Social Protection and Humanitarian Cash Transfers - Update #44 (15 - 28 March 2021)

Recent webinars and remote events:
- The presentations and recordings from ODI and GIZ’s recent webinar “Taking stock at the one-year mark: social protection during COVID-19 and beyond” can be found here. The event brought together leading experts and policymakers to discuss the findings emerging from the recent ODI-GIZ study which examines social protection adjustments since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis, their crisis response effectiveness and implications for longer-term social protection systems building efforts.
- You can find the recording for ADB and BRAC’s webinar on “Social Protection for Economic Inclusion: Adapting the Graduation Approach in Asia and the Pacific” here.
- Key Aid Consulting’s presentation of a CaLP TAG on Group Cash Transfers (GCTs) aiming to standardise the process of designing, implementing and monitoring programmes can be found here or you can listen to the podcast in English or French. Associated guidance, tools and a tipsheet can be found on the CaLP website.

Recently published: Articles/Blogs/Research/Guidance/Discussion threads/Policy briefs

Publications: ILO’s recent publication on: Reaching the most vulnerable in the social protection response to the COVID-19 crisis in Mozambique highlights opportunities and challenges that presented themselves in the scale-up to the pandemic. One opportunity identified was the Government’s rapid preparation and approval of the Covid-19 Response Plan which enabled partners such as WFP to direct humanitarian funding to the social protection sector, bringing a new funding model to the sector which can be further explored in the future. As a result, one of the study recommendations emphasises that coordination between the basic social security sector and humanitarian aid would allow a more effective government response to beneficiaries and greater capacity for fund-raising.
- GSMA has published its State of the Industry Report on Mobile Money 2021 which includes major industry trends from the last year including an increase in the mobile money industry working together with governments and NGOs to distribute social and humanitarian payments quickly, securely and efficiently to those in need.
- UNDP’s paper on the impact of COVID-19 on social protection in Iraq calls for IDPs and refugees living in camps to be prioritized for government social assistance support given that their living conditions put them at higher risk of infection, calling for close coordination of the Government with relevant humanitarian and development actors. The paper highlights the lack of coordination, with each Ministry working with a different humanitarian or development partner. The paper proposes the establishment of a government social protection hub and a parallel humanitarian and development coordination hub to facilitate the sharing of information when humanitarian caseloads are transferred back to the national social protection system.
- Considering ways in which humanitarian cash transfers could be better linked with social protection assistance in Lebanon, ODI’s report on WFP’s Multi Purpose Cash Assistance in Lebanon recommends that building on experience to date and on national dialogue underway on strengthening Lebanon’s social safety net, humanitarian stakeholders could step up efforts to contribute to such initiatives by identifying opportunities for improved coordination and potential collaboration in the provision of social protection and social policies, including, for instance, in the form of in-kind and cash transfers. Continuing to provide assistance to both Lebanese and Syrian refugee households through Social Development Centres is one area that could be further strengthened. The report also recommends the identification of opportunities to run social service programmes jointly for Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese, including on skills-building and nutrition for instance.

Media, News Articles and Op Eds: TNH reports that due to soaring levels of inflation in Lebanon, millions of dollars of cash-based assistance are being lost as a result of exchange rate wrangles. You can read more here.
- A recent article in The New Scientist which examines the link between mobile money adoption and response to idiosyncratic shocks from the perspectives of senders and receivers in Sub-Saharan Africa finds that female-headed and rural-located households end up being the net beneficiaries of mobile money adoption when it comes to idiosyncratic shocks. You can find the article: here.
- The World Bank has announced its support for an expansion of the Ehsass social protection programme in Pakistan. You can read more: here.

Blogs: Writing for Ground Truth Solutions, Max Seilern and Hannah Miles ask: CVA, plus information: what happens when cash recipients are kept in the loop? Based on feedback from Somalia and Nigeria, the blog reveals the positive impacts of being more open about cash programming with cash recipients.
The Grand Bargain Sub-Group on  
LINKING HUMANITARIAN CASH & SOCIAL PROTECTION  
Linking humanitarian cash and social protection - Fortnightly Update

Online community SP in Crisis Contexts

- Linda Raftree’s recent blog tells us about the recently updated toolkit on Data Responsibility in Cash and Voucher Assistance. CaLP has supported the updating of the toolkit and the blog also provides links to two case studies on data responsibility and data sharing with governments.
- Writing for IDS, Rachel Sabates-Wheeler and Jeremy Lind have written about “Social protection during conflict: reflections on Tigray”, looking at social protection shock responsiveness to conflict.

