

Welcome to the webinar

Building on government systems for shock preparedness and response: the role of social assistance data and information systems

organised by

The Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)



socialprotection.org presents:

Building on government systems for shock preparedness and response: the role of social assistance data and information systems

Speakers:

Valentina Barca, Senior Consultant, OPM

Rodolfo Beazley, Senior Consultant, OPM

Tom Mtenje, Deputy Team Leader, Social Protection Programme, GIZ Malawi

Moderator:

Clare O'Brien, Senior Consultant, WFP

Building on government systems for shock preparedness and response: the role of social assistance data and information systems

Presenter

Valentina Barca
OPM

Valentina is a senior consultant in Oxford Policy Management's (OPM) Poverty and Social Protection portfolio with a focus on how delivery systems (e.g design and implementation aspects) can facilitate responsiveness and effectiveness of social protection systems. In recent years she has worked extensively on the topics of social assistance information systems and of 'shock responsive' social protection, including within the DFID Global study and WFP's regional study in Latin America and the Caribbean. This webinar is based on research for DFAT that brings these two strands together, launching the report "Building on government systems for shock preparedness and response: the role of social assistance data and information".



Building on government systems for shock preparedness and response: the role of social assistance data and information systems

Presenter

Rodolfo Beazley
OPM

Rodolfo Beazley is an economist with more than 10 years of experience in design, implementation and evaluation of public policies, especially social policies. He is a Senior Consultant in the Poverty and Social Protection area from Oxford Policy Management (OPM) and has worked in the Social Protection for Latin America from the World Bank in Washington DC as well as a research for the Argentinian Government. In the past few years Rodolfo has assisted different countries from Latin America, Africa and South Asia.



Building on government systems for shock preparedness and response: the role of social assistance data and information systems

Presenter

Tom Mtenje
GIZ Malawi

Tom Mtenje has been working on Social Protection since 2010. He has been involved in the design and review of the Malawi National Social Support Programme (MNSSP). He has supported the Government of Malawi with resource mobilisation for the flagship Social Cash Transfer Programme and has also worked on the topics of gender mainstreaming, capacity development and financing for social protection programmes. He is currently the Deputy Team Leader for the GIZ Social Protection Programme supporting the Government of Malawi to strengthen the coordination and implementation of social protection interventions. He now focuses on strengthening the data management framework for the MNSSP and establishing an electronic payment system for cash-based social protection interventions in Malawi.



Building on government systems for shock preparedness and response: the role of social assistance data and information systems

Moderator

Clare O'Brien
WFP

Clare O'Brien is a senior consultant in the Safety Nets & Social Protection Unit at the United Nations World Food Programme's global headquarters in Rome, where she provides guidance on social protection to WFP's country offices and regional bureaux worldwide. Previously she worked for 14 years in the Poverty and Social Protection team at Oxford Policy Management, a consultancy in the UK. During her time at OPM, from 2015-18, Clare managed the DFID-funded research project on Shock-Responsive Social Protection Systems. As part of this she explored the factors that affect the relevance of social protection databases in disaster preparedness and response, and co-authored (with Valentina Barca) a policy brief on the topic.



Submit your questions to the panellists

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Oxford Policy Management

Building on government systems for shock preparedness and response: the role of social assistance data and information

Valentina Barca and Rodolfo Beazley

07 February 2019



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

January 2019



Building on..

December 2010

[illegible]



Agenda & intro

1 *Why* relevant? and caveats

2 *When* is data fit for use and appropriate?

3 *How*: uses along the shock cycle

4 *So what?* Conclusions

Pledge to 'use **existing resources and capabilities** better to shrink humanitarian needs over the long term' (Grand Bargain, 2016).



Social protection



Social assistance data & information systems





Why?

Prepositioned social assistance data could potentially make an important contribution to preparedness and response to shocks

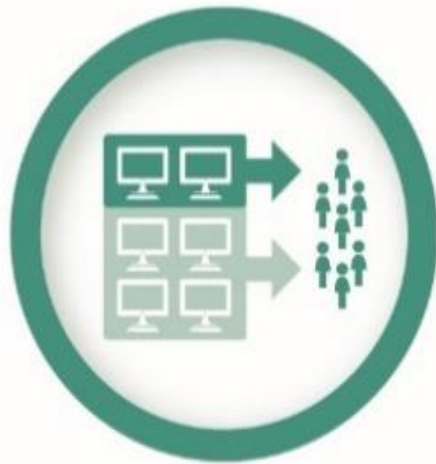
A

Across
response
approaches



Design Tweaks

Adjusting the design of routine social protection interventions



Piggybacking

Use an existing programme's infrastructure



Vertical Expansion

Temporarily increase the value or duration of benefit for existing recipients



Horizontal Expansion

Temporarily increase the number of recipients in an existing programme



Alignment

Align with other current or planned interventions

- **household-level**
- comprehensive **socio-economic**
- **operational**
- **geo**-referenced or geographically-disaggregated
- can help to capture shock vulnerability in advance of a shock
- features interoperability or data sharing arrangements
- underpinned by established (and trusted!) **capacity** to collect, store, and manage data



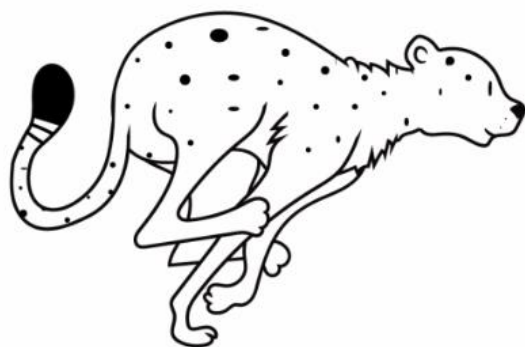
B
'Special' compared
to other
government data &
info systems



