

Social Protection: Linking Policy and Strategic Trajectories in Social Capital Development and Civic Engagement

**BT Costantinos, PhD
School of Graduate Studies, AAU**

ESSSWA 8th Annual conference

***“Effective Social Protection and Safety Net Schemes:
Bedrocks for Economic Growth and Transformation in
Ethiopia”***

Ethiopian Society of Sociologists, Social Workers and Anthropologists

My presentation this morning

- **Statement of the problem**
- **Paradigmatic notion of social capital and human security**
- **Methodology and research questions and GNH findings**
- **Social Protection and the Developmental State**
- **Public and private entrepreneurial development**
 - *Employment Dynamics and Social Harmony*
 - *Transforming emergency aid to employment in post-conflicts*
 - *Priming human qualities*
 - *Real-time State strategy development and economic liberalisation*
 - *Knowledge management and Communities of Practice*
 - *Entrepreneurship development: Credit and Capital markets*
 - *Mainstreaming entrepreneurial employment*
- **Issues for discussion**

Paradigmatic Notions of Social Capital and Human Security

Employment &
Entrepreneurial
Development

The Challenges to Social Protection

- The need for collective learning about our responses to vulnerability, and the responsibility to those whose suffering provided the basis for that learning will never be more urgent than it is now.
- To every human problem in Africa, there is always a solution that is smart, simple and immoral: SAPs, PRSPs, MDGs
- The reasons for this criminal negligence of the human security dimension are rooted in human inertia, weakness, self-interest and genuine confusion about how to act effectively in an environment that is growing more complex .

Social Harmony, Employment and Peace

- **Human Security: a life free of menace**
 - Freedom from Fear
 - Freedom from Want
- **Social capital foundations of *protection***
 - Associational life
 - Civil Society: **when does society become civil?**
- **Global frameworks: The UN Universal Declaration of Rights , African Gender & Youth Policy ...**
- **Consequences of human insecurity**
 - The Jasmine Revolution
 - “Arab Spring”

Analytical Limitations and Dimensions to Social protection

1. ...narrow social protection thought & practice to terms of immediate, not well considered, political and social action, **a naive realism, as it were**
2. ...inattention to problems of articulation of social protection systems within **local realities rather than simply as abstract possibilities;**
3. ...a nearly exclusive concern in institutional perspectives of social protection as opposed to operationalising the **rules and institutions**
4. ...ambiguity as to whether **civil society is the agent or object of social protection**
5. ...inadequate treatment of the Bretton Woods Institutions: GDP measures, SAPs, The Washington Consensus...

