria, targeting methods, transfer value and duration of provision, all of which are likely to affect impacts. There is also a debate on whether and under what circumstances CTs should be conditional. For reasons of methodological feasibility, this review ignores CT design specificities, with the exception of conditionality, and analyses the evidence both for CTs in aggregate; and disaggregated by CTs and UCTs, to ascertain whether any impact differences can be identified between the two different forms of CT.

EGSs are not as widespread as CTs. While a diversity of PWP are now found in many developing countries, the great majority of these do not include any form of employment guarantee, providing only temporary or irregular access to income, and hence are not included in the study. Recent reviews of public works found that over the last decade less than 2% of PWPs took this form in sub-Saharan Africa or Southern Asia (McCord and Slater, 2009, McCord and Chopra, unpublished). During the 1930s EGSs were implemented by the US administration during the great depression, but few have been implemented in the intervening decades. The Maharashtra Employment Guarantee Scheme (MEGS) and Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGREGS) (formerly known as NREGA) in India, the EGS component of the Productive Safety Nets Programme (PSNP) in Ethiopia, the Jefes de Hogar programme in Argentina and the small scale Zibambale Programme in South Africa are the only programmes identified during the review which have offered an employment guarantee in recent decades. Governments and donors are less likely to implement EGSs compared to CTs, due to the high fiscal, administrative and technical requirements of a programme guaranteeing provision of employment. Although the perceived successes of the high profile PSNP and MGREGS has led to a significant increase in interest in EGSs in LICs in recent years among donors and governments in sub-Saharan Africa and southern Asia, this is yet to be reflected in actual programming. This interest reflects a concern with high levels of chronic under and un-employment in LICs, and the associated poverty among households with working age members, who are unable to find employment. It also reflects a preference for provision of support on the basis of a work requirement, rather than cash transfers, on the part of many governments and donors, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa (see McCord, 2008), in order to restrict demand, and also prevent incentives for beneficiaries to withdraw from the labour market in favour of reliance on cash transfers, (sometimes referred to as 'dependency').

This review attempts to identify the nature and quality of the existing literature on this subject and to draw comparisons where possible on the relative effectiveness of the two instruments and differences in terms of their impact, in order to contribute to this policy choice debate. Key additional questions relating to issues such as cost per unit transferred, targeting efficacy, and the indirect benefits of assets created or services provided through EGS, will need to be addressed in subsequent reviews in order to develop an adequate evidence base to inform future policy choice, as these questions are not yet resolved (see for example White and McCord, 2006, on the relative unit cost of transfers through CTs and PWPs). This review however, makes a partial, yet important and innovative contribution to this ongoing policy debate.

## 2.5 Research background

Despite their limited incidence, a number of impact evaluations have been carried out on EGSs, most notably the Maharashtra Employment Guarantee Scheme (MEGS) and to a lesser extent NREGA programmes in India, principally due to their relatively long period of implementation, with the MEGS having been initiated in the early 1970s and implemented continuously over four decades. Other EGSs are the subject of relatively limited analytical review because they have only recently been initiated, or were implemented for a relatively limited period. This study represents the first attempt to summarise empirical findings relating to EGS impacts, and to compare these to CT programme impacts. For both EGS and CTs, the focus of impact evaluations tends to be on process indicators and the distribution of funds, rather than impact on the poor, a key limitation in the current literature.

Within the limited EGS literature, the robust empirical impact studies which have been carried out have tended to be on the MEGS, in part due to its 40 year implementation period, and the high quality panel data available on the programme ICRISAT<sup>1</sup>, which has been utilised extensively in the work of Ravallion (e.g. 1998), Datt (e.g. 1994) and Subbarao (e.g. 2003). Similar approaches were adopted by McCord (2004 and 2009) in examining the impact of the small scale Zibambele EGS programme in South Africa, yielding results which are broadly comparable.

There is a wider range of robust quantitative analysis of the impact of CTs on various dimensions of poverty, encompassing a diversity of methodologies, many of which are based on experiences in South Africa, Mexico, Brazil and other Latin American countries.

The review question includes an assessment of the impact of CTs and EGSs on the poor, however, it is important to note that programme incidence is not always addressed in literature assessing programme impacts, ie the distribution of benefits by poverty status may not be known. Gilligan and Hoddinott have identified this as a seminal problem in terms of assessing impact in relation to the impact of the EGS component of the PSNP in Ethiopia (which at the time of writing was remunerated exclusively in food);

‘A major challenge of identifying food aid impacts that has been ignored in much of the literature is to account for selection into the programs; failing to do so makes it impossible to attribute causation of welfare gains to food aid’ (Gilligan and Hoddinott, 2007:1)

The reason that this issue is particularly important in relation to EGSs, is that contrary to the general assumption that self-selection through the work requirement will ensure that only the poorest choose to participate in PWP, there is evidence that the work requirement may make the poor less likely to participate under certain circumstances, particularly in labour constrained households (see for example Barrett and Clay, 2003, Gilligan and Hoddinott, 2007 and McCord, 2008). Hence it cannot be assumed that EGSs are effectively reaching the poorest. Lack of evidence on incidence is a major limitation in the current literature. Few programmes gather sufficient baseline data for the assessment of incidence, and so alternative approaches have been attempted in the literature to compensate. For example Jalan and Ravallion (2003) and McCord (2009) have attempted to address the question of benefit incidence using propensity score matching (PSM) techniques for EGSs and similar analyses have been carried out in a limited number of the CT programmes reviewed.

Temporal aspects of programme impacts also needs to be taken into account if any meaningful assessment and comparison of impact is to be made between CTs and EGSs, since EGSs are often intended to create assets which will impact on economic activity and livelihoods in the medium term, in addition to their anticipated direct income effect (McCord, 2009). Similarly it is often anticipated that CTs will reduce

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<sup>1</sup> ICRISAT is a panel data base run in four states in India between 1975-1985, see the website for further information <http://www.icrisat.org/gt-mpi/knowledgeBase/Databases/vls.asp>

poverty in the medium term by reducing barriers to investment, economic diversification and risk taking at the household level. Also, as EGSs and CTs may function differently in terms of their role within the household economy over time, with EGSs typically offering seasonal consumption smoothing inputs to prevent the distress sale of assets during vulnerable times of the year, and CTs providing year round support, assessing impact over time would be important for making assessments of the overall impact on poverty. However, impact over time is rarely addressed in the literature in relation to either form of intervention, with most studies focusing exclusively on immediate impacts, so the question of impacts over time will not be addressed in this review.

### 3. Methodology

This section describes the methodology of the review in detail. The different stages of the review are described first. Section 3.2 outlines how the studies were identified. Section 3.3 describes the methods used for analysis, as well as the methodological and theoretical considerations taken into account when comparing interventions.

#### 3.1 Stages in this review

Prior to the main review, a systematic scoping review was conducted to i) test the search protocol ii) confirm the list of employment guarantee schemes (EGSs) and iii) get an initial overview of the literature. In this scoping review the initial list of search strings was tested in a number of databases. The search strings and protocol were then adjusted accordingly.

After this scoping the main review was conducted. This involved three separate stages; the identification of relevant studies, the removal of duplicates, and screening based on title, abstract and full text. Next all studies included on the basis of full text were coded, and screened again, using quality criteria. The final list of studies included was then analysed and synthesised, and conclusions were drawn.

#### 3.2 Identifying and describing studies

As cash transfer (CT) programmes have a series of conventional synonyms it was not problematic to identify relevant studies in the literature. However, programmes guaranteeing employment do not necessarily mention the employment ‘guarantee’ in their names, and some programmes which do include the term do not in fact offer a guarantee. For the purposes of this review, a scoping review was carried out to identify programmes providing an employment guarantee function, and these programmes were included in search strings by name, rather than using the term ‘guarantee’. Section 3.2.1 lists all the EGS included in this review. In order to capture all relevant CT programmes, a range of synonyms for cash transfers was used; these are listed in Appendix 3.

##### *3.2.1 Defining relevant studies: Inclusion and exclusion criteria*

The search protocol clearly defined the inclusion and exclusion criteria, further details are given in Appendix 1. All sources of data were considered (grey, narrative, analytical etc), given the limited material available the following inclusion criteria were applied:

1. **Date:**) No time limit was set in terms of when the material was produced, enabling the inclusion of studies relating to US programming during the 1930s (a date limit was set to exclude other US material).
2. **Language:** The review is restricted to English language, given the linguistic limitations of the search team.
3. **Population:** The population is defined as the poor who are either CT or EGS beneficiaries.
4. **Geographical locations:** low-income countries (LICs) or middle-income countries (MICs), with the exception of the USA in the 1930s, which has been included for having a large-scale employment guarantee scheme.
5. **Interventions:**
  - **Employment Guarantee Schemes** (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), formerly NREGA, India; Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), Ethiopia; Jefes de Hogar, Argentina; Zibambele Programme, Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa; the Maharashtra Employment Guarantee Scheme (MEGS), India; and the New Deal in the USA)
  - **Cash Transfer Schemes** (see Appendix 3 for a list of synonyms used to describe them)

6. **Aim of the study:** This should be to investigate the impact of the above interventions (i.e. not a policy document or an implementation report).
7. **Study design:** The study should be a solid empirical study with high quality reporting. Studies based on anecdotal or empirical evidence and those not reporting details on methodology or the survey sample will be excluded.
8. **Outcome:** This is defined as impact of CTs/ EGSs on the poor. A range of impact indicators were considered in the initial search:
  - The Foster Greer Thorbecke poverty index, which includes i) a *poverty headcount index*, the fraction of poor people living below the poverty, ii) a *poverty gap index*, measuring the average distance between the income of the poor and the poverty line and iii) a *poverty severity index*, the poverty gap squared, which gives a weighted poverty gap, giving greater emphasis to the poverty of the poorest).
  - Income (household or individual income, this may only take account of wage income or may include income from diverse sources including in-kind, may include adjusted wage income to take account of under-reporting, and may take into account income forgone and net (rather than gross) value of transfer).
  - Expenditure (calculated at household level, also known as consumption).
  - Wealth/ assets (assets or capital the household owns; these may be financial, physical or social).
  - Food security (this may be a range of indicators including food expenditure, number of meals etc).
  - Health (this may include a wide range of indicators relating to the physical well-being, including body mass index).
  - Education (indicators relate to both *outputs*- the number of children attending school -and *outcomes* - educational performance).

### 3.2.2 Identification of potential studies: search strategy

The search strategy combined;

- Databases searches (see Appendix 2 for list)
- Internet and meta search engine searches (see Appendix 2 for list)
- Hand searches on relevant website (see Appendix 2 for list)
- Direct requests to key informants
- Hand searches of grey literature and reference lists supplied by key informants

A number of search strings were constructed (see Appendix 3), based around combinations of the following search terms:

- Impact of employment guarantee schemes *and* cash transfer schemes on the poor
- Impact of employment guarantee schemes on the poor
- Impact of cash transfer schemes on the poor

While an attempt was made to use consistent search strings across databases, some databases and websites required adjustments to the search strings due to a limited number of strings or Boolean operators allowed. Furthermore, in cases where the number of search results for a certain database became unmanageable (more than 2000) the Boolean operator “NOT”<sup>2</sup> were used to reduce the number of hits and make the screening process more manageable (see Appendix 3). These were coded as “excluded by searching”. In addition an iterative research process was used in the piloting stage, with frequent discussions on the relevance of the results found, resulting in the refinement of the initial search strings to promote a practical balance between specificity and comprehensive coverage.

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<sup>2</sup>“NOT” can be applied in some databases to exclude articles containing keywords that will exclude non-relevant articles, eg. banking in the case at hand.



The Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and Co-ordinating Centre (EPPI) reviewer reference management system, EPPI-Reviewer 4, was used for process recording and article coding. Titles and abstracts were imported and entered into the database and a search log was continuously updated with all searches; this is included as Appendix 10.

### *3.2.3 Screening studies: applying inclusion and exclusion criteria*

After duplicates had been removed and irrelevant documents had been removed using the Boolean operator “not”, the formal screening stage was initiated.

Inclusion and exclusion criteria were applied successively to:

- titles
- abstracts, when the title was broadly relevant
- full text of articles, when the abstract was deemed relevant,

Full documents were obtained for studies where the title and abstract appeared to meet the criteria. When there was uncertainty regarding relevance a conservative, inclusive approach was adopted. The inclusion and exclusion criteria were re-applied to the full texts of documents and those not meeting these initial criteria were excluded. At this stage the quality of the evidence was assessed by characterising studies according to characteristics of the data, type of intervention and outcomes, see section 3.2.4.

Screening by title and by abstract was done by research assistants using a double-blind screening procedure. The abstract screening results were double-checked by the main researchers and reconciled if necessary. In order to ensure that both research assistants screened consistently, a pilot screening procedure was followed. Both research assistants screened the same randomly selected 500 documents and their results were compared, with particular attention to inclusion and exclusion decisions. In the first round of screening an 18% discrepancy rate was found between the research assistants' results. The discrepancies were discussed with both research assistants and the main researchers and then reconciled. Following two further rounds of double screening, an acceptable 10% discrepancy rate was reached. Once the discrepancies were discussed and reconciled the research assistants continued with the remaining screening. Full texts were screened by the main authors of the review

Relevant hand-searched items from websites, search engines or key informants were directly included in the search results.

### *3.2.4 Characterisation of included studies*

The 222 studies included in the review on the basis of full text were coded according to characteristics of the data<sup>3</sup>, type of intervention and outcomes, using the following criteria:

- 1) Characteristics of the data
  - Representative survey – was the sample randomly selected?
  - Adequate sample size – was the sample size adequate to ensure statistically significant comparisons for the country/ region/ community (depending on the unit of analysis)?
  - Panel data – did the survey track households over a number of years?
  - National survey (or comparable) – was the survey implemented by the national statistical office, or following national or international standards, eg. by using the same questionnaire or sample frame (an indicator of well-conducted and nationally representative studies)?
  - Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT) - was the survey based on a randomised controlled trial?

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<sup>3</sup> Characteristics of the data was assessed on the basis descriptions of sampling methodology, data collection, data analysis etc. The authors descriptions were taken as given, e.g. if panel data was used, then it was assumed that the methodology was properly applied.

- Control group - was there a control group? No judgement was made on the adequacy of the control group.
- 2) Type of intervention
  - Employment Guarantee Scheme
  - Cash Transfer Scheme
  - Both
- 3) Outcomes measured (as defined in section 3.2.1)
  - Impact on poverty indices
  - Impact on inequality
  - Impact on expenditure
  - Impact on income
  - Impact on education
  - Impact on health
  - Impact on assets
  - Impact on employment
  - Impact on food security
  - Impact on food expenditure

Adoption of these criteria enabled comparisons across the included documents, including comparing types of interventions against the quality of the studies (see section 4.2 below).

### *3.2.5 Moving from initial descriptive analysis to the final analysis*

Once the 222 studies included on the basis of full text had been coded using the characteristics of the data, the studies were screened using additional inclusion and exclusion criteria. This was done for the sake of i) comparability, ii) empirical robustness and iii) technical feasibility given the requirements of the systematic review methodology.

The final analysis was limited to impacts relating exclusively to money-metric dimensions of poverty, (summary poverty indices, income and expenditure (both generally and food expenditure))<sup>4</sup>. Health and education impacts have been extensively studied in the literature, including a recent systematic review of the health impact of CCTs<sup>5</sup>. Other outcomes, e.g. assets, proved to be difficult to compare due to definitional inconsistencies.

The final analysis was also restricted to quantitative studies having both a sufficient sample size and a randomly selected sample. The decision to include studies on the basis of only two quality criteria was made in order to ensure the inclusion of an adequate number of studies in the final review; in particular to ensure that studies on EGSs, generally of lower quality, were also accommodated, as few studies met all the characteristics of a good quality dataset.

Applying the money-metric measures of poverty, random sample and sufficient sample size criteria reduced the included studies to 44. Where several studies used the same data set and examined the same outcome indicators, only one was selected on the basis of the best fit with the research question. This resulted in a further seven studies being excluded and 37 studies included in the final analysis.

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<sup>4</sup> We realize that changes in income and expenditure are not direct poverty indicators and do not reflect changes in the poverty line. However, they are money-metric measures of poverty.

<sup>5</sup> See Lagarde, M., Haines, A. and Palmer, N. (2009) The impact of conditional cash transfers on health outcomes and use of health services in low and middle Income countries. Cochrane database of systematic reviews. (4AR CD008137).

### *3.2.6 Identifying and describing studies: quality assurance process*

The questions, strings and search terms were piloted prior to protocol formulation in order to assess literature availability and the adequacy of the terms. This resulted in the revision of both search terms and strings.

Application of the inclusion and exclusion criteria and the coding was conducted by pairs of research assistants working independently and then comparing their decisions and coming to a consensus. A pilot screening process was adopted in order to ensure consistent screening approaches; see section 3.2.3.