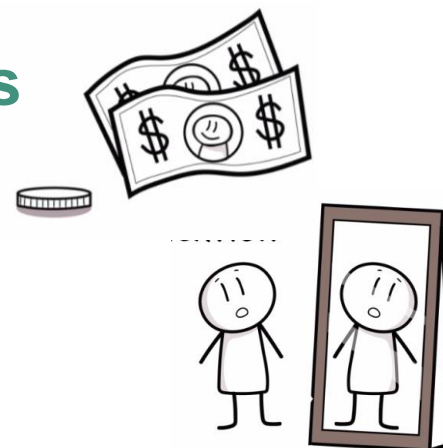
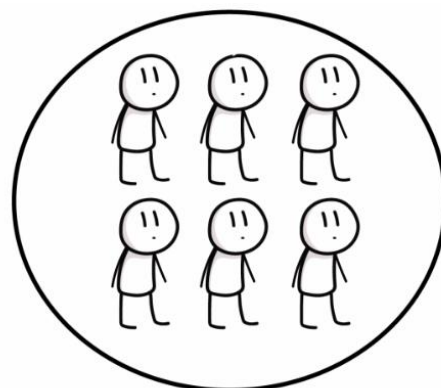
C

Could perform better than alternatives in terms of...

Coverage of population and needs

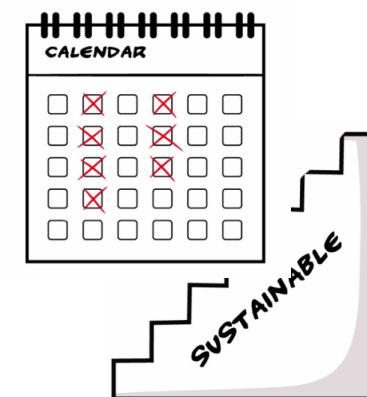


Timeliness



Reducing duplication and costs

Predictability and sustainability



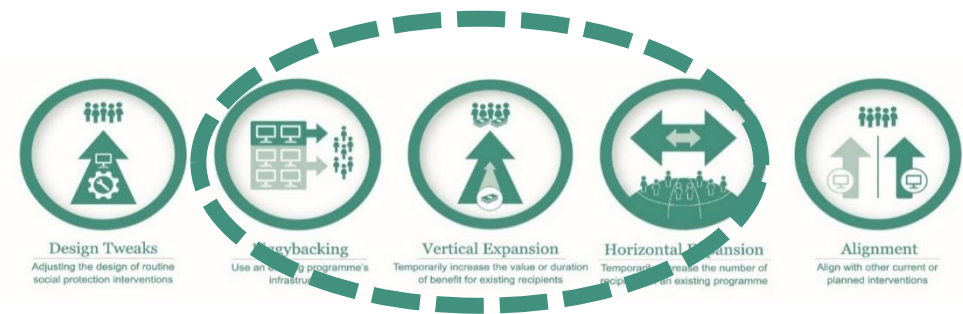
Prepositioned social assistance data could potentially make an important contribution to preparedness and response to shocks

- Yet is this always the case?
- When is this appropriate?

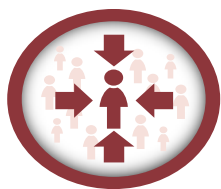


We focus on...

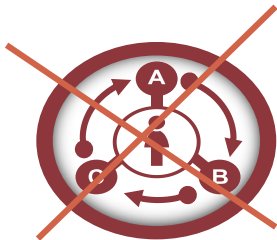
- Social assistance not social insurance
- Data on individuals and households (not finance, HR etc)
- Piggybacking, vertical, horizontal
- Role for identifying beneficiaries and delivering benefits to them



“Targeting”



Delivery



Coordination, planning & financing



When: fit for use and appropriate?

These 'registries' and their information systems **differ in many aspects**, affecting how existing data can be used in an emergency



What percentage of population is covered?



Whose data is collected/stored?



What data is collected/stored?



How (and how often) is data collected and updated?



What approach to information integration is used?



How is data validated, stored and maintained?



Who is responsible for data collection and management?



What level of security and data privacy is guaranteed?

