PAN AFRICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

MAY – AUGUST 2025 TRIMESTER

CAMPUS: ROYSAMBU

DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COURSE CODE: MCS 510

COURSE TITLE: Social Policy, Planning and Welfare

EXAM DATE: AUGUST 2025

DURATION: 3 HOURS

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Read the instructions and questions carefully before you write the answers.
- **Answer any TWO questions**
- *ALL PAC University's examination rules and regulations apply*

Question One

a) Using relevant examples, examine **FIVE** differences between informal and formal social protection. (10 Marks)
b) Using relevant examples, discuss **FIVE** ways in which developing countries can deliver social protection at affordable costs. (10 marks)

Question Two

a) Critically discuss in reference to a developing country of your choice, **FIVE** ways in which social protection policies contribute to sustainable development by supporting pro-poor growth. (10marks)

b) In reference to a country of your choice, examine **FIVE** ways in which the role of the state in the provision of social welfare has changed over time and how these changes influence social policy. (10 marks)

Question Three

a) Can developing countries become "welfare states"? Support your answer by examining **FIVE** characteristics of a welfare state. (10 marks)
b) Using relevant examples, discuss **TWO** models of implementing social welfare policies. (10 Marks)

MARKING SCHEME

Question One

a) Using relevant examples, examine **FIVE** differences between informal and formal social protection. (10 Marks)

1. Source of support; formal is through legal mandate while informal is through kinship and family ties
2. Regulation: Formal system are regulated while informal systems are less-regulated
3. Coverage: the formal systems have universal or targeted coverage
4. Flexibility: informal systems are more adaptable and fluid; while formal systems are more rigid
5. Formal social protection systems are more sustainable because they have state financing and backing while informal systems are vulnerable to many shocks

[Any five points well explained with examples 5x2=10 marks]

b) Using relevant examples, discuss **FIVE** ways in which developing countries can deliver social protection at affordable costs. (10 marks)

1. Optimising existing resources
2. Diversify funding sources
3. Leveraging technology
4. Strengthening social security systems
5. Prioritisation the development and implementation of social protection floors, e.g. Minimum income bases, etc.

[Any five points well explained with examples 5x2=10 marks]

Question Two

a) Critically discuss in reference to a developing country of your choice, **FIVE** ways in which social protection policies contribute to sustainable development by supporting pro-poor growth. (10marks)

1. By promoting social inclusion
2. By reducing poverty and inequality
3. Enhancing the well-being of communities
4. By promoting social cohesion and social stability
5. By building communal resilience to shocks

[Any five points well explained with examples 5x2=10 marks]

b) In reference to a country of your choice, examine **FIVE** ways in which the role of the state in the provision of social welfare has changed over time and how these changes influence social policy. (10 marks)

1. First, there was a limited government role, now there is a more comprehensive offering of social assistance
2. The rise of social rights and government responsibility
3. The emphasis on efficiency and accountability
4. The need for adaptation to changing societal needs and emphasis on personal responsibility
5. Questions about the role of the private sector in the provision of social protection

[Any five points well explained with examples 5x2=10 marks]

Question Three

a) Can developing countries become "welfare states"? Support your answer by examining **FIVE** characteristics of a welfare state. (10 marks)
   1. They have a strong public sector
   2. Progressive taxation
   3. They have economic regulation
   4. A commitment to social justice and equality
   5. Universal access to services
   6. These states take an active role in tackling economic and social issues when they arise

[Any five points well explained with examples 5x2=10 marks]

b) Using relevant examples, discuss **TWO** models of implementing social welfare policies. (10 Marks)

1. Residual Model:

- Core Idea:

  Public welfare should be a safety net, intervening only when families and the market cannot provide adequately. Number Analytics states.

- Characteristics:

  Minimal government intervention, targeted programs, emphasis on individual responsibility.

- Examples:

  Historically, the United States and Australia have often been cited as examples of this model, particularly in areas like welfare assistance and social security, though they have also incorporated elements of other models.

- Strengths:

Can encourage self-reliance and limit dependency on the state.

- Weaknesses:
  May not adequately address poverty and inequality, leading to a large gap between the wealthy and poor.

2. Institutional Model:

- Core Idea:

  Social welfare is a public good, and the government has a responsibility to provide comprehensive services to all citizens.

- Characteristics:

  Universal programs, broad coverage, strong government role, focus on social equality.

- Examples:

  Scandinavian countries like Sweden and Denmark are often cited as examples of the institutional model.

- Strengths:

  Reduces poverty and inequality, promotes social solidarity.

- Weaknesses:
  Can be expensive and potentially lead to increased dependence on the state.

3. Developmental Model:

- Core Idea:

  Social and economic development are intertwined, and social welfare policies should be designed to promote both.

- Characteristics:

  Emphasis on human capital development, investments in education and healthcare, and policies that support economic growth.

- Examples:

  Some Asian Tiger economies have been associated with this model, where social welfare policies have played a role in achieving rapid economic growth.

- Strengths:

  Can promote sustainable development and reduce poverty over the long term.

- Weaknesses:
  Requires careful planning and coordination between social and economic policies, and may not be easily transferable to other contexts.

Other Considerations:

- Liberal, Conservative, and Social Democratic Models:

  These are broader categories that often overlap with the three core models. Liberal models emphasize individual responsibility and limited government intervention, conservative models focus on traditional values and social order, and social democratic models prioritize social equality and a strong welfare state.

- Mixed Economies:

  Many countries utilize a combination of these models, incorporating elements from different approaches.

- Implementation:
  Effective implementation of social welfare policies requires strong administrative capacity, partnerships between different sectors, and ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

[Any two model well explained with examples 5X2=10 marks]