Asset Building: Global Perspectives

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Global Perspectives on Adolescent Health and Economic Strengthening Conference: Lessons from Sub-Saharan Africa

University of Chicago
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International Footprints
Why?

Income and consumption:
- Essential for sustenance and well-being
- Do *not* improve long-term conditions

Assets and savings:
- Critical for long-term development of individuals and households
- Lead to many secondary “asset effects” that enhance quality of life
Asset Building Policies…

They do exist for the rich.

The poor deserve them too
(especially vulnerable children & adolescents)!
Experiment the Ideas

- Early 1990’s: IDAs, and *Assets and the Poor*
  - Translated into Chinese in 2004 and published in 2005

- Late 1990’s: The American Dream Demonstration
United Kingdom

- Saving Gateway (matched savings like IDAs)

- Child Trust Fund: First truly universal and progressive asset-based policy.
South Korea

• Child Development Accounts

• “Hope Development Accounts” won the 2010 UN Public Service Award.
Policy Diffusion in South Korea
### Policy Diffusion in South Korea

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Implementing Government</th>
<th>Policies/Programs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Korean National Gov</td>
<td>Child Development Accounts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Seoul Metropolitan Gov</td>
<td>Seoul Hope Dream Project</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Daeku City Gov</td>
<td>3-yr: housing and small business</td>
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<td>5-yr: children's education</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Changwon City Gov</td>
<td>2-yr: matched savings</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Pyeungtaek City Gov</td>
<td>3-yr: IDA</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Namyangju City Gov</td>
<td>3-yr: IDA</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Ministry of Health, Welfare, and Family Affairs</td>
<td>Hope Kium Accounts</td>
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</tbody>
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Mainland China: Selected ConfS

International Conference on Asset Building and Social Development (Shandong, China, 2004)

Shandong University

Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Center for Social Development
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Lifelong Asset Building: Strategies and Innovation in Asia

Peking University Beijing, China
November 15-18, 2012
Mainland China: Selected Pubs
Mainland China: Research

Research Project in Hutubi County, Xinjiang

Assets in a rural retirement security scheme used for agricultural and household investments
Hong Kong, China

Child Development Fund
(since April 2008)

Goal: encourage children to plan for the future, develop an asset-building habit, accumulate savings
Policy Diffusion in Taiwan
## Policy Diffusion in Taiwan

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<td>2000</td>
<td>Taipei City Gov</td>
<td>3-yr: Taipei Family Development Accounts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Taipei City Gov</td>
<td>3-yr: Self Development Accounts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Taipei City Gov</td>
<td>3-yr: Youth Development Accounts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Taipei City Gov</td>
<td>4-yr: Children Hope Development Accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Taipei County Gov</td>
<td>Matched savings program</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Kaohsiung City Gov</td>
<td>Hope Project for the 2nd Gen.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Yi Lan County Gov</td>
<td>7-yr: Minority Family Development Accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Ping-Tung County Gov</td>
<td>5-yr: Happy and Secure Accounts</td>
</tr>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Chiay County</td>
<td>Matched savings program</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Taoyuan County</td>
<td>1-yr: Matched savings program for youth</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
YouthSave: A Global Initiative

- Multi-year project to promote financial asset building for low-income youth
- Principal activities
  - **Product development**: Technical assistance and cost-sharing on start-up expenses for local FIs to develop and roll out savings accounts attractive & accessible to low-income youth
  - **Research**: Collection & analysis of client- and FI-level data to understand customer behavior & outcomes, business case for FIs
  - **Engagement & knowledge dissemination**: two-way knowledge sharing with diverse stakeholders to inform policy and practice on youth savings
- Implementation countries: Colombia, Ghana, Kenya, Nepal
- Timeline: 2010 – 2015
Partnership

**Funder:** The MasterCard Foundation

**YouthSave Consortium (US-based):**
- Save the Children
- Center for Social Development, Washington University
- Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP)
- New America Foundation

**In-country Partners:**
YouthSave Family
Research Team in Kenya
Goals of the Learning Agenda

• Document the uptake, savings patterns and outcomes of YSAs on clients and financial institutions.

• Build international research partnerships in four countries.
A Few Take-Away Points:

- Asset building is emerging worldwide as an innovative policy;
- Policy potential to benefit large population;
- Growing body of international research;
- Great cross-learning opportunities.
THANK YOU