



Overview of Namibia's Social Protection

MINISTRY OF GENDER EQUALITY, POVERTY ERADICATION & SOCIAL WELFARE

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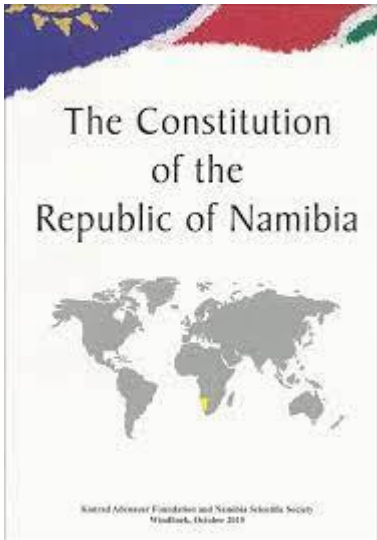


Namibia define social protection as:

A set of policies and strategies to enable people to cope with risks and vulnerabilities to shocks across the life cycle.

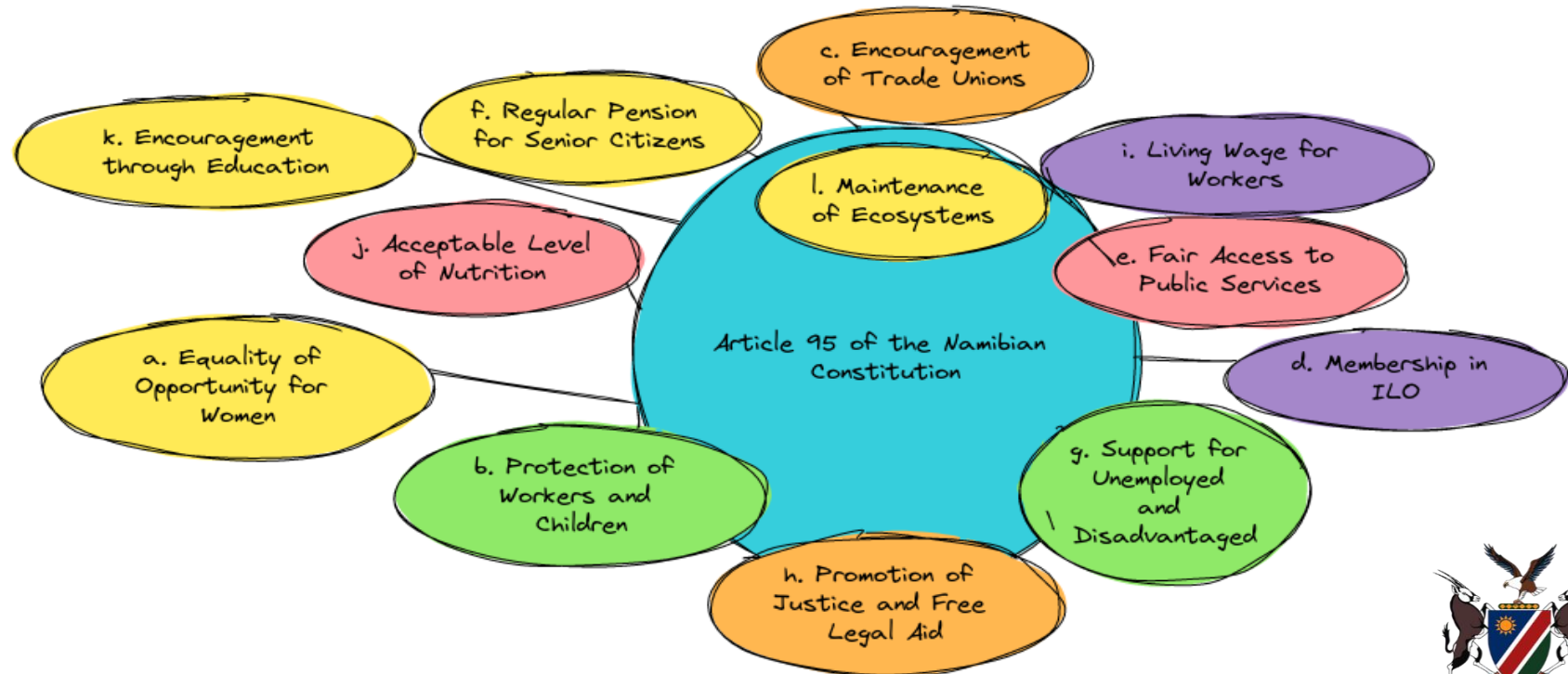


Namibia Legal Framework provision:



Article 95: Promotion of the Welfare of the People

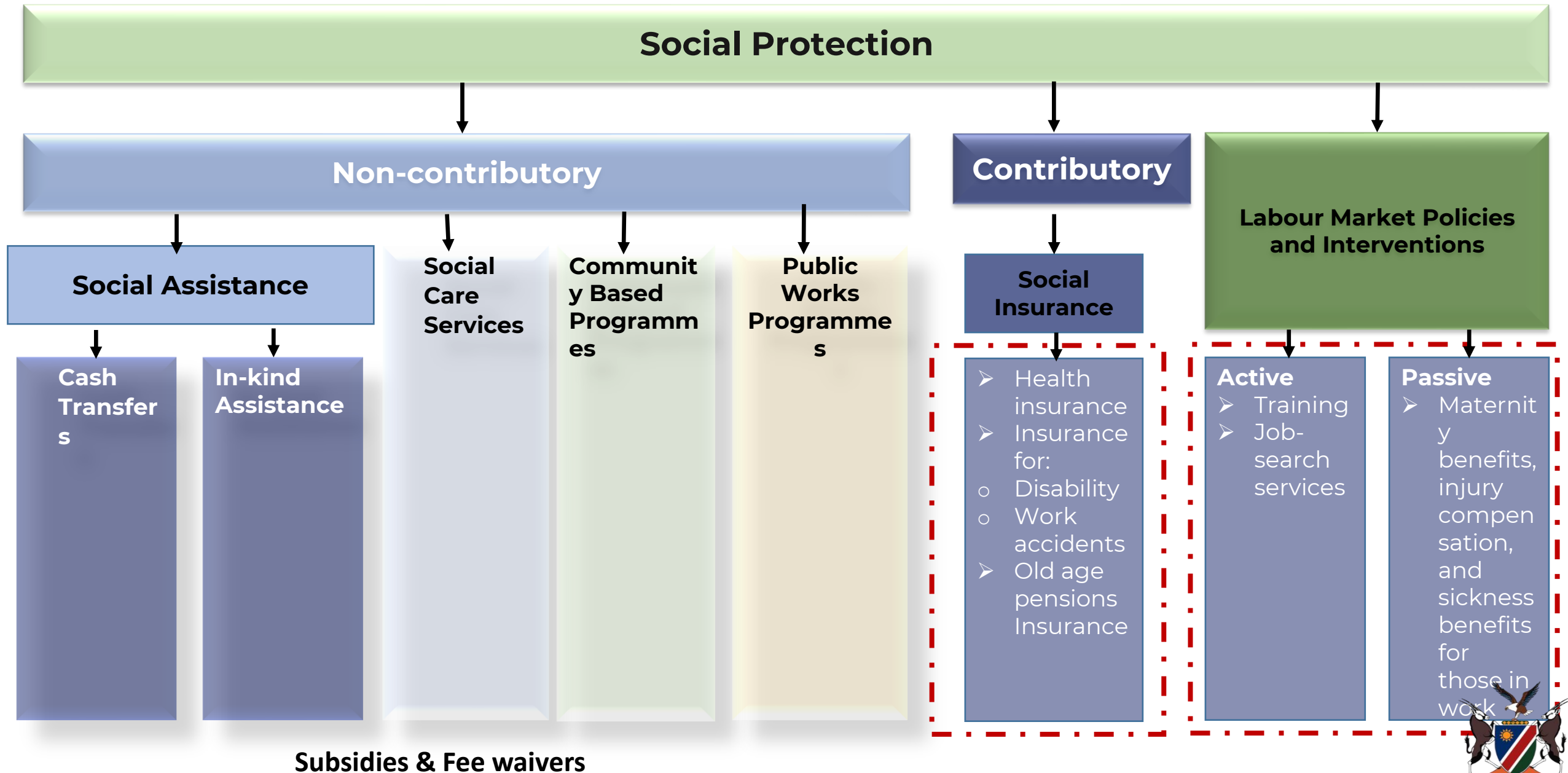
- Article 95 of the Namibian Constitution exhorts the State to actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting, inter alia, policies aimed at the following:



Overview of Namibia' Social Protection



The country's social protection system



Overview of Namibia' Social Protection

Social Assistance

Social Insurance

Cash Transfers	In-kind Assistance	Social Care Services	Community Based Programs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child grants Old age grant (OAG) Disability grants Conditional Basic Income grant Veterans Subventions grant Veterans Improvement Grant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Namibian School Feeding Programme (NSFP) Drought Relief Programme National Resettlement Programme OAG funeral grant Veterans' funeral grant Disability related Support Income Generating Activities (IGAs) Veterans Funeral Service Namibia Student Financial Assistance Fund Loan Programme Livelihoods programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential Child Care Facilities for Children Places of Safety ECD-Educarers Allowance Scheme. Low-cost housing schemes Housing Units for Independent Low-Income Older Adults Free and/or Subsidized Health Care Services Provision of Legal Aid Programme Family Strengthening Programme 	<p>Marginalized Communities programs</p> <p>Community Forest program</p> <p>Public Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food/Cash for Work Rural Sanitation Rural Development Centres Micro-Finance Scheme <p>Subsidies/Fee waivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health care & Education Basic food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maternity, Sick Leave and Death Benefit Fund Employees Compensation Fund Motor Vehicle Accident Fund Government Institutions Pension Fund (GIPF) Public Service Employees Medical Aid Scheme (PSEMAS)



Social Assistance Programmes' criteria

[Social Protection Programmes Booklet](#)

Old Age Grant

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Citizens and permanent residents at least 60 years old.• Applicant must reside permanently in Namibia
Grant amount	Monthly cash of N\$1600 per beneficiary

Foster Parent Grant

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A foster parent caring for a child under the age of 18 in terms of a court order.• The child must be in foster care in terms of a children's court order. No limit on the number of grants payable to foster parents for children in their care <u>BUT</u> foster parents are normally not allowed to care for more than six children. No means test and no tax-related requirement for a foster parent grant.
Grant amount	Monthly cash of N\$350 per beneficiary

Disability Grant

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People aged at least 16 years and medically diagnosed by a state doctor as being temporarily or permanently disabled.• Namibian citizenship or Namibian permanent resident
Grant amount	Monthly cash of N\$1600 per beneficiary

Vulnerable Children's (VC) Grant

Who qualify	Children whom: Both parents with no income, for children aged below 18 years
Grant amount	Monthly cash of N\$1600 per beneficiary



Maintenance Grant

Who qualify	<p>Children whom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological parent with child/children under the age of 18, whose gross income is not more than the amount of Old age grant and whose spouse (parent of the child) is receiving an old age or disability grant or whose spouse (the breadwinner) has died or whose spouse (the breadwinner) is in prison for six months. • Child heading: - a recognised child-headed household as well as adult supervisor of a child-headed household. • Namibian citizenship or permanent residence if not born in Namibia. <p>NB: A state maintenance grant is payable until the child turns 18 (the age of majority) – but may be extended to age 21 on circumstances, upon application. The grant will stop if the child no longer fulfils the grant criteria (for example, if the child’s parent becomes liable for income tax).</p>
Grant amount	Monthly cash of N\$350 per beneficiary