The research assistants were monitored daily by the main researchers and the team met weekly to discuss and review findings.

## **3.3 Methods for analysis**

The studies included in the final analysis were scrutinised in terms of the indicators used, the research and analytical methodology adopted and the assumptions underlying the analysis, factors which can have a significant impact on the evidence presented. A quality index was calculated in order to compare studies. A theoretical model of impact was identified and used as a basis for adopting appropriate methods for analysis. Each of these aspects is described in detail below.

### *3.3.1 Methodological considerations*

A diversity of methodological approaches was implemented in the studies included in the final review including panel studies, simulations, and ex-post estimates. A wide range of money-metric impact indicators were adopted, with diverse definitions of poverty indices, income and expenditure, and change metrics were presented in a variety of forms including absolute income levels, percentage changes and logs (see appendices 5, 6 and 7). Some studies assessed impact at household level, others in terms of individual impact, some assessed immediate impacts, others impact over time, some made adjustments to account for income forgone as a result of transfer receipt, and under-reporting of income, others not. The implications of differing methodological approaches in key areas, on impact evidence, are discussed below.

Where analysis is at the household rather than individual level<sup>6</sup>, household resource optimisation based on possible reallocations of available labour is more likely to be captured, and hence indirect effects of the transfer on the household economy, and for this reason more positive results may be identified than where impact is assessed on a purely individual level.

Similarly, when assessing the impact of a transfer on income, whether only wage income, or total household income (including for example in kind earnings, own production, transfer earnings, gifts etc) is taken into account will influence the impact identified, as a fall in wage income, may (or may not) be compensated by increases in other forms of household income. For example, while wage income from child labour may fall as the result of participation in a CT conditional on school participation, total household income may increase if transfer receipt is taken into account. The term 'income' was not defined in all the studies, and referred in some instances to total household income, including wage and other forms of income, and in others only to individual income, excluding potential improvements in overall household income resulting from intra-household reallocations of labour resulting from transfer receipt.

Income is frequently under-reported in surveys. Whether adjustments are made to compensate for this, and the degree of under-reporting assumed in these adjustments will affect the impacts identified, but these issues were not consistently addressed in the studies, or the assumptions and adjustments made in

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<sup>6</sup> 95% of the studies examined household level impacts, and households are referred to as beneficiaries in the following text. The tables in Appendices 5-7 specify the level of analysis for each study.

addressing them made transparent (see van der Berg et al., 2007 for a survey of the international debate on how to address the problem of under-reporting). As a result, impact assessments based on income data may be significantly affected by the definitions and assumptions underlying the analysis, which were not consistent, or explicit, across the studies.

In instances where income impact is calculated on the basis of ex-post assessment of household income, taking as the counterfactual household income minus the transfer, the result may be an over-estimation of the impact. When the net, rather than gross value of the transfer is adopted, with the net value taking into account income forgone (for example as a result of a reduction in child labour in the case of a CCT, or alternative income generating or domestic production activities forgone due to the work requirement in the case of EGSs). In 70% of the income studies and the poverty index studies (based on income) there was no consideration of income forgone; it was implicitly assumed that the gross and net values of the transfer were identical. Where it is addressed there are inconsistencies in how it is calculated, with some studies estimating forgone earnings on the basis of a rule of thumb (e.g. 25% of the transfer), others using survey data on reported income forgone, and others basing their assessment on the income of the control group. The problem of addressing income forgone does not apply when expenditure outcomes are considered, as expenditure is indicative of household consumption after intra-household labour reallocations have taken place.

The choice of using income or expenditure indicators of impact is also likely to result in different impact evidence. Some of the potential limitations associated with income were outlined above (most notably under-reporting, and failure to take into account a diversity of income sources and productive household activities). Using household expenditure as an impact indicator is more likely to capture the consequences of household labour reallocation and other indirect household economy changes resulting from transfer receipt, including those resulting from conditionalities or from more diverse changes within the household, such as for example, benefits (or losses) resulting from increased risk-taking due to the transfer receipt. In addition, as households typically smooth consumption (expenditure) over time, analysis of expenditure impacts may give a more accurate indication of impact on household poverty, compared to income impacts which are more volatile in the short term and may not represent a household's true level of long-term well-being (Leicester et al., 2008).

A variety of approaches were adopted to capture the direct and indirect impacts of transfer receipt at household level, with some studies adopting simulation techniques, and others using advanced econometrics (including instrumental variable analysis and propensity score matching (PSM). Difference in difference (DID) methods, measuring differences in selected indicators over time and between groups, are particularly effective as they capture effects that might be measured as neutral or even negative in a cross-sectional analysis. As many anti-poverty programmes are implemented to address poor or declining economic conditions, evidence which indicates that a recipient household has not fallen into poverty, or not fallen deeper into poverty, may be an indicator of programme success. Only DID methods would be able to pick this up, by comparing outcomes to changes in the control group over time. In the same context, other methodologies unable to track changes in the broader population over time might identify either a negative impact on poverty, or no impact. Hence objective impact comparison when different methodologies are adopted is problematic, particularly given the diversity of economic contexts in which programmes are implemented.

Overall 51% of the studies did not report the statistical significance of impacts identified, (for poverty index and income studies the figure is 70%) and many adopt descriptive approaches. These describe the data quantitatively and indicate differences between the treatment and control groups, or the treatment group over time, and for this reason conclusions regarding the statistical significance of identified impacts or questions of causality are not possible, and nor are broader inferences about the population as a whole. Only studies using econometric techniques and applying regression models, can attempt to examine

statistical significance effectively<sup>7</sup>, this applies to 16 of the 17 studies using expenditure as the outcome indicator, and only around 20% of the studies using income and poverty indices.

Hence i) disparities in the measurement and definitions of poverty indices, income and expenditure adopted as impact indicators in the studies, ii) divergent methodological approaches, presenting change metrics variously in the form of absolute income levels, percentage change, log changes etc, and iii) varying data analysis techniques, with the use of panel studies, simulations, ex-post estimates, DID etc, render meta-analysis of impact, or even simple comparisons problematic, since the adoption of differing methodologies is likely to result in divergent impact findings. Hence, it is not meaningful to compare directly the magnitude of impacts (presented in Appendices 5-7) due to the divergent methodologies and assumptions underlying them. This undermines the feasibility of carrying out the meta-analysis anticipated in the systematic review process. Even in the cases where consistent technical methodologies were adopted, as measurement and definitions were still inconsistent.

### 3.3.2 A theoretical model of impact

In the previous section it was argued that the impact of the transfer on poverty at the household level may not be identical to the value of the transfer, for a variety of reasons. This section shows how a transfer may impact on household poverty (however defined) through different channels, using a standard economic utility maximisation model<sup>8</sup>. This model represents a simplified model of utility, and is presented to illustrate the complexity of the impacts of transfer receipt at household level, and the different impacts which may be anticipated in the case of UCTs on the one hand and EGSs and CCTs on the other.

It is assumed households maximise utility (well-being), see equation 1.

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Max } U(C, F) \\ &\text{with } U_C > 0 \text{ and } U_F > 0 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where  $U$  = utility,  $C$  = consumption and  $F$  = free time

Utility is derived from consumption and free time, so the more consumption - or free time - a household has the greater is household utility. Consumption is derived from work efforts, see equation 2.

$$\begin{aligned} &C = w * L \\ &\text{where } w = \text{wage and } L = \text{hours spent working} \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Free time also depends on the hours spent working, see equation 3.

$$\begin{aligned} &F(L) \\ &\text{with } F_L < 0 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Free time depends negatively on the hours spent working. This means the hours spent working affect households positively through consumption and negatively through a reduction in leisure time and households will have to find an optimum level of labour.

When a household receives a transfer 'T' this might change the utility function in three different ways. If the transfer is *small* and *unconditional*, it may only affect consumption, see equation 4.

$$U(C+T, F) \tag{4}$$

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<sup>7</sup> There are a handful of studies that measure significant differences between groups. These studies cannot draw any conclusions on causality however and this also means that not all differences between groups have been controlled for.

<sup>8</sup> Thanks to Armando Barrientos for his contribution to this section.

As equation 4 shows, consumption now depends on consumption derived from work effort and the transfer itself. It can be anticipated that the overall impact on utility will be positive. However, if the transfer is *large*, a household may decide to reduce its work effort, leading to an ambiguous impact, depending on whether the positive effect from the transfer plus more leisure outweigh the negative effect from lower wage income. Thirdly, if the transfer is *conditional* and includes a work requirement 'R' (or any other condition eg. school attendance, which takes time) which may result in the loss of free time, the overall impact on utility is even less clear, as equation 5 shows.

$$U(C(w*L(R))+T, F(L(R), R))$$

where R = work requirement/conditionality (5)

The impact on utility from this transfer is far from clear. The transfer 'T' positively affects consumption, but the work requirement 'R' negatively affects utility due to loss of free time, and may also affect time available for labour (L(R)), (reducing time spent on other paid work or domestic activities), which further complicates the measurement of impact.

A number of lessons can be drawn from this analysis. Firstly, it is not possible to make any prior assumptions on the overall impact of the transfer on utility; it may be positive, negative or neutral depending on the context and household response, the value of the transfer and associated conditionalities. Secondly, it is not possible to compare the impacts of conditional and unconditional transfers directly, because they affect utility in different ways and result in different utility functions (illustrated by the differences between equations 4 (representing UCTs) and 5 (representing CCTs or EGSs). In this way, since EGSs have a direct work requirement they are also likely to affect work effort, strengthening the case for arguing that UCTs and EGSs are not substitutes in terms of their function, and may not be meaningfully directly compared in terms of impacts. Finally, it is difficult to disentangle the causality of impacts, as the actual transfer and a possible work requirement can affect different parts of the utility function and in different directions.

### 3.3.3 Assessing quality of studies included in final analysis

The quality of the studies included in the final analysis was re-assessed for the analysis process by assigning scores to different aspects of research design. The criteria are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1. Criteria used to calculate the quality index**

	Scores	Minimum score	Maximum score
Dimension 1 - Incidence	assesses targeting incidence = high (3 quality points) does not = low (1 quality point)	1	3
Dimension 2 - Study design	RCT = high (3 quality points) econometric/simulation with control group = medium (2 quality points) descriptive statistics and no control group = low (1 quality point)	1	3
Dimension 3 - Accounting for income forgone and household economy responses	addressed= high (3 quality points) not = low (1 quality point) All studies using expenditure as the outcome indicator implicitly accommodated these responses and received 3 points for this dimension	1	3
Dimension 4 - Statistical significance	measured = high (3 quality points) not measured = low (1 quality point)	1	3
<b>Total quality score for the study</b>	Sum of scores of dimension 1-4	4	12

The quality index was calculated by summing the scores for all four quality criteria dimensions. All highs were given a score of 3, mediums a score of 2 and lows a score of 1, giving the index a maximum score of 12 and a minimum score of 4. On this basis, it was possible to compare the quality of studies by intervention and type of outcome indicator, by calculating mean scores for each.

### 3.3.4 Analysis process

The analysis process was constrained by the diversity of populations, interventions and impacts under review, and the methodological variation in the studies identified, which resulted in a lack of comparable evidence, as discussed in section 3.1 above. This rendered meta-analysis unfeasible. In the light of this alternative, and less robust analysis approaches had to be adopted.

Three discrete but interlinked analysis processes were adopted; i) vote counting of positive and negative *impacts* and significance, and ii) quality-weighted vote counting, intended to assess the frequency of positive and negative *impacts* by intervention and indicator types, and iii) making comparisons in terms of *quality* of the studies across interventions and indicator types.

The vote counting exercise classified all the studies according to impact, and was limited to a simple binary positive/negative frequency analysis, given the incomparability of size of the impact data, with all votes given equal weight. The exercise was repeated for the studies which had reported findings of statistical significance.

The weighted vote counting exercise was identical to the process outlined above, but with the impact outcomes weighted according to the quality and targeting incidence of the study.<sup>9</sup> For this exercise, studies were assessed using the methodological quality criteria, discussed in section 3.3 above, and were then given an overall weight, which was applied to the vote of the study. By comparing the weighted and unweighted scores, some insight was gained into the pattern of results. The overall weight allocated to

<sup>9</sup> Many thanks to the EPPI Centre for suggesting this.

each study was calculated by multiplying each study with a weight factor according to the overall quality ranking for the particular study:

- high on all dimensions = gold standard: \*1
- three high with no lows = high: \*0.75
- mostly mediums or mixture of highs, mediums and lows = medium: \*0.5
- three or more lows = low: \*0.25

While this weighting is arbitrary, and alternative algorithms or criteria would lead to different results, the approach adopted does enable the creation of a summary score for each study, reflecting frequency and quality.

In the third analysis process, the criteria used to measure the quality of the studies were used to create an overall quality index in order to shed light not on impacts, but on the quality of the evidence in the included studies. On this basis it was possible to compare the quality of studies by intervention and type of outcome indicator, by calculating mean scores for each.



## 4. Search results

This section gives an overview of the evidence found. The first section provides an overview of the search process and number of studies included at different stages of the review. Section 4.2 gives more detailed statistics and the results of the coding exercise of those studies included on the basis of full text. Section 4.3 lists those studies included in the final analysis.

### 4.1 Search process

The search strategy was outlined in section 3.2. Figure 1 below shows the number of documents included and excluded at each stage of the review process.

**Figure 1. The search process**<sup>10</sup>



The database searches on the basis of search strings led to the inclusion of a large number of studies (35,991). Of these 8,391 studies were duplicates<sup>11</sup> and a further 3,337 were excluded as irrelevant on the

<sup>10</sup> There are some minor inconsistencies in the totals in the top part of figure 10. These are due to a number of factors including multiple coding, duplicates being deleted but not marked as such, (e.g. a study that looks at employment outcomes may be coded twice and be excluded for two separate reasons, and problems with some aspects of the functionality of the analytical software arising from ongoing software development during the process of review implementation .

basis of the ‘not’ Boolean operator (see Appendix 3). Thus 24,263 studies were screened on the basis of title and of these 23,191 were removed on the basis of exclusion criteria. Of the 1,137 studies screened on the basis of abstract, 974 were excluded on the basis of exclusion criteria. At this stage a further 193 studies were included in the review from hand searching of websites etc, resulting in a total of 356 studies being retrieved and analysed on the basis of full text by the research managers. Of these a further 137 studies were excluded on the basis of screening criteria. Appendix 4 gives a description and detailed tables for the exclusion criteria and number of included studies at the title, abstract and full-title screening stage.

A total of 222 studies were included on the basis of full text and coded using the criteria outlined in section 3.2.4, and the complete reference list of these studies is listed in Appendix 9. At this stage the impact under review was redefined to include only studies examining money-metric poverty indicators (summary poverty indices, income and expenditure) resulting in a further 107 studies being excluded on the basis of type of impact. A further 62 studies were excluded due to insufficient sample size, the absence of a random samples or both, see section 3.2.5. Forty four studies remained which were included on the basis of addressing money-metric outcome indicators and adequate data quality. Seven of these studies used data sets which had been used in other included studies and analysed the same impact indicators. These studies were therefore excluded, resulting in 37 studies being included in the final review. These are referred to as studies included in the final analysis in this review.

## 4.2 Studies included on the basis of full text

The 222 studies included on the basis of full text were coded using three different categories: i) type of intervention; ii) dimension of poverty measured and iii) characteristics of the dataset.

Table 2 shows the number of included studies by the type of intervention they describe.

**Table 2. Studies by type of intervention**

Type of Intervention	Count*
1. Employment Guarantee Schemes (EGSs) & Cash Transfers (CTs)	3
2. Employment Guarantee Schemes (EGSs)	40
3. Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs)	122
4. Unconditional Cash Transfers (UCTs)	73

\*Some studies analysed more than one intervention, so the count of this table adds up to more than 222.

Only 3 of the 222 studies discussed both EGSs and CTs, with the remaining studies analysing either one or other intervention. Since none of the three studies discussing both interventions were primary empirical studies, the two types of interventions were considered separately in the subsequent analysis. There are significantly more studies on CTs than EGSs, reflecting the relative frequency of programme implementation. The CT literature distinguishes between conditional cash transfers (CCTs) and unconditional cash transfers (UCTs), and the studies were coded accordingly. Studies on CCTs account for more than half of all included studies.

Ten different dimensions of poverty were identified in the 222 studies, with the majority focusing on education and health outcomes. The number of included studies by type of impact is shown in table 3.

