### Highlights

**World Refugee Day was on the 20th June** and following on from last week, this week’s newsletter will highlight issues related to forced displacement in the context of COVID-19.

- **Webinars:** Last Thursday 18 June’s fascinating webinar on *Covid as an accelerator or blocker in inclusion of forcibly displaced in linking Social Protection and humanitarian cash transfers*, jointly organised by the GB Sub Cash Group, UNHCR and SP.org as part of the COVID 19 series offered some noteworthy examples of the expansion of social protection systems to include the forcibly displaced and some of the complexities of the legal frameworks around this. Please find links to the recordings here and the speaker's presentations here. The webinar was the second in a set of three (the first one was earlier in the week and focused on emerging field practices to COVID-19 in refugee contexts). The final webinar in this set focusing on “Migrants and COVID-19 – Emerging Practices” will take place on 30 June. Register here: [https://socialprotection.org/migrants-and-covid-19—emerging-practices](https://socialprotection.org/migrants-and-covid-19—emerging-practices)

- **Call for research proposals:** Although this newsletter is not usually used to highlight calls for proposals, as part of this week’s focus on forced displacement it is worth mentioning that DFID, UNHCR and the World Bank [Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement Program](https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/fragilityconflictviolence/brief/building-the-evidence-on-forced-displacement-a-multi-stakeholder-partnership#priorities) has recently published a call for research papers on *Preventing social conflict and promoting social cohesion in forced displacement contexts*. Whilst not solely focused on social protection, it is one of the priorities, with specific attention given to social protection and targeting, including cash programs, food voucher programs, disability programs, programs designed to foster the transition from assistance to work and other forms of social protection programs administered by humanitarian and development organizations and of relevance in a forced displacement context. [https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/fragilityconflictviolence/brief/building-the-evidence-on-forced-displacement-a-multi-stakeholder-partnership#priorities](https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/fragilityconflictviolence/brief/building-the-evidence-on-forced-displacement-a-multi-stakeholder-partnership#priorities)

- **Learning events:** United Edge is launching a series of online learning events aiming to grasp the momentum of recent months which has seen local and global communities coming together in light of COVID-19. The first topic draws on a reflection of 8 tips to support people affected by the pandemic and will focus on Giving Cash to Give Power for C19. It will take place from Thursday 25 June via Zoom. Paenellists include Esther Mbogho from CaLP; Novia Sagita from Planet Indonesia; and Anna Stone from GoodDollar (a new tech solution for distributing cash and Universal Basic Income). [Zoom link here](https://www.tinyurl.com/cashbarometerlearningevent)!

- As part of its Cash Barometer initiative, Ground Truth Solutions is holding a learning event also on Thursday 25 June, looking at how cash transfer practitioners are moving ahead with people-centred aid and what this can look like during a pandemic. Speakers from World Vision International; CashCap; CRS; and CaLP will lead the conversation. Click here [https://www.tinyurl.com/cashbarometerlearningevent](https://www.tinyurl.com/cashbarometerlearningevent) to receive the zoom invitation

- **The knowledge gaps in linking SP/HCT** (light touch and gathered from various sources):
  - The gaps highlighted in previous newsletters remain (leadership, coordination, delivery, joint funding, the need for human and dev actors to understand how each side functions). The discussion this past week has been on: Is now the time for reform? There are talks of reform (and it is needed) but it is felt this may be coming from actors who may not themselves understand social protection. There are also talks of an SP Cluster as the leadership and who coordinates is not clear.

### Articles/Blogs/Research

- **Blogs:** Not specifically focusing on humanitarian cash transfers but highlighting the need for the humanitarian system to provide stronger support for government social protection where appropriate, Oxfam has developed a blog to contribute to the debate on humanitarian work and social protection: [https://views-voices.oxfam.org.uk/2020/05/with-coronavirus-now-is-the-time-for-the-humanitarian-system-to-change-for-good/](https://views-voices.oxfam.org.uk/2020/05/with-coronavirus-now-is-the-time-for-the-humanitarian-system-to-change-for-good/). Linked to this is a blog based on student research which discusses why informal social protection could be the missing piece in the Covid response [https://oxfamblogs.org/tp2p/why-informal-social-protection-could-be-the-missing-piece-in-the-covid-response/](https://oxfamblogs.org/tp2p/why-informal-social-protection-could-be-the-missing-piece-in-the-covid-response/). Again, the blog is not specific to humanitarian cash transfers but reminds humanitarian agencies of the importance of promoting the engagement and linking of formal and informal social protection systems to improve responses to COVID-19. In a similar vein, Gerelyn Terzo has recently produced a blog focusing on the impact of COVID-19 on global remittances which can be found here on the CaLP website: [Global Remittances to Suffer a Blow From COVID-19](https://views-voices.oxfam.org.uk/2020/05/with-coronavirus-now-is-the-time-for-the-humanitarian-system-to-change-for-good/). The blog includes interesting data from the World Bank and the Economist and
GB cash sub group
Online community SP in Crisis Contexts
SP HCT Update

draws attention to the recent call for action by the governments of Switzerland and the United Kingdom to ensure that channels of money for transfers remain open.