Child Disability Grant (Special Maintenance Grant)

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children aged below 16 years and medically diagnosed by a state doctor as being temporarily or permanently disabled. • Namibian citizenship or permanent residence if not born in Namibia.
Grant amount	Monthly cash of N\$1600 per beneficiary

Short Term Emergency Grants

Who qualify	Open to all Namibians, designed for emergencies such as: accidental loss of child's family, accidental loss of child's home or possessions, natural disasters not covered by other State relief, armed conflicts, illness of the child or child's financial provider and key income provider is awaiting trial, sentenced, imprisoned or admitted to State health institution for a period of at least six months. For Children below 18 years and registration is open throughout the year and Emergency aid is payable for a maximum period of three months.
Grant amount	N\$350 per HH/per month for a maximum of 3 months, Plus in-kind (if applicable)

Veterans Subventions Grant

Who qualify	Individuals who are officially recognised as veterans in terms of the Veterans Act, Act No.2 of 2008 who are unemployed and those earning below a prescribed amount (in the regulation). [It can also be inherited by dependants/children and spouse, (children under 18 or at tertiary or disabled)]
Grant amount	N\$2,200 per month

Conditional Basic Income Grant

Who qualify	Currently to all existing Food Bank beneficiaries and existing beneficiaries of Marginalized Communities Special Feeding Programme. New criterial are currently being developed for CBIG.
Grant amount	N\$600 per month/ per household

Veterans Improvement Grant


Who qualify	Veterans who are ex-plan combatants (Only for Veterans who were militarily trained and deployed at the War Zones) [Not inheritable]
Grant amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category of 1960 to 1970 receives N\$ 5,000.00/per month • Category of 1971 to 1981 receives N\$ 4,000.00/ per month • Category of 1982 to 1989 receives N\$ 3,000.00/per month



Namibian School Feeding Programme (NSFP)

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All learners enrolled for basic education in Grade 0 – 12 in public schools qualifies for school feeding; all pre-primary and primary learners registered with the Government of Namibia are eligible for school feeding; All secondary day learners registered with the government of Namibia are eligible for school feeding. The Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture will consider assisting private schools on a case-by-case basis considering learner population, needs and education indicators. The school should not be a boarding school, or learners should not be residing in the hostel. The school should be operating in a vulnerable community where food shortage is prevalent. The conditions and behaviour displaced by learners during the lesson (e.g. sleeping in lessons) compel the school to investigate the root cause which might be linked to hunger/ shortage of food or fatigue due to long distances the learner's distance to school, among others, could be possible criteria. At most, there should be an identified pressing need for a school to participate in the school programme to support and avoid disruption of teaching and learning
Benefit type	Mid-morning <u>cooked meal</u>

Drought Relief Programme

Who qualify	<p>For Food Provision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Households living in rural areas and whose subsistence farming is affected by the drought; Affected household should not be receiving food relief from any source that is equivalent to Government food basket that period; and Targeted beneficiaries residing in one household (HH) should not be receiving a combined income of more than N\$3100.00 per month from any source. <p>For Livestock Support: All affected Livestock farmers in the country without alternative grazing.</p>
Benefit type	<p>Food Provision Beneficiaries receives food parcels.</p> <p>Livestock Support Livestock farmers are supported through market incentive to destock, subsidies for leasing grazing, transportation of livestock to and from areas with better grazing and subsidies for licks and fodder.</p> 

National Resettlement Programme

Who qualify	<p>Resettlement is a voluntary process where landless</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant should at least be 18 years old. • Not own more than 150 large stock or 800 small stocks • Not own any agricultural land other than for residential purposes, resource ownership or access to capital • Willingness to hold land under leasehold and adhere to the conditions thereof. • Should have some background on the land use activity for which the resettlement is based
Benefit type	Farming units (Infrastructure Development, Post-Settlement Support Fund, Agricultural inputs, Income Generation etc.)

Income Generating Activities (IGAs)

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Namibian citizens, women and men between the ages of 18- 59 years; • The prospective IGAs beneficiaries should be unemployed or earn less than the minimum funding threshold of N\$ 5,000.00; • The programme has a funding ration to equitably support women, youth and persons with disability;
Benefit type	IGAs materials and equipment

Provision of Legal Aid Programme

Who qualify	<p>All Namibian persons, who are indigent (those with inadequate means to afford services of Legal practitioners.</p> <p>The Mean Test</p> <p>The monthly income of the applicant not exceeding the amount of N\$ 3500.00, if the applicant is employed,</p> <p>The value of any movable or immovable property the applicant owns and</p>
Benefit type	Legal representation and access to justice.

Funeral Benefit grant

Who qualify	Beneficiaries of old age grant and disability grant aged 16 years or above.
Benefit type	Funeral benefits package at the value of N\$4,500 (A standard Citizen Coffin, A Grave site (nominal cost), Programme for the Funeral Service Burial & Preparation Services, Transport within Region)



Veterans Funeral Service

Who qualify	Any person registered as a veteran as per Section 27 of the Veterans Act, 2008 (Act No. 2 of 2008)
Benefit type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funeral service up to N\$10,000 is allocated for each deceased veteran: If the deceased veteran is a beneficiary of old age funeral grant, the Department of Veterans Affairs only pay the difference from what the old age funeral grant pay. If the deceased veteran is a member of Defence, the veterans fund does not pay, however the deceased veteran's family member can claim from the Department of Defence. Deceased veteran is not in above categories, the veterans fund pays a full amount of N\$10,000.