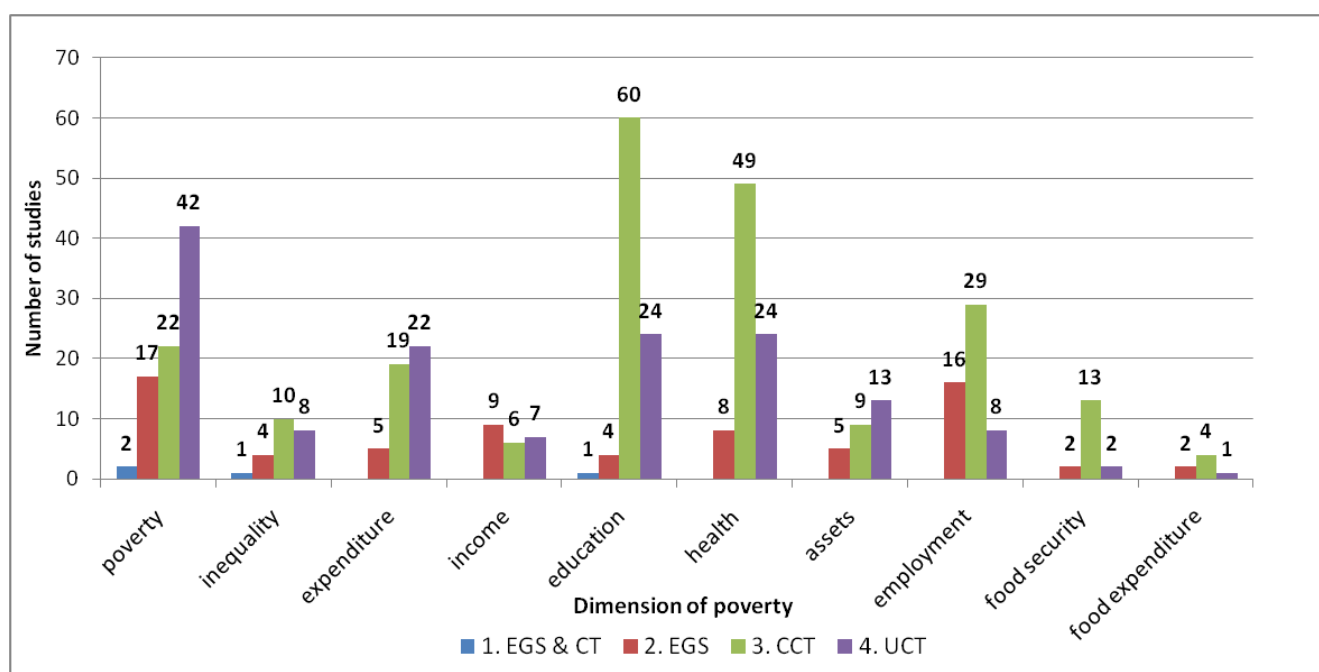
<sup>11</sup> These were articles with identical titles and authors. In later screening stages less easily identifiable duplicates (eg. with differently spelt authors’ names) were still found and excluded.

**Table 3. Studies by dimension of poverty**

Dimension of poverty	Count
1. Impact on poverty (variously defined by authors)	78
2. Impact on inequality	19
3. Impact on expenditure	47
4. Impact on income	25
5. Impact on education	86
6. Impact on health	80
7. Impact on assets	25
8. Impact on employment	54
9. Impact on food security/calorific consumption	18
10. Impact on food expenditure	8

The most frequently addressed dimensions of poverty in the studies were education and health, (86 and 80 respectively) with a similar number (78) examining impacts on generalised indices of money-metric poverty.

Figure 2 illustrates the frequency of studies by the dimensions of poverty measured and intervention type.

**Figure 2. Frequency of studies by dimensions of poverty and intervention type**


Note: Poverty refers to summary poverty indices, such as FGT, probability of being poor etc

The frequency of studies measuring education, health and employment impacts is high. This is explained in part by the large number of studies on high-profile conditional cash transfer programmes in Latin America (such as the Oportunidades programme in Mexico, formerly known as Progres, and the Bolsa Familia in Brazil) which analyse impacts on education and health reflecting the specific conditionalities associated with these programmes. Studies examining unconditional cash transfers focus more on the impact on poverty. Hence evidence for the two different types of cash transfer is skewed towards different dimensions of poverty, limiting the potential for direct comparisons. The EGS studies focus primarily on poverty and employment.

The quality of the 222 studies varied significantly. The studies were coded according to the characteristics of the data, which was assessed on the basis of the survey methodology adopted using the criteria described in section 3.2.4. Table 4 shows the number of studies meeting each data criterion.

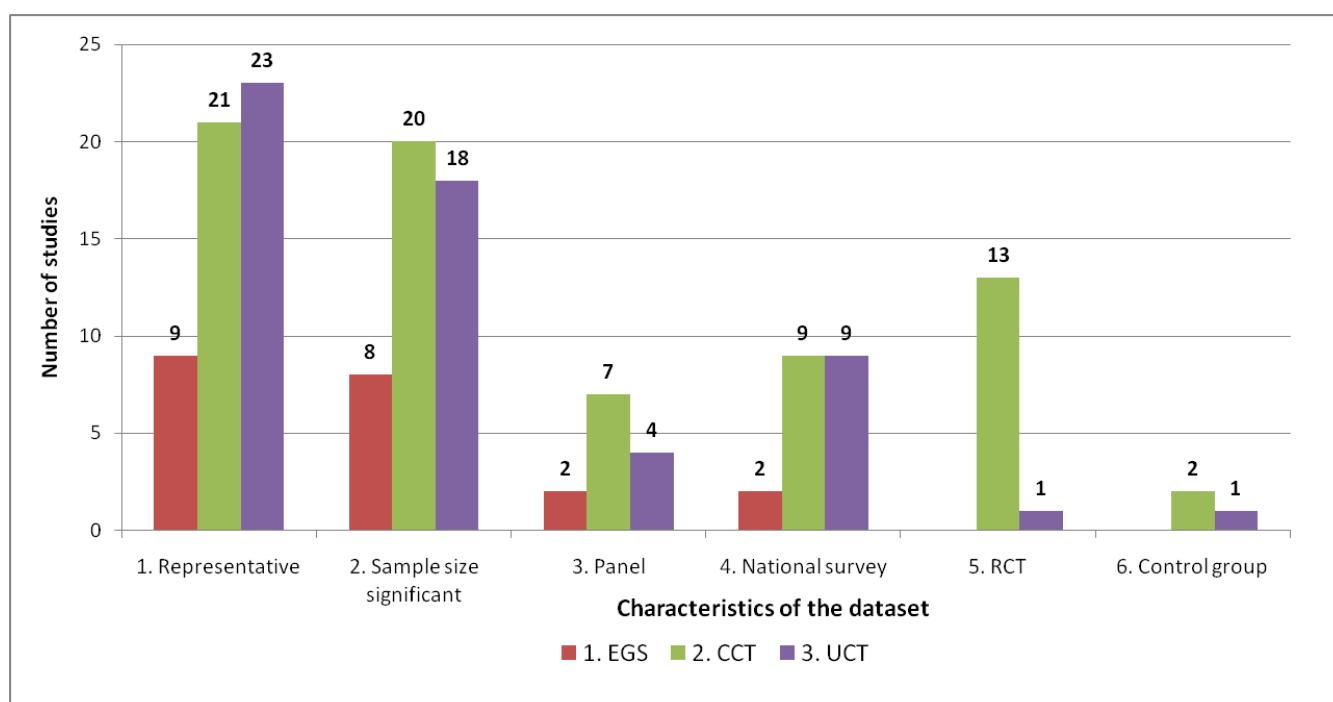
**Table 4. Number of studies meeting each data criterion**

Quality Criterion (not exclusive)	Count
1. Random sample	52
2. Adequate sample size	45
3. Panel data	13
4. National survey (or similar)	19
5. Randomised Control Trial	14
6. Control group	32

Fifty two studies were based on representative random sample and of these 45 had an adequate sample size. Only 19 studies were implemented by statistical offices, or were directly comparable with national surveys, (following the official questionnaire, sample frame etc). Thirty two studies had a control group and 14 were part of a randomised controlled trial.

The quality of the dataset by intervention type is illustrated in Figure 3.

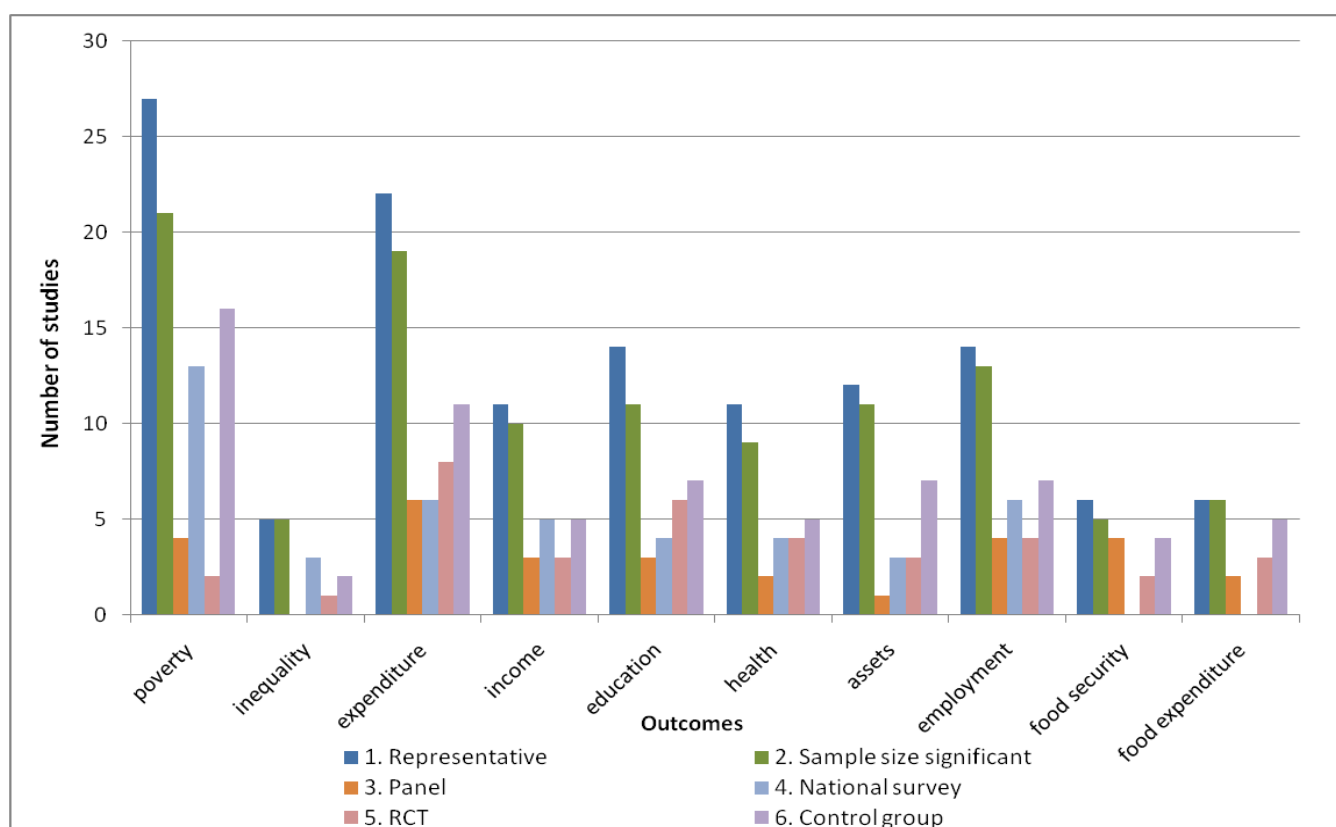
**Figure 3. Studies by characteristics of the dataset and intervention type\***



\* None of the 3 studies comparing EGS and CTs used datasets of sufficient quality to be included in this figure.

With one exception, all the randomised controlled trial studies were on CCTs. A high number of cash transfer studies used representative datasets with a sufficiently high sample size. For EGS the number of studies using high quality datasets was much lower.

Figure 4 shows the frequency of studies by quality of the dataset and dimensions of poverty measured.

**Figure 4. Studies by type of characteristics of the dataset and outcomes measured**


Note: Poverty refers to summary poverty indices, such as FGT or the probability of being poor

The figure shows that a larger number of studies examining poverty indices and expenditure impacts meet more data quality criteria, than those examining other impacts. The studies on food security and inequality meet fewer of the dataset criteria.

### 4.3 Studies included in the final analysis

In order to increase the likelihood of being able to make meaningful comparisons between the studies in line with the systematic review methodology, the number of studies included on the basis of full text (222) was reduced to only those examining money-metric poverty outcome measures (poverty indices, expenditure and income) and meeting two of the quality criteria; using representative datasets with a sufficient number of observations (see section 3.2.5). This resulted in 44 studies meeting the initial inclusion criteria, having the relevant outcome indicator and being of sufficiently high quality. Seven further studies were excluded due to their use of duplicate datasets, resulting in 37 studies being included in the final analysis.

Table 5 lists the studies included in the final analysis (full reference details are listed in Appendix 9).

**Table 5. Final list of studies included**

No	Name of authors	Year	Journal/ Publisher	Country	Intervention (CT)	Intervention (EGS)	Impact Indicator
1	Agostini & Brown	2007	Ilades-Universidad Alberto Hurtado	Chile	Various (UCT) Chile Solidario (CCT)	-	Poverty index
2	Angelucci & Attanasio	2009	Economic Development and Cultural Change	Mexico	Progresa (CCT)	-	Expenditure
3	Ardington & Lund	1995	Development Southern Africa	South Africa	Social pension & disability grant (UCT)	-	Income
4	Attanasio & Mesnard	2006	Fiscal Studies	Columbia	Familias en Accion (CCT)	-	Expenditure
5	Barrientos	2005	CPRC Working Paper	Brazil & South Africa	Social pension, Previdência Rural & Renda Mensual Vitalícia (UCT)	-	Poverty index
6	Case & Deaton	1998	The Economic Journal	South Africa	Social pension (UCT)	-	Income & expenditure
7	Cerami	2003	Luxembourg Income Study	Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia	Various (UCT)	-	Poverty index
8	Clement	2007	International Social Security Association	Russia	Various (UCT)	-	Poverty index & expenditure
9	Coady, Olinto & Caldes	2004	IFPRI	Honduras	PRAF (CCT)	-	Expenditure
10	Dabalén, Kilic & Wane	2008	WB Working Paper	Albania	Social pension & Ndihma Ekonomike (UCT)	-	Poverty index
11	Dammert	2009	Economic Development and Cultural Change	Nicaragua	Red de Protección Social (CCT)	-	Expenditure
12	Davis, Handa, Ruiz-Arranz, Stampini & Winters	2002	ESA working paper	Mexico	Progresa & Procambo (CCT)	-	Expenditure
13	Devereux		ESCOR Report, IDS	Namibia	Social pension (UCT)	-	Income
14	Dey	2010	ISS Working Paper	India		NREGA	Income & expenditure
15	Edmonds & Schady	2008	WB Working Paper	Ecuador	Bono de Desarrollo Humano (UCT)	-	Expenditure
16	Freije, Bando & Arce	2006	Economía	Mexico	Oportunidades (CCT)	-	Poverty index
17	Gaiha & Imai	2010	International Review of Applied Economics	India	-	Maharashtra Employment Guarantee Scheme	Poverty index
18	Galasso & Ravallion	2004	WB Economic Review	Argentina	-	Jefes de Hogar	Poverty index & income
19	Galasso	2006	Development Research Group, WB	Chile	Chile Solidario (CCT)	-	Income

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

No	Name of authors	Year	Journal/ Publisher	Country	Intervention (CT)	Intervention (EGS)	Impact Indicator
20	Gertler, Martinez & Rubio-Codina	2006	WB Working Paper	Mexico	Oportunidades (CCT)	-	Expenditure
21	Gilligan, Hoddinott, Kumar & Taffesse	2009	IFPRI	Ethiopia	-	Productive Safety Nets Programme	Expenditure
22	Gilligan, Hoddinott & Taffesse	2008	IFPRI	Ethiopia	-	Productive Safety Nets Programme	Expenditure
23	Gitter & Caldes	2010	Towson University Working Paper Series	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)	-	Expenditure
24	Gitter	2006	University of Wisconsin and Madison	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)	-	Expenditure
25	Habibov & Fan	2007	International Social Security Review	Azerbaijan	Various (UCT)	-	Poverty index
26	Handa, Huerta, Perez Raul & Straffon	2001	FCND Discussion Paper	Mexico	Progresas (CCT)	-	Poverty index
27	Hoddinott, Skoufias & Washburn	2000	IFPRI	Mexico	Progresas (CCT)	-	Expenditure
28	Hodges et al	2007	Maastricht University of Governance Working Paper	Mongolia	Child benefit (UCT)	-	Poverty index
29	Leibbrandt et al	2010	OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Papers	South Africa	Social pension & child benefit (UCT)	-	Poverty index
30	Maitra & Ray	2003	Journal of Development Economics	South Africa	Social pension (UCT)	-	Poverty index
31	Maluccio	2005	IFPRI Discussion Paper	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)	-	Expenditure
32	Maluccio	2010	Journal of Development Studies	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)	-	Expenditure
33	Maluccio & Flores	2005	IFPRI Research Report	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)	-	Expenditure
34	McCord	2009	University of Cape Town	South Africa	-	Zibambele	Poverty index
35	Miller, Tsoka & Reichert		Boston University School of Public Health	Malawi	Social cash transfer (UCT)	-	Expenditure
36	Osório	2008	IPC-IG Working Paper	Honduras	PRAF and others (CCT)	-	Poverty index
37	Ravi & Engler	2009	Indian School of Business	India	-	NREGA	Expenditure
38	Samson et al	2004	Economic and Policy Research Institute	South Africa	Various (UCT)	-	Poverty index
39	Schuering & Michelo	2007	GTZ report	Zambia	Social cash transfer (UCT)	-	Income & Expenditure
40	Seaman, Petty & Kambewa	2008	Vulnerability Assessment Committee	Malawi	Social cash transfer (UCT)	-	Income
41	Skoufias & Di Maro	2008	Journal of Development Studies	Mexico	Progresas (CCT)	-	Poverty index

