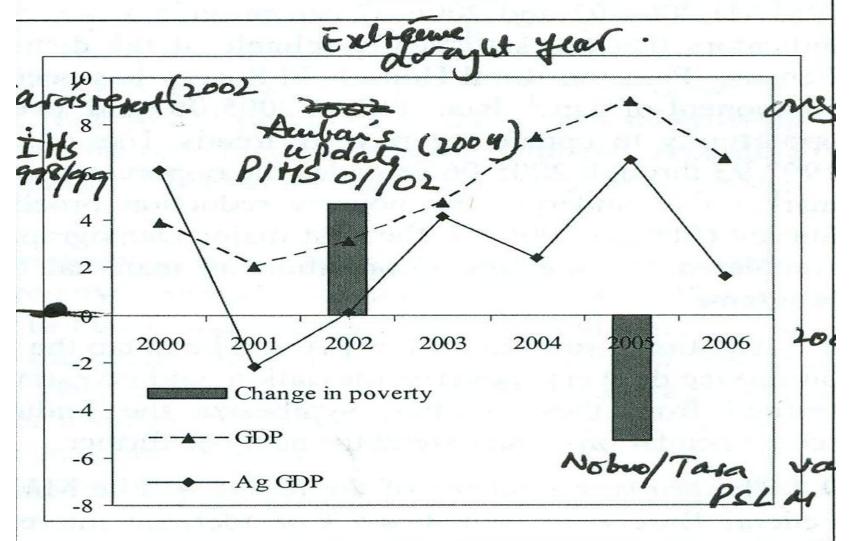
# Two Programs of Social Protection: Perspectives of the Board

Ijaz Nabi

Lahore School Conference March 21, 2013

Figure 1: Relationship in annual rate among GDP growth, Agricultural GDP growth, and poverty reduction



**Source**: World Bank staff estimation using Economic Surveys and PSLM 2004-05 data.

#### Vulnerability

- Agricultural cycles
- Growth boom and bust cycles
- Natural disasters
- Food prices, inflation in general
- Assets
   (education, health, land, livestock, access to finance)

## Research (evaluations, RCT's) underpinning roll out of social protection.

#### 1. BISP

- The program
- Popular perception
- What has a demanding Board learnt?
- Issues going forward

#### 2. PSDF

The program

The Board's bars for measuring success

Instruments for meeting the bars (surveys, 3<sup>rd</sup> party monit, audits, course correcting evaluations)

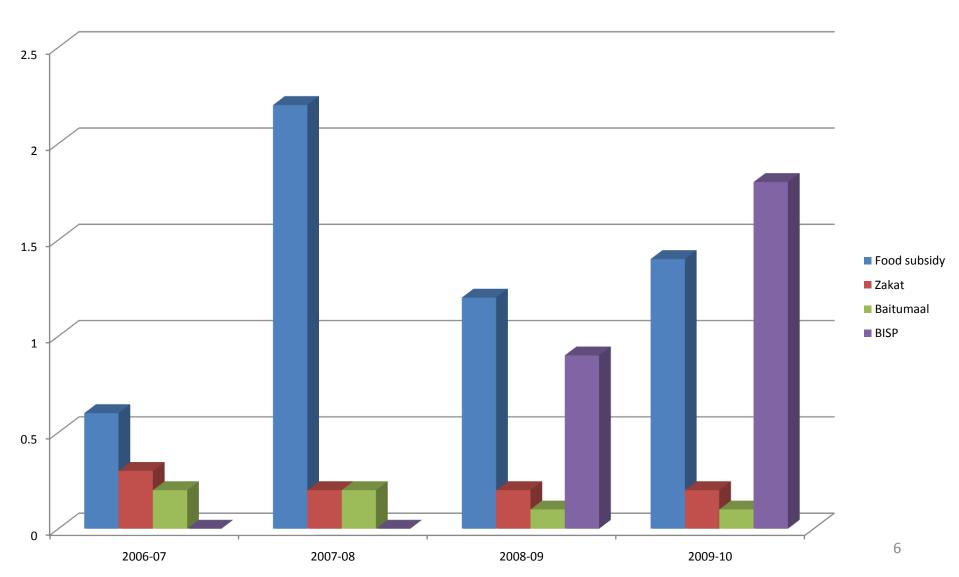
Comparison with other programs

Issues going forward

### I. Benazir Income Support Program

### Various Social protection programs

(share of total public expenditure)



