Useful COVID-19 and Social Protection Materials

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Implemented by

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Introduction

This document was created by the Social Protection Approaches to COVID-19 team (SPACE) to track the extensive literature that has emerged between 2020 and 2021 on the COVID-19 crisis and the role of social protection. It is accompanied by a tagged Zotero folder that can be made available upon request. It is not exhaustive, but provides a relatively comprehensive overview, organised thematically (see table of contents) and chronologically (by date, where possible) to ease access. We do hope it is of as much use to you as it was to us!

COVID-19 Socio-Economic Impacts

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a wide array of direct and indirect socio-economic impacts. This section showcases some of the key publications that have aimed to predict (2.1) and/or estimate (2.2) those impacts, including their distributional effects.

Projections and impact pathways

These projections were mostly published in the early stages of the pandemic, based on microsimulations and other forecasting approaches (e.g. estimating different impact pathways on different population groups) – before actual impact data started emerging (below).

- **ILO** predictions on job loss etc [here](#) (Apr 2020)
- **WFP** ‘COVID-19: Potential impact on the world’s poorest people’ [here](#) (Apr 2020)
- **IFPRI** – ‘Impacts on food supply chains’ [here](#) (Apr 2020) and policy portal [here](#)
- **World Bank** ‘Costs and Trade-Offs in the Fight against the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Developing Country Perspective’ [here](#) (May 2020) with a clear overview of projected impacts
  
  **SPACE** ‘Understanding the Economic Impacts of COVID-19 in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: Who, Where, How, and When?’ [here](#) (May 2020) Providing a disaggregated and livelihoods-informed view of the COVID-19 impact (who is being most affected and where), to inform the ‘what’ of the social protection response.
- **World Bank** ‘Estimates of the impact of COVID-19 on global poverty’ – note these have been updated upwards several times e.g. June 2020 [here](#), Nov 2020 [here](#) and Jan 2021 [here](#), then downwards again in June 2021 [here](#). See accompanying ‘Profiles of the new poor due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Policy Brief’ [here](#)
- **IDS** Social impacts and responses related to COVID-19 in low- and middle-income countries [here](#) (July 2020)
Emerging global research/data on impacts

As data from surveys/research emerged over the months, the extent of the crisis and its complex distributional impacts started emerging, as documented within the following research and evidence.

- **UNDP** ‘Socio-economic impacts of COVID-19’ page with country analysis from across the globe [here](#); ‘COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker Fact Sheets’ [here](#) (Sep 2020)
- **World Bank** COVID-19 High-Frequency Monitoring Dashboard (see e.g. ‘Safety Nets’ indicators); see also ‘Impact of COVID-19 on households: What do phone surveys tell us?’ [here](#) (Nov 2020)
- **World Bank** Understanding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic through data [page](#)
- **ILO** ‘COVID-19 and the world of work publication’ [here](#) (last edition Jan 2021)
- **FAO** COVID-19 [page](#), including many assessments of impacts on agri-food systems, food production, prices, etc.
- **UNICEF** COVID-19 [page](#), with a primary focus on assessing impacts on child poverty
- **IPA** and partners RECOVR research collaboration hub for development researchers working on COVID-19 [here](#), with results and analysis [here](#). Summary of panel surveys ‘Falling Living Standards and Food Insecurity during the COVID-19 Crisis’ [here](#) (Feb 2021)
- **‘CGIAR’** Impacts of COVID-19 on People’s Food Security: Foundations for a more Resilient Food System [here](#) (Feb 2021)
- **Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data** COVID-19 Data Resources: round-up of resources [here](#)– including data, dashboards, visualisations, maps, and tools
- **WIEGO** ‘COVID-19 Crisis and the Informal Economy’ [here](#), 12 cities Study (Apr 2021)
- **SPACE** ‘Better responding to shocks through social protection: COVID-19 insights on identifying and responding to dynamic poverty’ [here](#) (May 2021). This paper relies on pre-existing microsimulations of the pandemic impact on poverty in Bangladesh, Georgia, Mongolia, Pakistan, and Sierra Leone to answer three questions: To what extent are ‘vertical expansions’ of pre-pandemic social protection programmes an adequate response to the COVID-19 shock? To what extent do simulated programmes implementing different (commonly used) targeting approaches cover those made poor by the COVID-19 shock? What would be the hypothetical poverty-reducing impact of ‘shock responsive’ social assistance programmes that adopt different types of targeting approaches, at different budget ceilings?
- **IPA** ‘The Impacts of Cash in a Pandemic’ [here](#) (Jul 2021)

Social Protection in Response to COVID-19

General/framing and calls to action

In the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a large amount of uncertainty regarding its potential impacts, yet wide consensus that social protection had an important role to play in the response. This set of documents were mostly issued in the early stages of the pandemic, to steer global action towards ‘no regrets’ fiscal policy - building on past experiences of responding to major shocks via social protection systems as well as emerging global evidence.

- **UN call to action** ‘Shared responsibility, global solidarity: Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19’ [here](#) (Mar 2020)
- **OECD** ‘Supporting people and companies to deal with the COVID-19 virus: Options for immediate employment and social-policy response’ [here](#) (Mar 2020); ‘Supporting livelihoods during the COVID-19 crisis: Closing the gaps in safety nets’ [here](#) (May 2020)
- **SPIAC-B Joint Statement** on the Role of Social Protection in Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic [here](#) (Apr 2020)
• **Framing Socialprotection.org webinar** ‘How can social protection systems respond to the COVID-19 crisis?’ for the COVID-19 webinar series on potential response options via social protection [here](#) (Apr 2020)
• **UN** ‘A UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19’ [here](#) (Apr 2020)
• **ILO** Social protection responses to the COVID-19 crisis: Country responses and policy considerations [here](#) (Apr 2020); Social protection responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in developing countries: Strengthening resilience by building universal social protection [here](#) (May 2020)

**SPACE** Strategy Decision Matrix [here](#) (May 2020): *Structured to evaluate COVID-19 responses consistently against a set of critical dimensions, including Coverage, Adequacy, Comprehensiveness, Timeliness, Cost-effectiveness, Accountability to affected population; Predictability, and Ownership and Sustainability. This document helps systematically think through the merits of various social protection response options; the challenges and risks inherent in each; and potential mitigation strategies for these*

**SPACE** Delivery System Matrix [here](#) (May 2020): *Structured to assess the relevant dimensions of the social protection delivery chain, questioning the strength of existing systems (capacity, registration, payments, etc) and whether/how these can be leveraged, adapted or complemented for the COVID-19 social protection response*

• **ECLAC** advocating for Basic Income [here](#) (May 2020)
• **UNICEF** ‘A rapid review of economic policy and social protection responses to (past) health and economic crises and their effects on children: Lessons for the COVID-19 pandemic response’ [here](#) (Jun 2020)
• **EU Council** – Council Conclusions on ‘Strengthening Minimum Income Protection to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion in the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond’ [here](#) (Jul 2020)
• **UNDP** advocating for a ‘Temporary Basic Income’ for responding to COVID-19 [here](#) (Jul 2020)
• **CGDEV** ‘No-Regret Policies for the COVID-19 Crisis in Developing Countries’ [here](#) (Apr 2020) ‘The Price of Inaction During The COVID-19 Crisis’ [here](#) (Jul 2020)
• **UNICEF** ‘Social Protection Response to COVID-19. Strengthening social protection systems before, during and after crises’ [here](#) (Sep 2020)
• **Examples of ‘Big Thinkers’ endorsing no-regrets and universal SP in the COVID response:** Dercon [no-regrets](#) SP; Duflo and Banerjee [here](#); Ravallion [here](#) (‘Anything less than an immediate fiscal transfer of something like 2% of GDP would probably be judged inadequate’); Acemoglu [here](#) (‘Welfare state 3.0’ could lead to a brighter horizon: A stronger social safety net)

**Global tracking and mapping responses: what happened?**

Efforts to document and analyse the global unfolding of country social protection responses, sharing these as a global public good, were fundamental to inform global and country action. These are the main tracking resources the sector relied on:

• **ILO** Social protection responses to the COVID-19 crisis around the world [here](#) and related [dashboard](#)
• **IPC-IG** Social Protection Responses to COVID-19 in the Global South [dashboard](#), including useful filters to disaggregate data in many different ways – digging into policy and operational aspects.
• **IMF** policy tracker [here](#)
• **Oxford University** tracker of all COVID-19 trackers [here](#), including Social Protection-related ones [here](#) – this became ‘A global panel database of pandemic policies (Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker)’ [here](#)
• **UNDP-UN Women** COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker (available from 28th September)
• **WIEGO** – Government responses to COVID-19 crisis
• **Gender and Development Network (GADN)** Feminist Responses to COVID-19.
Emerging experiences? Cross-country and country case studies and analysis

Documents and dashboards tracking global social protection responses were not sufficient to do justice to the complexity and insights offered by individual country experiences. Over the course of 2020, and increasingly in 2021, in-depth case studies and write-ups have emerged to showcase diverse policy responses, tailored to local context and capacity. This section documents these, prioritising in-depth analysis (not newspaper articles, etc) that will be of use to draw important lessons for the future of the sector.

For future research on this topic (even beyond COVID-19), with minor adaptations, do consider using the SPACE ‘Guidance for framing Case Studies on social protection responses to COVID-19’ designed to ensure that forthcoming Case Studies on COVID-19 responses are documented systematically, enabling comparability and learning. It suggests a structure of the key areas and dimensions to consider, and detailed questions to answer under each heading.

Asia-Pacific

- IPC-IG and UNICEF ‘Socio-economic impacts of COVID-19, policy responses and the missing middle in South Asia’ [here](2020)
- ILO ‘COVID-19 and the world of work: Social protection responses in Asia-Pacific [here](Mar 2020) and ‘Social protection responses to COVID-19 in Asia and the Pacific: The story so far and future considerations’ [here](Aug 2020)
- ASEAN/ESCAP ‘Policy Responses to COVID-19 in Asia and the Pacific’ [here]
- UNICEF Delivering for Children: Social Protection Responses to COVID-19 in East Asia and the Pacific [here](Dec 2020)
- WFP, FAO, EU Strengthening the capacity of ASEAN Member States to design and implement risk-informed and shock-responsive social protection systems for resilience [here]
- UNDP ‘Addressing the COVID-19 economic crisis in Asia through social protection’ [here](May 2020).

SPACE (forthcoming) Social protection responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Pacific: A tipping point for the sector?

Latin America and the Caribbean

- UNICEF. Technical note 1: Social protection response to COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean (Spanish and English) (March 2020)
- Socialprotection.org Virtual Booth Talk ‘Socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19 and social protection in Latin America and the Caribbean’. In: Global e-conference [here](Oct 2020); side event ‘Lessons from the COVID-19 response for shock-responsive social protection in the Caribbean’. In: Global e-conference [here](October 2020) and blog [here]
- ECLAC/CEPAL ‘Policy expansion in compressed time. Assessing the speed, breadth and sufficiency of post-COVID-19 social protection measures in Latin American countries’ [here](2020)
- UNDP ‘Policy Responses to the Pandemic for COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Use of Cash Transfer Programs and Social Protection Information Systems’ [here](Nov 2020)
• ISSA ‘COVID-19 and social security in the Americas: experiences and lessons for the future here (Dec 2020)
• CGD ‘Social Protection in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico During the Pandemic’ here (Feb 2021)
• GDI Blog ‘Should we expect a post-Covid-19 social protection epiphany in Latin America?’ (Armando Barrientos) here (Feb 2021)
• Canadian Journal of Development Studies ‘Latin America at the crossroads yet again: what income policies in the post-pandemic era?’ here (Feb 2021)
• ECLAC/CEPAL Disasters and inequality in a protracted crisis: Towards universal, comprehensive, resilient and sustainable social protection systems in Latin America and the Caribbean here (Spanish here) (Oct 2021)

Europe and Central Asia

• UN Issue-Based Coalition for Social Protection COVID-19 and Social Protection in Europe and Central Asia here (April 2020)
• ILO ‘Assessment of the Social Security Responses to COVID-19 Lessons from the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe during the first stage of the pandemic’ here (2021)
• EU COMMISSION / ESPN ‘Social protection and inclusion policy responses to the COVID-19 crisis’ here (Sep 2021)

The Middle East and North Africa/Arab States region

• UN and IPC-IG ‘Social protection responses to the COVID-19 crisis in the MENA/Arab States region’ here (Jul 2020)
• Ministerial Forum Declaration. The future of Social Protection in the Arab Region: Building a vision for a post-COVID-19 reality here (Dec 2021)
• World Bank ‘Early Lessons from Social Protection and Jobs Response to COVID-19 in Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Countries’ here (Dec 2021)
• ESCWA Strengthening Social Protection for Pandemic Responses Building Social Protection Capacities: Targeted social protection in Arab countries before and during the Covid-19 crisis’ here

Sub-Saharan Africa

• UNICEF ‘COVID-19: A Catastrophe for Children in sub-Saharan Africa’ here
• UNICEF and World Bank webinar on COVID responses for the Africa Community of practice on cash transfers here
• FAO and Africa Union “Social protection: ensuring effective response and inclusive recovery in the context of COVID-19 in Africa (Apr 2020) here
• IPC-IG ‘Mobile payment and application systems for COVID-19 emergency cash transfers in Africa’ here (Mar 2021)
• Global Social Policy ‘Social protection responses to COVID-19 in Africa’ (S. Devereux) here (Jun 2021)
• UNICEF ‘Economic Crisis and Child Well-being in the West and Central Africa Region’ here (Sep 2021)
• WFP Beyond COVID-19: Lessons for social protection from WFP’s work in East Africa in 2020 here

Global

• Lustig et al Research paper ‘the impacts of COVID-19 lockdowns and expanded social assistance on inequality, poverty and mobility here (Aug 2020)*
**Social Protection and Humanitarian Cash and Food Responses to COVID-19: Needs, Coverage, and Gaps**

This paper aims to provide a comprehensive look at needs, coverage, and gaps for 10 fragile and conflict-affected countries. It does this by undertaking detailed micro-simulation for three ‘deep dive’ countries (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Zimbabwe) and a more ‘light-touch approach in the others (Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Chad, DRC, OPT, Syria, and Yemen).


- **Parekh and Bandiera** ‘Poverty in the Time of COVID: The Effect of Social Assistance’ here (Dec 2020)*

- **Science Direct** ‘The effect of income support programs on job search, workplace mobility and COVID-19: International evidence’ here (Mar 2021)**

- **IFPRI** Gimme shelter: Social distancing and income support in times of pandemic (social assistance impacts on mobility and contagion) here (Sept 2021)**

- Recognizing the Impact of COVID-19 on the Poor Alters Attitudes Towards Poverty and Inequality here (Mar 2021)

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### Country-specific social protection responses

**Afghanistan**


- **IPC-IG** one-pager COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: Afghanistan here

**Argentina**


**Armenia**

- **UNICEF** ‘Preparing social protection systems for shock response: A case study of UNICEF’s experiences in Armenia’ here (January 2021)

**Azerbaijan**


**Bangladesh**

- **IPC-IG** one-pager ‘COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: Bangladesh’ here (Sep 2020)

- **MAINTAINS** ‘Towards shock-responsive social protection: lessons from the COVID-19 response in Bangladesh’ Case Study here (Jan 2021), Policy Brief here (Feb 2021), Microsimulation here (Jan 2021)*

- **IFPRI** ‘Public food transfers during a pandemic: Insights from Bangladesh’ here (Feb 2021)

**Bhutan**

- **IPC-IG** one-pager ‘COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: Bhutan’ here (Sep 2020)