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No	Name of authors	Year	Journal/ Publisher	Country	Intervention (CT)	Intervention (EGS)	Impact Indicator
42	Skoufias, Lindert & Shapiro	2009	UNU-Wider Research Paper	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico & Peru	Various (UCT & social insurance)	-	Poverty index
43	Tembo & Freeland	2010	Wahenga Brief	Zambia	Social cash transfer (UCT)	-	Income & expenditure
44	USAID	2007	USAID	Armenia	Social pension & child benefit (UCT)	-	Poverty index

Note: Highlighted studies have been excluded from the final analysis because of their use of duplicate datasets



## 5. Key Findings and Discussion

In this section the key findings from the 37 studies addressing the impact of employment guarantee schemes and cash transfers on the poor are outlined. The quality of the studies is assessed, and the impacts of cash transfers (CTs) and employment guarantee schemes (EGSs) on each of the three money-metric outcome measures (poverty indices, income and expenditure) are examined in turn, along with the statistical significance of the impacts identified. Vote counting techniques are employed to identify the frequency of studies finding positive and negative impacts, and their significance, and in a second round of analysis, the votes are weighted according to methodological quality criteria. A poverty increase/decrease ratio was calculated to enable a comparison of the frequency of positive and negative findings to be made across intervention and outcome measure types. Both quality and impact findings are disaggregated by indicator (poverty indices, income and expenditure) and also by type of intervention, and some general conclusions are drawn from the findings regarding the quality of the evidence base on CT and EGS impacts on poverty.

### 5.1 Impacts on poverty indices

The impact of CTs and EGSs was measured using summary poverty indices in 19 studies. Of these, one examined the same outcome indicators using the same dataset and methodology and was therefore excluded from the analysis. The following analysis is based on the remaining 18 studies. Detailed information on these papers is included in Appendix 5. The most frequent index adopted in these studies was the Foster-Greer-Thorbecke (FGT) index (adopted in 17 of the studies). FGT analysis has three sub-components, the poverty head-count ratio ( $P_0$ ) measuring the proportion of the population below the poverty line, the poverty gap ratio ( $P_1$ ), measuring the mean gap between the income of the poor and the poverty line, and the poverty gap squared ( $P_2$ ), a weighted index of the poverty gap, giving greater weighting to the poor. In the one study not adopting FGT indices, impact was measured by a change in poverty type.

Seven of the studies were on Latin American programmes, six on Eastern and Central European programmes, five on sub-Saharan African programmes and one on South Asia (India). Three studies were on EGSs and 16 on CTs, of which 13 were on UCTs and three on CCTs. Thirteen of the studies assessed targeting incidence (whether the intervention reached the poor), and 11 of these conclude that programmes were successfully targeted at the poor. Sample sizes varied enormously between studies, from a few hundred respondents, to 3-4000, and the whole population in one case. Sixteen of the studies carried out the analysis at household level. Only four studies included a control group, against which to contextualise the FGT findings.

The methods and assumptions adopted in the studies varied widely. Ten studies used descriptive statistics, describing the data quantitatively and showing differences between groups. These studies cannot be used to address questions of causality or make inferences about the population as a whole, and can only offer conclusions pertaining to the sample included in the survey. Seven studies used micro-simulation techniques and six studies used econometric analysis. Only four studies compared findings for recipient households with those of similar households not in receipt of a benefit. Given the influence assumptions can have on the magnitude, sign and necessary interpretation of impacts, as discussed in section 3.3.1, it is important to understand the key assumptions underlying the analysis, and in particular whether household economy impacts and income forgone have been taken into account and on what basis these have been calculated. Twelve of the 19 studies (63%) did not account for household economy impacts or income forgone, five studies considered income forgone, and one attempted to include household economy impacts only.

Seventeen of the studies measured impacts using either all three FGT indices (7 studies) or partial FGT indices (only FGT<sub>0</sub> or FGT<sub>1</sub>) (10 studies). Of those studies using the FGT indices, 11 did not account for household economy impacts or income forgone. Five considered income forgone and one took account of household economy impacts. Six adopted econometric analysis, seven simulation techniques and nine descriptive statistics. Fourteen of the studies based their analysis on household income, and four on expenditure. Unfortunately due to inconsistencies in methodology, intervention and population a meta-analysis of these findings was not possible, despite the adoption of a common impact indicator.

All studies were assessed on the basis of a quality score- which ranges from a minimum score of 4 to a maximum of 12 (see section 3.3.3 for an explanation of the criteria on which this was based). A detailed summary of the studies in terms of the quality criteria is provided in the second table in Appendix 5. Table 6 below gives the mean quality score of the poverty index studies by type of intervention.

**Table 6. Mean quality of studies assessing poverty index impacts, by intervention**

	CTs	UCTs	CCTs	EGSs
Average quality	7.5	6.9	8	8
Number of studies	16	13	3	3

The EGS studies were of higher quality than the CT studies overall. When the CT studies were disaggregated, CCT studies were found to be on a par with EGS studies in terms of quality, but UCT studies were of a significantly lower quality.

A vote counting exercise was conducted to calculate the frequency of positive and negative impacts on FGT indices reported in the studies, by intervention, with all votes counted equally. At this stage a complete picture of all studies is presented; statistical significance was not considered due to the low number of studies testing for this<sup>12</sup>. The results are presented in Table 7.

**Table 7. Unweighted vote counting exercise for studies assessing poverty index impacts**

	All	CTs	EGSs
Poverty increases	1	1	0
Poverty decreases	17	15	3
Ratio decrease/ increase	17.0	15.0	3

Seventeen of the 18 studies in total documented a decrease in poverty, although in only three cases was the impact reported to be statistically significant. Significance was not measured in the remaining 14 studies. One study found a significant increase in poverty (Dabalén, Kilic & Wane, 2008). This study on two Albanian unconditional cash transfer programmes found that poverty amongst Ndihme Ekonomika recipients increased due to negative labour supply effects in urban areas. It is interesting to note that the quality of this study was high. The poverty increase/decrease ratio for these poverty index studies was high.

In order to assess the relationship between the findings and the quality of the methodologies adopted the vote counting exercise was repeated using votes weighted using the methodological quality criteria, including testing for statistical significance. The results are shown in table 8.

<sup>12</sup> Only including those studies that test for statistical significance would imply that one would not be able to calculate the decrease/ increase ratio due to missing numerators/ denominators.

**Table 8. Weighed vote counting exercise for studies assessing poverty index impacts**

	All	CTs	EGSs
Poverty increases	0.75	0.75	0
Poverty decreases	7.75	6.25	1.5
Ratio decrease/ increase	10.3	8.3	1.5

When quality is taken into account in the vote counting exercise, the decrease/increase ratio is lower. This is because the single study finding a poverty increase was of higher quality (achieving a score of 0.75 out of 1) than the other CT studies which identified poverty decreases. However, while this illustrates the potential insights which can be gained from comparing weighted and non-weighted frequency data, it is not possible to generalise from this single finding.

None of the three EGS studies measured significance, and of the three studies in which significance was measured, and found, two were UCTs and one a CCT. The magnitude of impacts varied considerably, (see Appendix 5) but cannot be compared across studies due to the divergent methodologies adopted.

Of the three studies which did consider statistical significance, and found a significant impact on poverty reduction, only one took account of household economy or income forgone. Most of the studies did not measure statistical significance or account for household economy impacts changes or income forgone, a factor which is particularly important given that 14 of the studies were based in income, rather than expenditure data. These factors render the results from the poverty index studies somewhat unsatisfactory.

## 5.2 Impacts on income indicators

The evidence from studies exploring income impacts were analysed following the same approach as with the poverty index studies. Appendix 6 provides an overview table with detailed information on these studies.

Ten studies analysed the impact of EGSs and CTs on income.<sup>13</sup> All 10 considered targeting incidence and in nine the programmes were found to be targeted to the poor. These studies were predominantly on cash transfer programmes in the sub-Saharan Africa region, with seven studies on programmes in sub-Saharan Africa, two in Latin America and one in South Asia (India). Eight of the ten studies were on CTs (seven on UCTs and one on CCTs) and two on EGSs. The study sample sizes varied enormously, from a few hundred respondents, to 73,000 households. All studies focused on household-level income and five studies included control groups.

Eight of the studies used changes in income (variously defined) as their main indicator. One examined the contribution of pension income to total household income and a further study analysed changes in the distribution of income. All ten studies used a diversity of sources of household income, rather than just wage income (albeit measured in different ways), although in two studies only household cash income (e.g. wage income, transfers, income from selling household produce etc) was taken into account. Not all were explicit about the units of measurement adopted, such as the period over which income was measured (eg annual, monthly), the level of analysis (per capita or household income), or whether it was reported in level or log form. Even where units of measurement were clearly defined they were not consistent, rendering comparison of outcomes between studies problematic.

Compared to the studies looking at the impact of transfer receipt on poverty indices, the income studies had a stronger tendency to use econometric methods, with six out of ten using econometric analysis. Four

<sup>13</sup> One study analysed both a UCT and a CCT, making the total number of interventions examined in the ten studies 11.

studies used descriptive statistics, and so were limited to offering evidence limited to the sample population in the study rather than the broader population. In terms of assumptions, six of the studies did not take into account either household economy impacts of transfer receipt, or income forgone. One study considered both using the difference-in-difference methodology, while two addressed income forgone using propensity-score-matching (PSM) techniques to create a control and another study addressed household economy responses to the transfer by applying instrumental variable analysis.

All ten studies were given a quality score on the basis of the quality dimensions described in section 3.3.3. An overview of the quality scores for each study is given in the second table in Appendix 6. Table 9 below gives the mean quality score of the poverty index studies by type of intervention.

**Table 9. Mean quality of studies assessing income impacts, by intervention**

	CTs	UCTs	CCTs	EGSs
Average quality	7.9	6.7	9	10.5
Number of studies	8	7	1	2

With a mean score of 10.5, the two EGS studies were of significantly higher quality than the CT studies particularly those examining the impact of UCT programmes, where the quality was poor (6.7).

A vote counting exercise was conducted to calculate the frequency of positive and negative impacts as measured through income in the studies, by intervention, with all votes counted equally. At this stage, a complete picture of all studies will be presented and statistical significance was not considered due to the low number of studies testing for statistical significance. The results are presented in Table 10.

**Table 10. Unweighted vote counting exercise for studies assessing income impacts**

	All	CTs	EGSs
Income decreases	4	3	1
Income increases	7	6	1
Ratio increase/ decrease	1.8	2.0	1.0

The vote counting exercise indicated a significant number of negative income impacts among both CTs and EGSs. Overall, seven studies found that the intervention led to an increase in income and four studies found statistically significant decreases. The mean increase/decrease ratio is 1.8, considerably lower than in the case of the poverty index outcomes. There are several possible reasons why a transfer might be found to have a negative effect on income. This could be an artefact of income forgone in the case of EGSs or CCTs requiring school attendance and hence a reduction in child labour income, or other time costs related to CCT participation<sup>14</sup>. In terms of study design a too narrow measure of income (e.g. only considering only wage or cash income) could potentially skew the results, failing to take adequate account of total household income, including in-kind, own production or gift-based income. The low increase/decrease ratio could also be a consequence of the fact that income indicators are associated with studies examining programmes of limited efficacy (the programmes adopting this approach were predominantly sub-Saharan African UCTs, compared to the largely Latin American and East and Central European UCT programmes using poverty indices, with the far higher increase/decrease ratio), but given the limited number of studies available, it is not possible to assess the relative weights of the different factors that are driving this difference.

<sup>14</sup> CCT conditionalities can require participation in activities such as attending health information sessions, which reduce time available in a household for engagement in other forms of income generating activity.

Only three of the ten income studies tested for significance, two of which found significant effects, both decreases (one for a UCT and one for an EGS). Given the limited number of studies, it is not possible to generalise from these findings.

Six CT studies found that CT receipt resulted in income increases (none of which were significant) and three decreases (one significant). Disaggregated by intervention, five UCT studies found that UCT receipt resulted in an increase in income and two that receipt resulted in a decrease in income (one of which was significant).

The overall CT increase/decrease ratio was 2, very low, indicating that for every two positive impacts on income, there was one negative. For CCTs one study found a positive and the other a negative impact, neither of which was significant. Similarly in the case of EGSs one study found a positive and one a negative effect, with only the negative effect being significant.

As shown above, the studies were of varying quality. In order to assess the relationship between the findings and the quality of the methodologies adopted the vote counting exercise was repeated, using votes weighted according to the methodological quality criteria. The results are shown in Table 11.

**Table 11. Weighed vote counting exercise for income studies**

	All	CTs	EGSs
Income decreases	2	1.25	0.75
Income increases	2.5	1.75	0.75
Ratio increase/ decrease	1.3	1.4	1.0

When quality was taken into account in the vote counting exercise, the evidence on income impacts became less positive. The decrease/increase ratio fell from 1.8 to 1.3 overall, driven by a fall from 2 to 1.4 for CTs, with EGSs remaining constant at 1. This indicates that when quality weights were applied almost as many studies found a negative impact on income as positive, since the studies identifying income increases were of relatively lower quality than those finding decreases.

The vote counting exercise revealed that a number of the impacts identified using income indicators were negative. Seven of the ten studies offering data on income changes indicated positive results in terms of income, but these studies were generally of low quality, and the one study which tested for significance found that the result was not statistically significant. Four of the ten studies indicated a negative impact on income and these were generally of higher quality (three ranked high quality, one low), with three testing for significance, of which two were significant. The three studies testing for significance were all of high quality, whereas those that did not were mainly of low quality. One key reason for finding negative income impacts could be that income forgone exceeded the value of additional income through the transfer or wage; recipients favouring predictable and regular EGS income over potentially higher but erratic income was reported in the NREGA study, and the loss of income due to a reduction in child labour, in the case of the CCT in Ecuador. This argument is strengthened by the fact that studies on unconditional cash transfers report a higher rate of positive effects than CCT or EGS studies. UCTs are less likely to result in income forgone than CCTs or EGSs with their conditions and work requirements. However, these results have to be treated with caution, as statistical significance was not measured in seven out of the ten studies, and the number of studies is low.

### 5.3 Impacts on expenditure indicators

Twenty-three studies examined the impact of CTs and EGSs on expenditure. Six of the studies used datasets and methodologies which had been used by other studies included in the review, and were for this reason excluded from the following analysis.<sup>15</sup> Appendix 7 provides an overview table with detailed information on these studies. The evidence from these studies was analysed using the approach adopted in the poverty index and income based studies.

Seven of the studies were on Latin American programmes, five on sub-Saharan African programmes, two on Eastern and Central European programmes, and two on South Asian programmes (India). Of these three were on EGSs and 14 on CTs (six on UCTs and eight on CCTs). Ten of the studies did not assess targeting incidence, but of the seven which did, six were found to target the poor successfully, and one did not. All but three studies had large sample sizes, exceeding 1,000 households. One study was longitudinal, seven studies were randomised controlled trials (RCT) and 14 of the studies included controls. All studies considered household level expenditure.

The methodologies adopted and assumptions made in the studies varied, but to a lesser degree than in the case of studies exploring poverty index or income impacts. The quality of study design in the expenditure studies was much higher than for those assessing the other two impacts. Only one study used descriptive statistics, and all the others used econometric analysis, deriving results that were representative for the broader population. Eight studies used difference-in-difference methods, five propensity score matching and the others use a range of other analyses.

The studies were scored using the quality criteria set out in section 3.3.3 (for detail on the methodological criteria and scores for each study see the second table in Appendix 7). Table 12 gives the mean quality scores for the expenditure impact studies by type of intervention.

**Table 12. Average quality of studies, by intervention for expenditure outcome measure**

	CTs	UCTs	CCTs	EGSs
Average quality	9.9	9.6	10.3	9
Number of studies	17	6	8	3

The quality of studies on CCT programmes was the highest, followed by UCTs and EGSs.