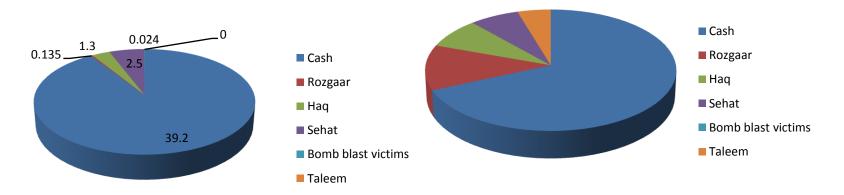
### Many programs of BISP

- Cash grant
- Waseela-e-Rozgar
- Waseela-e-Haq
- Waseela-e-Taleem
- Waseela-e-Sehat
- Bomb blast victims
- Emergency Relief Package

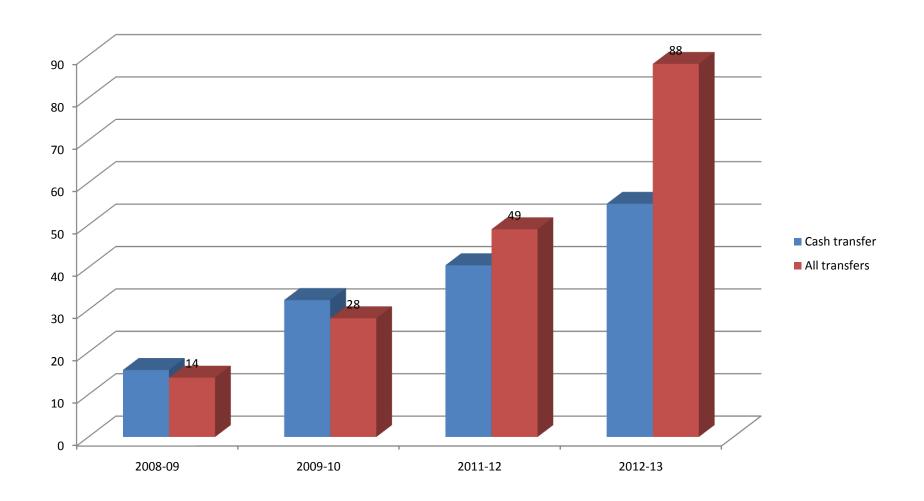
### The size of BISP programs

2011-12
Total programs Rs 43 billion plus
Rs 6 billion admin cost
(NADRA, Banks/Pak post)

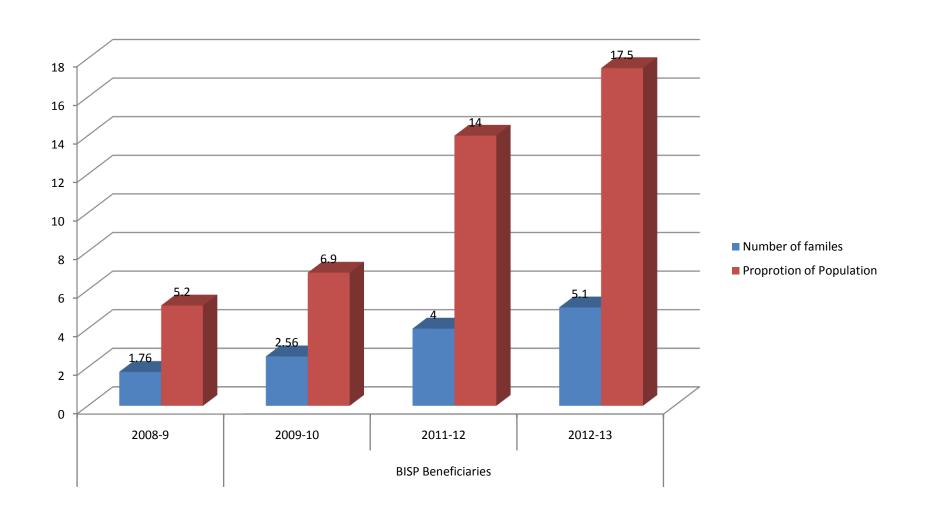
2015-16
Tripling of programs projected



### BISP Cash and All transfers (Rs billions)



#### Cash Transfer Beneficiaries



#### 4. Popular Perception

90 percent is corruption!