Disability Education support programme

Who qualify	Student with Disabilities who are studying at tertiary institutions of learning.
Benefit type	Tuition fees, accommodation, transport ,reasonable accommodation needs based on disability as assessment e.g sign language interpreters, spectacles etc

Disability Individual Support Programme

Who qualify	Persons with Disabilities with severe disability with special focus on children with disabilities, with Cerebral Palsy and Hydrocephalus (Items issued are subject to assessment)
Benefit type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nappies, Diapers , Prep, feeding Formula milk (Ensure , Paedisure and Lactogen) Linen savers bibs Assistive devices (portable shower and toilets)

Case Management-Disability

Who qualify	Persons with disabilities
Benefit type	Access to different services, health, education, etc through identification and referral Issuance of recommendation letters



Subsidies and Grants for Residential Child Care Facilities for Children

Who qualify	<p>Any registered approved residential child care facility (children's home, place of safety or child detention centre can apply for a grant for each child placed in its care with a court order that will be paid out monthly. Children must have access to education (pre-school, primary school, secondary school, technical or vocational training. Nutrition (3 meals per day), access to health and provided with shelter, clothing, care & protection.</p> <p>The Residential Child Care facilities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's Home (Private or Government) 2. Place of safety 3. Shelters for victims of Gender Based Violence/Violence Against Children/Trafficking In Persons 4. Places of Care
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Benefit/service provided	<p>Children's Home (Private or Government): N\$ 473 per child per month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place of safety: N\$ 15 per child per day. Maximum of 6 children cared for by a family including your own children • Shelters for victims of Gender Based Violence/Violence Against Children/Trafficking in Persons: Subsidy is calculated based on their monthly expenses and the government only compliments
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ECD- Educarers allowance scheme

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educarers who are trained in Basic Curriculum ECD Training Course working in community based ECD centres in poor and marginalised communities. • Who is Namibian citizen age between 18-59 years and not receipt of any other government grant, such as veterans grant and/or pension allowances, (excluding disability grant) and with no monthly income of N\$1500.00.
Benefit type	Range from N\$1500 to N\$2500 depending on education attainment

Free and/or Subsidized Health Care Services

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beneficiaries of old age grant; disability grant; children in a children's home/place of safety/child in need of care; refugees; veterans; persons sentenced to a term of imprisonment; persons referred by police/law enforcement agency for any medico-legal consultation or test. • Namibian Citizen
Benefit type	Free medical care, specified in the social protection Booklet page 34



Marginalized Communities- Special Feeding Programme

Who qualify	All marginalized communities (San, Ovatie and Ovatjimba)
Benefit type	Food parcel, distributed on a quarterly basis.

Marginalized Communities - Education Support Programme

Who qualify	Learners and students from San, Ovatie and Ovatjimba Communities
Benefit type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuition fees, accommodation fees, and a monthly allowance of N\$ 1500.00 for students at institutions of higher learning • Transportation assistance to learners at boarding school

Marginalized Communities - Burial Services

Who qualify	Marginalized Communities (San, Ovatie and Ovatjimba)
Benefit type	Benefit in terms of all costs to a maximum of N\$ 4,500.00

Marginalized Communities- Livelihood Empowerment Programme

Who qualify	Marginalized Communities-(San, Ovatie and Ovatjimba)
Benefit type	Training and Equipment support for community projects

Marginalized Communities- Housing & Sanitation Provision

Who qualify	Marginalized Communities-(San, Ovatie and Ovatjimba)
Benefit type	Housing & Sanitation Provision

Food/Cash for Work Programme

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unemployed able-bodied adults, unemployed rural youths, and poor rural communities• A minimum of 10 beneficiaries per project.• Namibian Citizenship • A maximum of two (2) beneficiaries per household
Benefit/service provided	Food or Cash

Rural Sanitation Programme

Who qualify	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Households whose infrastructure is made from poor quality materials (no boundary walls, thatched huts, corrugated sheets, straws, etc.)• Child-headed households• Households with elderly people who are above 60 years, particularly women.• Households headed by persons living with a disability or households with a family member with a disability.• Household headed by people with primary-level Education.
Benefit type	Construction of toilets and community lead sanitation