All but one of the studies used changes in household expenditure as their main indicator, with one looking at changes in expenditure distribution. Fourteen measured total expenditure, but four considered only expenditure on food. Expenditure was measured in different ways, and not all studies clearly stated the units of measurement adopted or used them consistently (as discussed in section 3.2.1). Due to these differences, the magnitude of impacts can not be meaningfully compared between studies.

As for studies assessing the impact on the basis of the poverty index and income indicators, a vote counting exercise was conducted to calculate the frequency of positive and negative impacts as measured through expenditure, by intervention, with all votes are counted equally. The results are presented in Table 13.

<sup>15</sup> Three studies used the same data sets and methodologies in relation to the CCT *Red de Proteccion Social* in Nicaragua, two were on the CCT *Oportunidades* in Mexico and one on the EGS *Productive Safety Net Programme* in Ethiopia. In each case the highest quality study was included in the review.

**Table 13. Unweighted vote counting exercise for assessing expenditure impacts**

	All	CTs	EGSs
Expenditure decreases	5	4	1
Expenditure increases	16	14	2
Ratio increase/decrease	3.2	3.5	2.0

Note: As some studies look at more than one CT programme, the total number of interventions adds up to more than 17.

For all interventions combined, 16 resulted in an increase in expenditure (11 of which were significant), and five resulted in a decrease in expenditure, (two of which were significant). The overall increase/ decrease ratio of 3.2 means that, in studies using this indicator, for every three programmes with a positive impact, one had a negative impact.

For EGSs the increase/decrease ratio was only 2, but with a small number of studies. The two studies that found EGSs resulted in an increase in expenditure were both significant, as was the study finding a negative effect. Interestingly, the two NREGA studies found contrary expenditure impacts, one positive and one negative, and both were significant. However, they used samples from different states, and the result may reflect variations in programme implementation performance, as NREGA implementation has not been equally successful in all states.

Fourteen of the studies on cash transfers found an increase in expenditure (nine of which were significant) and four a decrease, with the one significant study being the Albanian study (Dabalen et al., 2008) discussed in section 5.2. The overall increase/decrease ratio for CTs was 3.5. Disaggregated by CT type, of the seven UCT studies, five found an increase in expenditure (three of which were significant) and three found a decrease (one being significant). Of the seven CCT studies, seven found a positive and significant impact and only one a negative impact (for non-food expenditure) which was not significant. All the CCT studies were on Latin American programmes, reflecting the popularity of this form of intervention in the region.

As with the other indicators, the vote counting exercise was repeated using quality weighted votes. The results are shown in Table 14.

**Table 14. Weighed vote counting exercise for expenditure studies**

	All	CTs	EGSs
Expenditure decreases	3.25	2.5	0.75
Expenditure increases	9.25	8.25	1
Ratio increase/ decrease	2.8	3.3	1.3

The weighted vote counting exercise shows that the increase/decrease ratio for CTs is still fairly high, suggesting that the studies finding positive impacts are generally of higher quality. For EGS studies however, the ratio decreases more significantly, suggesting that the quality of the EGS studies finding positive impacts is of lower quality than those finding negative.

Overall the majority of cash transfers and employment guarantee schemes were found to result in positive impacts on expenditure, although 25% of the studies found negative impacts. The evidence for positive impacts of cash transfer programmes on expenditure is strong, in terms of the number of studies, the quality of the studies, and the ratio of positive to negative impacts, particularly for CCTs. It may be that these positive impacts for CTs are an artefact of the fact that CT expenditure impacts have been studied

frequently using similar high quality methodologies, and that expenditure indicators tend to capture more positive impacts than other indicators.

### 5.4 Synthesis of key quality and impact findings

It was not possible to carry out a meta-analysis of the findings to synthesise impact evidence for any of the interventions due to the limitations set out in section 3.3.1, relating to inconsistencies in population, intervention, impact and methodology across the studies, and nor was it possible to make comparisons of the magnitude of impacts identified. This represents a significant challenge, severely limiting analytical options.

Furthermore, the poverty incidence of interventions, (the extent to which programmes successfully targeted the poor), and the statistical significance of findings, were only discussed in a limited number of studies. Only 21 of the 37 unique studies assessed poverty incidence, undermining the feasibility of drawing conclusions on the impact of interventions on the poor. Among the 21 studies which did assess incidence, 18 found that the intervention was successfully targeted to the poor (although the criteria applied to assess this were not always transparent or consistent). Only 16 studies assessed the statistical significance of the findings presented. If the review had been limited to the subset of studies on i) effectively poverty targeted programmes (18 in total), and ii) which offered of statistically significant findings, (16 in total) the total review set would have been extremely small (6 studies).

Notwithstanding these limits some broad insights into i) the quality of the evidence available, and ii) impact can be gained by examining the evidence in relation to the three poverty indicators and the different types of intervention (UCTs, CCTs and EGSs), and by cross-tabulating them.

#### 5.4.1 Study quality

Most studies adopted just one of the three indicators (an overview of the impact evidence for all indicators is presented in Appendix 8). Table 15 shows mean study quality by outcome indicator, confirming the findings in the previous section that there is a correlation between study quality and the indicators adopted.

**Table 15. Mean study quality level by outcome measure**

Indicator	Mean score	Number of studies
Poverty Index	7.3	18
Income	7.7	10
Expenditure	9.8	17

Studies adopting expenditure indicators are on average of higher quality than poverty index and income studies, suggesting that the impacts identified in the expenditure studies may be more reliable. This may reflect the fact that higher quality studies would choose to use expenditure as an indicator in preference to income, as expenditure is a more robust indicator of change in money-metric poverty, incorporating changes in household labour allocations and economic activity resulting from transfer receipt which might not be captured by income-based indicators, particularly in contexts where income may be irregular.

Mean study quality by intervention is shown in Table 16.



**Table 16. Mean study quality level by intervention**

Indicator	Mean score	Number of studies
CT	8.4	33
UCT	7.3	21
CCT	9.4	12
EGS	8.5	6

Note: See section 3.3.3 for an explanation of how the quality index was calculated. The index ranges from 4-12.

Table 16 shows that while the mean quality scores for CT and EGS studies are similar, the quality of studies analysing the impacts of UCTs are significantly lower across all studies than those for CCTs, with EGSs falling between the two.

Mean study quality level by intervention and outcome indicator is shown in Table 17.

**Table 17. Mean quality level by intervention**

	UCT	CCT	EGSs
Poverty Index	6.9	8	8
Income	6.7	9	10.5
Expenditure	9.6	10.3	9

Note: See section 3.3.3 for an explanation of how the quality index was calculated. The index ranges from 4-12.

Table 17 indicates that studies into the impact of UCTs are of lower quality, across all outcome measures, with studies adopting poverty index and income indicators scoring particularly badly, and expenditure significantly higher. CCT and EGS studies are of higher quality, across most indicators, with CCT studies using expenditure indicators and EGS studies using income indicators being the highest quality studies, although given the limited number of EGS studies these results need to be considered with caution.

#### 5.4.2 Impact

The review revealed that while 39 studies<sup>16</sup> found positive impacts from either CT or EGS participation, there were 9 instances of negative impacts, indicating that the evidence relating to the impact of cash transfers and EGS on money-metric poverty indicators is not exclusively positive. The ratio of positive to negative impacts identified varied by intervention and indicator. It was consistently higher for cash transfers than EGS across all indicators, but the low number of EGS studies means that it is not possible to draw general conclusions from this finding.

Only 60% of the studies found a positive impact on income poverty when this was assessed on the basis of income indicators. The weighted vote counting exercise resulted in an increase/decrease ratio of only 1.4 for CTs and 1 for EGSs, reflecting the fact that for each study identifying positive impacts, one identified negative impacts. However, given the relatively low quality of income studies, and limited number of EGS studies, these results have to be treated with caution.

The evidence from expenditure impacts was more positive for both CTs and EGSs, with the weighted vote counting exercise resulting in increase/decrease ratios of 5.2 and 1.3 respectively, with the performance of CTs being stronger in terms of frequency of positive to negative impacts.

<sup>16</sup> The total number of impacts found is greater than 37 as some studies looked at more than one cash transfer and used more than one poverty indicator.

For studies adopting poverty index indicators the weighted ratios were 7.7 and 1.5 respectively, indicating even stronger relative performance by CTs compared to EGSs in terms of the frequency of positive to negative findings. The weighted vote counting suggests that cash transfers have the greatest frequency of positive, compared to negative positive impacts on the basis of the increase/decrease ratio, particularly CCTs, and it is for these studies that evidence is of highest quality, although the limited number of EGS studies limits the potential for drawing general conclusions regarding the relative performance of each intervention.

Despite the adoption of quality criteria for study inclusion in the final review, the quality of the studies reviewed still varied widely, and Table 18 compares the quality of the studies by positive and negative impact.

**Table 18. Mean quality of study by positive/negative impact**

	Poverty Index		Income		Expenditure	
	Mean score	n	Mean score	n	Mean score	n
Negative impact	11	1	8.7	3	10.2	5
Positive impact	7	17	7.5	8	9.7	14

While the number of instances of negative impacts (9) was lower than those finding positive impacts (39), the quality of the studies finding negative impacts was higher across all three indicators, suggesting that there is no correlation between the identification of negative impact and poor study quality.

When statistical significance is taken into account, only five of the nine studies finding a negative impact were significant, and 14 of the 39 finding a positive impact. These findings are shown in Table 19, which sets out the number of studies with statistically significant impacts by indicator.

**Table 19. Number of significant negative and positive impacts by indicator**

	Poverty Index	Income	Expenditure
Negative impact	1	2	2
Positive impact	3	0	11

While the fact that both negative and positive impacts were found to be significant is of interest, the limited number of studies addressing significance in both cases suggests that conclusions drawn on impact may only be tentative.

## 5.5 Limitations of this review

The review question was not ideally suited to the systematic review approach. The question had multiple dimensions rather than addressing a single intervention, consistent population and single outcome, as would be optimal for such a review. The contexts (populations) under review were varied and dissimilar, the interventions were diverse in terms of design and implementation, even within the genres of EGS and CTs, and although the outcome reviewed was limited during the research process to money metric impacts on poverty, this still resulted in the inclusion of a range of different measurement approaches (based on poverty indices, income and expenditure). This diversity in all three dimensions of the question was further confounded by the fact that the available studies displayed considerable methodological diversity, and were of variable quality, with key issues such as statistical significance and incidence being omitted in many instances, rendering meta-analysis or other forms of synthesis problematic, and robust comparisons between the two types of interventions unfeasible.

As argued in section 3.3.1 and 3.3.2, cash transfers and employment guarantee schemes are not substitutes for a variety of reasons relating to their design and function, and in practice studies were not comparable due to different methodologies and assumptions underlying programme implementation and analysis. Even within interventions design and contextual variations between programmes were too significant for comparisons of impacts to be meaningful; a small cash transfer programme targeting 1000 households in a low-income sub-Saharan African country is likely to have very different impacts from one in a middle-income Latin America country targeting hundreds of thousands of households. In addition, unconditional and conditional cash transfers may affect households in different ways and are not necessarily comparable in many instances.

Given the diversity of intervention design, populations and impacts, the range and inconsistency of methodological approaches adopted, and the limited data on incidence and statistical significance, a more meaningful cross-programme performance analysis was not possible. A more narrowly defined review question, examining the impact of either EGSs, UCTs, or CCTs on a specified poverty indicator may have been more appropriate for the adoption of a systematic review approach.

## 6. Conclusions and recommendations

According to the studies reviewed 80% of cash transfer (CT) programmes and employment guarantee schemes (EGSs) have a positive effect in terms of reducing poverty according to selected money-metric indicators. However, it is not possible to draw conclusions with any confidence regarding the relative performance of the two instruments, or to assess the magnitude of such impacts, since meta-analysis is not possible given the diversity of intervention designs, populations and impacts, the range and inconsistency of methodological approaches adopted, and the limited data on incidence and statistical significance

The study has found that the indicator of money-metric poverty used matters greatly, and that comparisons across studies using different indicators is not meaningful. Income and expenditure measure poverty differently and the choice of indicator affects the impacts identified, with expenditure being a more sensitive and less volatile indicator of changes in money-metric dimensions of poverty. In some instances what is considered a negative impact when measured in terms of a money-metric poverty indicator, may reflect a positive outcome if considered from an alternative (non money-metric) poverty perspective. Lower expenditure as a result of a reduction in child labour (eg. Edmonds & Schady, 2008), is positive in terms of child labour impacts and Dey (2010) found that while income from NREGA was lower than income forgone, job security and subsequently mental well-being improved for those participating in NREGA. More research needs to be done into why some interventions may lead to higher poverty for beneficiaries, in particular with respect to the labour allocation responses at household level, and impact of transfer receipt on withdrawal from adverse labour market employment.

In terms of the evidence base, there are significantly more studies available on CTs than EGSs, reflecting the relative frequency of CT and EGS implementation. Similarly, most high quality studies address CCTs and/or programmes in the Latin American region. This indicates a need for more studies on the impacts of EGSs, and for improvements in the quality of studies relating to UCTs and programmes outside the Latin American region.

Furthermore the review has highlighted a need for the inclusion of analysis on programme incidence (the extent to which programmes are successfully targeted to the poor) and the statistical significance of findings. In addition, greater methodological consistency in terms of analytical approaches adopted and indicator selection and definition is needed to enable more meaningful cross-programme performance analysis, so that robust comparisons of performance both within intervention types (UCTs, CCTs, EGSs) and between types can be drawn, to inform future programming decisions.

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## Appendix 1: Inclusion and exclusion criteria

### *Inclusion criteria*

- **Language**: English
- **Intervention**:
  - a. Employment guarantee programme that guarantees a specific amount of days of employment per year for poor households/ individuals. In exchange for the work the households/ individuals will receive cash, food, assets or a combination.
  - b. Cash transfer, i.e. a transfer of money to poor households/ individuals. Cash transfers may also be known as social grant, welfare, social assistance, social transfer, pension etc. They can be either conditional (eg. school attendance required) or unconditional.
  - c. Intervention should be non-contributory, i.e. people don't need to have paid into a pension system to receive the benefits.
- **Geographical location**: Be conducted in a lower- or middle-income country per World Bank definition or USA in the 1930s
- **Date**: any (with the exception of the USA – see #3 above)
- **Population**: Beneficiaries of cash transfers/ employment guarantee programme and possibly a comparison group.
- **Aim of study**: Should be investigating the **impact** of an intervention. We are interested in OUTCOMES.
- **Study design**: Be high quality empirical research (data analysis based on quantitative survey).

### *Exclusion criteria*

- **Language**: Not in English
- **Geographical location**: Was not conducted in a lower or middle-income country, e.g. European countries, or in USA after the 1930s
- **Date**: the USA after the 1930s
- **Intervention**:
  - a. Public Works Programme that does not GUARANTEE employment. For example temporary public works programme that responds to some kind of shock/ emergency.
  - b. Any other social protection intervention (e.g. cash transfers to communities or to services (e.g. health centres or school) rather than households or individuals)

- c. Intervention is contributory, i.e. people need to have paid into a (pension) system to receive the benefits.
- **Population:** Not beneficiaries of cash transfers/ employment guarantee programme and/or possible comparison group
- **Aim of study:** Not investigating impact of intervention, for example
  - a. Policy document, describing a new programme to be implemented
  - b. Implementation report, describing administrative issues (eg. there was not enough qualified staff to implement programme properly) or OUTPUTS (eg. 500 people received a grant)
- **Study design and reporting quality** Is either 'non-empirical' research:
  - a. editorial, commentary, book review
  - b. policy document
  - c. resource, textbook
  - d. bibliography
  - e. position paper
  - f. methodological paper
  - g. theoretical paper

or not high quality empirical research:

- h. descriptive: Just describes what the impact is (in words)
  - i. not academic: No methodology section
  - j. anecdotal: The results don't seem to be based on survey results. Evidence is either based on hear-say (eg. "everyone agrees this programme is good") or a couple of people the author seems to have talked to.
  - k. Poor sample selection: it is not clear how the sample was selected, for example authors don't mention whether the sample is random, which methods they used to select the sample, or its characteristics.