- **Briefing notes**: Contributing to ongoing efforts to promote learning and knowledge management, Mercy Corps have released a Strategic Brief on Cash Transfers and Social Protection outlining their approach from alignment to integration.

- **Online discussions**: The Markets in Crisis online discussion series on market-based programming in the COVID era continues this week with a focus on the need for humanitarian action not to make it harder for traders to resume operations for small businesses to open. Key points open for discussion include trying to identify whether most COVID responses have focused on direct/in-kind assistance or market-based responses including CVA; what is making it challenging to implement market-based responses to COVID; and any negative consequences for non-market-based programming. You can read more about the discussion series, including a more detailed description of each discussion topic, in the [listing in SEEP Network’s Events Calendar](https://www.seepnetwork.org/events).

**Mapping Updates**

- **SP/humanitarian cash links mapping (GB cash sub group initiative)**: This can be accessed [here](#). The purpose of this live, shareable mapping is to support humanitarian actors in the field. It’s light touch. Initial focus is countries/regions that have Humanitarian Response Plans. It is done in coordination with other mapping initiatives. Contact [Lois Austin](mailto:Lois Austin) (who recently replaced Zehra Rizvi as the KML consultant for the GB Cash Workstream sub group on Linking Humanitarian Cash and Social Protection) for info/set up a call.

- **ILO Social Protection Monitor**: This presents the latest global social protection policy trends based on media announcements. This update covers January to June 2019. And this [live tracking](#) is updated weekly.

**Resources Update**

- **Plan International** has been busy developing some really helpful resources for humanitarian agencies in relation to CVA and Covid response. These include a one-pager to highlight the advantages of using CVA in COVID-19 responses - [Why use cash transfers to respond to COVID-19?](#); technical guidance to support the design and implementation of CVA programmes in both development and humanitarian settings to adapt interventions in response to the Covid19 outbreak: [COVID-19 Adaptation to Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Intervention](#); and finally, a set of [Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Social Protection, Gender Equality and Humanitarian Cash under COVID-19 Context](#).

- **Resource (Social Protection Approaches to COVID—SPACE)**: excellent resources that you can read about in this useful [twitter thread by Valentina Barca](http://twitter.com/ValentinaBarca). The resources can all be found [on SP.org](http://sp.org).

- Socialprotection.org has set up a space on [Social protection responses to #COVID19](#) with a whole series of events, newsletters, mappings etc. The [newsletter](#) is a great resource to be able to see what’s being reported in your region/country. The [GB cash sub group](#) has a dedicated community page on the OC: Social Protection in Crisis Contexts.

- CalP has a dedicated space on [CVA and COVID-19: resources, guidance, events and questions](#) and [CaLP produced guidance on CVA considerations for COVID.](#) (page 9 is specific to SP/HCTs).

- **CCD** has a page on [Social Protection and Humanitarian Cash](#) with country case studies and guidance.

- **Foundationals webinars**: The [first webinar](#) from GB cash sub group series to demystify the concept of linking social protection and HCT; good introduction and primer to the topic. Second: How can SP Systems respond to the COVID 19 crisis? sets the scene on how SP systems can respond and the challenges governments are facing; [recording here](#). And thirdly, [Lessons learned](#).
Looking Ahead

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<td>24 June</td>
<td>Weekly SP/HCT Hangout 8 am EDT. Join here (passwd: 754170)</td>
<td>Zehra Rizvi/Cecile Cherrier</td>
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<td>25 June</td>
<td>Give Cash to Give Power for C19 (13:00 to 14:30 Jakarta time)</td>
<td>United Edge</td>
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Contributions: With thanks to Clare O’Brien, Louisa Seferis, Larissa Pelham, Mattias Lundberg, Andrew Mitchell, Aftab Alam, Gerelyn Terzo, Juan Gonzalo, Nupur Kukrety, Zehra Rizvi, and others for providing information and ideas for the newsletter, mapping and needs.

Please email gbsubgroupsphtct@gmail.com and/or Cecile Cherrier for feedback/amendments/contributions. You can also join the CaLP d groups, and/or the SP.org Online Community for Social Protection in Crisis Contexts (joining instructions below) where many of these discussions are taking place.

HOW TO JOIN THE ONLINE COMMUNITY ON ‘SOCIAL PROTECTION IN CRISIS CONTEXTS’
1. Become a member of socialprotection.org: https://goo.gl/VYCajT
2. Join the online community on ‘Social protection in crisis contexts’ : https://goo.gl/aRzVqb

Your feedback is important; it allows us to iteratively tailor the newsletter to your needs and to make decisions on what KML products are needed/useful.

This newsletter is an initiative of the Grand Bargain Cash Sub-Group on linking Social Protection and Humanitarian Cash Transfers which is an inclusive space consisting of humanitarian and development actors from a wide range of agencies. It is co-led by IFRC, UNICEF and DFID and the Online Community for Social Protection in Crisis Contexts which is an unbranded, member-based online space on the socialprotection.org platform.