Emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts
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2. Inserte la clave sporgwebinar
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This joint effort is inspired by colleagues and organisations working to disseminate and discuss the most recent content on social protection responses to COVID-19.

The initiative has three major components:

1. A weekly special edition of a dedicated newsletter, featuring a compilation of relevant information from all over the world on social protection initiatives dealing with COVID-19;
2. Weekly webinars to foster discussions and exchanges;
3. An online community to systematise the information gathered on the topic and foster discussion.

Task Force COVID-19:
Emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts

Speakers:
Hanna Mattinen, Global Cash Operations, UNHCR Geneva
Tania Niño, World Food Programme, Colombia Office
Camilo Buitrago Hernández, Gerencia para la Respuesta a la Migración desde Venezuela

Moderator:
Nancy Landa, Technical Advisor, Skills for Reintegration Global Program – Pilot Project in Mexico, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ GmbH
Emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts

**Moderator**

Nancy Landa

GIZ

Nancy Landa is the Technical Advisor for “Skills for Reintegration” with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in Mexico. The pilot project focuses on strengthening networks and partnerships with the aim of facilitating the integration/reintegration process of migrants, returnees, refugees and other forcibly displaced persons in Mexico. Additionally, the project promotes Intra-regional and inter-regional dialogues between key actors. Nancy holds a Masters of Global Migration from University College London and has advised and led qualitative research projects on return migration, particularly on reinsertion and reintegration policies and programs at the federal and local level. She integrates activist-research strategies to influence public conversations of post-deportation experiences and struggles of returned and deported migrants.
Hanna Mattinen is spearheading the global roll out of cash-based programming for UNHCR operations. She began her professional career with non-governmental organisations, working for over thirteen years in Africa, Asia, Americas and Europe in various technical and management positions before joining the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in 2011. She has been at the forefront of making cash-based programming work in difficult humanitarian contexts: she pioneered humanitarian cash transfers in Africa and in the Caucasus in the early 2000s, and has been a core participant in steering committees, technical advisory and peer review groups. She currently focusses on operational methodologies that harness the opportunities that cash transfers offer in promoting forcibly displaced people’s access to financial opportunities and to national systems supporting cash transfers.
Emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts

**Speaker**

Tania Niño

WFP

Tania Niño studied political sciences and holds two master’s degrees one in Latin American Studies and the other in human rights from the London School of Economics. She has experience in humanitarian action and international development in Colombia, Asia and Africa as well as in the public and private sector. Currently, she is the National Officer for Social Protection in the World Food Programme Colombian Office.
Emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts

Speaker
Camilo Buitrago Hernández
Gerencia para la Respuesta a la Migración desde Venezuela

Camilo Buitrago-Hernández is advisor to the team in charge of coordinating government responses to migration from Venezuela at the Presidency of Colombia. Previously, he advised UNDP’s Regional Center for Latin America and the Caribbean in issues of migration in Central and South America. His 14+ year career has been largely focused on the provision of social services to internally displaced populations and on the promotion of victims rights in Colombia, and includes posts in government, UN agencies and international NGOs. He holds a BA in Business Administration from Universidad de los Andes in Colombia, a MSc in Sociology from the London School of Economics and Political Science in England, and a Master in Public Policy from Princeton University in the United States.
Emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts

Share your questions to the speakers!

*type them in the chat bar* 📨

Also, interact with us on Twitter (@SP_Gateway)

#SPorgWebinar
#SPcovid19
#COVID19
#SPresponses
Emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts

Implications of COVID-19 for refugees, asylum-seekers and other forcibly displaced persons:

- COVID-19 pandemic is a global health crisis and is already having implications for people on the move worldwide.

- **Higher degree of vulnerability** for refugees and displaced populations due to the conditions of their migratory journeys.

- The **COVID-19 emergency has worsened pre-existing vulnerabilities** for this population experiencing difficulties in accessing social protection systems.

- Most displaced populations, including refugees and IDPs, originate and are hosted in **developing countries with under-capacitated health system.**
### The social protection system: Objectives and types of social protection and labor programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR PROGRAM</th>
<th>OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>TYPES OF PROGRAMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Social safety/nets/social assistance | Reduce poverty and inequality | - Unconditional cash transfers  
- Conditional cash transfers |
| Noncontributory                      |            | Social pensions  
Food and in-kind support  
School feeding programs  
Public works projects  
Fee waivers and targeted subsidies  
Other interventions |
| Social insurance                     |            | Contributory old-age, survivor, and disability pensions  
Sick leave  
Maternity/paternity benefits  
Health insurance coverage  
Other types of insurance |
| Contributory                        | Ensure adequate standards in the face of shocks and life changes | |
| Labor market programs                | Improve chances of employment and earnings; smooth income support during unemployment | Active labor market programs; training, employment intermediation services, and wage subsidies  
Passive labor market programs; unemployment insurance and early retirement incentives |
| Contributory and noncontributory     |            |                   |

What is Shock-Responsive Social Protection?