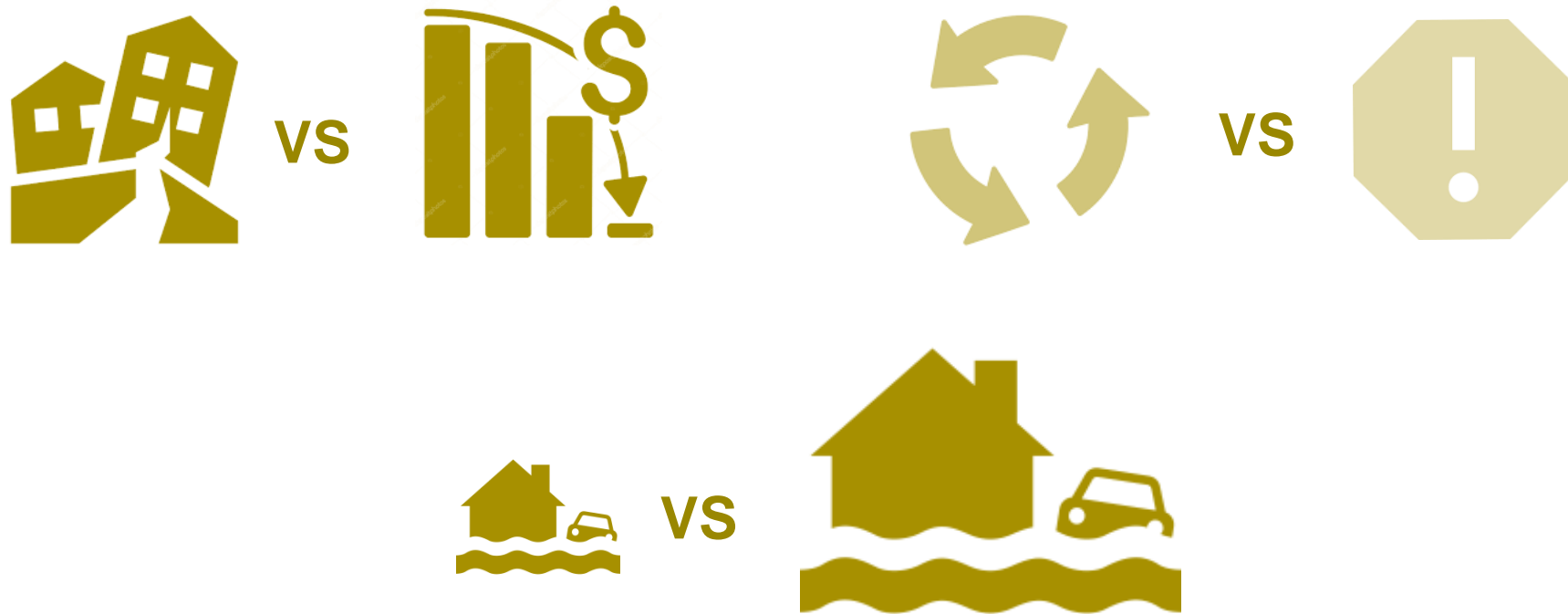


What pre-existing data sharing agreements and protocols are in place?



Remembering data was collected for another purpose..

The potential for using existing data will also be affected by **type of shock and magnitude of shock**, among other aspects..





1

2

Completeness

Relevance

3

4

Currency

Accessibility

5

6

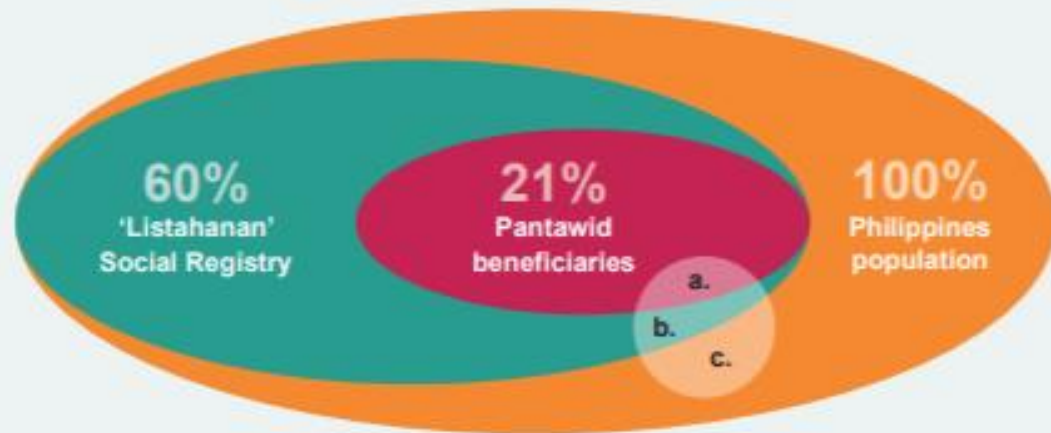
Accuracy

Protection

1. Completeness (coverage)

Refers to the number of records compared with a 'full' set (e.g. 100% coverage)