**Bolivia**

• **Inter-American Development Bank** – Working Paper – ‘The Unintended Effects of a Noncontributory Pension Program During the COVID-19 Pandemic’ by Nicolas Bottan, Bridget Hoffman and Diego A. Vera-Cossio [here](Nov 2020) – then published [here](2021)*

**Brazil**

• **WB and G2PX** ‘COVID-19 G2P Cash-Transfer Payments Country Brief’ [here](Apr 2020)
• **IPC-IG** ‘Avoiding the poverty pandemic: the potential of the Bolsa Familia programme and the Single Registry as answers to COVID-19’ [here](Apr 2020)
• **IPC-IG** ‘Simulating the impact on labour earnings and per capita household income of a Brazilian government programme to protect jobs from the COVID-19 pandemic’ [here](Jun 2020)
• **IPC-IG** Twitter thread with links [here](Mar 2021) and [here](Mar 2021) + “Emergency Aid: The Brazilian response to an unprecedented challenge” by Nilza Yamasaki and Fabiana Rodopoulos [here](Mar 2021)

**Cambodia**

• **IPC-IG** ‘Cambodia’s social protection response to COVID-19’ (Mar 2021, p.40) [here]

**Chile**

• **IPC-IG** ‘Tools to protect families in Chile: A State at the service of its people’ [here](Mar 2021)
• **J-Pal** ‘Designing a social protection program during Covid-19’ [here]

**Colombia**

• **World Bank Group** “COVID-19 G2P Cash-Transfer Payments – Country Brief Colombia” [here](May 2020)
• **WB and G2PX** ‘COVID-19 G2P Cash-Transfer Payments Country Brief’ [here](May 2020)
• **CGD** “COVID-19 in Colombia: Impact and Policy Responses” [here](Jul 2020)
• **IPA** The Impact of Emergency Cash Assistance in a Pandemic: Experimental Evidence from Colombia [here](Nov 2020)*
• **IPC-IG** ‘Colombia’s experience in addressing the COVID-19 crisis’ [here](Mar 2021)

**Congo (Republic of)**

• **IPC-IG** The Republic of Congo’s social protection response before and during COVID-19: Perspectives from the Lisungi programme [here](Mar 2021)

**Dominican Republic**

• **WFP** ‘The Dominican Republic response to the COVID-19 Pandemic’ ([Spanish](here) [here](Sep 2020)

**Ecuador**

• **WB and G2PX** ‘COVID-19 G2P Cash-Transfer Payments Country Brief’ [here]
• **UNICEF** Evaluation of UNICEF Ecuador’s strategy for unconditional cash transfers. Response to the migratory emergency in Venezuela [here](only in Spanish)

**Ethiopia**

- **SPACE** ‘Economics of Early Response and Resilience to COVID-19: Ethiopia’ [here](2020)**

**Georgia**

• **UNICEF** ‘Estimating the impact of COVID-19 on child poverty in Georgia using a micro-simulation model’ [here](Aug 2020)
- UNICEF country case study - Being Prepared and Acting First [here](Link) (Oct 2021)

**Ghana**

- **WB Blog** ‘Data-driven social safety net response to the COVID-19 crisis in Ghana’ [here](Link) (Jan 2021)
- **UNICEF** country case study - Being Prepared and Acting First [here](Link) (Oct 2021)
- **SPACE** forthcoming in-depth country case study

**Guatemala**

- **UNICEF** country case study - Being Prepared and Acting First [here](Link) (Oct 2021)
- **SPACE** forthcoming in-depth country case study

**India**

- **IPC-IG** one-pager ‘COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: India’ [here](Link) (Sep 2020)
- **CGD** ‘Digital Cash Transfers for Stranded Migrants Lessons from Bihar’s COVID-19 Assistance Program’ [here](Link) (Nov 2020)
- **IIHS** ‘Lessons for Social Protection from the COVID-19 Lockdowns Report 1 of 2: State Relief’ [here](Link) (Nov 2020)
- **IDI** ‘Does workfare work? MNREGA during Covid-19’ [here](Link) (Dec 2020)
- **IZA** ‘Employment Guaranteed? Social Protection during a Pandemic’ [here](Link) (Feb 2021)
- **IDI and ICG** ‘Covid-19: How well are government schemes supporting Bihar’s vulnerable populations?’ [here](Link) (Mar 2021)
- **IFPRI** – Article ‘India’s COVID-19 Social Assistance Package and its Impact on the Agriculture Sector’ [here](Link) (Apr 2021)

**Indonesia**

- Webinar ‘Weathering the Storm: Poverty and Indonesia’s Social Protection System Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic’ [here](Link) (Oct 2020)
- **J-PAL** ‘Strengthening Indonesia’s social protection in the COVID-19 era: Strategy and lessons from evidence’ [here](Link) (Nov 2020)
- **IPC-IG** ‘How to overcome the impact of COVID-19 on poverty in Indonesia?’ [here](Link) (Mar 2021)
- **UNICEF** ‘The Impact of Covid-19 on Child Poverty and Mobility in Indonesia’ [here](Link) (Apr 2021)
- **SPACE** forthcoming in-depth country case study

**Iraq**

- **UNDP** ‘Impact of COVID-19 on social protection in Iraq’ [here](Link)
- **CaLP** ‘Humanitarian Cash and Social Protection in Iraq’ [here](Link) (Jan 2021)

**Jordan**

- **WB and G2PX** ‘COVID-19 G2P Cash-Transfer Payments Country Brief’ [here](Link)
- **UNICEF**
  - ‘How did a displacement crisis help Jordan support its population during Covid-19’ [here](Link) (May 2020)
  - ‘Jordan’s national social protection response during COVID-19’ [here](Link) (Aug 2020)
  - Country case study - Being Prepared and Acting First [here](Link) (Oct 2021)
- **IPC-IG** Twitter thread [here](Link) (Jun 2020) and ‘Lessons learned from Jordan’s national social protection response to COVID-19’ [here](Link) (Mar 2021)
- **CaLP Webinar** ‘Adapting humanitarian cash assistance in times of Covid-19 – experiences and learning from Jordan’ [here](Link) (Apr 2021)

**Kazakhstan**

Kenya
- **MAINTAINS** ‘Towards shock-responsive social protection: lessons from the COVID-19 response’ Case Study [here](Mar 2021); Policy Brief [here](Mar 2021); ‘Opportunities of, and obstacles to, the utilisation of the Enhanced Single Registry’ [here](Nov 2020)
- **Human Rights Watch** ‘We Are All Vulnerable Here’ - Kenya’s Pandemic Cash Transfer Program Riddled With Irregularities [here](June 2021)
- **IPA** Effects of a Universal Basic Income During the Pandemic (via Giver Directly) [here](Sept 2020)*

Kosovo
- **ESPN (2021)** Social protection and inclusion policy responses to the COVID-19 crisis: Kosovo [here]

Kyrgyz Republic
- **WFP** Poverty, Food Security and Nutrition Analysis in the context of COVID-19 and the role of Social Protection in the Kyrgyz Republic [here](Oct 2021)

Lao PDR
- **UN** LAO PDR ‘Developing a Shock-Responsive National Social Protection System to Respond to the Covid-19 Crisis in LAO PDR’ [here](July 2020)

Lebanon
- **ILO, UNICEF and BG** on ‘Social Protection In Lebanon Bridging The Immediate Response With Long-Term Priorities’ [here](Nov 2020)
- **ILO** ‘Social Assistance Response to the Covid-19 Economic Shock in Lebanon: The National Social Solidarity Program’ [here](2021)

Madagascar
- **UNICEF** country case study - Being Prepared and Acting First [here](Oct 2021)
- Also see **Grand Bargain** case studies [here]

Malaysia
- **UNICEF** Mitigating the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on Malaysia’s children Immediate and longer-term social protection policy options [here]

Maldives
- **UNICEF & IPC-IG** ‘Emergency Targeted Child Grant to counteract the negative effects of the Covid-19 crisis in Maldives’ [here](May 2020)
- **IPC-IG** one-pager ‘COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: Maldives’ [here](Sep 2020)