## 5. Questions the Board wanted answered

- How are the beneficiaries selected?
- How are they paid?
- Where are the beneficiaries located?
  - Sindh high because of floods
- How poor are the beneficiaries and what difference does the cash grant make to poverty and other indicators of marginalization?
- How can the administrative costs be brought down?

#### 6.Board process

- 11 Board Members (5 independent, 5 govt, Secretary/CEO)
- 8 Board meetings since October 2011.
- 4 Committees; 8 meetings

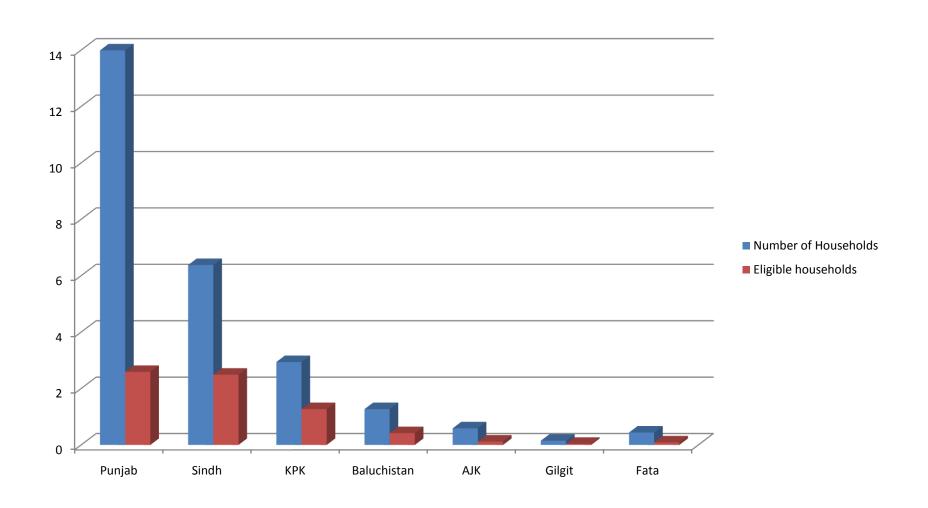
# 7. What the Board learnt. Selection of Beneficiaries

- Phase I (2008-09 to 2010-11); Beneficiaries identified by parliamentarians.
- Phase II (2011-12 to 2012-13 and onward);
   Beneficiaries identified via Household survey.
- Technical assistance provided by World Bank, DFID
- Survey involved assessment of all Pakistani households (28 million, except in FATA) to identify eligible households using a Proxy Means Test applied to household assets (23 variables)
- Cut off score 16.17 resulted in resulted in the capture of 7.2 million household or the poorest 20 percent of the population.

#### Payment

- Each ever married female in the household receives Rs 1000 per month
- CNIC a requirement
- Originally via Pakistan Post (complaints), now largely via BISP ATM card

#### Location of Beneficiaries



# Is it working? Third Party Evaluations of the Survey

 Reliability of the survey evaluated by Innovative Development Strategies and GHK to test completeness and quality of the survey.

#### Findings:

- Overall coverage 93 percent
- 85 percent of the processes were followed for all prescribed activities in the survey

#### Is it Working?

#### Third part Evaluation: Payment system

- Evaluated by USAID: Budget Support Monitoring
- Findings:
  - 98.69 percent of the beneficiaries received the cash payment (32% mobile payment by banks, 25 % Pak Post; 41% Smart card)
  - 81% spend on average 1 day, or 2 hours or Rs 175 to receive the cash grant, In Baluchistan Rs 200 have to be paid to the postman
  - 60 % of cash grant use decided by senior females, rest jointly.