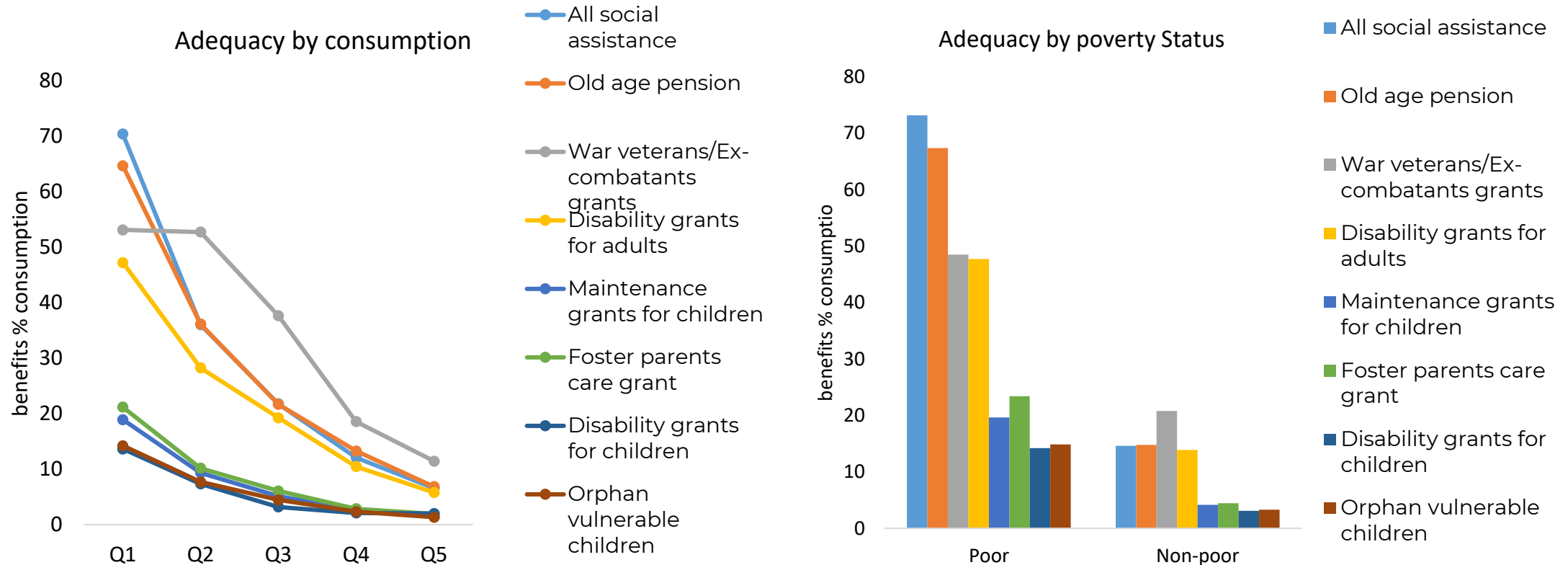
Coverage of Social Protection

Coverage of Social Protection per Programme

SP Programme	Latest coverage (#)	Coverage Rate
Old Age Grant	214,051	97%
Disability Grant	56,143	75%
Maintenance Grant	102,122	-
Vulnerable Children's (VC) Grant	251,483	75%
Child Disability Grant (special maintenance Grant)	9,128	75%
Conditional Basic Income Grant (CBIG)	8,826 HH	14%
Veterans Subventions Grants	18,000	-
Namibian School Feeding Programmes (NSFP)	466,860 children 1,514 schools	-
Drought Relief Programmes	253,633 HH	-
National Resettlement Programmes	5,499	-
Income Generating Activities	873	-
Marginalized Communities- Special Feeding Programmes	32,716	-



Social assistance programs cover a large part of the consumption of the poor; however, there is considerable inequity in benefits



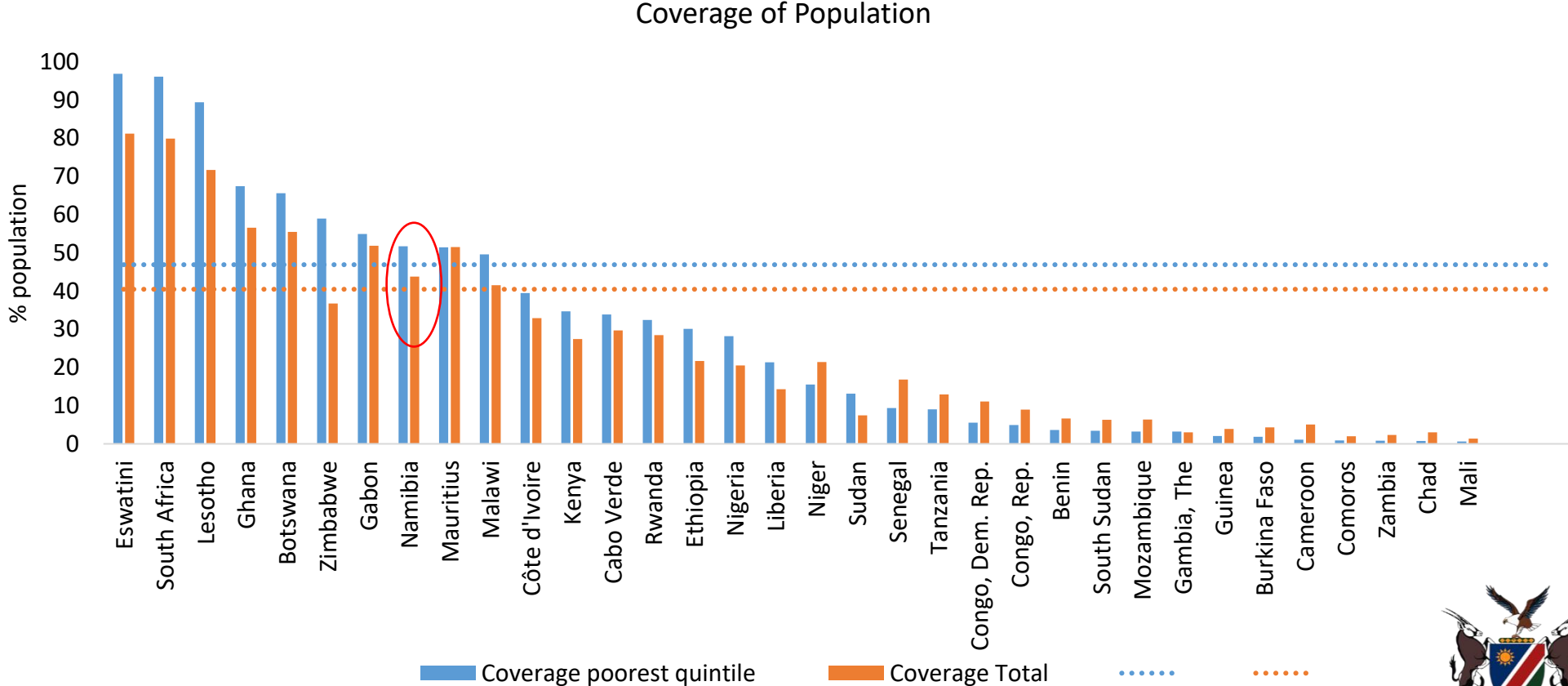
In combination, social assistance benefits cover 73.2 percent of the consumption of poor households, with the OAG contributing 67.4 percent of consumption in these households. Benefits for children are not as generous as those for adults and account for at most 23.4 percent of consumption of poor household