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List of low and middle-income countries (based on World Bank definition, GNI per capita):

Afghanistan	Kosovo	Sri Lanka
Albania	Kyrgyz Republic	St. Kitts and Nevis
Algeria	Lao PDR	St. Lucia
American Samoa	Lebanon	St. Vincent and Grenadines
Angola	Lesotho	Sudan
Antigua and Barbuda	Liberia	Suriname
Argentina	Libya	Swaziland
Armenia	Lithuania	Syrian Arab Republic
Azerbaijan	Macedonia, FYR	Tajikistan
Bangladesh	Madagascar	Tanzania
Belarus	Malawi	Thailand
Belize	Malaysia	Timor-Leste
Benin	Maldives	Togo
Bhutan	Mali	
Bolivia	Marshall Islands	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mauritania	
Brazil	Mauritius	
Bulgaria	Mayotte	
Burkina Faso	Mexico	
Central African Republic	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	
Chad	Moldova	
Chile	Mongolia	
China	Montenegro	
Colombia	Morocco	
Comoros	Mozambique	
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Myanmar	
Congo, Rep.	Namibia	
Cote d'Ivoire	Nepal	
Cuba	Nicaragua	
Djibouti	Niger	
Dominica	Nigeria	
Dominican Republic	Pakistan	
Egypt, Arab Rep.	Palau	
El Salvador	Panama	
Eritrea	Papua New Guinea	
Ethiopia	Paraguay	
Fiji	Peru	
Gabon	Philippines	
Gambia, The	Romania	
Guyana	Russian Federation	
Haiti	Rwanda	
Honduras	Samoa	
India	Sao Tome and Principe	
Indonesia	Senegal	
Iran, Islamic Rep.	Serbia	
Jamaica	Seychelles	
Jordan	Sierra Leon	
Kazakhstan	Solomon Islands	
Kiribati	Somalia	
Korea, Dem. Rep	South Africa	

## **Appendix 2: Search strategy for electronic databases**

Bibliographic databases that were searched:

1. Econlit (Ebsco)
2. Francis (Ebsco)
3. Africa-Wide Information (Ebsco)
4. International Political Science Abstracts (IPSA) (Ebsco)
8. Political Science Complete (Ebsco)
9. Public Administration Abstracts (Ebsco)
10. Public Affairs Index (Ebsco)
11. Social Sciences Abstracts (Ebsco)
12. Family & Society Studies Worldwide (FSSW) (Ebsco)
13. Social Science Citation Index (Web of Knowledge)
14. International Bibliography of the Social Sciences
15. Jstor

Publisher platforms that were searched:

1. Wiley Interscience (All Economic; All Development Studies; Social Policy & Welfare; All Political Science)
2. Sage Journals (Public Administration, Economics and Development, Regional Studies, Politics & International Relations)
3. CAB Direct

Websites that were searched:

1. Governance Resource Centre
2. Research4DFID
3. International Labour Organization (ILO)
4. Chronic Poverty Research Centre (CPRC)
5. IDEAS
6. Social Science Research Network (SSRN)
7. Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
8. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
9. Wahenga
10. Centre for Global Development (CGD)
4. Poverty Action Research Lab (PARL)
5. International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG)
6. MDRC (Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation)
7. World Bank
11. Eldis

(Meta) search engines that were searched

1. Google Scholar
2. Metacrawler

Journals that were searched:

1. Development Policy Review
2. Journal of Development Studies

3. Journal of International Development
4. Journal of Development Economics
5. World Development

## Appendix 3: Search strings

During the protocol testing period it became clear that long search strings incorporating a wide range of synonyms cannot be used in all search engines. We have subsequently shortened search strings and split them into several sets of strings. We have also included short strings for those databases that do now allow for long strings. Furthermore it became clear that the term “employment guarantee” only leads to results on India, or irrelevant findings in Bangladesh, so subsequent search strings include programme names instead.

We are not anticipating that the search strings under (1) relating to comparative analysis will furnish a significant number of abstracts, but will carry out this initial search in order to test our assumptions regarding the literature.

### 1. Impact of employment guarantee schemes and cash transfer schemes

1	“employment guarantee” AND “cash transfer” AND poverty OR impact
2	NREG* AND “cash transfer” AND poverty OR impact
3	“Jefes” AND “cash transfer” AND poverty OR impact
4	PSNP AND “cash transfer” AND poverty OR impact
5	Productive Safety Nets Programme AND “cash transfer” AND poverty OR impact
6	“Maharashtra employment guarantee” AND “cash transfer” AND poverty OR impact
7	“MEGS” AND “cash transfer” AND poverty OR impact
8	“New deal” AND “cash transfer” AND poverty OR impact

9	“employment guarantee” AND grant AND poverty OR impact
10	NREG* AND grant AND poverty OR impact
11	“Jefes” AND grant AND poverty OR impact
12	PSNP AND grant AND poverty OR impact
13	Productive Safety Nets Programme AND grant AND poverty OR impact
14	Zibambele AND grant AND poverty OR impact
15	“Maharashtra employment guarantee” AND grant AND poverty OR impact “MEGS” AND grant AND poverty OR impact
16	“New deal” AND grant AND poverty OR impact

### 2. Impact of employment guarantee schemes

Long version:

17	“employment guarantee” AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact
18	NREG* AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact
19	“Jefes” AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact

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20	PSNP AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact
21	Zibambele AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact
22	MEGS AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact
23	"Maharashtra employment guarantee" AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact
24	"New deal" AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact

Short version:

25	"employment guarantee" poverty impact
26	NREG* poverty impact
27	"Jefes" poverty impact
28	PSNP poverty impact
29	Zibambele poverty impact
30	MEGS poverty impact
31	"Maharashtra employment guarantee)" poverty impact
32	"New deal" poverty impact

### 3. Impact of cash transfer schemes

Long version:

33	"cash transfer*" AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact
34	grant AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact
35	Social AND transfer AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact
36	pension AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood* OR Inequal* OR impact

Short version:

37	"cash transfer*" poverty impact
38	grant poverty impact
39	Social transfer poverty impact
40	pension poverty impact

The following “not” terms were used in a number of cases to reduce the number of hits that needed to be downloaded and screened (notably Jstor):

1. crime
2. religion
3. colonial
4. Canada
5. Japan
6. UK
7. Britain
8. Germany
9. equilibrium
10. theory
11. model
12. retirement
13. technology
14. marketing
15. commercial
16. medical
17. psychology

## Appendix 4: Results from the screening process

Table 1 shows the breakdown of exclusion criteria used in the title screening phase.

**Table 1. Results from title screening**

Code	Count
1. Language	898
2. Geographical location	1,342
3. Title incomplete or missing	12
4. Date	141
5. Intervention	16,214
6. Population	26
7. Study design	3,955
8. Aim of study	603
9. Not sure (search abstract)	895
10. Include by title	226
11. Include by title and abstract	1
12. Possible handsearching	26

Table 1 shows that during the abstract screening stage the vast majority of articles were excluded as they did not consider the right intervention. Also significant is the number of studies excluded due to study design (eg. book review).

Table 2 shows the results from abstract screening.

**Table 2. Results from abstract screening**

Code	Count
1. Language	6
2. Geographical location	52
3. Date	16
4. Population	8
5. Intervention	159
6. Aim of Study	219
7. Study design	64
8. Include by title and abstract	126
9. Possible handsearching	6
10. Exclude after screening check	1
11. Include from handsearching	193
12. Duplicate	64
13. Exclude on the basis of full citation	363
14. Include on the basis of full text	19
15. No access but irrelevant by title	3
16. No access but could be relevant	20

The results from abstract screening reveal that 219 studies were excluded due to aim of study. These were studies that did not analyse the impact of the intervention, for example only describing the programme or discussing implementation aspects. There were still a significant number of studies that did not consider the right intervention. Exclude on the basis of full citation are those studies that had incomplete titles and that were completed at a later stage and turned out to be irrelevant.

Table 3 shows the results from full-text screening.

**Table 3. Results from full-text screening**

Code	Count
1. Exclude on basis of date	1
2. Exclude on basis of intervention	21
3. Exclude on basis of population	2
4. Exclude on basis of aim of study	66
5. Exclude on basis of geographical location	5
6. Duplicate	21
7. Include on basis of full text	222
8. No access to full text	21

The full-text screening stage still led to more studies being excluded on the basis of intervention. However the majority of studies were excluded on the basis of aim of study, i.e. those studies not investigating the impact of the intervention.



## Appendix 5: Impacts on poverty

#	Authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Dataset	Sample size	Control	Level of analysis	Targeting pro-poor <sup>1</sup>	Main indicators	Methods used	Assumptions made	Relevant tables/figures	Impact on poverty	Size of the impact <sup>2</sup>	Significant
				(CT)	(EGS)												
1	Agostini & Brown	2007	Chile	Various (UCT) Chile Solidario (CCT)		CASEN 2003 HH survey & 2002 Census	68,153 hhs & 4,112,838 hhs	Whole population	region	Yes	$\Delta$ in $P_0$ (income-based)	Poverty mapping (simulation)	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Figures 3-8; Table 2	↓	-5.1% - -67.8% for $P_0$ (pop)	not measured
2	Barrientos	2005	Brazil & South Africa	Social pension, Previdência Rural & Renda Mensual Vitalícia (UCT)		HH survey in 2002	1,111 hhs (South Africa); 1006 hhs (Brazil)	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in (cumulative) $P_1$ ; effect of transfer on probability of being poor (income based)	Cumulative poverty gap (TIP); probit	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Figures 1-2; Tables 1-3	↓	-4.2% (Brazil) -2.8% (South Africa) for $P_1$ (sample)	Yes (only measured for probit)
3	Cerami	2003	Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia	Various (UCT)		Luxembourg Income Study 1980-2000 (16 datasets)	Not discussed	Not discussed	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in $P_0$ (income based)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Tables 4a, 6a, 7a, Figure 4	↓	-8% - -23% for $P_0$ (pop)	not measured
4	Clement	2007	Russia	Various (UCT)		RLMS 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000	3,973 hhs	Panel	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in % of households by type of poverty (expenditure based)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Table 3	↓	-2.3% - -12.2% (sample)	not measured
5	Dabalén, Kilic & Wane	2008	Albania	Social pension & Ndihma Ekonomike (UCT)		ALSMS 2002 & 2005	3,599 hhs & 3,640 hhs	PSM control group	hh	Yes (NE) No (pension)	$\Delta$ in FGT (expenditure based)	Significance differences across means; PSM	PSM to create counterfactual	Tables 5, 6, 9	↑	0.076 (NE) 0.004 (pension) for $P_0$ (pop)	Yes (NE); No (pens)
6	Freije, Bando & Arce	2006	Mexico	Oportunidades (CCT)		2002 ENIGH	17,083 hhs	Not discussed	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in $P_0$ & $P_1$ (income based)	Simulation of hypothetical changes (probit)	Household economy impacts accounted for	Tables 2 & 7	↓	-2% for $P_0$ (pop)	not measured
7	Gaiha & Imai	2010	India		Maharashtra Employment Guarantee Scheme	ICRISAT 1979-1984; Ahmadnagar Sample	240 hhs	Panel	hh	No	$\Delta$ in $P_0$ (income based); protection and promotion	Simulation	Forgone earnings accounted for (25% of transfer)	Tables 3 & 4	↓	-7% for $P_0$ (sample)	not measured

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#	Authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Dataset	Sample size	Control	Level of analysis	Targeting pro-poor <sup>1</sup>	Main indicators	Methods used	Assumptions made	Relevant tables/figures	Impact on poverty	Size of the impact <sup>2</sup>	Significant
				(CT)	(EGS)												
8	Galasso & Ravallion	2004	Argentina		Jefes Y Jefas	EPH 2001, 2002	31,374 hhs	Panel & non-beneficiaries	hh & ind	Yes	$\Delta$ in $P_0$ (income based); protection & promotion	Descriptive statistics & single difference	Forgone earnings accounted for (estimated net income gains)	Figure 4 & Table 12	↓	-0.2% - -0.6% for $P_0$ (pop)	not measured
9	Habibov & Fan	2007	Azerbaijan	Various (UCT)		2004 Azerbaijan Household Budget Survey	8,425 hhs	Not discussed	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in FGT (expenditure based)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Table 4	↓	-49.14% for $P_0$ (sample)	not measured
10	Hodges et al	2007	Mongolia	Child benefit (UCT)		Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2006	Not addressed	Not discussed	ind	No	$\Delta$ in FGT (expenditure based)	Simulation	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Figure 2 & Table 6	↓	-2.7% for $P_0$ (pop)	not measured
11	Leibbrandt et al	2010	South Africa	Social pension & child benefit (UCT)		1993, 2000 & 2008 General Household Surveys	8,848 26,265 7,305 hhs	Not discussed	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in $P_0$ (income based)	Simulation	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Tables 3.12 & 3.13	↓	-1% - -10.1% for $P_0$ (sample?)	not measured
12	Maitra & Ray	2003	South Africa	Social pension (UCT)		SA Integrated HH survey 1994	8,398 hhs	None	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in $P_0$ (income based)	T-test between means	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Table 4	↓	-1.64% - -8.75% for $P_0$ (sample)	Yes (t-test)
13	McCord	2009	South Africa		Zimbabwe	2003 survey in Limpopo, KwaZulu Natal & National Labour Force survey	676 hhs	None	hh	Yes	Distribution of FGT (income based) & $\Delta$ in income distribution	Descriptive statistics	Forgone earnings accounted for	Figure 11.9	$-P_0^{17}/P_1$	not measured	not measured
14	Osório	2008	Honduras	Programa de Asignación Familiar and others (CCT)		EPHPM 2007	21,606 hhs	Not discussed	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in FGT (income based)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Table 2	↓ (except P RAT in kind $P_0$ )	-0.84% for $P_0$ (sample)	not measured

<sup>17</sup> Signifies no change

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

#	Authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Dataset	Sample size	Control	Level of analysis	Targeting pro-poor <sup>1</sup>	Main indicators	Methods used	Assumptions made	Relevant tables/figures	Impact on poverty	Size of the impact <sup>2</sup>	Significant
				(CT)	(EGS)												
15	Samson et al	2004	South Africa	Various (UCT)		2000 Income & Expenditure survey, 2000 Labour Force survey	Not addressed	Not discussed	Hh & ind	Yes (some interventions)	$\Delta$ in $P_0$ & $P_1$ (income based)	EPRI simulation model	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Tables 2.7-2.11	↓	-8.4% for $P_0$ (pop)	not measured
16	Skoufias & Di Maro	2008	Mexico	Progresa (CCT)		ENCASE H 1997, ENCEL98 O, ENCEL 99J, ENCEL 99N	24,000 hhs	RCT	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in FGT (income based)	Difference-in-difference	Comparing to control group that did not receive benefit	Table 5	↓	-4.88% - -18.11% for $P_0$ (pop)	Yes
17	Skoufias, Lindert & Shapiro	2009	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, & Peru	Various (UCT & social insurance)		Household surveys in eight countries	9,825 hhs (Domi. Republic) - 68,146 hhs (Chile)	Not discussed	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in $P_0$ (income/expenditure based)	Simulation	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Figure 2	↓	-0.5% - -4.8% for $P_0$ (pop)	not measured
18	USAID	2007	Armenia	Social pension & child benefit (UCT)		Integrated Living Conditions Survey (ILCS)	Not discussed	Not discussed	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in FGT (income based)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Table 9.1	↓	-6.3% for $P_0$ (sample)	not measured
DUPLICATE DATA SET- EXCLUDED DUE TO SAME DATA SET AND METHODOLOGY, BUT PRESENTED HERE FOR SAKE OF COMPLETENESS																	
19	Handa, Huerta, Perez Raul & Straffon	2001	Mexico	Progresa (CCT)		ENCASE H 1997, ENCEL98 M, ENCEL98 O, ENCEL 99J, ENCEL 99N	24,000 hhs	RCT	hh		$\Delta$ in FGT	OLS					

<sup>1</sup> Targeting is considered pro-poor if targeting incidence is biased towards the poor.

<sup>2</sup> Caution, the magnitude of the impact cannot be compared across studies due to highly divergent methodologies, assumptions etc.

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### Review of poverty studies in terms of targeting incidence and methodological criteria.