Human Wellness Measures

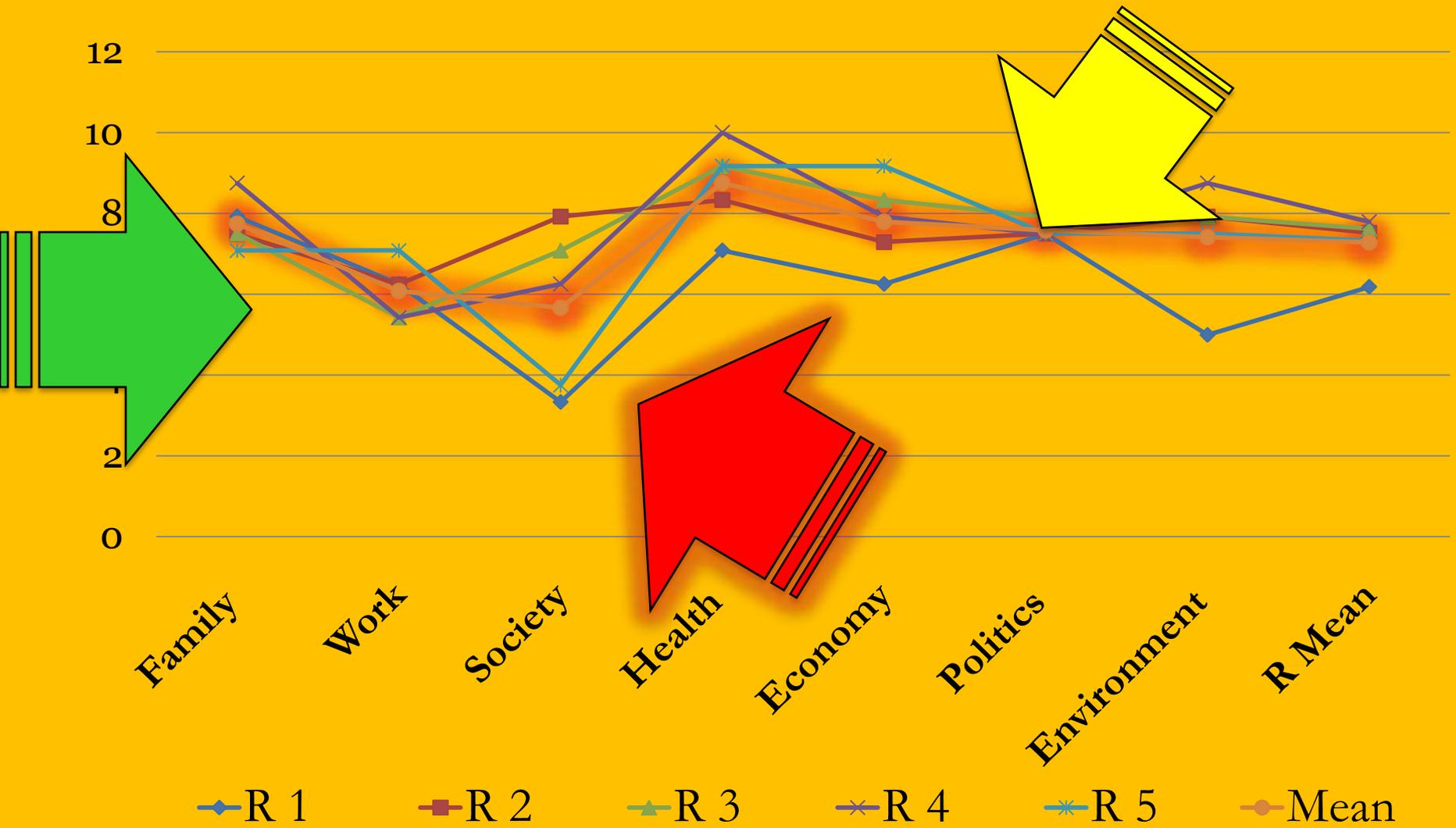
- **Growth Domestic Product**
- **Human development** : raising human capabilities to lead *long and healthy lives*, to be *knowledgeable* and access to resources for *decent standard of living*.
 - **The Human Development Index** : longevity, knowledge and decent standard of living – measured by life expectancy, educational attainment (adult literacy , primary - tertiary enrolment), and adjusted income.
 - **Human Poverty Index (HPI & II)**: reflects the distribution of progress and measures the backlog of deprivations that still exists;
- **The GNH concept**: fulfilment as a socioeconomic change metric: - **Gross National Wellness** or second generation **Gross National Fulfilment**. The metrics measure **social protection** by tracking seven development areas, including the **nation's mental and emotional health**

Research Questions and Objective

- **GNH:** While the research has limitations, using structured and semi-structured methods, the following questions were administered in **home, work, society, health, economic, politics and environment**
 - What are the top challenges in the life of people?
 - What are the positive things in the life of people?
 - What would government and business leaders do to stem the challenges and build on the positives?
What should be the most influential local or global governmental and non-government initiatives?
- **Objective:** test the GNH methodology and metric measures of human wellness