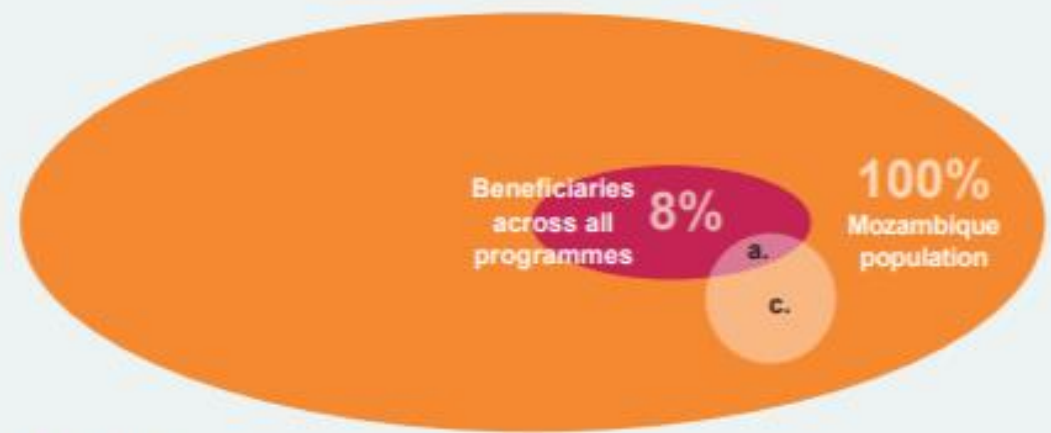
Philippines



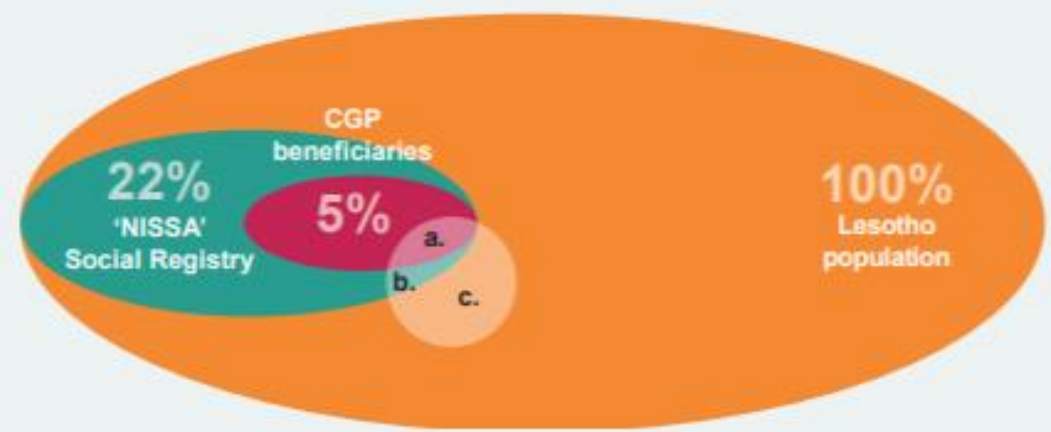
Pakistan



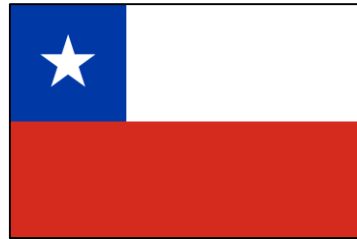
Mozambique



Lesotho



..the higher the coverage, the higher the potential. Also, given that shocks can affect the poorest and most vulnerable disproportionately, WFP evidence from LAC shows that social registries often have significant overlaps with affected populations.



Chile (74%)



Ecuador (53%)



Peru (60%)

Overlap
SR and registry
of affected HHs

98%

66%

80%

15% overlap
with bens

2. Relevance

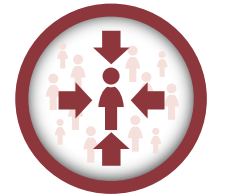


Data is relevant if it is suitable for its intended purpose.

Need for **operational** data
(& may require revalidation)



**Timely
delivery**



Targeting



- Depends on variables collected/ retained
- Often, focus on chronic poverty not resilience
- Food availability/needs, damage impossible..



Strengthen data to include **vulnerability to risks and shocks** and **geo-referencing**
(e.g. IVACC in Dominican Republic; NSER in Pakistan; UBR in Malawi)

3. Currency

The degree to which data are current (up to date), representing households' real circumstances at the required point in time, taking into account the disaster

Impossible!
Re-validation always
needed..

Main underlying factors:



How (and how often) is data
collected and updated?

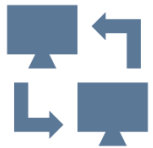


How is data validated,
stored and maintained?

4. Accessibility

The ease for potential users to obtain the data, affecting the timeliness of the response

Main factors:



- **Who** the managers and users are and what processes and **authorisation levels** are in place for data sharing

→ E.g. Lesotho, Pakistan



- Whether data is **digitised** and what type of **data interfaces** are provided

→ E.g. Mozambique



- Existing provisions for **data security and privacy**

→ E.g. Philippines

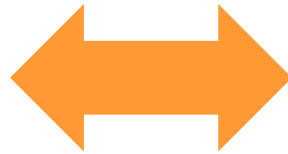


5. Accuracy (affecting usability)

Data is considered to be accurate if it is free from errors and omission

Objective

- Quality of data collection
- Data verification
- Data validation



Subjective

- Perceived **trustworthiness** of the institution responsible for collecting and housing the data – or the data itself



6. Protection (security & privacy)

Data are secure when they are protected against unauthorised access, misuse, or corruption. Data privacy is guaranteed where protecting an individual's privacy preferences and their personally identifiable information.

In emergency contexts, concerns are heightened:

- **Ethical concerns** (purpose which is different to what was originally intended)
- Data can be swiftly **put to wrong uses** in cases of **conflict and violence**. Rwandan genocide and the Holocaust..
- Rapid decision making etc can easily lead to significant **breaches** of standard protocols for the secure collection, transfer, and storage of information
- Adverse events could lead to **loss of data**,





In practice, used how?