# Is it working? Financial Audit

- Audit for financial year 2010-11 and 2011-12 conducted in October 2012.
- The audit report is satisfactory regarding progress and operations
- No serious observations
- Report being finalized and will soon be released

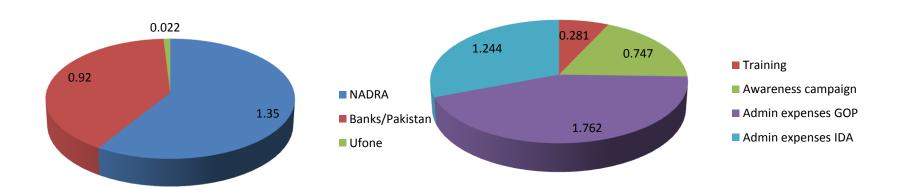
# Is it working? Impact Evaluation: Baseline Survey

- Oxford Policy Management contracted by World Bank and DFID
- Baseline survey completed and report prepared December 2011
- Sampled households in two groups: Group A (treatment group), households below PMT 16.17 and should be beneficiaries; Group B (control group), non-beneficiaries PMT above 16.17 up to 19.5.

### Program Delivery Expenses of BISP

Service Charge cost of BISP 2011-12 (Rs 2.3 billion; 4.6 % of total)

Administrative cost of BISP 2011-12 (Rs 4.03 billion; 8.2 % of total)



#### 8. Issues going forward

- Beneficiary data updating
- BISP capacity and the many programs
- 18<sup>th</sup> amendment and the need to work with provinces (highway versus bus service)
- Fiscal sustainability
- Given access to researchers for enhancing credibility and improving design
- The case of Waseel-e-Rozgar and PSDF

### II. Punjab Skills Development Fund

### Punjab Skills Development Fund The Program

Joint Govt of Punjab/DFID Punjab Employment Opportunities Program (PEOP)

Components: Skills Development (GBP 25 million each, shared equally)

Organizational structure: PSDF set up as Section 4 company. Independent Board, Livestock to be run by the concerned govt department. Both to be overseen by a Steering group under Chairman P&D. A technical assistance component

PSDP registered, CEO hired and the program launched in 2011.

Livestock component jettisoned mid-2012

#### **PSDF**

- Area Focus: Four South Punjab Districts (Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar, Lodhran, Muzaffargarh), le ast developed in terms of poverty, education, health indicators etc
- Target Beneficiaries are the vulnerable
- Vulnerability (the poor, women, those less than \$2 a month); 60 emales, 40 % women
- Problem with focusing on the poorest for skills training
- Overall Objective: train 80000 vulnerable people over five years (135000 after inheriting Livestock funds GBP 22mill); 10 k, 25k, 30k, 50k, 20k.
- Restore credibility of the state

## PSDF Board's bars for measuring success

- Zero tolerance for corruption
- No ghost programs
- Private sector development
- Target the right people
- Ensure employability and income

#### Instruments for meeting the bars

- Evidence based design roll out (baseline survey; employer survey) (targeting the right people, no ghosts).
- Transparent bids (no corruption)
- Ongoing third party monitoring (no ghosts)
- Independent financial audits (one every fiscal year)
- Course correcting evaluations (RCT) (targeting)

#### Evidence based design roll out

- Base line survey of the living conditions in the four districts
- Survey of household (11000 hh) preferences for skills
- A survey of employers on skills demanded
- A survey of networks for job placements
- Two categories of skills identified:
  - Skills for market (tailoring, home crafts etc)
  - Skills for jobs (welding, electrician, chefs, inventory control etc)

### Third party Monitoring (no ghosts)

- Monitor Courses being delivered
  - 2 surprise visits per course
  - Premises
  - Attendance by trainees
  - materials supplied
  - Trainee perception about quality
- Classes suspended (payments halted), no trainer disqualified so far

#### Course correcting evaluations I

- Vouchers to assess real demand; uptake a dismal 5 %.
- Reasons: training center location; not enough information, stipend too low?
- RCT
  - In vill. mobilization, training outside
  - Community mobil., training outside
  - In-village training
- New bids for course offerings inside the village