Mongolia
- **UNICEF** country case study - Being Prepared and Acting First [here](Oct 2021)

Morocco
- **IPC-IG** Twitter thread [here](Apr 2020)
- **IPC-IG** Morocco’s social protection response to COVID-19 and beyond—towards a sustainable social protection floor [here](Mar 2021)

Mozambique
- ILO ‘Reaching the most vulnerable in the social protection response to the COVID-19 crises in Mozambique: Opportunities and Challenges’ here (Oct 2020)

Namibia
- UCT ‘COVID-19 grant: We can learn from Namibia’ here (May 2020);
- UNECA-APAI/CRVS ‘Civil registration systems as enablers of emergency’ here (?);
- G2P Network ‘Civil registration systems as enablers of emergency response to the covid-19 crisis: Namibian Emergency Grant’ here (Jan 2021);
- IPC-IG The role of Namibia’s civil registration and identity system in the country’s COVID-19 social response here (Mar 2021)

Nepal
- IPC-IG one-pager ‘COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: Nepal’ here (Sep 2020)

Nigeria
- SPACE forthcoming in-depth case study
- WB Blog ‘Using Big Data and machine learning to locate the poor in Nigeria’ here (Feb 2021)

North Macedonia

Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT)
- SPACE forthcoming in-depth case study

Pakistan
- WB and G2PX ‘COVID-19 G2P Cash-Transfer Payments Country Brief’ here (?)
- World Bank blog ‘Immediate relief for Pakistan’s pandemic-stricken poor’ here (May 2020)
- WEF blog ‘COVID-19 and the pursuit of financial inclusion in Pakistan’ here (Jun 2020)
- IPC-IG one-pager ‘COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: Pakistan’ here (Sep 2020)

Peru
- ILO Rapid response to COVID-19 under high informality? The case of Peru here

Philippines
- WB and G2PX ‘COVID-19 G2P Cash-Transfer Payments Case Study’ here

Sierra Leone
- MAINTAINS ‘Towards shock-responsive social protection: lessons from the COVID-19 response in Sierra Leone’ Case Study here (Mar 2021), Policy Brief here, Microsimulation here*
- World Bank blog ‘COVID-19 emergency cash transfers in Sierra Leone’ here (Mar 2021)

Singapore

Solomon Island


Somalia

• SPACE forthcoming in-depth case study

South Africa

• NIDS ‘Covid-19, social protection, and the labour market in South Africa – Are social grants being targeted at the most vulnerable?’ by Köhler and Bhorat here (Jul 2020)
• IPC-IG ‘South Africa’s social protection response to the COVID-19 pandemic’ (Gronbach) here (Feb 2021)
• WB and G2PX ‘COVID-19 G2P Cash-Transfer Payments Country Brief’ here

Sri Lanka

• IPC-IG Twitter thread here (May 2020) and one-pager ‘COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: Sri Lanka’ here (Sep 2020)
• UNICEF
  o Sri Lanka’s initial social protection response to COVID-19: An assessment of the value of the COVID-19 support to Sri Lankan household here
  o Country case study - Being Prepared and Acting First here (Oct 2021)

Tajikistan

• UNICEF ‘Preparing social protection systems for shock response: A case study of UNICEF’s experiences in Tajikistan’ here (January 2021)

Thailand

• CEGA Using AI and digital data to target cash transfers in Togo here

Togo

• INCLUDE ‘Novissi solidarity fund: Exemplary cash transfers during Covid-19’ here (Aug 2020)
• IPA ‘Using Mobile Phone and Satellite Data to Target Emergency Cash Transfers in Togo’ here (Jan 2021)

Turkey

• SPACE COVID-19 and the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) and Conditional Cash Transfers for Education (CCTE) programmes here (Mar 2021)

Uganda

• MAINTAINS ‘Towards shock-responsive social protection: lessons from the COVID-19 response in Uganda’ Case Study here (Mar 2021), Policy Brief here
UK and Ireland

- ‘Common shock, different paths? Comparing social policy responses to COVID-19 in the UK and Ireland’ here (Dec 2020)

Ukraine

- **UNICEF** ‘7 policy messages, 6 reasons, and 3 phases of social protection measures to mitigate the consequences of COVID-19 caused economic decline on vulnerable children in Ukraine’ policy note here (April 2020)

Uruguay


USA

- **Urban Institute** “2021 Poverty Projections Assessing the Impact of Benefits and Stimulus Measures” here (July 2021)

Uzbekistan


Vanuatu

- **Oxfam** UnBlocked Cash Project: using blockchain technology to revolutionize humanitarian aid here

Vietnam

- Le Hoang, Social Security Policy in Response to the Pandemic COVID-19: A Case Study from Vietnam here

Yemen

- **CaLP** ‘Humanitarian Cash And Social Protection In Yemen’ here (Jan 2021)
- **UNICEF** country case study - Being Prepared and Acting First here (Oct 2021)

Zambia

- **International Food Policy Research Institute** ‘Balancing health and economic livelihoods: Policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in Zambia’ here (Sep 2020)

Zimbabwe


**Organisation-specific (supported social protection actions)**
UNICEF
- Being Prepared and Acting First: A series of case studies on UNICEF’s role in the delivery of effective social protection responses to COVID-19 here (Oct 2021, including case studies on Georgia, Ghana,

WFP

FAO
- ‘Addressing the impacts of COVID-19 in food crises | April–December 2020’ here

Broad lessons learned and implications for recovery and future preparedness

Towards the mid-end of 2020 and the beginning of 2021 many actors started reflecting on ‘so what’ and ‘what next’ for the sector, given the enormous role played by social protection in the COVID-19 response – and the gaps in emerging systems that emerged. These documents showcase emerging thinking on forthcoming challenges and opportunities.

SPACE
- ‘Social Protection in the COVID-19 Recovery: Opportunities and Challenges’: here (Sep 2020) This paper explores what role social protection can and should play over the medium term, as governments seek to steer their economies through recession and into recovery. It outlines the opportunities, challenges and potential trade-offs which social protection actors will face over the medium term.
- ‘Preparing for future shocks: priority actions for social protection practitioners in the wake of COVID-19’ here (Sep 2020). Helping to think through potential options/strategies to holistically strengthen the preparedness of social protection systems to respond to future shocks.
- ‘Shocks, new poverty, and the need to better account for vulnerability’.
- ‘Drivers of Timely and Large-Scale Cash Responses to COVID-19: what does the data say?’;
- ‘Gender and Social Protection in the COVID-19 Economic Recovery: Opportunities and Challenges’
- ‘Social protection and climate change: scaling up ambition’ here (May 2021)

Taffa Abdoul-Azize and El Gamil ‘Social Protection as a Key Tool in Crisis Management: Learnt Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic’ here (Sep 2020)

IDS
- ‘Social Protection and Building Back Better’ here (Sep 2020)


ISSA
- ‘Reinvigorating the social contract and strengthening social cohesion: Social protection responses to COVID-19’ here (Oct 2020)


Oxfam and Development Pathways ‘Shelter from the storm: the global need for universal social protection in times of COVID-19’ here (Dec 2020)

World Bank (Gentilini) blog – ‘Is the temporary COVID response a game-changer for social protection?’ here (Jan 2021)

ISSA/ILo ‘Beyond COVID-19: towards inclusive and resilient social protection systems’ here (Feb 2021)
Thematic Insights

This section showcases thematic insights: documents that focus on specific aspects of the COVID-19 social protection response.

Social protection and humanitarian linkages & coordination

In many countries, the social protection sector was not acting alone: partners from other sectors including Disaster Risk Management and Humanitarian Assistance played an important role in the pandemic response – strategically linking to social protection to the extent possible. This Section documents this vision and efforts.