Social Protection

Routine programming and resilience building

Type of shock:
Seasonal stress; economic, natural hazard, conflict, pandemic, etc.

Systems withstanding the shock

System/Program Resilience (to withstand the shock)

System/Program Adaptation (to changed contexts & needs)
How can social protection programs expand?

Social protection programs: Vertical and horizontal expansion

- **Vertical expansion**
  - Temporarily increased benefit amount
- **Horizontal expansion**
  - Regular social protection system parameters
  - Core beneficiaries of social protection system
  - Those not in receipt of regular benefits but affected by a shock

UNHCR Cash Assistance and COVID 19 – Emerging field practice
COUNTRIES WITH UNHCR CASH PROGRAMMES

33
2015

+100
2019

95% unrestricted cash
5% vouchers

More than 20 Million people receiving cash assistance

$2.4 Billion cash assistance reaching people

35% digital cash

58 SOP, 40+ PDMs

45 Active Contract with FSPs

30 Procurement ongoing

Pursuing collaborative arrangements
UNHCR Cash Assistance in light of COVID-19 - Complementing Government response

+ 30 m USD increase in CBI exp. Feb – April 2020 (71m USD → 103 m USD)
+ 25 countries are expanding on-going cash assistance
+ 40 operations are launching additional Covid-19 cash assistance

Countries are pursuing a range of approaches:
• Expanding coverage
• Increasing transfer value
• Setting up new cash projects
• Frontloading of payments
• Establishing hygiene measures at cash distributions
• Increased use of digital payments and monitoring
• COVID hotlines for info + assessment
• Testing of new technology such as contactless biometrics
• Move from cash to in-kind
Access to recognised ID is crucial for inclusion + ~ alignment (KYC)
Status and Rights <-->
Needs
Capacity of social protection systems
Management of forced displacement in countries

Inclusion? Alignment?
Horizontal expansion in Pakistan

- 1.4 million Afghan refugees registered with the Government of Pakistan
- Income as unskilled daily-wage laborers, severely affected by lockdown measures
- Large-scale Government response to COVID through BISP/Ehsaas Programme to Pakistani households
- Refugees and other PoC do not have access to Government’s social protection programs
• 1st phase targets 37,000 hh/220,000 PoCs, budget 3m USD
• Close collaboration with Government/SAFRON
• Mirrors BISP/Ehsaas in grant size and ~ targeting
• Selection through community outreach, profiling
• Delivery through urgent money order by Pakistan Post (no access to BCIP card)
• Information, communication, monitoring through mobile phones and SMS
Remote registration, horizontal expansion, and impact assessments in Morocco

- 7,990 refugees and 3,820 asylum seekers
- Remote registration and issuance of documents
- Mirrors brand new Gov. COVID social assistance grant size and delivery (Al Barid OTC)
- Different targeting (Gov. based on Ramed)
- Refugees included in national COVID impact assessment
- Inclusion in forthcoming social safety nets?
Financial inclusion, digitization & expansion in Rwanda

- 147,149 refugees: of which 11,500 in urban centres
- Camps: limited income opportunities; urban: unskilled laborers. Affected by lockdown measures
- Gov. COVID cash assistance in urban areas; no Gov. safety nets in the camps. Overall social protection relatively new
- Refugees and other PoC do not have access to social safety nets but enjoy other rights
COVID-adapted cash transfers to 133,300 persons in camps:
- Frontloading, top-ups
- Delivery through Equity Bank
- Digitization: already personal bank accounts & cards, now expanded to mobile money
- Increased POS network in camps
- Enhanced liquidity for agents
- New CBI for urban refugees (bank accounts), in line with Government response

The Governor

PRESS RELEASE

Measures to mitigate the economic impact of the COVID 19 Pandemic

March 28th, 2020. - Following the outbreak and global spread of COVID-19 that is expected to negatively affect the global economy, Rwanda, together with other government institutions engaged with various stakeholders (Banks, Mobile Network Operators) in a bid to come up with measures to mitigate the economic impact of the pandemic. To that effect, the following measures were taken:

Easing of loan repayment conditions to borrowers affected by the COVID 19 pandemic: Banks are exceptionally allowed to restructure outstanding loans of borrowers facing temporary cash flow challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Liquidity support: In addition to existing Central Bank liquidity facilities such as intra-day liquidity facility, OverNight Lending Facility, Reverse Repo for seven days and Refinancing Facility for seven days, the National Bank of Rwanda has:
- Introduced an Extended Landing Facility to Banks: The NBR has put in place a facility of FRw 50 billion that banks with liquidity challenges can borrow from at the Central Bank Rate (CBR). The tenor is extended from overnight to 3, 6 and 12 months. This facility is available for the next six months and shall be disbursed at the discretion of the Central Bank.
- Reviewed the existing Treasury Bonds rediscounting window: For the next six months, the NBR offers to buy back bonds at the prevailing market rate and the waiting period if one fails to sell the bond at the secondary market will be reduced from the current 30 days to 15 days.
- Reduced the Reserve requirement ratio: Effective April 1st, 2020, NBR will lower the reserve requirement ratio by 100 bps. from 5% to 4%, in order to allow banks more liquidity to further support affected businesses.