#### The Impact of Village Based Training

#### Overall voucher uptake by training

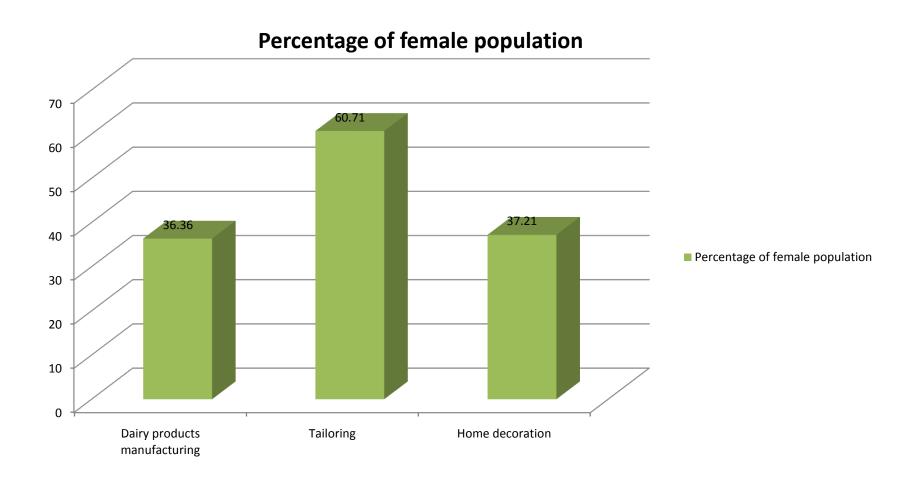
#### Percent of female population

■ Percent of female population



#### Course desirability matters

Voucher uptake in village based training by course

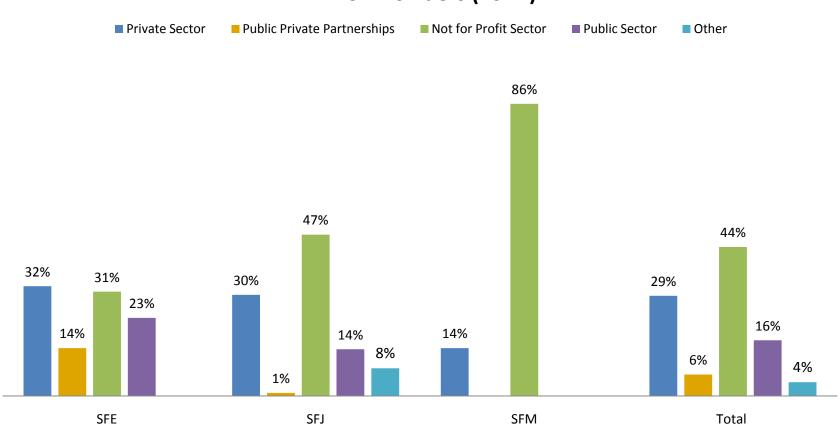


#### Course correcting evaluations II

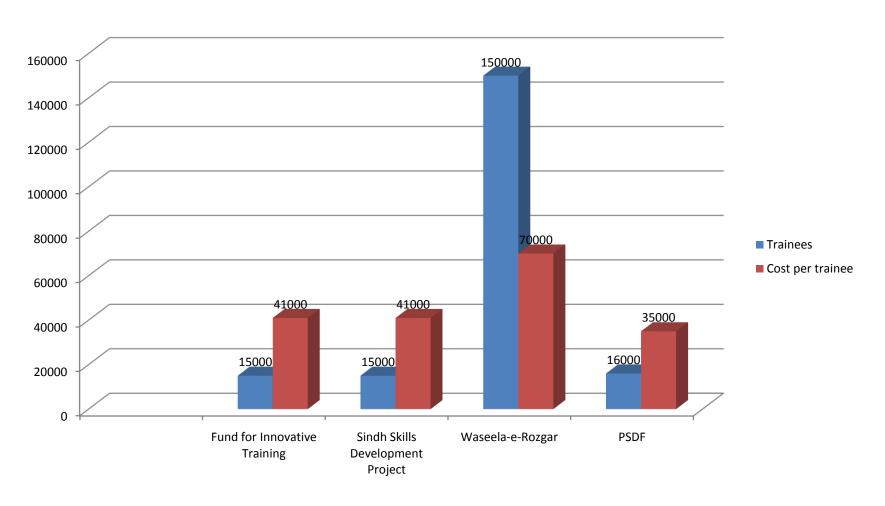
- Employability and income effects
- RCT
- Oversampling of trainee cohort (ie both those offered training and those turned down)
- Tracer surveys to assess the difference in income post training period.

### Private sector development

#### Mix of Providers (PSDF)



## A comparison of Four Skills Development Programs



### Going forward

- Scale up to cover all of Punjab
- Retaining the core design elements.
- How much social protection, how much growth?
- Relationship to other training programs
- Private market for training?