Findings – GNH survey

Fig.1 Meskel Square Wellness Survey



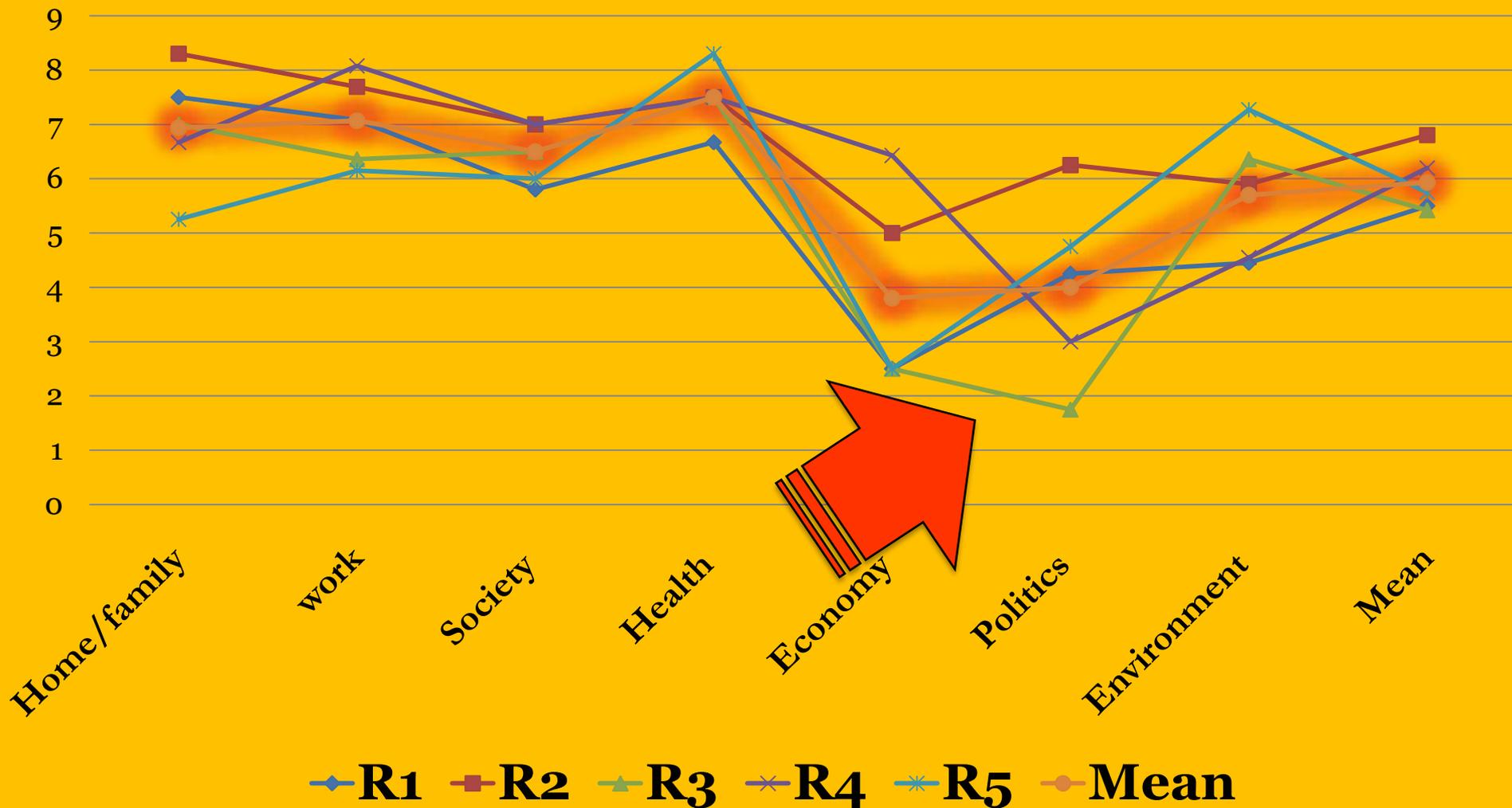
Findings – GNH survey...