Encourage use of digital channels and contactless mobile payments: In an effort to limit the risk of transmission of the virus through handling of cash and ensure a safer virtual means of payment, for the next 3 months and effective from 25th March 2020, Mobile Network Operators and Banks have agreed to:

The Governor
Thank you!
SHOCK RESPONSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION
COVID 19 AND MIGRATION IN COLOMBIA

JOINT INTERVENTION (ONGOING)

GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA
WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME
1. Introduction
2. Migration crisis
3. Joint intervention
4. Inputs for the wider debate
Government response to migration from Venezuela
An unprecedented context of sudden and massive migration inflows
Migration from Venezuela has reached unprecedented proportions and its biggest impact is in Colombia.

Countries with the largest stocks of refugees and forcibly displaced migrants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Millions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syrian Arab Rep.</td>
<td>6,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>5,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>2,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>2,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>1,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>0,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem. Rep. Congo</td>
<td>0,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central African Rep.</td>
<td>0,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>0,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>0,4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Geographic distribution of Venezuelan Migrants

- Rest of the World: 5%
- Argentina: 3%
- Panamá: 2%
- Brasil: 5%
- Ecuador: 7%
- Chile: 9%
- Perú: 17%
- Rest of LAC: 17%
- Colombia: 35%

Fuente: R4V Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela.
Colombia has enabled expedite measures for massive migrant regularization

Venezuelan nationals intending to remain
→ **1,809,872**
  - 43% Regular
  - 57% Irregular

Returnees
→ **500,000** aprox.

Circular
→ **4,880,529**

Transit
→ **1,491,062**
  (Since 2018)

31 March 2020

~ **2,300,000**
Migrants intending to stay permanently

02 Feb. 2019

43,540
Newly borns to Venezuelan parents were granted full nationality
(23 Feb 2020)
SAVING LIVES WITH A LONG TERM VISION
A comprehensive policy agenda on migration

Facilitating access to basic services and investing in human capital

HEALTH  CHILDCARE  EDUCATION  EMPLOYMENT

IRREGULAR/REGULAR
The healthcare system is under extreme pressure

**IRREGULAR**

All emergencies/life threatening cases are assisted by the health system

**REGULAR**

Can register in the social security system

---

5.46 million
Health services provided to migrants

141.575
Pregnant women serviced

1.85 million
Vaccines applied

785%
Number of health services provided to migrants
325,755 Venezuelan children enrolled → 96% in free public schools
(Mar10 2019)

90,000 additional enrolments in the Jan-Feb 2020 period

134,576 Venezuelan students in school feeding programs (2019)

201,949 Children serviced through public network of family welfare

EDUCATION

✓ Unrestricted Access to public schools
✓ Fast test to assign class
✓ School Feeding (Gob/WFP)

CHILDCARE

✓ Unrestricted access to childcare facilities
✓ Nutritional support
Towards a comprehensive policy agenda on migration

Comprehensive Migration Response Policy Agenda

Access to healthcare
Access to education
Protection of vulnerable groups (indigenous populations, women, children)
Economic integration
Security and social cohesion

Regularization
Identification
Communications
Intergovernmental coordination
Financial support
Social protection responses for migrants in the midst of the pandemic
COVID-19 Response Plan for Venezuelan migrants and host communities

- Responsible and humanitarian border management
- Adjustment in the operations of UN agencies and international donors
- Strengthened coordination and information sharing
- Guaranteed healthcare access
- Joint interventions in priority municipalities
- Assistance to vulnerable migrants
**Border management**
Border closure starting March 14
Humanitarian corridor for special cases
Coordinated operation for returninig migrants

**Healthcare access**
Provision of health services related to COVID-19 to Venezuelan migrants is the same as that to Colombian nationals

**Legal status**
Migration authority suspended expiration dates of temporary permits for Venezuelan migrants while lockdown measures are in place

**Rapid assistance**
In-kind food assistance to 200 thousand vulnerable migrants regardless of their migratory status
Adjustment of migration related priorities and programs of UN agencies and international donors