Longer term
learning and
adaptation,
building on new
information
generated

Longer term

Before

Ex-ante diagnosis,
planning and
preparedness

SHOCK

Early warning systems
as triggers for early
action

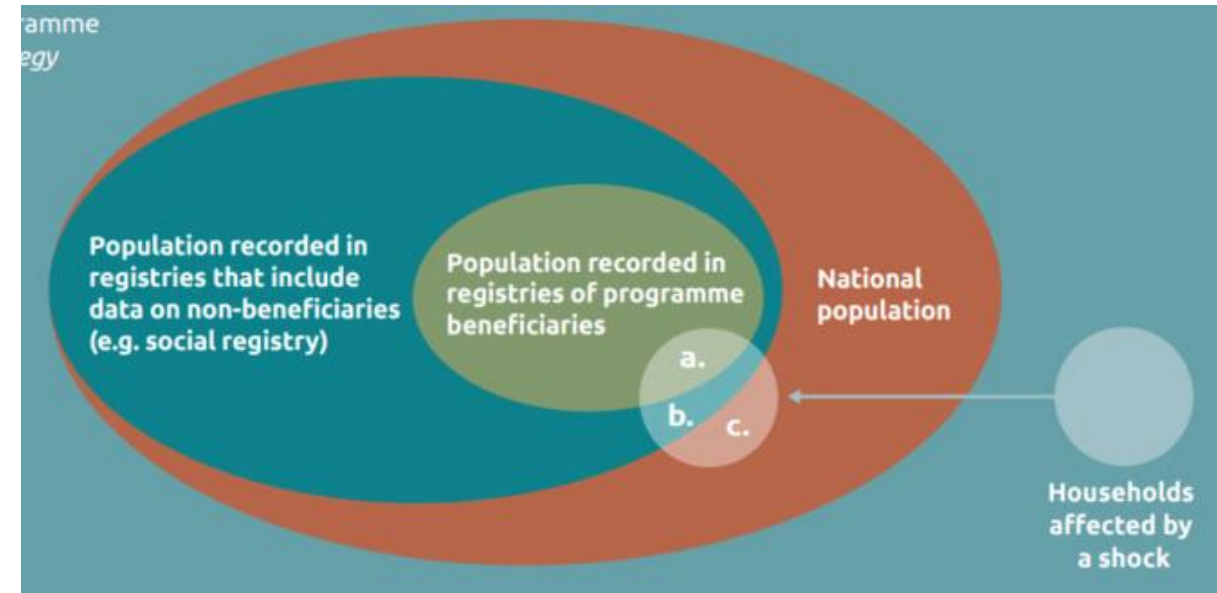
After

Information and
capacity for *ex-post*
response

a. Using existing beneficiary data to respond to shocks

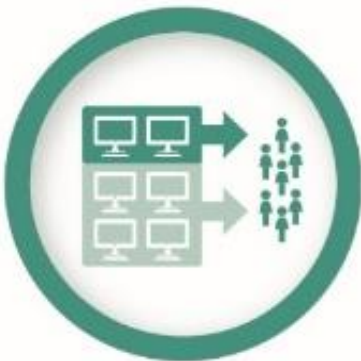


- ✓ Relatively easy
- ✓ Using multiple databases can increase coverage (e.g. Fiji and Peru)
- ✓ Data needs to be fit for purpose (i.e. accessible)
- ✓ Excludes non-beneficiaries
- ✓ Accuracy depends on the correlation between the targeting design/implementation and the effects of the shock (are 'a' in Figure)



b. Using existing non-beneficiary data to respond

Using non-beneficiary data can allow a timely response ... however, there are very few experiences globally (for important reasons)



- HSNP in **Kenya** is the most commonly cited example
- PROSPERA in **Mexico** re-incorporated former beneficiaries living in areas affected by the 2017 earthquake
- PENSION 65 in **Peru** brought forward the achievement of annual coverage goals in response to the 2017 floods

C. Using existing capacity for new data collection

Social assistance existing capacity and information systems can be leveraged for collecting new data after a shock (e.g. post-disaster needs assessments)

- Chile – FIBE (Basic form for emergencies)



Ficha Básica de Emergencia (FIBE) Folio 00-000001

Tipo Evento: _____ Fecha Ocurrencia: _____ Fecha Encuestaje: ____/____/____
Fecha Digitación: ____/____/____

1. DIRECCIÓN DE HOGAR

Calle / Avenida: _____ Número: _____ Departamento: _____ Block: _____
Comuna: _____ Localidad: _____ Población / Sector / Parcela: _____ Teléfono: _____

2. COMPOSICIÓN GRUPO FAMILIAR

Primer Apellido	Segundo Apellido	Nombre(s)	C.I. Nº o Documento de Identidad	Edad	Sexo / M	Discapacidad	Parentesco	Nacionalidad
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								

Nº de Embarazadas: _____
Nº de Enfermos Crónicos: _____
Nº de Personas que pertenecen a un Pueblo Indígena: _____

Observaciones: _____

3. INFORMACIÓN VIVIENDA

Tipo Vivienda
☐ Casa
☐ Departamento
☐ Otro: _____

Tenencia Vivienda
☐ Propia
☐ Arrendada
☐ Cedida
☐ Allegado

Cuenta con Servicios Básicos Post Emergencia
☐ Agua Potable
☐ Electricidad
☐ Alcantarillado
☐ Gas

De acuerdo a su percepción, ¿Qué tan afectados resultaron sus enseres?
☐ No afectados
☐ Poco afectados
☐ Medianamente afectados
☐ Muy afectados

¿Dónde está durmiendo el grupo familiar actualmente?
☐ Domicilio
☐ Albergue
☐ Domicilio Familiar
☐ Otro Domicilio
☐ Via Pública

De acuerdo a su percepción, ¿Qué tan afectada resultó su vivienda?
☐ No afectada
☐ Poco afectada
☐ Medianamente afectada
☐ Muy afectada
☐ Destruída

4. CALIDAD DE DAMNIFICADO LABORAL

¿Pérdida Fuente Laboral por la Emergencia?
☐ Sí
☐ No

Rubro de Actividad Económica
☐ Agricultura, caza y pesca
☐ Minas y canteras
☐ Industria
☐ Servicios Financieros
☐ Construcción
☐ Comercio
☐ Transporte y Comunicaciones
☐ Servicios Comunes y Sociales
☐ Otros Servicios: _____

5. NECESIDADES DETECTADAS PRODUCTOS DE LA EMERGENCIA (Seleccione 3 opciones según su prioridad)

<input type="checkbox"/> Alimentos	<input type="checkbox"/> Vestuario	Otros Antecedentes: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agua	<input type="checkbox"/> Calefacción	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alimentación Lactantes	<input type="checkbox"/> Artículos de Aseo	
<input type="checkbox"/> Atención Salud	<input type="checkbox"/> Artículos Higiene Personal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cochones / Frazados	<input type="checkbox"/> Solución Habitacional Transitoria	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pañales: Adultos / Niños	<input type="checkbox"/> Cocina / Materiales de Cocina	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ayudas Técnicas a Personas con Discapacidad (Especificar): _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Materiales de Construcción	

Declaro que todos los datos contenidos en este documento son exactos y me responsabilizo de su efectividad, como asimismo declaro las consecuencias legales si la información entregada no corresponde o es incorrecta. Asimismo autorizo al Ministerio de Desarrollo Social para que verifique administrativamente los datos con la información que cuente o con la que puedan proveer otros organismos públicos.

