The Grand Bargain Sub-Group on
LINKING HUMANITARIAN CASH & SOCIAL PROTECTION

Online community SP in Crisis Contexts

Social Protection (SP) and Humanitarian Cash Transfers (HCT)
Update #53 (1 – 28 August 2021)

Highlights from 1 – 28 August 2021

Recent webinars and remote events: The following webinars were held in August:

- The Grand Bargain Sub-Group on Linking Humanitarian Cash and Social Protection’s August webinar provided the opportunity to hear from a range of humanitarian cash and social protection experts on the myths, challenges, gaps, and blockages that appear to be standing in the way of moving from theory to the practical implementation of linked or aligned gender-sensitive humanitarian cash and social protection responses. You can watch the recording here.

- FCDO, the World Bank and UNICEF’s panel discussion looked at emerging practice on how to leverage safety nets to prevent gender-based violence (GBV). The session included highlights from Safety First – a new World Bank operational toolkit which provides detailed design and implementation guidance to maximize the preventive effect of safety nets. You can find the recording here.

- GIZ, BMZ, IPC-IG and SPACE held a virtual seminar which provided conceptual clarity on the interconnections between decentralization, localization, and adaptive social protection. Further, it presented international experiences on delivering Adaptive Social Protection (ASP) in practice highlighting the challenges for adequate arrangements to achieve opportune decision-making and coordinated solutions in a decentralization and localization context. You can access the recording here.

Online and informal discussions: In the last two weeks the online community has engaged in discussions on the impact of the current crisis in Afghanistan on CVA, including linked CVA and social protection. You can follow the thread by joining in at marketsincrisis@dgroups.org

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

Publications and Research

- A study by l’Agence Française de Développement (AFD) on Social Protection - the impact on household resource allocation and Child Undernutrition looks at three large-scale social protection schemes – the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) in Ethiopia; the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in India; and the Juntos conditional cash transfer program in Peru and how they have been successful in diverting resources from adults to children, thereby reducing inequality within households. New research analyzing data from Young Lives, a longitudinal study of the changing nature of childhood poverty, finds that families enrolled in these programmes experience a reduction in child undernutrition. But not all poor and undernourished children are reached because they are spread across the distribution of households by per capita expenditure.

- Over the summer SPACE has released a number of papers including:
  - Key considerations for monitoring shock-responsive social assistance: A guiding framework
  - Integrating gender and inclusion in social protection response to COVID-19: What have we learnt?
  - Overcoming barriers to coordinating across social protection and humanitarian assistance – building on promising practices
  - Deciding when and how to link humanitarian assistance and social protection: guidance and tools for response analysis

- A recent paper in Science Direct highlights the Logistics planning of cash transfer to Syrian refugees in Turkey. The on-going conflict in Syria has caused displacement of millions of people. Cash-based interventions play an important role in aiding people in the post-crisis period to enhance their well-being in the medium and longer term. The paper presents a study on how to design a network of administrative facilities to support the roll-out of cash-based interventions. The resulting multi-level network consists of a central registration facility, local temporary facilities, mobile facilities and vehicles for door-to-door visits. The goal is to reach the maximum number of eligible beneficiaries within a specified time period while minimizing logistics costs, subject to a limit on total security risk exposure.

- The Better than Cash Alliance’s recent report on Improving Humanitarian Payments through Digital Innovation focuses on the challenges and opportunities of responsibly digitizing the delivery of humanitarian payments, notably at the last-mile: what has worked, what has not, and what does the future hold. It offers research-based analysis and practical advice for humanitarian agencies on the advantages and areas for growth of five key financial technologies in digital payments: mobile money, artificial intelligence, distributed ledger technology, QR codes, and super platforms. This advice will enable humanitarian agencies to streamline processes and drive responsible digitization of humanitarian payments.
CBM Global’s collection of case studies on “Disability Inclusive Cash Assistance: Learnings from Practice in Humanitarian Response” describes lessons learned from seven inclusive humanitarian cash transfer projects implemented from 2015 – 2020 in Niger, Zimbabwe, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Philippines, and Indonesia, and five ongoing projects from the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic responses. This good practice collection aims to benefit both humanitarian practitioners engaged in Cash Based Interventions (CBI) and the wider humanitarian sector by presenting insights and learning on how humanitarian CBI programmes can be made more inclusive, to ensure equal outcomes for disaster-affected people with disabilities and other at-risk groups. Links between HCT and SP can be found throughout the study and there is a dedicated section on this at the end of the paper.

Tools and Guidance
- The new Handbook on Social Protection Systems provides a comprehensive overview of the instruments, actors and design features of social protection systems, as well as their application and impacts in practice. The book centres around system building globally.

Blogs, podcasts, discussions and videos
- In recent months ODI has produced a number of podcasts looking at different aspects of social protection during the COVID-19 crisis. You can access them on the socialprotection.org website here.
- Hilary Brown’s blog in the Borgen Magazine on: The Increase in Social Protection Programs During COVID-19 highlights government attempts to protect from economic disaster in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, through enacting an unprecedented number of social protection programmes.
- The Joint SDG Fund reports on locally led adaptive social protection in West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia
- Lorena Peña writes for WFP on how social safety nets empower families and aid enterprise on the Colombia-Venezuela border through a pilot programme jointly put in place by the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Government of Colombia, centred on shock-responsive social protection. The programme provides an example of collaboration between groups working in social protection and the wider humanitarian field to meet the needs of, and address the risks faced by, vulnerable groups in challenging times. For the pilot’s design, WFP worked with Colombia’s Administrative Department for Social Prosperity, Border Management for the Presidency of the Republic of Colombia, and National Risk Management Unit.

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 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 the coming weeks: 30 August – 25 September 2021
Over the course of the coming month you can sign up to attend the following events:
- On Tuesday 31 August, SPEC is holding a webinar looking at “Resilience Building and Adaptability of Graduation Approach: Experience of and Evidence from BRAC Ultra-Poor Graduation Programme in responding to COVID-19 Shocks in Bangladesh” This webinar will share evidence on the adaptability and resilience built by the Graduation Approach based on the experience of the Ultra-Poor Graduation (UPG) programme of BRAC in Bangladesh.
- On Wednesday 1 September, the ILO will launch its "World Social Protection Report 2020-22: Social protection at the crossroads – in pursuit of a better future". This flagship report gives a global overview of recent developments in social protection systems, including social protection floors, and covers the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. A high-level panel discussion on September 2nd will follow the launch.
- On Thursday 9 September the Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik, DIE (German Development Institute) and Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences are holding an online event to raise questions on how to bring a social protection system to life.
- On Tuesday 21 September CGAP, GIZ, BMZ and IPC-IG are holding a virtual and interactive seminar to present international experiences on delivering ASP in practice highlighting the challenges and opportunities for the introduction of digital G2P payment mechanisms
**The Grand Bargain Sub-Group on LINKING HUMANITARIAN CASH & SOCIAL PROTECTION**

**Online community SP in Crisis Contexts**

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<tr>
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<td>SPEC Webinar 13 - Resilience Building and Adaptability of Graduation Approach: Experience of and Evidence from BRAC Ultra-Poor Graduation Programme in responding to COVID-19 Shocks in Bangladesh</td>
<td>Social Protection for Employment – Community (SPEC)</td>
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<td>Thursday 9</td>
<td>What makes a social protection system?</td>
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**Contributions**

*With thanks to:* Zena Mouawad, Valentina Barca, Ugo Gentilini, Hilary Brown, Pauline Perez and Lorena Peña

Please email [gbsubgroupsphct@gmail.com](mailto:gbsubgroupsphct@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.*