- WASH
- Health
- Food
- Cash transfers
- Shelter
Ingreso Solidario program

What?
- Unconditional cash transfer program to alleviate the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the most vulnerable population

Eligibility
- Extreme poor and poor households not included in other cash transfer programs or that are considered as highly vulnerable (over 3 million eligible households)

Transfer value
- Three equal payments of COP$ 480,00 (USD$ 128) while national lockdown measures are in place

Program started
March 25th

1,760,197
People had received payments as of May 20th (30% unbanked)

44,598
Migrants from Venezuela eligible (PEP holders)

17,320
Migrants from Venezuela have received payments (As of Jun 5)
In-kind food assistance for vulnerable migrants

200,000 packages → 1,000,000 beneficiaries → 135,000+ Delivered to date

71 priority municipalities covered

- Migrant population in relative and absolute terms
- Institutional and budgetary capacities

Delivery to beneficiaries through coordinated efforts of key local actors

- Local authorities
- Organized Venezuelan diaspora groups
- NGOs
- UN Agencies

135,000+ Delivered to date
JOINT INTERVENTION WFP AND GoC ARAUCA
JOINT INTERVENTION

ARAUCA

✓ Complex Security situation
✓ Mass migration from Venezuela
✓ Poverty
✓ Manageable population figures

(Host vulnerable communities, regular migrants)
JOINT INTERVENTION

✓ Complement the government´s response to COVID 19

✓ Strengthen the responsiveness of the Social Protection System
COMPLEMENTING GOVERNMENT’S RESPONSE
CASH TRANSFERS

Piggybacking

Information systems

Targeting system
## CASH TRANSFER - PIGGYBACKING

### OFFICIAL REGISTRY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SISBEN IV (MEANS TEST)</th>
<th>ESPECIAL PERMIT TO REMAIN (PEP – PERMISO ESPECIAL DE PERMANENCIA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>POOR HOST COMMUNITIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>REGULAR MIGRANTS – PEP HOLDERS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme poverty 11.858 households</td>
<td>10.947 Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.736 people</td>
<td>9.310 adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.637 children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **REGULAR MIGRANTS – PEP HOLDERS** |  |
| Extreme poverty 763 households | (No household composition/No income level) |
| 2.212 people | |

Moderate poverty 410 households
1189 people

|  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

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El futuro es de todos
Presidencia de la República

World Food Programme
Programa Mundial de Alimentos
COMPLEMENTING GOVERNMENT’S RESPONSE
CASH TRANSFERS

COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

CASH TRANSFER
Same amount ingreso solidario
COMPLEMENTING GOVERNMENT´S RESPONSE IN-KIND SUPPORT

WFP PROVIDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENT TO GIVE FOOD KITS TO:

- Hard to reach people
- The elderly +70/people with disabilities
- Irregular migrants
STRENGTHENING THE RESPONSIVENESS OF THE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM

EVALUATION

- Results of the extraordinary measures adopted by the government and the joint intervention
- Recommendations to be better prepared for future shocks
- Strategy to better support Colombian National Protection System
GENDER CONSIDERATIONS

- Prioritize women as main recipients
- Training
- Sensitive information gathering
- Evaluation
INPUTS FOR THE WIDER DEBATE

• Official registry vs community ownership and responsibilities (host and migrants)
• Reduced financial capacity for the State and the International community
• Rolling back transitional programs/horizontal expansion
• New movements of people (Migrants going back to Venezuela)
• An extra layer of complexity to an already complex situation
• Set back in poverty reduction (and gender impact)
THANKS
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

CONDITIONAL AND NON-CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMMES

PREVIOUSLY

✓ To complement the income of the poorest
  Familias en Acción (2.5 million households)

✓ To promote Access to higher education
  Jóvenes en Acción (350,000 students)

✓ To support the elderly without pension
  Colombia Mayor (1,500,000 people)

COVID 19

✓ Extraordinary transfers (Vertical expansion)

✓ Adjustments to the Operation

✓ New transfer programme – Transitional
  (3 payments) – Ingreso Solidario

Do not cover all poor families - migrants
Q&A Session

Emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts
Next webinars

(Missed) Opportunities? COVID-19 as an accelerator or blocker in inclusion of forcibly displaced in linking Social Protection and humanitarian cash transfers
Thursday, 18 June - 8 AM EDT/GMT-4

Adaptaciones de los Programas de Alimentación Escolar en ALC
Tuesday, 23 June - 10 AM EDT/GMT-4

Strengthening social contracts in South Asia in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis
Thursday, 25 June - 9 AM EDT/GMT-4

Migrants and COVID-19 – Emerging Practices
Tuesday, 30 June - 9 AM EDT/GMT-4

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and the Coronavirus Crisis
Thursday, 2 July - 8 AM EDT/GMT-4
Thank you

Make sure to answer our webinar survey, available after the session!

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