

Sharing the load: Who carries what?

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- Affordability
- Changing roles

Affordability

- Discussions of cash transfers often turn to the question of affordability.
- To answer the question of affordability is to first ask and answer the question of how much is enough.
 - What grant amount is enough?
 - Who should get it?

Total cost

- How much will a cash grant focused response to children in the context of HIV and AIDS cost?
 - How much do you have?
- Important not to confuse a positive impact of an intervention with an adequate one.
- More can almost always be done – poor children are just as costly as rich.

Relative efficiency

- We can't afford to do enough so should we do nothing?
 - Typically lower overheads than in kind transfers.
 - Resources directly to poor families.
 - Proven effectiveness.
 - Facilitative role in accessing other services.
 - Reduce or reverse negative impacts of aid
- Redirecting inefficiently used resources and using new resources for cash transfers would seem to be an appropriate part of the response regardless of resource levels.

Who does what?

Changing roles

- There is some concern that growing state involvement will push out other responses.
- Pushing out inefficient poverty alleviation is appropriate – although transition is important.
- But this serves to free up other actors to respond in accordance to their comparative advantage.

Comparative advantage

- Dealing with problems and dealing with individuals.
- Civil society responses
 - Provision of state services
 - Demonstration projects
 - Facilitation
 - Amplification
 - Linking services
 - Context-specific and non-scalable services
 - Activism and empowerment

Conclusions

- Responding to the rights of children is a big task.
- There is a place for everyone in the response.