Call to action/vision

- **Grand-Bargain (GB) Sub-group on Linking Humanitarian Cash and Social Protection** [Call to deliver on the commitment to link humanitarian cash and social protection where appropriate for an effective cash response to the COVID-19 pandemic](https://www.dbargain.org/)
- **UN/INGO** - Increasing Links Between Humanitarian Cash and Social Protection for an Effective Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic [here](https://www.unhcr.org)
- **State of the World’s Cash** report by **CALP**, including a Chapter on CVA & Social Protection [here](https://www.unhcr.org) (Jul 2020)
- **UN** - UN Common Cash Statement (UNCCS) - Questions & Answers [here](https://www.unhcr.org) (Jul 2020)
UN General Assembly ‘Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 11 December 2020 (75/127) “Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations’ here (Dec 2020)

Resources/guidance

SPACE

→ ‘Identifying practical options for linking humanitarian assistance and social protection in the COVID-19 response’ here. (Sep 2020). Examining the relationship between humanitarian assistance and social protection in response to COVID-19 and guiding humanitarian practitioners on how to practically link their responses to social protection (SP) systems and programmes, as well as key emergency response considerations for social protection practitioners.

→ ‘Linking humanitarian and social protection information systems in the COVID-19 response and beyond’ here (Sep 2020). Providing considerations for humanitarian actors to consider when making decisions regarding the use of their Information Systems in COVID-19 responses, and beyond. It focuses in particular on contexts of transition from humanitarian to longer-term, state-led social protection systems. See also Blog - ‘Five practical insights on linking humanitarian assistance and social protection’ here.

→ ‘Overcoming barriers to coordinating SRSP and social protection linked with humanitarian action – building on promising practices’ here (June 2021). This paper presents a synthesis of global learning from efforts to coordinate shock responses linked with social protection during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as in response to other shocks, to inform dialogue and future action to enhance coordination.

→ ‘Transfer Values: how much is enough? Balancing social protection and humanitarian considerations’ here. (April 2021). The paper highlights key elements that could be considered when setting transfer values for emergency response, while navigating the complexity of differing ‘pressures’ across sectors.

→ Deciding when and how to link humanitarian assistance and social protection: guidance and tools for response analysis here (June 2021). Two simple tools that can be used to determine the likely feasibility and appropriateness of linking humanitarian action and social protection and the key considerations to bear in mind for different options for linking.

CALP

→ Cash Coordination Tip Sheet here (Feb 2020, pre-COVID)

→ Readiness checklists for Cash Working Groups in light of COVID-19 (includes working with social protection systems) here (May 2020)

→ Living document on COVID-19 – full of resources including linkages

→ Tipsheet For Cash Working Groups (CWG) And Inter-Cluster Coordination Groups (ICCG) on Supporting the Linkages Between Humanitarian Cash And Voucher Assistance and National Social Protection Systems

→ GB Subgroup weekly newsletter and page full of info

→ CCD ‘Responding to the COVID-19 crisis: Linking humanitarian cash and social protection in practice’ here

→ The new templates and guidance for Humanitarian Response Plans emphasised joint inter-sectoral needs analysis, robust response analysis, and links with national systems.

→ IFRC Cash Hub Guidance for National Societies Social protection in the age of COVID-19 here

→ Global HRP ‘Covid-19 Final Progress Report’ here (Feb 2021)

→ SocialProtection.org Clinic ‘Preparing our social protection sector for future shocks in times of COVID-19 and beyond, working alongside the humanitarian sector’. In: Global e-conference here (Oct 2020) – see accompanying Discussion Document here

Box 2. Beyond COVID-19: Useful Resources on Linkages

See SRSP box above

SPAN Training course on Social Protection across the Humanitarian-Development Nexus

CALP ‘Case study: Responsible data sharing with governments’ here

CALP Toolbox – Linking Humanitarian CVA and Social Protection here
Webinars


- **Grand Bargain webinar series** on socialprotection.org:
  - Linking Cash and Voucher Assistance and Social Protection: Demystifying the entry points for humanitarians
  - Linking Cash and Voucher Assistance and Social Protection in forced displacement contexts
  - Building Blocks: entry points for humanitarians when linking cash and voucher assistance in nascent social protection systems
  - The role of (I)NGOs in linking humanitarian cash and social protection in conflict settings
  - Lessons learned and Opportunities: Linking social protection systems to humanitarian cash in a pandemic
  - Linking Social Protection and Humanitarian Cash and Voucher Assistance: What do we really know and where to start? Findings from the CaLP commissioned high-level briefing paper at the time of COVID-19
  - (Missed) Opportunities? COVID-19 as an accelerator or blocker in the inclusion of forcibly displaced in linking social protection and humanitarian cash transfers
  - Unbundling the delivery chain: practical examples of linkages between humanitarian cash transfers and social protection from across the globe
  - National and local humanitarian actors – linking humanitarian cash responses to government social protection approaches in response to a global pandemic
  - Inclusive CVA and Social Protection responses during COVID-19
  - Opportunities for strengthening links between HCT and SP: Learning from COVID-19 responses
  - Donor perspectives: What is the potential for forging stronger links between humanitarian CVA and social protection in light of COVID-19 and how can this be financed?
  - Keeping recipients of humanitarian cash and social protection informed – the importance of outreach and communications

Informal workers

Briefs/research/guidance

**SPACE**

- ‘Informal workers and social protection in the COVID-19 response’ [here](https://www.socialprotection.org) (May 2020) Outlining the options for providing social protection to informal workers’, with a particular focus on the implications for COVID-19 response and urban settings.
- ‘Including informal workers within social protection systems – a summary of options’ (forthcoming). Summarising existing literature on how to better include informal workers in routine social protection systems for decision-makers - and situate that literature against opportunities, challenges and lessons learned during COVID-19.

- **Socialprotection.org, ILO, WEGO and SPACE.** Clinic 7: Linking - and transitioning between - non-contributory and contributory SP for informal workers and beyond, Discussion Document [here](https://www.socialprotection.org)

- **ILO**
  - Brief: COVID-19 crisis and the informal economy [here](https://www.socialprotection.org) (May 2020)
  - Extending social protection to informal workers in the COVID-19 crisis: country responses and policy considerations [here](https://www.socialprotection.org) (Sep 2020) and 2021 update (Extending social security to workers in the informal economy: lessons from international experience [here](https://www.socialprotection.org))

- **FAO** Impact of COVID-19 on informal workers [here](https://www.socialprotection.org) (May 2020)


- **Global Deal** on Social Dialogue for the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy [here](https://www.socialprotection.org) (Jun 2020)

- **WIEGO**
  - Informal Workers in the Covid-19 Crisis [here](https://www.socialprotection.org) (May 2020)
Social Protection Responses to Covid-19 Briefs here (Mar 2021)
Tracking government responses for informal workers here (Mar 2021)

- IGSSS / YUVA ‘Seeking Justice for Informal Workers During the COVID-19 Second Wave. Analysing social protection during the pandemic from April - June 2021’ here (Aug 2021)

Webinars/podcasts/blogs
- CGDEV – ‘Cash Transfers for COVID-19 in Low- and Middle-Income Countries’ here (Apr 2020)
- IDS informal roundtable on COVID-19 and informal work here (Apr 2020)
- UNDP on policy responses for those small enough to fail here (Apr 2020)
- UN Women on three ways to contain Covid-19's impact on women informal workers here (May 2020)
- World Bank
  - The transition to ‘new normal’ for informal workers here (May 2020)
- INCLUDE from charity to fair chances in Africa here (Jun 2020)
- WIEGO on informal workers during the pandemic year here (Dec 2020)
- SocialProtection.org webinar on informal sector COVID-19 impacts here (Jan 2021)
- WIEGO podcast informal workers and SP here; ‘Workers Voices’ webinars here (Mar 2021)

Gender and inclusion (note: more on disability below)

**General/framing/call to action**

**SPACE** ‘Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) in social protection responses during COVID-19’ here (May 2020): Providing key considerations and examples of how GESI can be integrated into COVID-19 response options/strategies, to increase wellbeing and dignity, while minimising potential negative effects on vulnerable populations.