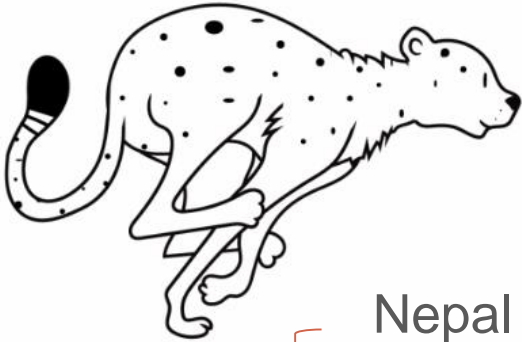
Firma Encuestador
Nombre Encuestador: _____ Nº C.I. Encuestador: _____
Número Telefónico: _____ Institución: _____

Firma Encuestado
Nombre Encuestado: _____ Nº C.I. Encuestado: _____
Código Postal: _____ Correo Electrónico: _____

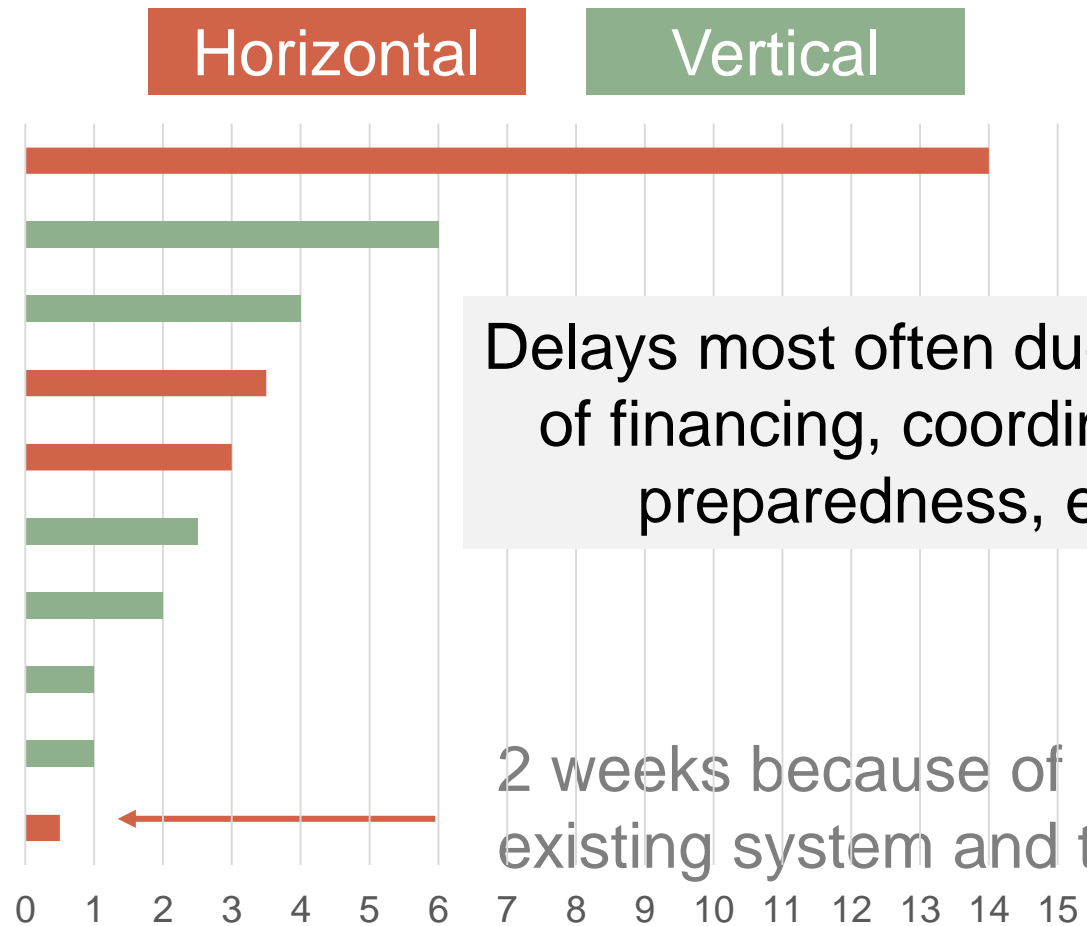


So what?

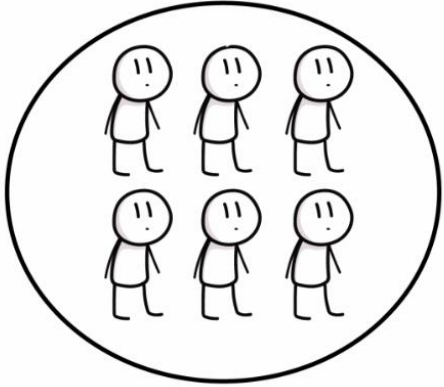
More **timely** response?



- Nepal 2015 (earthquake)
- Lesotho 2015/16 (drought)
- Nepal 2015 (earthquake)
- Dominica 2017 (cyclone)
- Ecuador 2016 (earthquake)
- Dominica 2017 (cyclone)
- Philippines 2013 (cyclone)
- Tonga 2018 (cyclone)
- Fiji 2016 (cyclone)
- Kenya (HSNP) 2016 (drought)



Ensuring coverage of population and needs?

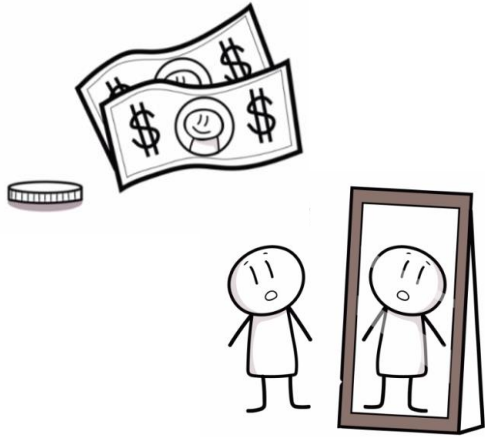


- **Vertical expansion** (or **piggybacking** on beneficiary data) is only ever a partial (first) solution
- **Horizontal expansion** based on pre-positioned social protection data (or **piggybacking** on that data) can be useful in the short term if and when it guarantees a timely response, but needs to be complemented by additional data collection... Leveraging capacity where possible!



Fundamental **trade-off**
between **timeliness** and
‘targeting accuracy’...