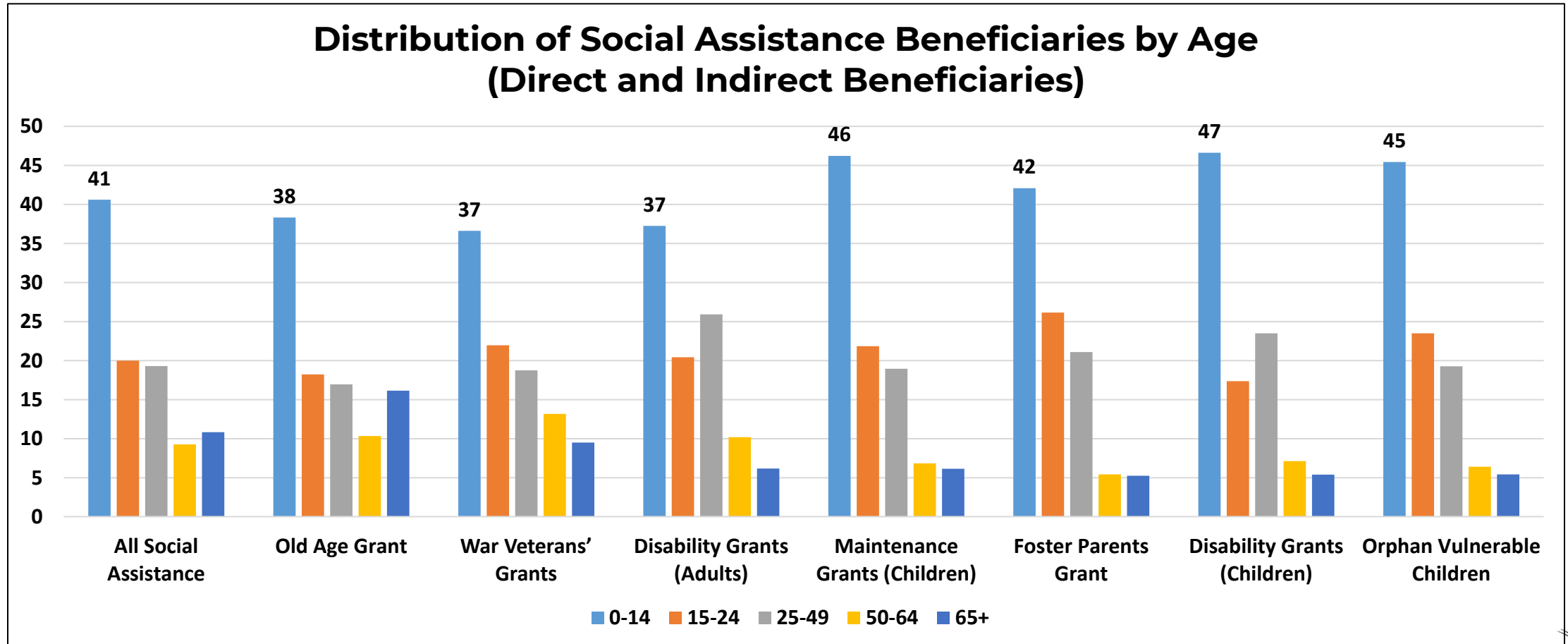
Reasonable coverage

- Over 62 percent of poor were covered by at least one safety net program in 2015/16.
- With 45.2 percent of the poor benefiting, the OAG has the broadest reach

Coverage to the poorest quintile



Children are the main beneficiaries of social assistance

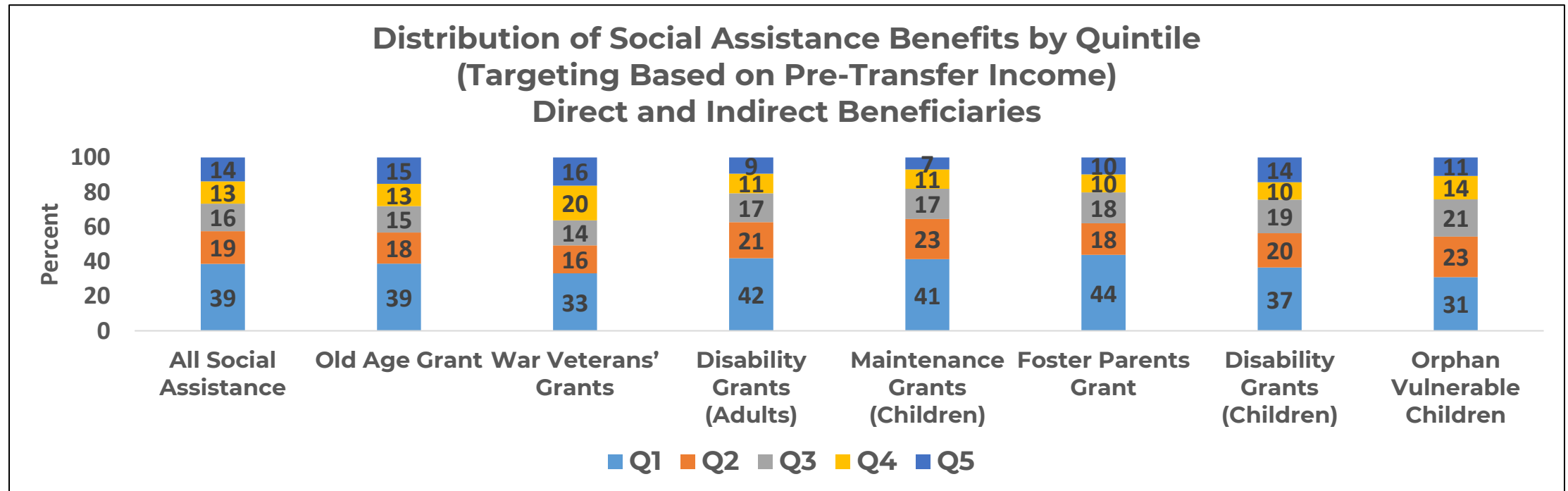


Source: World Bank ADePT calculations based on NHIES 2015/16.