- World Bank (2020) Gender dimensions of the COVID-19 pandemic (policy note)
- Grand Bargain Subgroup The Importance of Acting on Grand Bargain Commitments for a Meaningful Focus on Gender in Cash and Voucher Assistance Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic here
- UN Women (2020) Family-Friendly Policies and other good workplace practices in the context of COVID-19
- ODI ‘Have social protection responses to Covid-19 undermined or supported gender equality? Emerging lessons from a gender perspective’ here (Jun 2021)
- **Gender & Covid-19**
  - The Impact of Epidemics on Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (2020)
  - ‘Can the COVID-19 crisis be a catalyst for gender-responsive and inclusive social protection?’ here (Mar 2021)
Research/guidance

**SPACE**

- ‘Strengthening gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) during the implementation of social protection responses to COVID-19: Providing guidance on how to ensure that the delivery of programmes (especially cash transfers) are gender-sensitive, equitable, inclusive, and where possible, transformative’ [here](#) (Sep 2020)
- ‘Integrating gender and inclusion in social protection response to COVID-19: What have we learnt?’ [here](#) (Jun 2021)

- **Gender and COVID-19 Working Group** (2020) List of Resources (living document covering a wide range of topics related to gender)
- Digital transfers in the time of COVID-19: Opportunities and consideration for women’s inclusion and empowerment ([Zimmerman et al.](#), 2020)
- GBV Case Management and COVID-19 Pandemic ([Yaker & Erskine](#), 2020)
- **FAO.** 2020. Gendered impacts of COVID-19 and equitable policy responses in agriculture, food security and nutrition
- **UN Women** ‘COVID-19: How to include marginalised and vulnerable people in risk communication and community engagement’ (2020)
- **UN Women** (2020) COVID-19: Emerging gender data and why it matters
- **UN Women** Guidance Note for Action: Supporting SMEs to Ensure the Economic COVID-19 Recovery is Gender-Responsive and Inclusive
- **UN Women** ‘Beyond COVID-19: A feminist plan for sustainability and social justice’ [here](#) (2021)
- **ISAC** Checklist to Protect from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse During COVID-19 (Interim Guidance 2020)
- **ILO** (2020) The COVID-19 response: Getting gender equality right for a better future for women at work
- **UNDP (2020) Gender and Recovery Toolkit:** Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Crisis and Recovery Settings
- Guidance Note: Safeguarding Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEAH) for Aid Organisations Delivering Programmes to Assist Countries Affected by COVID-19 (Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub, 2020)
- **IFPRI and Transfer Project** brief: Gender-sensitive social protection: A critical component of the COVID-19 response in low- and middle-income countries
- **OECD** Women at the core of the fight against COVID-19 crisis brief [here](#)
- **Centre for Global Development** - Pandemics and Violence Against Women and Children
- **DFAT** - COVID-19 Gender and Social Protection guidance note: Violence against women and girls-and-gender-sensitive social protection programming
- **Women’s Refugee Commission** - Stocktaking Paper on Cash and Voucher Assistance for Protection
- **DFID** Work Opportunities for Women (2020), Women’s Economic Empowerment during the COVID-19 Pandemic: a rapid review of Impacts and Responses for Economic Relief and Recovery

**Blogs and webinars**

- **SDDDirect** (2020) COVID-19 Blog Series (covering issues of gender, disability and LGBTIQ)
- **Save the Children** (2020) 8 Ways to Ensure Gender Equality is at the Centre of Responses to COVID-19
- **Brookings** (2020) COVID-19 pandemic shows the need to strengthen digital safety nets for women
- **World Bank** (2020) How are the incomes of women and men affected by COVID-19?
- **SocialProtection.org** Clinic ‘Gender and disability-responsive social protection in times of COVID-19 and beyond’. In: Global e-conference [here](#) (Oct 2020) and accompanying Discussion Document [here](#)
- **Social protection responses to COVID-19: Actions that can make a difference for older people**
- **Impacts of COVID-19 on care politics**
Box 3. Beyond COVID-19: Useful Resources

- FAO Technical Guide 1 - Introduction to gender-sensitive social protection programming to combat rural poverty: Why is it important and what does it mean?
- FAO Technical Guide 2 - Integrating gender into the design of cash transfer and public works programmes
- FAO Technical Guide 3 - Integrating gender into implementation and monitoring and evaluation of cash transfer and public works programmes
- Gender-Responsive Age-Sensitive Social Protection conceptual framework
- CaLP resources on gender and inclusion

Disability inclusion

Guidance/call to action


- United Nations (2020) Policy Brief, A Disability-Inclusive Response to COVID-19. And also another similar here
- WHO (2020) Disability considerations during the COVID-19 outbreak
- Bridging the Gap (2020) The impact of COVID-19 on persons with disabilities
- Disability De-brief Newsletter collates key resources; includes COVID-19 specific up-dates and latest DFID Help Desk Rapid Review on the impacts of COVID-19 on people with disabilities
- IASC. (2020). Interim Briefing Note Addressing Mental Health and Psychosocial Aspects of COVID-19 Outbreak
- ILO. (2020). Questions on Disability and Work: Key issues on promoting employment of persons with disabilities and webinar Disability Inclusion in COVID-19 responses in the World of Work

Lessons learned/forward-looking

- SPACE. Inclusive Information Systems for Social Protection: Intentionally Integrating Gender and Disability here. Strategies for designing information systems in a way that is inclusive and right-based, leveraging technology “to ensure a higher standard of living for the vulnerable and disadvantaged” rather than becoming a further barrier to inclusion.
- UNPRPD and ILO (May 2020) ‘Initial overview of specific social protection measures for persons with disabilities and their families in response to COVID 19 crisis’ here
- NCBI ‘ Disability-inclusive responses to COVID-19 in low- and middle-income countries’ here
- World Development (2020) Disability-inclusive responses to COVID-19: Lessons learnt from research on social protection in low- and middle-income countries, here
• **COVID-19 Disability Rights Monitor** (2020) Disability rights during the pandemic: A global report on findings of the COVID-19 Disability Rights Monitor, here
• **Inclusive Futures** ‘Inclusive crisis responses: learning from COVID-19’ here
• **CALP** ‘Disability Inclusive Cash Assistance: Learnings from Practice in Humanitarian Response’ here (Aug 2021)

**Migration and IDPs**

**Guidance/call to action**
• **ILO and ISSA** ‘Social protection for migrant workers: A necessary response to the Covid-19 crisis’ here
• **ILO Policy Brief**: Protecting migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic here.
• **OECD** The impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on forcibly displaced persons in developing countries here
• **World Bank** blog Social protection for migrants during the COVID-19 crisis: The right and smart choice here
• See also **UNHCR** (pre-COVID) here
• **SocialProtection.org** webinar ‘Migrants and COVID-19 – Emerging Practices’ and related blog
• **IOM** COVID-19 Analytical Snapshot #38: Social protection of migrants here
• **UNDRR** Webinar ‘Reducing COVID-19 Vulnerability Amongst Displaced Populations and Migrants’ here
• **ICRC-IFRC and Global Migration Lab** ‘Locked down and left out? Why access to basic services for migrants is critical to our COVID-19 response and recovery’ here (2021)

**Lessons learned/forward-looking**
• **SPACE** (forthcoming)
  **ODI** ‘Social protection provisions to refugees during the Covid-19 pandemic: lessons learned from government and humanitarian responses’ here (June 2021)
• **ODI** ‘Social protection and forcibly displaced people: a literature review’ here (Dec 2021)
• **WFP/UNICEF/IPC-IG** Social protection and Venezuelan migration in Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of COVID-19 – 2021 here (2021)
• **IOM** ‘Migrant Protection and Assistance during COVID-19: Promising Practices’ here
• **SocialProtection.org webinars** (Missed) Opportunities? COVID-19 as an accelerator or blocker in inclusion of forcibly displaced in linking social protection and humanitarian cash transfers; Migrants and COVID-19 – Emerging Practices here, Emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts here
• **UNHCR** Social protection responses to COVID-19 for forcibly displaced persons here
• See also dedicated Socialprotection.org page here

Remittances
→ WB Blog on remittance flows during COVID-19 here
→ World Bank Predicts Sharpest Decline of Remittances in Recent History here
→ CALP blog remittances

Localisation

SPACE
- Embedding Localisation in the Response to COVID-19 (July 2020): Describing key considerations for integrating local actors into the COVID-19 social protection and/or humanitarian cash response. Local actors are defined as national and sub-national entities and can include civil society organisations (CSOs), government, private sector actors, and communities themselves— and accompanying webinar: The role of local and national actors in linking humanitarian cash and social protection in response to the COVID-19 pandemic here
- Framework for shifting bilateral programmes to local actors (Aug 2021). Framing developed to support analysis of separation of functions, Value for Money and risk, to help facilitate a shift from UN/INGO led programmes, to locally-led models that draw on the complementarities between UN, INGO and LNO key strengths.