#	Authors	Year	Targeting incidence	Study design	Accounts for other factors	Measures statistical significance	Overall weight
1	Agostini & Brown	2007	High	High	Low	Low	Medium
2	Barrientos	2005	Low	Medium	Low	High	Medium
3	Cerami	2003	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
4	Clement	2007	High	Medium	Low	Low	Medium
5	Dabalen, Kilic & Wane	2008	High	Medium	High	High	High
6	Freije, Bando & Arce	2006	Low	High	High	Low	Medium
7	Gaiha & Imai	2010	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium
8	Galasso & Ravallion	2004	High	Medium	High	Low	Medium
9	Habibov & Fan	2007	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
10	Hodges et al	2007	High	Medium	Low	Low	Medium
11	Leibbrandt et al	2010	High	Medium	Low	Low	Medium
12	Maitra & Ray	2003	High	Low	Low	High	Medium
13	McCord	2009	High	Low	High	Low	Medium
14	Osório	2008	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
15	Samson et al	2004	High	Medium	Low	Low	Medium
16	Skoufias & Di Maro	2008	Low	High	High	High	High
17	Skoufias, Lindert & Shapiro	2009	High	Medium	Low	Low	Medium
18	USAID	2007	High	Low	Low	Low	Low

## Appendix 6: Impacts on income

#	Authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Dataset	Sample size	Control	Level of analysis	Targeting pro-poor	Main indicator	Methods used	Assumptions made	Important tables/figures	Impact on income	Size of the impact <sup>2</sup>	Significant
				(CT)	(EGS)												
1	Ardington & Lund	1995	South Africa	Social pension (UCT)		Data Research Survey 1992	5,293 hhs	Not discussed	hh	Yes, somewhat	$\Delta$ in income (pc hh income)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Table 4	↑	18 Rands pc per month	Not measured
2	Case & Deaton	1998	South Africa	Social pension (UCT)		SALDRU 1993/ 1994	9,000 hhs	Not discussed	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in income (pc hh income)	Kernel density estimates of logarithm of income	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Figure 1, Figure 2	↑	Not measured	Not measured
3	Devereux	2000	Namibia	Social pension (UCT)		HH survey in 1998	450 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Yes	Contribution of pension to income (cash annual hh income)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Table 5.10	↑	Contribution of 81% on average	Not measured
4	Dey	2010	India		NREGA	HH survey in Birbhum district	500 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in income (log monthly pc hh income)	OLS & IV	Forgone income not accounted for; household economy impacts accounted for by IV analysis	Table 22	↓	-0.0045	Yes
5	Galasso & Ravallion	2004	Argentina		Jefes de Hogar	EPH 2001, 2002	31,374 hhs	Panel & Non-beneficiaries	hh & ind	Yes	$\Delta$ in income (hh/ individual monthly income)	PSM & difference-in-difference	Counterfactual calculated by using PSM & difference-in-difference and accounts for household economy impact (DD)	Table 8, Figure 4	↑ (except for panel)	103.41 pesos per month for matched DD	Not measured
6	Galasso	2006	Chile	Chile Solidario (CCT)		CASEN 2002 & 2003 HH survey	71,000 & 73,000 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in income (pc hh income)	PSM & regression discontinuity	Counterfactual calculated by using PSM; Household economy impact not accounted for	Table 3	↓ (urban); ↑ (rural)	-3,457 pesos (urban) 1,648 pesos (rural)	Mostly not (different specifications)
7	Maitra & Ray	2003	South Africa	Social pension (UCT)		South Africa Integrated HH survey 1994	8,398 hhs	None	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in income (hh income)	Kernel density estimates of logarithm of income	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Figure 1	↑ (depends on race)	Not measured	Not measured

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#	Authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Dataset	Sample size	Control	Level of analysis	Targeting pro-poor <sup>1</sup>	Main indicator	Methods used	Assumptions made	Important tables/figures	Impact on income	Size of the impact <sup>2</sup>	Significant
				(CT)	(EGS)												
8	Schuering & Michelo	2007	Zambia	Social cash transfer (UCT)		Kalomo & Kanchele blocks 2004 & 2005	303 (274) hhs	None	hh	Yes	Δ in income (hh monthly household income)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Table 25	↓	-3,370 ZMK per month	Not measured
9	Seaman, Petty & Kambewa	2008	Malawi	Social cash transfer (UCT)		Mlomba district 2007 & 2008	212 hhs	Not discussed	hh	No	Distribution of income (disposable annual pc income)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Figures 10-11	↑	Not measured	Not measured
10	Tembo & Freeland	2010	Zambia	Social cash transfer (UCT)		Evaluation survey	1,286 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Yes	Δ in income (log total hh income)	PSM	Counterfactual calculated by using PSM; Household economy impact not accounted for	Table 4, Table 8, Table 12	↓	-156.9% (Kalomo) -190.5% (Chipata) -24.3% (Kazungula)	Yes (Kalomo & Chipata) No (Kazungula)

<sup>1</sup> Targeting is considered pro-poor if targeting incidence is biased towards the poor.

<sup>2</sup> Warning, the size of the impact cannot be compared across studies due to highly divergent methodologies, assumptions etc.

### Review of income studies in terms of targeting incidence and methodological criteria.

Authors	Year	Targeting incidence	Study design	Accounting for other factors	Measures statistical significance	Overall weight
Ardington & Lund	1995	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
Case & Deaton	1998	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
Devereux	2000	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
Dey	2010	High	Medium	High	High	High
Galasso & Ravallion	2004	High	High	High	Low	High
Galasso	2006	High	Medium	High	Low	Medium
Maitra & Ray	2003	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
Schuering & Michelo	2007	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
Seaman, Petty & Kambewa	2008	High	Low	Low	Low	Low
Tembo & Freeland	2010	High	Medium	High	High	High

## Appendix 7: Impacts on expenditure

#	Authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Dataset	Sample size	Control	Level of analysis	Targeting pro-poor	Main indicator	Methods used	Assumptions made	Important tables/figures <sup>2</sup>	Impact on consumption	Size of impact	Significant
				CT	EGS												
1	Angelucci & Attanasio	2009	Mexico	Progresa (CCT)		Encelurb 2002, 2003, 2004	9,945 hhs, 7330 hhs & 6830 hhs	RCT	Urban hhs	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in food and non-food expenditure (logs & level monthly hh expenditure)	Difference-in-Difference; PSM	Accounts for household economy impacts & forgone earnings	Table 8 & 9	$\uparrow$ (food); $\downarrow/\uparrow$ (non-food)	16.4% per month (food)	Yes (food); No (non-food)
2	Attanasio & Mesnard	2006	Columbia	Familias en Accion (CCT)		Familias en Accion 2002 & 2003	11,500 hhs	Towns w/ out CCT	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in total and food expenditure (level monthly hh expenditure)	Difference-in-Difference	Accounts for household economy impacts & forgone earnings	Table 4	$\uparrow$	14.7% per month (urban)	Yes
3	Case & Deaton	1998	South Africa	Social pension (UCT)		SALDRU 1993/ 1994	9,000 hhs	Not discussed	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in food expenditure (level hh expenditure)	OLS & IV regressions	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for; Income instrumented due to possible measurement error	Table 5	$\uparrow$	0.011 Rand (African hhs)	No
4	Clement	2007	Russia	Various (UCT)		RLMS 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000	3,973 hhs	Panel	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in total expenditure (level hh expenditure)	Fixed effects regression	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for; Transfer instrumented in case take-up endogenous	Table 2	$\uparrow$	0.7289	Yes (some specifications)
5	Coady, Olinto & Caldes	2004	Honduras	Programa de Asignación Familiar (CCT)		PRAF hh survey 2000, 2002	5,087 hhs	RCT	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in expenditure (log daily pc expenditure)	Difference-in-Difference & IV	IV in case programme take-up endogenous; Accounts for household economy impacts & forgone earnings	Tables 5 & 6	$\uparrow$	13.9% (panel)	Yes (only for panel)

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#	Authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Dataset	Sample size	Control	Level of analysis	Targeting pro-poor <sup>1</sup>	Main indicator	Methods used	Assumptions made	Important tables/figures <sup>2</sup>	Impact on consumption	Size of impact	Significant
				CT	EGS												
6	Dabalén, Kilic & Wane	2008	Albania	Social pension & Ndihma Ekonomike (UCT)		ALSMS 2002 & 2005	3,599 hhs & 3,640 hhs	PSM	hh	Yes (NE) No (pension)	$\Delta$ in total expenditure (pc expenditure)	PSM	Matching to create counterfactual ; Household economy impacts not accounted for	Table 9	↓	-1,037 Leks (NE) -107 Leks (pension)	Yes (NE); No (pens)
7	Dammert	2009	Nicaragua	Red de Protección Social (CCT)		RSC hh survey 2000, 2001, 2002	1,359 hhs	RCT	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in distribution of total expenditure (annual pc expenditure)	Quintile treatment effects	RCT to create counterfactual ; Household economy impacts not accounted for	Figures 1 & 2	↑	C\$707-C\$3,087 (greater effect for poorer quintiles)	Yes
8	Dey	2010	India		NREGA	HH survey in Birbhum district	500 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in total expenditure (log monthly pc expenditure)	OLS & IV	Forgone income not accounted for; household economy impacts accounted for by IV analysis	Table 22	↓	-0.0058	Yes
9	Edmonds & Schady	2008	Ecuador	Bono de Desarrollo Humano (UCT)		BDH baseline data 2003	3,004 hhs	RCT	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in total expenditure (annual hh expenditure)	Difference-in-Difference & IV	Accounts for household economy impacts & forgone earnings	Table 8	↓	-\$168.5 annually	No
10	Gertler, Martinez & Rubio-Codina	2006	Mexico	Oportunidades (CCT)		ENCEL (98-03) & ENCASEH (97-03)	12,302 hhs	RCT	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in total expenditure (monthly pc expenditure)	Test of Equality of Means between treated and controls	RCT to create counterfactual ; Household economy impacts not accounted for data	Table 8	↑	22 Pesos pc monthly	Yes
11	Gilligan, Hoddinott, Kumar & Taffesse	2009	Ethiopia		Productive Safety Nets Programme	EFSS 2006 & 2008	3,688 & 2473 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in food expenditures (hh in past seven days)	PSM	Matching to create counterfactual ; Household economy impacts not accounted for	Table 2	↑	5.4%	No
12	Gitter & Caldes	2010	Nicaragua	Red de Protección Social (CCT)		RPS pilot phase data 2000, 2001 & 2002	1,300 hhs	RCT	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in food expenditure (pc expenditure)	Difference-in-difference	Accounts for household economy impacts & forgone earnings	Table 2 & Table 5	↑	C\$652	Yes
13	Maluccio	2010	Nicaragua	Red de Protección Social (CCT)		LSMS 2000, 2001, 2003	1,359 hhs	RCT	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in total expenditure (log annual pc expenditure)	Difference-in-difference	Accounts for household economy impacts & forgone earnings	Table 8	↑	18.16% annually	Yes



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#	Authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Dataset	Sample size	Control	Level of analysis	Targeting pro-poor <sup>1</sup>	Main indicator	Methods used	Assumptions made	Important tables/figures <sup>2</sup>	Impact on consumption	Size of impact	Significant
				CT	EGS												
14	Miller, Tsoka & Reichert		Malawi	Social cash transfer (UCT)		CSPRO panel 2007-2008 in Mchinji	766-819 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in total expenditure (monthly hh expenditure)	Difference-in-difference	Accounts for household economy impacts & forgone earnings	Table 5; Figure 5 & 6	↑	4620.1	Yes
15	Ravi & Engler	2009	India		NREGA	Andhra Pradesh survey in 2007 & 2008	1,066 & 320 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Not discussed	$\Delta$ in total expenditure (monthly pc expenditure)	Double difference, triple difference & PSM	Accounts for household economy impacts & forgone earnings	Tables 5-9	↑	25.3 Rupees pc monthly	Yes (some specifications)
16	Schuering & Michelo	2007	Zambia	Social cash transfer (UCT)		Kalomo & Kanchele blocks 2004 & 2005	303 (274) hhs	None	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in average expenditure (weekly pc expenditure)	Descriptive statistics	Household economy impacts & forgone income not accounted for	Figure 15	↑ (Kanchele, urban Kalomo); ↓ (rural Kalomo)	12,160 (Kanchele); 10,790 (urban Kalomo); -10,660 (rural Kalomo)	Not measured
17	Tembo & Freeland	2010	Zambia	Social cash transfer (UCT)		Evaluation survey	1,286 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh	Yes	$\Delta$ in expenditure (log total hh expenditure)	PSM	Counterfactual calculated by using PSM; Household economy impact not accounted for	Table 4, Table 8, Table 12	↑	59.9% (Kalomo) 57% (Chipata) 634.8% (Kazungula)	Yes
<b>DUPLICATE DATA SETS- EXCLUDED DUE TO USE OF SAME DATA SET AND METHODOLOGY, BUT PRESENTED HERE FOR SAKE OF COMPLETENESS</b>																	
18	Gilligan, Hoddinott & Taffesse	2008	Ethiopia		Productive Safety Nets Programme	EFSS 2006	3700 hhs	Non-beneficiaries	hh		$\Delta$ in total expenditure	PSM & difference-in-difference					
19	Gitter	2006	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)		RPS pilot phase data 2000, 2001 & 2002	1,300 hhs				Food spending	Difference-in-difference					
20	Maluccio & Flores	2005	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)		LSMS 2000, 2001, 2002	1,359 hhs	RCT	hh		Total & per capita expenditure	Difference-in-difference					
21	Maluccio	2005	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)		LSMS 2000, 2001, 2002	1,359 hhs	RCT	hh		Total per capita expenditure (logs)	Difference-in-difference					

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#	Authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Dataset	Sample size	Control	Level of analysis	Targeting pro-poor <sup>1</sup>	Main indicator	Methods used	Assumptions made	Important tables/figures <sup>2</sup>	Impact on consumption	Size of impact	Significant
				CT	EGS												
22	Davis, Handa, Ruiz-Arranz, Stampini & Winters	2002	Mexico	Oportunidades (CCT)		1997 ENCASEH & 1998 ENCEL98O	12,627 hhs	RCT	hh		total consumption expenditures per capita	OLS & IV					
23	Hoddinott, Skoufias & Washburn	2000	Mexico	Oportunidades (CCT)		ENCEL98O, (ENCEL 98M), ENCEL 99J, ENCEL 99N	24,000 hhs	RCT	hh		Mean monthly value of consumption per household	Comparing means participants/ non participants					

<sup>1</sup> Targeting is considered pro-poor if targeting incidence is biased towards the poor.

<sup>2</sup> Warning, the size of the impact cannot be compared across studies due to highly divergent methodologies, assumptions etc.

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

### Review of expenditure studies in terms of targeting incidence and methodological criteria.

<i>Author</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Targeting incidence</i>	<i>Study design</i>	<i>Accounting for other factors</i>	<i>Measures statistical significance</i>	<i>Overall weight</i>
Angelucci & Attanasio	2009	Low	High	High	High	High
Attanasio & Mesnard	2006	Low	High	High	High	High
Case & Deaton	1998	High	Medium	High	Low	Medium
Clement	2007	High	Medium	High	High	High
Coady, Olinto & Caldes	2004	Low	High	High	High	High
Dabalen, Kilic & Wane	2008	High	Medium	High	High	High
Dammert	2009	High	High	High	High	High
Dey	2010	High	Medium	High	High	High
Edmonds & Schady	2008	Low	High	High	Low	Medium
Gertler, Martinez & Rubio-Codina	2006	Low	High	High	High	High
Gilligan, Hoddinott, Kumar & Taffesse	2009	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium
Gitter & Caldes	2010	Low	High	High	High	High
Maluccio	2010	Low	High	High	High	High
Miller, Tsoka & Reichert		Low	Medium	High	High	Medium
Ravi & Engler	2009	Low	Medium	High	High	Medium
Schuering & Michelo	2007	High	Low	High	Low	Medium
Tembo & Freeland	2010	High	Medium	High	High	High

## Appendix 8: Impacts on poverty index, income and expenditure

Name of authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Impact on poverty	Significant	Impact on income	Significant	Impact on expenditure	Significant
			CT	EGS						
Agostini & Brown	2007	Chile	Various (UCT) Chile Solidario (CCT)		↓	not measured				
Angelucci & Attanasio	2009	Mexico	Progresa (CCT)						↑(food); ↑/↓ (non-food)	Yes (food); No (non-food)
Ardington & Lund	1995	South Africa	Social pension & disability grant (UCT)				↑	Not measured		
Attanasio & Mesnard	2006	Columbia	Familias en Accion (CCT)						↑	Yes
Barrientos	2005	Brazil & South Africa	Social pension, Previdência Rural & Renda Mensual Vitalícia (UCT)		↓	Yes				
Case & Deaton	1998	South Africa	Social pension (UCT)				↑	Not measured	↑	Yes
Cerami	2003	Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia	Various (UCT)		↓	not measured				
Clement	2007	Russia	Various (UCT)		↓	not measured			↑	Yes
Coady, Olinto & Caldes	2004	Honduras	Programa de Asignación Familiar (CCT)						↑	Yes
Dabalén, Kilic & Wane	2008	Albania	Social pension & Ndihma Ekonomike (UCT)		INC (NE & pens)	Yes (NE); No (pens)			↓ (NE & pens)	Yes (NE); No (pens)