Social assistance programs could be better targeted

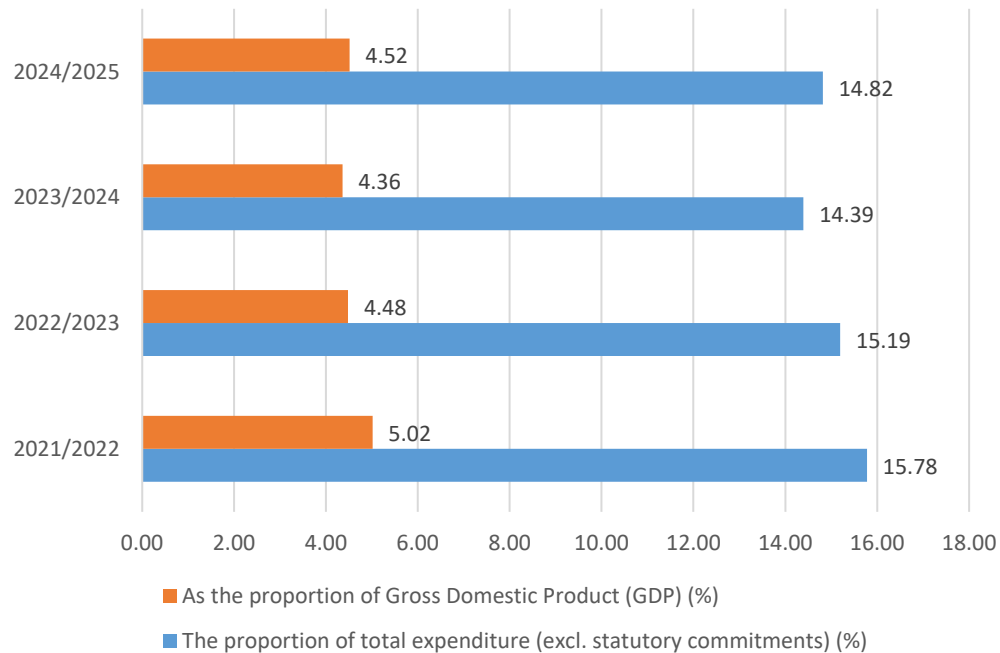
Households in the poorest quintile make up the largest share of beneficiaries of targeted programs; however, households in wealthier quintiles account for a significant share of beneficiaries of all programs