• IASC- Interim Guidance on Localisation and the COVID-19 response here; IASC Guidance Notes on Localisation
• ODI webinar on localisation during COVID-19 here and Report From the ground up it’s about time for local humanitarian action here; Blog Covid-19 and localisation: an opportunity for equitable risk-sharing; Briefing ‘All eyes are on local actors’: Covid-19 and local humanitarian action. Opportunities for systemic change’
• CALP, Chapter 7 of State of the World’s Cash report on localisation
• FPFP document ‘Is Covid a window of opportunity for localizing aid? Learning from a natural experiment in the Pacific’ here

Decentralisation, governance

SPACE Adaptive social protection and decentralisation: a conceptual framework here
• ILO ILO (2020). The Role of social dialogue in formulating social protection responses to the COVID-19 crisis here

Rural/urban

• World Bank Cash in the City: Emerging Lessons from Implementing Cash Transfers in Urban Africa here
• SPACE and ODI paper: ‘Crisis as Opportunity for Urban Cash Transfers?’ Also see SPACE Economic Impacts document for key distinctions in terms of the differential impact
• SocialProtection.org webinar SP responses to COVID-19: challenges and opportunities to urban settings in Sub-Saharan Africa here
• Rural support, FAO COVID-19 Social Protection guidance here and ‘COVID-19 and rural poverty: Supporting and protecting the rural poor in times of pandemic’ here; as well as work on Crop Calendars during COVID-19 and more here
• UN policy brief on COVID-19 in urban settings with SP recommendations associated.
• NOTE that more than half of WFP’s operations are now in cities.
→ See also relevant socialprotection.org page here
Safety/contagion-reducing measures for registration/payments

- **HelpAge guidance** on how to administer pension payments during the COVID-19 pandemic (relevant beyond pensions)
- **CALP** living document section (including Guidelines from several agencies and major NGOs)
- **SocialProtection.org & Helpage webinar** focusing on older people but a strong focus on contagion-reducing measures throughout here
- Visual twitter thread on countries efforts to ensure safety during registration/payments
- **CaLP** ‘Data responsibility toolkit and case studies – Guidance for cash and voucher practitioners’ here

Risk/corruption/fraud mitigation

- **U4** COVID-19, cash transfers, and corruption. Policy guidance for donors
- **OECD** Safeguarding COVID-19 social benefit programmes from fraud and error
- **IMF** blog ‘Do Whatever It Takes but Keep the Receipts’—the Public Financial Management Challenges; paper Keeping the Receipts: Transparency, Accountability, and Legitimacy in Emergency Responses; paper Enhancing Digital (PFM) Solutions to Implement Emergency Responses; Budget Execution Controls to Mitigate Corruption Risk in Pandemic Spending here

Accountability, safeguarding

- **Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub (RSH)** here
- **Global Protection Cluster** COVID-19 Pandemic Cash and Voucher Assistance for Protection Considerations here
- **Saferworld** Conflict sensitivity in responses to COVID-19: Initial guidance and reflections here
- **International Budget Partnership** on enhancing transparency/accountability in the COVID19 S.P. response. Blog and very high-level guidance
- **GOARN, WHO, UNICEF & IFRC** Tips for Engaging Communities during COVID-19 in Low-Resource Settings, Remotely and In-Person here
- **CHS Alliance** COMPLAINT MECHANISMS & COVID-19: THE IMPORTANCE OF PREPAREDNESS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT here (Dec 2020)

Financing

**COVID-19 trends: SP and humanitarian**

- **WB** and **UNICEF** paper ‘Where is the money coming from Ten stylized facts’ here
- **ILO** ‘Financing gaps in social protection: Global estimate and strategies for developing countries in light of the COVID-19 crisis and beyond’ here (Sept 2020)
- **ODI** Official development assistance financing for social protection: lessons from the Covid-19 response here
- **SPACE** What are future financing options for Shock Responsive Social Protection? A technical primer paper.
- **Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2020** on the crisis financing landscape here (total levels of international humanitarian assistance dropped in 2019, for the first time in seven years, yet humanitarian needs are higher than ever, with UN appeals calling for 25% more funding by June 2020 than by same time last year)
• DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES factsheet on ‘Financing humanitarian needs amid the Covid-19 pandemic’ here
• CGDEV Humanitarian Financing Is Failing the COVID-19 Frontlines
• Initiative for Policy Dialogue ‘GLOBAL AUSTERITY ALERT. LOOMING BUDGET CUTS IN 2021-25 AND ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS’ (April 2021)
• UNICEF ‘COVID-19 and the Looming Debt Crisis’ here (Apr 2021)

Disaster Risk Financing
• Centre for Disaster Protection blog series dedicated to COVID-19 and the implications for disaster risk financing and flagship report on crisis risk financing. Also: The future of pandemic financing: What can we learn from the Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility? And Funding COVID-19 response tracking page
• MAINTAINS COVID-19 series: Disaster risk financing here.
• SocialProtection.org webinar disaster risk finance for better response to COVID 19 and other risks here

Taxation
• Interesting/bold ICRICT report on ‘The global pandemic, sustainable economic recovery and international taxation’ here.
• IMF Tax Policy for Inclusive Growth after the Pandemic here

Budgeting
• CABRI webinar on ‘Financing nutrition during and beyond COVID-19: implications for an African budget manager’ here
• IMF Budgeting in a Crisis: Guidance for Preparing the 2021 Budget here

Donor funding & co
• Dev Init Covid-19 and financing projections for developing countries and What impact will Covid-19 have on development finance? + background piece on The challenges of data on the financing response to Covid-19 here
• WB Reviving FDI flows is crucial to economic recovery in developing economies
• ODI document ‘Scaling up multilateral bank finance for the Covid-19 recovery’ here

Webinars
• SocialProtection.org/IPC-IG Webinar. ‘Social protection financing in the wake of COVID-19 and beyond’ here (May 2020)
• **SocialProtection.org global E-conference events.** Round table ‘Financing universal social protection during COVID-19 and beyond: A case for national and global solidarity to build social protection systems which are adequate, sustainable and adapted to developments in the world of work. [here](Oct 2020); Clinic ‘Financing social protection for future shocks’ [here](Oct 2020) with accompanying Discussion Document [here]; Side Event ‘A Global Fund for Social Protection’ [here](Oct 2020) and blog [here](Dec 2020)

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### Box 4. Beyond COVID-19: Useful Resources

- TRANSFORM Base Doc Finance
- ODI (2015) *Bringing taxation into social protection analysis and planning: working paper*
- IDS (2017) *Innovative financing methods for social protection*
- ILO (2019) *Measuring financing gaps in social protection for achieving SDG target 1.3: Global estimates and strategies for developing countries*

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### Registration & enrolment - expansion of coverage, including via existing data/information systems

**SPACE** ‘Options for rapid expansion of social assistance caseloads for COVID-19 responses (registration and enrolment)’: Discussing the main strategies for rapid expansion of social assistance caseloads in response to COVID-19, via new or existing programmes – building on existing data, systems and capacity where possible. Providing practical insights on the opportunities, challenges and pre-requisites offered by different approaches.