Resources:
CaLP has updated a number of its tools for training facilitators including for the “Linking CVA and Social Protection” course. You can find the materials here.

Sharing good practice: The REDLAC network, in collaboration with the Regional Cash Working Group - R4V is looking for examples of good practice and challenges of linking social protection and cash transfers in the Latin America and Caribbean region. The deadline for sharing your or your organisation’s experience is 16 April and the learning will be used to inform a regional event taking place in May 2021. For more information on the conceptual framework you can find a short video here in English and Spanish. You can share your experience here. Available in Spanish, English, French, and Portuguese. If you have questions please contact protsocial.ptm.lac@gmail.com

Regular and Ongoing Resources and Mappings

There are a number of regular and ongoing resources, including mappings, related to linking humanitarian cash and social protection which can be found: here.

You can also join the newly created social protection in crisis discussion group which is hosted by socialprotection.org here: discussion group (joining instructions are here)

UNDP and UN Women launched the update of their Covid-19 Global Gender Response Tracker

Looking Ahead – Webinars/Events during coming weeks 29 March – 11 April 2021

A busy week ahead as far as remote events are concerned:

- On Tuesday 30 March, CaLP is hosting a webinar to look at how Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) can support the goal of improved health outcomes in conditions of extreme poverty and vulnerability, drawing on experience in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso and Jordan.
- Also on Tuesday, the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action is launching its Cash and Voucher Assistance and Child Protection Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit. This interactive webinar will introduce participants to the tools, include a case study on use of the tools and allow time for discussion.
- On Wednesday 31 March, CRS invites you to join staff from FEWS NET, USAID/ BHA, CRS, IRC, University of Texas, and recent participants of a Training of Trainers for an introduction to the revised MARKit tool. The overview will include a look at a sample database and analysis, and reflections from field experience, and will allow for Q&A to help determine how best to use MARKit.
- Also on Wednesday EPRI is hosting a webinar to will discuss the political economy of gender-sensitive social protection, drawing upon empirical research in various countries to outline recommendations for a gender-sensitive social protection system drawing from the lessons of the pandemic.
- On Thursday 1 April, FAO and ILO are hosting an event looking at innovations in extending social protection to rural populations.
- On Thursday 8 April SPACE is holding a webinar to launch its paper on the economics of early response and resilience to COVID-19. The paper looks at what the economic gains could have been of the COVID-19 social protection and humanitarian response, primarily focusing on the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) in Ethiopia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Organiser/Host</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 30</td>
<td>How can Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) support the goal of improved health outcomes in conditions of extreme poverty and vulnerability?</td>
<td>CaLP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>[Register here]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 30</td>
<td>Introduction to Cash and Voucher Assistance and Child Protection M&amp;E Toolkit</td>
<td>The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>[Register here]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Market Monitoring, Analysis and Response Kit (MARKit) 2nd edition: Practical applications of MARKit for decision-making</td>
<td>CRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>[Access the event here]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### The Grand Bargain Sub-Group on
**LINKING HUMANITARIAN CASH & SOCIAL PROTECTION**

**Linking humanitarian cash and social protection - Fortnightly Update**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Weekday</strong></th>
<th><strong>Event Details</strong></th>
<th><strong>Organizers</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 31 March</strong></td>
<td>Gender-sensitive social protection</td>
<td>EPRI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday 1 April</strong></td>
<td>Innovations in extending social protection to rural populations: Perspectives for a common FAO and ILO approach</td>
<td>FAO and ILO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday 8 April</strong></td>
<td>Paper Launch: Economics of Early Response and Resilience to COVID-19</td>
<td>SPACE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 31 March and 7 April</strong></td>
<td>Weekly SP/HCT Hangout - 11.00 NY/ 16.00 UK/ 18.00 Amman - Join <a href="#">here</a></td>
<td>Zehra Rizvi/Cecile Cherrier</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Looking further ahead:

**Tuesday 20 and Wednesday 21 April**

Virtual symposium to explore the financial integration of refugees, drawing on recent research conducted in Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, and Uganda.

[Click here for more information](#)

---

Contributions: With thanks to Zehra Rizvi; Hannah Miles, Max Seilern, Nick Newsom, Rachel Sabates-Wheeler, Jeremy Lind and Ugo Gentilini.

Please email [gbsubgroupspshct@gmail.com](mailto:gbsubgroupspshct@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](https://goo.gl/VYCajT)
2. Join the online community on ‘Social protection in crisis contexts’ : [https://goo.gl/aRzVqb](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 FCDO and the Online Community for Social Protection in Crisis Contexts which is an unbranded, member-based online space on the socialprotection.org platform.*