Funding and Expenditure of Social Protection

National Budget Social Protection Expenditure

National Budget Social Protection Expenditure

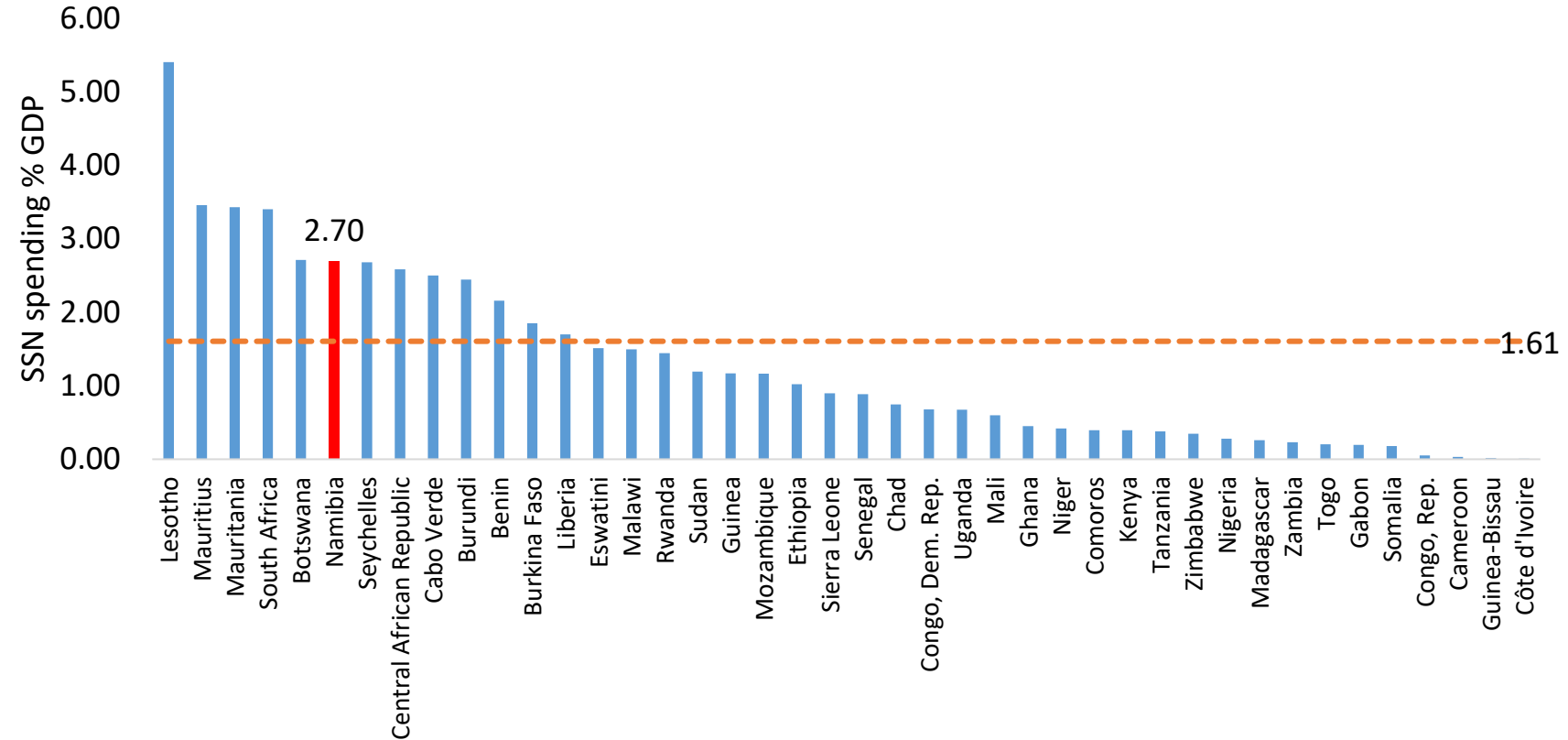


	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Social Protection Expenditure	9,531,379,000	9,668,029,507	10,757,641,000	12,460,287,000
GDP	189,917,000,000	215,734,000,000	246,706,000,000	275,837,000,000
Total government expenditure (excl. statutory commitments)	60,412,964,000	63,626,656,523	74,733,917,000	84,102,917,000



Funding of Social Protection

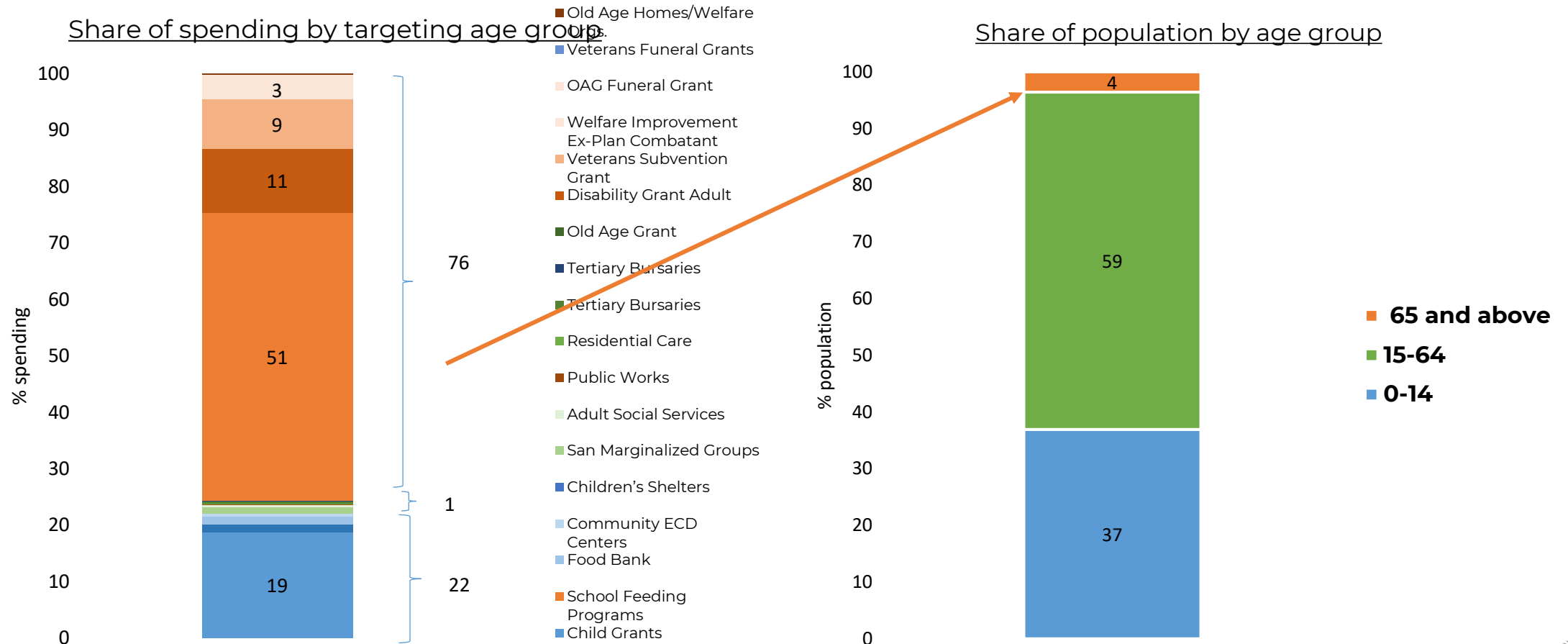
- Increase government spending
- Namibia invests more 2.7 percent of GDP on social assistance- fully funded by the Government, demonstrating the dedication of the Government to provide social protection to its population.



Namibia's spending is almost double the average of Sub-Saharan Africa spending on social assistance.



Although, about 76% of benefits are directed to the elderly, veterans and other adults



Old age grant absorbs 1.4% of GDP and is the most expensive program (over 50% of social assistance budget)
 Child grants garner only 0.5% of GDP (18.4% of social assistance budget)



Challenges for Social Programmes in Namibia

Fragmentation and Inadequate Coordination

Paper based registration , limited of digitalized and Integrated Management Information System across SP programmes

Lack of Identity documents for some potential beneficiaries

Inadequate Coverage and Adequacy of Social Protection



THANK YOU