# The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Name of authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Impact on poverty	Significant	Impact on income	Significant	Impact on expenditure	Significant
			CT	EGS						
Dammert	2009	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)						↑	Yes
Devereux	2000	Namibia	Social pension (UCT)				↑	Not measured		
Dey	2010	India		NREGA			↓	Yes	↓	Yes
Edmonds & Schady	2008	Ecuador	Bono de Desarrollo Humano (UCT)						↓	No
Freije, Bando & Arce	2006	Mexico	Oportunidades (CCT)		↓	not measured				
Gaiha & Imai	2010	India		Maharashtra Employment Guarantee Scheme	↓	not measured				
Galasso	2006	Chile	Chile Solidario (CCT)				↓ (urban); ↑ (rural)	Mostly not		
Galasso & Ravallion	2004	Argentina		Jefes de Hogar	↓	not measured	↑ (except for panel)	Not measured		
Gertler, Martinez & Rubio-Codina	2006	Mexico	Oportunidades (CCT)						↑	Yes
Gilligan, Hoddinott, Kumar & Taffesse	2009	Ethiopia		Productive Safety Nets Programme					↑	No
Gitter & Caldes	2010	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)						↑	Yes
Habibov & Fan	2007	Azerbaijan	Various (UCT)		↓	not measured				
Hodges et al	2007	Mongolia	Child benefit (UCT)		↓	not measured				

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Name of authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Impact on poverty	Significant	Impact on income	Significant	Impact on expenditure	Significant
			CT	EGS						
Leibbrandt et al	2010	South Africa	Social pension & child benefit (UCT)		↓	not measured				
Maitra & Ray	2003	South Africa	Social pension (UCT)		↓	Yes	↑	Not measured		
Maluccio	2010	Nicaragua	Red de Proteccion Social (CCT)						↑	Yes
McCord	2009	South Africa		Zimbabwe	Not measured					
Miller, Tsoka & Reichert		Malawi	Social cash transfer (UCT)						↑	Yes
Osório	2008	Honduras	Programa de Asignación Familiar and others (CCT)		↓ (exception: PRAT in kind on head count)	not measured				
Ravi & Engler	2009	India		NREGA					↑	Yes
Samson et al	2004	South Africa	Various (UCT)		↓	not measured				
Schuering & Michelo	2007	Zambia	Social cash transfer (UCT)				↓	Not measured	↑	Not measured
Seaman, Petty & Kambewa	2008	Malawi	Social cash transfer (UCT)				↑	Not measured		
Skoufias & Di Maro	2008	Mexico	Progresa (CCT)		↓	Yes				
Skoufias, Lindert & Shapiro	2009	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, & Peru	Various (UCT & social insurance)		↓	not measured				

# The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Name of authors	Year	Country	Intervention		Impact on poverty	Significant	Impact on income	Significant	Impact on expenditure	Significant
			CT	EGS						
Tembo & Freeland	2010	Zambia	Social cash transfer (UCT)				↓ (Chipata; Kazungula; Kalomo)	Yes; No; yes	↑ (Chipata; Kazungula; Kalomo )	Yes
USAID	2007	Armenia	Social pension & child benefit (UCT)		↓	not measured				

## Appendix 9: Reference of included studies

### Included in the final analysis

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## Appendix 10: Search Log

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
19b		SSRN	27	1	Francesca	11/10/10	
20b		SSRN	1,000	1	Francesca	11/10/10	
21b		SSRN	10	1	Francesca	11/10/10	
22b		SSRN	0	0	Francesca	11/10/10	
23b		SSRN	4	3	Francesca	11/10/10	
24b		SSRN	1,000	4	Francesca	11/10/10	
25b		SSRN	0	0	Francesca	11/10/10	
26b		SSRN	1	0	Francesca	11/10/10	
27b		SSRN	356	0	Francesca	11/10/10	
28b		SSRN	112	14	Francesca	11/10/10	
29b		SSRN	8	0	Francesca	11/10/10	
30b		SSRN	22	0	Francesca	11/10/10	
31b		SSRN	21	0	Francesca	11/10/10	
	"Social Protection and Cash Transfers"	IPC	58	20	Elizabeth	11/10/10	
	"Employment guarantee"	IPC	1		Elizabeth	11/10/10	
	"Evaluation reports"	IPC	15	20	Elizabeth	11/10/10	
	"Social Protection and Cash Transfers"	IPC	60		Elizabeth	12/10/10	
	"Employment policies"	IPC		60	Elizabeth	12/10/10	Total of 60 relevant articles found.
19b		ODI	102	8	Francesca	12/10/10	
20b		ODI	34	0	Francesca	12/10/10	
21b		ODI	7	0	Francesca	12/10/10	
22b		ODI	72	3	Francesca	12/10/10	
23b		ODI	11	0	Francesca	12/10/10	

The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
24b		ODI	0	0	Francesca	12/10/10	
25b		ODI	16	0	Francesca	12/10/10	
26b		ODI	38	0	Francesca	12/10/10	
27b		ODI	34	0	Francesca	12/10/10	
28b		ODI	201	2	Francesca	12/10/10	
29b		ODI	380	0	Francesca	12/10/10	
30b		ODI	41	0	Francesca	12/10/10	
31b		ODI	203	0	Francesca	12/10/10	
Emailed Key Contacts					Francesca	12/10/10	Replies so far: Bagstali, Ravallion, Hoddinott
	"New deal"	MDRC	80	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
	"cash transfer"	MDRC	4	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
	"employment guarantee"	MDRC	0	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
	Browsed under: List publications by policy area/Health and barriers to employment/welfare reform	MDRC	0	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
"employment guarantee" AND poverty OR Asset* OR Wealth OR Capital OR Income OR Consumption OR food OR Livelihood OR Inequal* OR impact		World Bank	10,000		Elizabeth	13/10/10	
"employment guarantee" poverty impact		World Bank	254		Elizabeth	13/10/10	
"employment guarantee" poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	31	8	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
NREG* poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	0	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
"Jefes" poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	3	1	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
"Productive Safety Nets Programme" poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	101	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	

The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
Zimbabwe poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	0	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
MEGS poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	0	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
“Maharashtra employment guarantee” poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	0	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
“New deal” poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	3	1	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
“cash-transfer*” poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	138	27	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
Grant poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	54	0	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
Social transfer poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	100	1	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
Pension poverty impact	Searched under specific social protection & labour	World Bank	82	1	Elizabeth	13/10/10	
19b		Centre for Global Development	12	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
20b		Centre for Global Development	1	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
21b		Centre for Global Development	4	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
22b		Centre for Global Development	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
23b		Centre for Global Development	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
24b		Centre for Global Development	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
25b		Centre for Global Development	11	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
26b		Centre for Global Development	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
27b		Centre for Global Development	14	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
28b		Centre for Global Development	100	1 – duplicate	Francesca	18/10/10	
29b		Centre for Global Development	100	0	Francesca	18/10/10	

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
30b		Centre for Global Development	2	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
31b		Centre for Global Development	100	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	Education	Centre for Global Development	30	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	Food and Agriculture	Centre for Global Development	22	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	Inequality	Centre for Global Development	66	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	Poverty	Centre for Global Development	63	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
19b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
20b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
21b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
22b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
23b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
24b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
25b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
26b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
27b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
28b		IFPRI	3	1 duplicate 1 upload	Francesca	18/10/10	
29b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
30b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
31b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	"cash transfer"	Staff Specialists IFPRI	3	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	"social transfer"	Staff Specialists IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	Pension	Staff Specialists IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	

# The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
	NREG	Staff Specialists IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	Jefes	Staff Specialists IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	“employment guarantee”	Staff Specialists IFPRI	1	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	“new deal”	Staff Specialists IFPRI	0`	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	“maharashtra employment guarantee”	Staff Specialists IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	“productive safety nets programme”	Staff Specialists IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	grant	Staff Specialists IFPRI	1	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
19b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	Generalist Search tool – used due to low hits
20b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
21b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
22b		IFPRI	3	1 duplicate	Francesca	18/10/10	
23b		IFPRI	1	1 duplicate	Francesca	18/10/10	
24b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
25b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
26b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
27b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
28b		IFPRI	16	12 duplicate	Francesca	18/10/10	
29b		IFPRI	4	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
30b		IFPRI	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
31b		IFPRI	2	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
19b		wahenga	2	1 background paper	Francesca	18/10/10	
20b		wahenga	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
21b		wahenga	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
22b		wahenga	3	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
23b		wahenga	1	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
24b		wahenga	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
25b		wahenga	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
26b		wahenga	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
27b		wahenga	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
28b		wahenga	21	1 1 duplicate	Francesca	18/10/10	
29b		wahenga	12	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
30b		wahenga	15	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
31b		wahenga	15	2	Francesca	18/10/10	
	"cash transfer"	wahenga	5	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	"food security"	wahenga	3	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	education	wahenga	2	1	Francesca	18/10/10	
	pensions	wahenga	1	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	"social transfers"	wahenga	14	1	Francesca	18/10/10	
	"social protection"	wahenga	5	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
	"cash transfer"	wahenga	5	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
19b	"employment guarantee"	Poverty Action Lab	1	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
20b	NREGA	Poverty Action Lab	3	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
21b	Jefes	Poverty Action Lab	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
22b	PSNP	Poverty Action Lab	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
23b	"productive safety nets programme"	Poverty Action Lab	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
24b	Zibambebe	Poverty Action Lab	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
25b	MEGs	Poverty Action Lab	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
26b	"Maharashtra employment guarantee"	Poverty Action Lab	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	



## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
27b	"new deal"	Poverty Action Lab	1	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
28b	"cash transfer"	Poverty Action Lab	30	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
29b	grant	Poverty Action Lab	95	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
30b	"social transfer"	Poverty Action Lab	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
31b	pension	Poverty Action Lab	20	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
19b		Eldis	14	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
20b		Eldis	2	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
21b		Eldis	1	duplicate	Francesca	18/10/10	
22b		Eldis	2	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
23b		Eldis	1	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
24b		Eldis	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
25b		Eldis	0	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
26b		Eldis	1	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
27b		Eldis	33	0	Francesca	18/10/10	
28b		Eldis	78	4 external links including UNESCO 20 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
29b		Eldis	48	1 7 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
30b		Eldis	123	3 20 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
31b		Eldis	77	8 uploads 4 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
19b		Chronic Poverty Centre	71	1 upload 1 duplicate 1 background	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
20b		Chronic Poverty Centre	33	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
21b		Chronic Poverty Centre	5	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
22b		Chronic Poverty Centre	14	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
23b		Chronic Poverty Centre	4	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
24b		Chronic Poverty Centre	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
25b		Chronic Poverty Centre	3	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
26b		Chronic Poverty Centre	16	1	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
27b		Chronic Poverty Centre	7	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
28b		Chronic Poverty Centre	103	3 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
29b		Chronic Poverty Centre	185	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
30b		Chronic Poverty Centre	36	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
31b		Chronic Poverty Centre	135	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
19b		Idea.repec.org	5	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
20b		Idea.repec.org	2	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
21b		Idea.repec.org	4	2 uploads 2 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
22b		Idea.repec.org	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
23b		Idea.repec.org	1	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
24b		Idea.repec.org	1	1	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
25b		Idea.repec.org	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
26b		Idea.repec.org	2	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
27b		Idea.repec.org	21	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
28b		Idea.repec.org	109	7 uploads 17 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
29b		Idea.repec.org	51	0 uploads 6 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
30b		Idea.repec.org	118	2 uploads 10 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
31b		Idea.repec.org	74	1 upload 9 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
19b	"employment guarantee"	GSDRC	6	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
20b	NREGA	GSDRC	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
21b	PSNP	GSDRC	1	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
22b		GSDRC	4	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
23b		GSDRC	4	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
24b		GSDRC	4	1 duplicate 1 bibliography relevant literature listed below	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
25b		GSDRC	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
26b		GSDRC	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
27b		GSDRC	1	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
28b		GSDRC	236	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
29b		GSDRC	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
30b		GSDRC	41	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
31b		GSDRC	67	4 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
19b		Research for DfID	16	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
20b		Research for DfID	1	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
21b		Research for DfID	1	duplicate	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
22b		Research for DfID	1	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
23b		Research for DfID	1	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
24b		Research for DfID	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
25b		Research for DfID	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
26b		Research for DfID	8	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
27b		Research for DfID	2	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
28b		Research for DfID	13	2 duplicates	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
29b		Research for DfID	85	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
30b		Research for DfID	6	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
31b		Research for DfID	21	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
19b		ILO	41		Francesca	19-20/10/10	
20b		ILO	7	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
21b		ILO	9	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
22b		ILO	1	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
23b		ILO	0	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
24b		ILO	1	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
25b		ILO	1	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
26b		ILO	6	1 background paper	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
27b		ILO	22	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
28b		ILO	75	1 background paper	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
29b		ILO	332	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
30b		ILO	35	0	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
31b		ILO	301	1 duplicate	Francesca	19-20/10/10	
19b		Dev Policy Review	10	1	Francesca	21/10/10	
20b		Dev Policy Review	1	1 duplicate	Francesca	21/10/10	
21b		Dev Policy Review	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
22b		Dev Policy Review	2	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
23b		Dev Policy Review	2	0	Francesca	21/10/10	

The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
24b		Dev Policy Review	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
25b		Dev Policy Review	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
26b		Dev Policy Review	1	duplicate	Francesca	21/10/10	
27b		Dev Policy Review	9	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
28b		Dev Policy Review	28	4 duplicates 1 upload	Francesca	21/10/10	
29b		Dev Policy Review	172	4 duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
30b		Dev Policy Review	335	5 duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
31b		Dev Policy Review	500	> duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
19b		Journal of Int Dev	11	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
20b		Journal of Int Dev	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
21b		Journal of Int Dev	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
22b		Journal of Int Dev	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
23b		Journal of Int Dev	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
24b		Journal of Int Dev	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
25b		Journal of Int Dev	2	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
26b		Journal of Int Dev	3	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
27b		Journal of Int Dev	9	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
28b		Journal of Int Dev	26	1 upload	Francesca	21/10/10	
29b		Journal of Int Dev	269	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
30b		Journal of Int Dev	8	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
31b		Journal of Int Dev	75	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
19b		Journal of Dev Studies	252	6 duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
20b		Journal of Dev Studies	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
21b		Journal of Dev Studies	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	

## The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
22b		Journal of Dev Studies	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
23b		Journal of Dev Studies	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
24b		Journal of Dev Studies	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
25b		Journal of Dev Studies	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
26b		Journal of Dev Studies	7	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
27b		Journal of Dev Studies	250	1 upload	Francesca	21/10/10	
28b		Journal of Dev Studies	251	> duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
29b		Journal of Dev Studies	60	1 duplicate	Francesca	21/10/10	
30b		Journal of Dev Studies	251	> duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
31b		Journal of Dev Studies	19	1 duplicate	Francesca	21/10/10	
19b		World Development	23	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
20b		World Development	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
21b		World Development	4	1 duplicate	Francesca	21/10/10	
22b		World Development	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
23b		World Development	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
24b		World Development	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
25b		World Development	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
26b		World Development	7	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
27b		World Development	9	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
28b		World Development	81	3 duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
29b		World Development	614	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
30b		World Development	13	0	Francesca	21/10/10	

The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
31b		World Development	198	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
19b		Journal of Dev Econ	9	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
20b		Journal of Dev Econ	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
21b		Journal of Dev Econ	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
22b		Journal of Dev Econ	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
23b		Journal of Dev Econ	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
24b		Journal of Dev Econ	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
25b		Journal of Dev Econ	0	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
26b		Journal of Dev Econ	1	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
27b		Journal of Dev Econ	3	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
28b		Journal of Dev Econ	26	4 duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
29b		Journal of Dev Econ	122	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
30b		Journal of Dev Econ	9	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
31b		Journal of Dev Econ	43	1 upload	Francesca	21/10/10	
19b		Google scholar	3,150 – screen first 100	> duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
20b		Google scholar	252	1 duplicate	Francesca	21/10/10	
21b		Google scholar	1,940	> duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
22b		Google scholar	298	1 upload	Francesca	21/10/10	
23b		Google scholar	54	1 background paper	Francesca	21/10/10	
24b		Google scholar	61	1 duplicate 1 upload	Francesca	21/10/10	
25b		Google scholar	8,880	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
26b		Google scholar	421	> duplicates	Francesca	21/10/10	
27b		Google scholar	42,300	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
28b		Google scholar	6,520	> duplicates 7 uploads	Francesca	21/10/10	

The impact of work guarantee schemes on the poor compared with cash transfers

Search String	Keywords	Database & platform	No. of hits	No. of relevant hits	Searched by	Date	Notes
29b		Google scholar	567,000	1 upload	Francesca	21/10/10	
30b		Google scholar	2,500	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
31b		Google scholar	112,000	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
19b		Meta crawler	40	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
20b		Meta crawler	40	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
21b		Meta crawler	40	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
22b		Meta crawler	40	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
23b		Meta crawler	120	1 upload	Francesca	21/10/10	
24b		Meta crawler	40	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
25b		Meta crawler	40	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
26b		Meta crawler	80	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
27b		Meta crawler	40	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
28b		Meta crawler	40	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
29b		Meta crawler	40	0	Francesca	21/10/10	
30b		Meta crawler	40	1 upload	Francesca	21/10/10	
31b		Meta crawler	>1000	0	Francesca	21/10/10	