Fig. 2 AFINCHO BER Wellness Survey



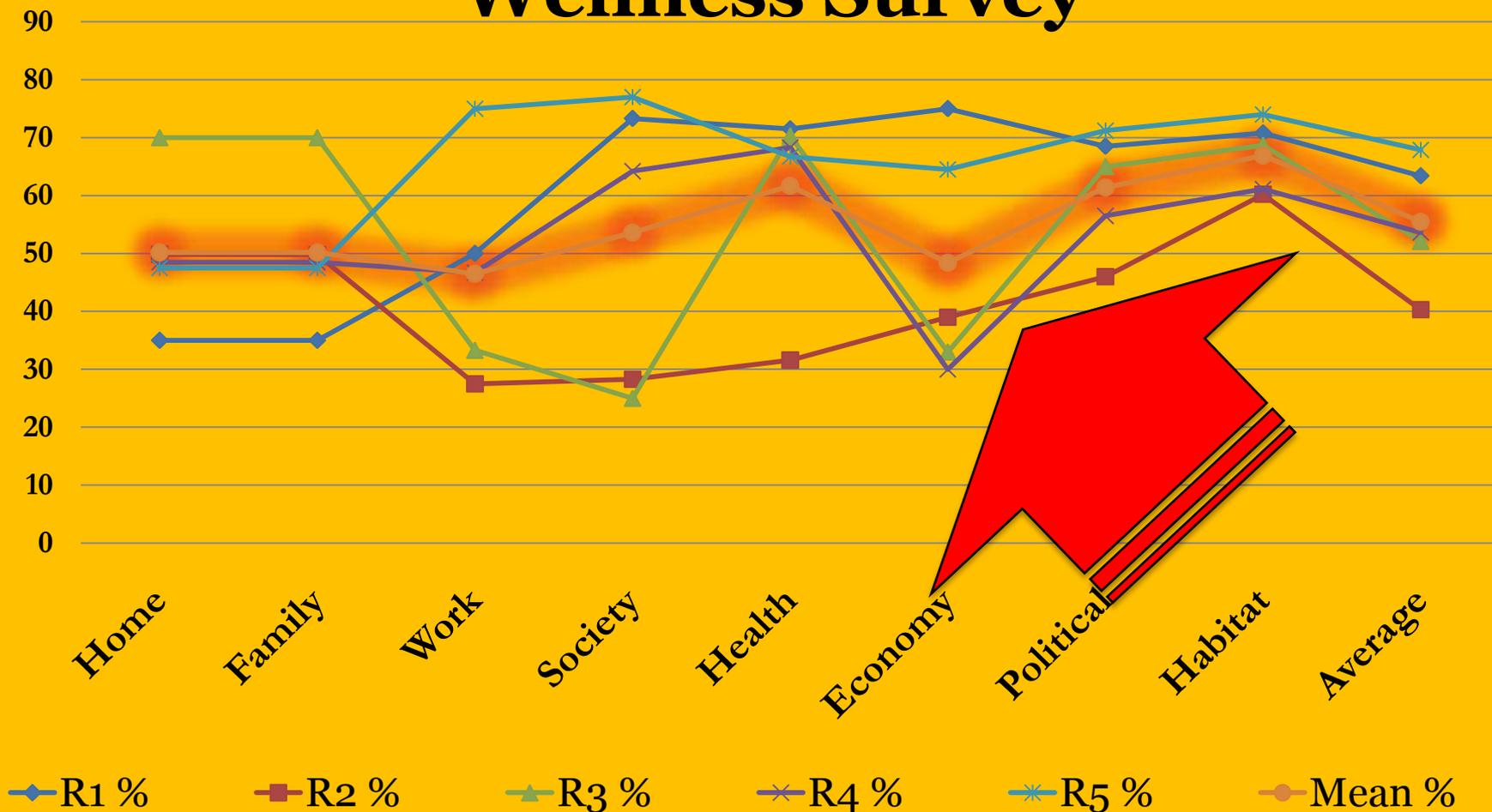
Findings – GNH survey..

Fig. 3 Arat Kilo Wellness Survey



Findings – GNH survey...

Fig 4 Merkato and Torhailoch Wellness Survey



Findings – Famine relief -based Employment generation 1995 survey...

	Merti & Jeju	Wobera	Kilte Awla' alo	Addis Abeba
Self targeting	initiated in good scale	indirectly	hasn't started	none
Admin targeting	under trial	only norm	only norm	only norm
Inclusive M&E Organisation	None could be enhanced	None Need enhancing	the Baytos already exists	none difficulty
Tenure issues	not well understood	inequitable	equitable	???
Decision making	consultative	consultative	Consultative	consultative
Staff awareness	Need intense sensitisation	Need sensitisation	Have good awareness	???
Local awareness	contact / low	Need aware	Need aware	???
Knowledge pool	exists,	exists,	pool exists,	???
Participation	commendable efforts	conflict	good beginning	???
Carrying capacity	equilibrium	exceeded	exceeded	not defined
Cash economy	less developed	well developed	less developed	developed
Payment	cash/food	food	food/cash	cash/food

Policy and Strategic Arenas for Social Protection and Entrepreneurial Development

- **Rules and Institutions**
 - Ideology
 - Agency
- **System**
 - Structure
 - Process
 - Policy
 - Strategy

Social Protection and The Developmental State

1. **DS: development as the top priority of state policy & able to design effective instruments to promote such a goal”.**
2. A DS is an interventionist state that identifies priorities, develop strategies, targets & facilitates coordination among various sectors and stakeholders, monitor achievement of goals.
 - **Instruments: forging new institutions, weaving formal and informal collaborative networks** and new opportunities for profitable production & trade;
 - **Characterization:** An effective DS should have political will and capacity to articulate and implement policies to expand human capabilities, enhance equity and promote economic and social transformation.