- **SocialProtection.org webinar** ‘Identification and registration of beneficiaries for SP responses in the wake of COVID-19’ [here] and blog ‘Building on existing data, information systems and registration capacity to scale up social protection for COVID-19 response’ [here]
- V9 Gentilini paper with a section on delivery via social registries [here]
- CGDEV Digital Technology in Social Assistance Transfers for COVID-19 Relief: Lessons from Selected Cases [here]
- UNDP ‘Policy Responses to the Pandemic for COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Use of Cash Transfer Programs and Social Protection Information Systems’ [here]
- ECLAC Sistemas de información social y registros de destinatarios de la protección social no contributiva en América Latina: avances y desafíos frente al COVID-19 [here], in English [here]
- CaIP - Emerging practices of remote registration and verification [webinar] and ‘Case study: Data responsibility and digital remote targeting during COVID-19’ [here]
- Silvia Masiero paper ‘COVID-19: What does it mean for digital social protection?’ [here]
- HPG/ODI paper ‘Bridging humanitarian digital divides during Covid-19’ [here]

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### Box 5. Beyond COVID-19: Useful Resources

- DFAT Leveraging social assistance data and information systems for shock response (2019) [here]
Payment systems

Research/guidance

SPACE ‘Options for rapid delivery (payment) of cash transfers for COVID-19 responses and beyond’ here (July 2020). Describes the main strategies used by, and available to, countries to deliver cash support in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The objective is to inform both ongoing responses to COVID-19 and medium to long term investments in delivery mechanisms that could be used to respond to future crises.

- **World Bank.** Scaling up social assistance payments as part of the COVID-19 pandemic response here, and; Digital Cash Transfers in the time of COVID-19 Opportunities and Considerations for Women’s Inclusion and Empowerment here
- **CGDEV.** Digital Technology in Social Assistance Transfers for COVID-19 Relief: Lessons from Selected Cases here
- **World Bank.** ‘ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION The delivery chain and shock response’ (Gabrielle Smith) here
- **Mercy Corps.** The Delivery Guide - Scoping the Humanitarian Payments Landscape – useful resources for SP as well
- **Bank of International Settlements.** COVID-19 Cash, and the Future of Payment, here
- **GSMA.** Policy and regulatory recommendations to facilitate mobile humanitarian and social assistance during COVID-19 here
- **GSMA.** Mobile Money recommendations to Central Banks in response to COVID-19

Webinars

- [SocialProtection.org](https://www.socialprotection.org) CGDEV + WB webinar on G2P payments, very useful framing slides at the beginning and some short/medium/long term policy actions and examples from Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Jordan here
- [Better than cash alliance webinar](https://www.betterthancash.org) Lessons from Ebola on digital payments here
- [UNCDF webinar](https://www.uncdf.org) Digitising payments in the time of COVID-19 here
- [CGDEV webinar](https://www.cgdev.org) Harnessing Digital Tech & Payments to Support People & Small Businesses Through COVID-19 & Beyond here
- [Socialprotection.org](https://www.socialprotection.org) Global E-conference clinic, see accompanying Discussion Document on ‘(Digital) solutions for social protection responses to COVID-19: payments’ here

Blogs

- [CGDEV.](https://www.cgdev.org) - Using What You Have to Scale-up Payments for COVID-19 Response here; COVID-19: How Countries Can Use Digital Payments for Better, Quicker Cash Transfers here; Digital Technology to Scale Up COVID-19 Social Assistance: What Have We Learned? here
- [CGAP.](https://www.cgap.org) Social Assistance Payments in Response to COVID-19: The Role of Donors here
- [World Bank.](https://www.worldbank.org) - Responding to the crisis with digital payments for social protection: Short-term measures with long-term benefits here
- [Shepherd-Barron](https://www.shepherd-barron.com) - On the need for ‘cash out’ for digital payments and Ebola lessons here – see also Currency News here (cash not vector for contagion)

Box 6. Beyond COVID-19: Useful Resources

- Inter-Agency Social Protection Assessments (ISPA) Payment Tool.
- TRANSFORM Section 3
Monitoring and evaluation

SPACE ‘Key considerations for monitoring shock-responsive social assistance: A guiding framework’ here (Jun 2021). Presents a guiding framework with key questions and key issues to consider when monitoring Shock-responsive social protection (SRSP) to understand how the intervention contributes to broader crisis response. Includes the key domains of coverage and effectiveness, adequacy, timeliness, predictability, cost efficiency, equity and inclusion, accountability and sustainability.

Outreach, communications and behavioural science

- **Oxford University** Incorporating behavioural add-ons into COVID-19 cash response Guidance here
- **WB** and behavioural insights team ‘insights to better design SP cash transfers in emergencies ‘guidance’ here
- Blog How to Maximise the Impact of Cash Transfers, During and After COVID-19 here
- **CDAC** report ‘Improving The Response To Covid-19: Lessons From The Humanitarian Sector Around Communication, Community Engagement And Participation’ here

Public employment programmes and public works

- **ILO**
  - Envisaged Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic on Public Works Programmes and Recommended Mitigation Measures here
  - Public Employment Initiatives and the COVID-19 crisis here including brief case studies from Argentina, Austria, France, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and South Africa.
- Digital public works **WB** blog here
- **SocialProtection.org** webinar Impact of COVID-19 on public works programs: policy options in the short and medium-term here and blog

Nutrition

- **SPACE** ‘How to promote better nutrition through social assistance - A guidance note’ here (Nov 2021)

School Feeding

- **FAO/WFP** etc joint paper on school feeding and COVID-19 herein (Apr 2020)
- **SocialProtection.org/IPC-IG** Webinar ‘Managing continuity and preparedness of school feeding programmes under COVID-19 and the South-South Cooperation role’ here (Jul 2020)
- Great country examples of ‘design tweaks’ of school feeding consolidated by the **IPC-IG**, summarised in a tweet here (three threads with country examples)

Child benefits

- **SocialProtection.org** Round table ‘Universal child benefits: Pathways to universality’ In Global e-conference here (Oct 2020)
- **UNICEF** Emergency Universal Child Benefits: Addressing the Social and Economic Consequences of the COVID-19 Crisis in South Asia here
Old-age pensions

IDB paper on Pension Program During Covid-19 ‘Stepping up during a Crisis’ here

SPACE and HelpAge Social protection for older people during COVID-19 and beyond: Co-written with HelpAge International and providing information and guidance on social protection and older people, with a focus on pensions to cushion the economic impacts of COVID-19.

IMF Pension Schemes in the COVID-19 Crisis: Impacts and Policy Considerations here

SocialProtection.org /IPC-IG Webinar ‘Social protection responses to COVID-19: Actions that can make a difference for older people’ (Apr 2020)

SocialProtection.org Round table ‘Older people’s livelihoods and social protection during COVID-19 and beyond’. In: Global e-conference here (Oct 2020)

Longer-term livelihoods, employment, economic inclusion and Cash+

SPACE Programming Options: ‘Cash Plus’ Approaches in the Response to COVID-19: Providing an overview of the options for linking cash transfers to complementary services in the context of COVID-19, drawing out lessons learned from existing evidence and knowledge of good practices to highlight how cash plus can be effectively designed and implemented in crisis response.

SPACE ‘The Potential Role of Economic Inclusion Programmes in Covid-19 Response’, focusing on social assistance and how to complement social assistance measures with additional inputs, components and linkages – including economic inclusion approaches – to help mitigate the impacts of the pandemic and move towards early economic recovery here

UNHCR guidance on emerging practices LIVELIHOODS AND ECONOMIC INCLUSION for COVID-19 here


ODI ‘Covid-19: crisis as opportunity for urban cash transfers?’ here (Jun 2021)


PEI - their recent BLOG and COVID policy release, already with interesting insights + full report
• **World Bank** Managing the Employment Impacts of the COVID-19 Crisis: Policy Options for Relief and Restructuring [here](#)

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**Box 7. Beyond COVID-19: Useful Resources**

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