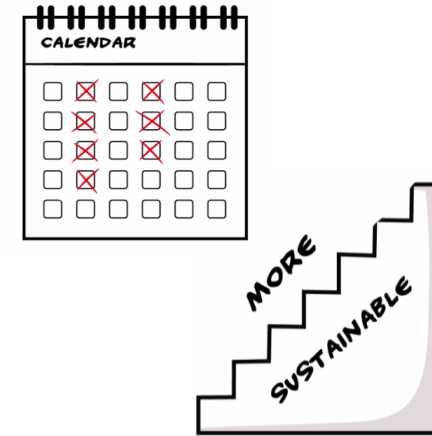
Reduced **duplication** of efforts and **costs**?



Some evidence of **lower administrative costs** of data collection, **recurring costs** of data management, and **private costs** to citizens across actors..

- E.g. experiments in Pakistan and Malawi (BUT)

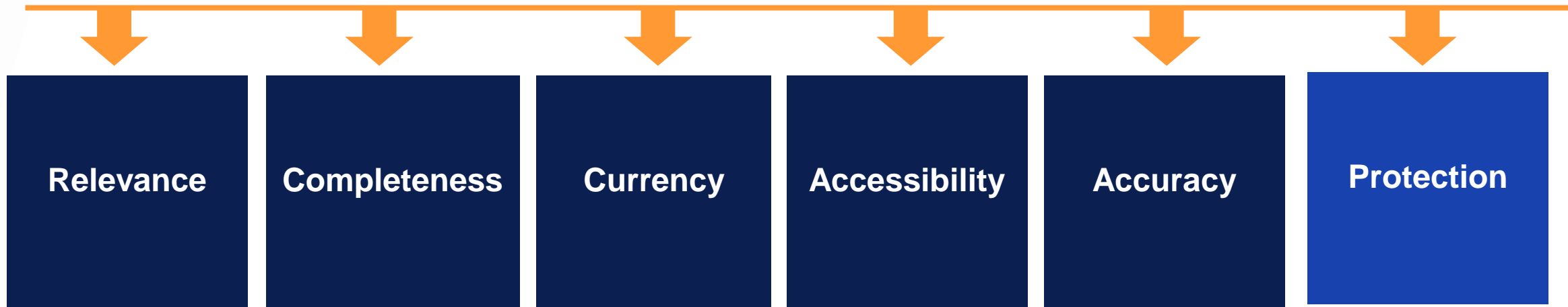
More **predictable** and **sustainable**?



Not enough evidence...



1. **ASSESS and compare with alternatives:** Having a 'social registry' means nothing, what matters is **how it is operationalised**.. + not just specific programmes but wider system

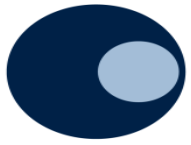


2. **DECIDE** how you will be using them, if at all.. E.g. Timeliness vs targeting **trade-off**..

3. **PREPARE!** Not created for emergency response.. but a lot can be done to make them **work better** in this context

4. **ADAPT.**





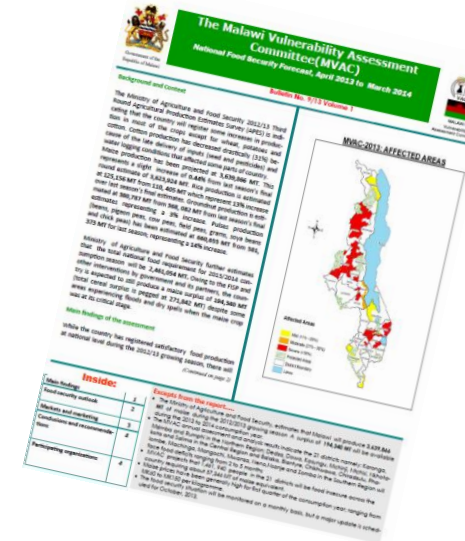
Oxford Policy Management

Thank you



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Using social assistance data and information for humanitarian response: The case for Malawi



Unified Beneficiary Registry (UBR)

- Social registry containing 50% of the poorest households (beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries)
- Data collected by targeted registration, 4 year interval
- Collects demographic and geo-location data as well as data on asset holding, housing condition, land ownership and food consumption data
- Incorporates a proxy means score which allows poverty ranking at sub-district level
- Data is collected using extension workers as enumerators and subjected to a community verification process particularly for the poverty ranking
- Primarily used to target Social Cash Transfer Programme and the Public Works Programme beneficiaries





The humanitarian response - MVAC

- Multi-stakeholder mechanism that informs and coordinates the emergency humanitarian response to food insecurity arising from climatic shocks in Malawi.
- Uses a combination of weather data, crop production estimates, national food balance sheet and the household economy approach to estimate food insecurity
- Uses community based targeting to identify most vulnerable households post-shock: community administered tool with final list validated by the community
- Responds with food or cash equivalent depending on market situation



UBR fitness for purpose for humanitarian response

- **Completeness** (coverage) : originally covered only 50% of the popn in the first 10 districts. Is covering 100% for the forthcoming districts.
- **Relevance**: UBR does contain MVAC and other food consumption related indicators but some variables become obsolete almost immediately (e.g. meals eaten in the last 7 days).
- **Currency**: UBR has updates every 4 years but MVAC requires annual (if not seasonal) updates.
- **Accuracy**: different perceptions between implementers (reduced elite capture) and communities (reduced community participation). Data consistency across databases with the collection of NID. Geo-location data collected.
- **Accessibility**: special access granted for the trial, data sharing protocols to be formalised. Need to formalise institutional ownership of the database and the data.
- **Protection**: security attained by restricted access. Access and privacy protocols not formalised.

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the role of social assistance data and information systems

DISCUSSION

Submit your questions to the panellists

Simply type them in the chat bar!



1

ASSESS your social assistance data and associated registries and information systems, and compare with alternatives.

Depending on existing design choices...



What percentage of population is covered?



Whose data is collected/stored?



What data is collected/stored?



How (and how often) is data collected and updated?



What approach to information integration is used?