Correcting the pitfalls of state intervention

1. The Pitfalls

- The entire state apparatus may be captured by powerful political elite and unchecked intervention, which is beyond the level needed to correct market failure,
- Weak integrity may lead to rent seeking, breeding waste and inefficiency.
- Inappropriate behavior of corrupt regulatory agencies,

2. Correcting the pitfalls

- **A DS may focus on three groups:**
 - **Committed political leadership,**
 - **Autonomous & professional bureaucracy,**
 - **Stakeholder participation, particularly civil society and the media, which have oversight responsibility**
- **Policy instruments** to eliminate, or limit, exposure to these risks.

Conclusion

- With few exceptions, most (39) African nations are members of a **bottom billion** club of nations structurally insecure and unaccountable – security and accountability are undersupplied public goods
- **Hence, livelihood security, employment and entrepreneurship generation require a plural set of organisations which promote and protect rules of peaceful political participation and competition.**
- **The necessity to focus on the legal Empowerment of the Poor:**
 - Access to Justice;
 - Entrepreneurial rights;
 - Property rights; and
 - Labour rights;

Policy Recommendations

- 1) **Enhancing the state's role:** *achieving rapid and sustained development combined with deep structural transformation, channeled through a disciplined planning approach...*
- 2) **Building DSs:** The above role is best performed by states that are both developmental and democratic that should build transformative rules & institutions such as:
 - **Bill of Rights**, the rule of law, independent judiciary, representative political institutions, effective regulatory institutions and property rights enforcement,
 - **Professional bureaucracy:** recruitment and advancement are based strictly on **merit**,
 - A **developmentalist coalition** among political leadership, the bureaucracy, private sector and civil society around common national development goals.

Strategic Trajectories: Public and Private Sector Employment

- **Public Sector**

- **Policy imperatives**

- **Define the role of the state**
- **Economic Trajectories**
- **KM, CoP, Credit and Capital Markets...**

- **Safety Nets - EGS: FFW & CFW**

- **Private Sector Policy**

- **Capital: human and financial**
- **Enabling Environment**

Mainstreaming

Entrepreneurial Development and Social Protection Situation Analysis



Divestiture of state enterprises and decentralised management of businesses and public works

Entry points: national and regional frameworks, advocacy, partnership and internal and external domains

Issues for discussion

- 1) While income is a very important determinant of livelihoods, does GDP growth translate to social protection and human security**
- 1) Does the effectiveness of CSOs in social protection depend on their autonomy, capacity, complexity, and coherence**
- 2) Has the application of the rules of the Washington consensus**
 - weakened the state to an extent that it was unable to transform its institutions as social protection agencies?**
 - Or strengthened social movements in favour of social protection (because it weakened the state) or the opposite (because it weakened social accountability of the state?)**
- 3) How can a developmental state emerge in Ethiopia?
Which features does it already have?**

Acknowledgements:

The John Hopkins University MARCH Research Team and AAU –
2011 MPA candidates (MPMP-609) field survey

Thank you

1. Abayneh Demissie, GSR/0255/01,
2. Alemu Tereda Nisrane, GSR/2053/02,
3. Asfaw Gidey, GSR/2035/02,
4. Ataklti Solomon, GSR/2036/02,
5. Bekele Haile Mekonnen, GSR/2037/02,
6. Chala Deyessa Fita, GSR/2038/02,
7. Defferew Kebebe, GSR/2039/02,
8. Demis Alamirew, GSR/2040/02,
9. Ellenie T/Mariam, GSR/1245/02,
10. Kataru Kalsa Borto, GSR/2041/02,
11. Mathias Nigatu, GSR/2042/02,
12. Michael Gobezie, GSR/2044/02,
13. Tagesse Mathewos, GSR/2047/02,
14. Tewodros Hailu, GSR/1244/02,
15. Tewodros Mekonnen, GSR/2048/02,
16. Tsegalem Tibebe, GSR/2049/02

BT Costantinos, PhD

School of Graduate Studies,

Department of Management and Public

Policy, College of Management,

Information and Economic Sciences,

Addis Ababa University