

SA excels at helping poor

South Africa leads in using taxes and transfer payments to help the extremely poor, a World Bank report shows.

"No other country of the 12 in the survey used its fiscal policy as effectively to reduce poverty," World Bank economist Catriona Purfield told *The Times*. The other countries surveyed included Bolivia, Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Uruguay and Peru.

In the 2010-2011 fiscal year about 3.6million South Africans were saved from abject poverty by social, child support and old-age grants.

"The cash transfers are extremely well targeted," said Purfield, but she stressed that inequality was still extreme in South Africa.

Source: *The Times*, via I-Net Bridge

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>