How is data validated, stored and maintained?



Who is responsible for data collection and management?



What level of security and data privacy is guaranteed?



What pre-existing data sharing agreements and protocols are in place?

...these will be more or less suitable for shock response in terms of their...



Completeness

Level of coverage of population/needs



Relevance

Suited for the purpose (e.g. helps identify HHs exposed to shocks)



Currency

Up-to-date



Accessibility

Ease to obtain



Accuracy

Free from mistakes and omissions



Data protection

Ensuring security and privacy



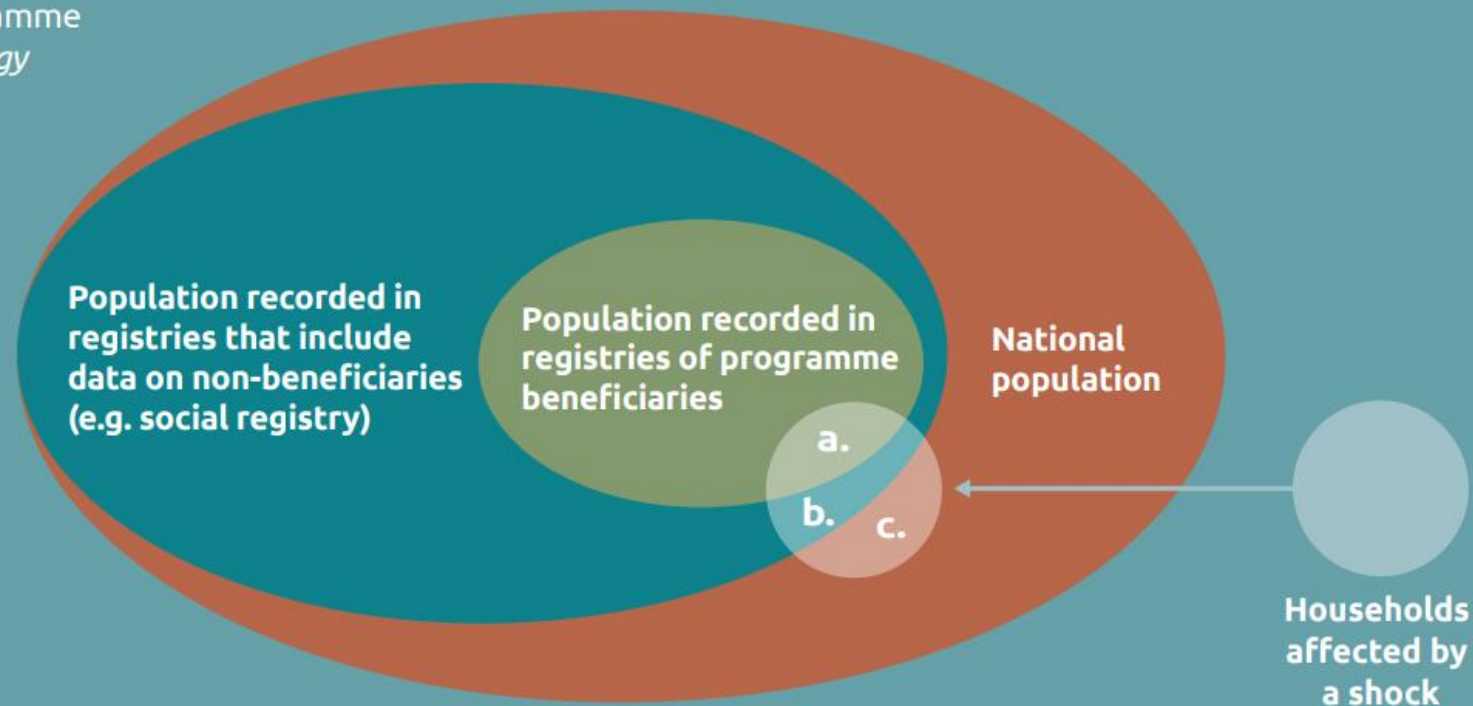
2 Based on this assessment and on your analysis of the needs that you are trying to address, **DECIDE** how you will be using that data or its underlying systems, if at all.

a. Vertical expansion of existing programme/s or new programme **piggybacking** on **beneficiary data**? *Make sure you have strategy to reach all other affected households.*

b. Horizontal expansion of existing programme/s or new programme **piggybacking** on the **data of potential beneficiaries**? *Think this through carefully in advance of the shock, requires high levels of preparedness and does not fully address potential for exclusion (and inclusion) errors.*

c. Strategies to reach affected households whose data are not held within existing registries will **always be needed** (e.g. refugees/non-citizens, etc).

a., b. and c. Using existing capacity and systems for collection and management of new data, or validation of existing data? *Evaluate potential for existing capacity to be overwhelmed and address this.*





3 PREPARE! Ensure you have thought through what this will entail in practice when the shock hits. Lack of preparedness will severely compromise timeliness and meeting needs. For example:

- Strengthen **data quality** and **audit** existing systems to ensure **trust**.
- Ensure **informed consent** and comprehensive **outreach** and communications.
- Sign **memorandums of understanding** for data sharing.
- Develop **protocols and standard operating procedures** on how data will be used.
- Ensure software/hardware has required **flexibility**.
- Ensure **surge capacity, training and guidance** for all stakeholders involved.
- Where possible, use existing data to **estimate financing needs, caseloads**, etc.
- **Pilot** the new approach!



4 In the long term, you could also **ADAPT** existing data and underlying systems to better respond to shocks (where relevant, e.g. especially recurrent, predictable shocks). For example:

- Adapt **variables collected** to better capture vulnerability to shocks.
- Ensure **higher coverage in vulnerable areas**.
- **Integrate caseloads** from previous emergency responses into routine provision.

Thank you for joining

Building on government systems for
shock preparedness and response:
the role of social assistance data
and information systems

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webinar survey, available
after the session!

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