### Social Protection (SP) and Humanitarian Cash Transfers (HCT)

**Update #54 (29 August – 25 September 2021)**

**Highlights from 29 August – 25 September 2021**

#### Recent webinars and remote events:
- The 'World Social Protection Report 2020-22: Social protection at the crossroads – in pursuit of a better future' was launched last month, by ILO. You can find here the video accompanying the high level panel and summary.
- The ICRC held its seventh Digital Dilemmas Dialogue in mid-September, focusing on Biometrics, Personal Data and Protection. You can find a recording of the discussion, which considered the nature of biometric data, what distinguishes them from other types of sensitive data, what advantages they can bring to humanitarian operations, and what risks we need to be mindful of before determining whether we want to use them [here](#).
- You can find the recording of the Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik, DIE (German Development Institute) and Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences online event at which questions on how to bring a social protection systems to life were raised: [here](#).
- On Tuesday 21 September CGAP, GIZ, BMZ and IPC-IG held 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. You can watch the recording [here](#).
- You can find the recording and presentation from FAO’s webinar launch of the Inter-Agency Social Protection Assessment Tool for food security and nutrition (ISPA-FSN Tool) [here](#).
- The SPEC Webinar 13 looked 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” The webinar shared 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. You can watch the recording [here](#).
- You can find here the link to the World Bank’s recent webinar focusing on [Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants in Brazil: Challenges to Integration and Local Impacts](#).

#### Online and informal discussions: The last month has seen discussions focused on revising the value of minimum expenditure baskets (MEBs). During the discussions CaLP highlighted that it is currently completing a major update of the 2020 [CaLP MEB Decision Making Tools](#) which may help to support practitioners on this issue.

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

#### Publications and Research
- The report on CVA for Mine Action Outcomes co-authored by the Global Protection Cluster Task Team on Cash for Protection, the Women’s Refugee Commission and Hand in Hand for Aid and Development, is now available in French and Arabic in addition to the original English version here: [https://www.womensrefugeecommission.org/research-resources/cash-voucher-assistance-for-protection-outcomes-in-mine-action/](https://www.womensrefugeecommission.org/research-resources/cash-voucher-assistance-for-protection-outcomes-in-mine-action/). Executive summaries are also available in all three languages.
- The Cash Hub for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in partnership with Cash Cap have carried out a research study to look specifically at the experience of Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies in using CVA to strengthen locally-led humanitarian response. Please find the link to this report on the Cash Hub Platform: [here](#). The report looks at links between CVA and localisation, to understand how CVA can help to further localisation, focusing on the following questions: 1) How can CVA help to strengthen National Societies’ voice and influence?; 2) Does building CVA capacity help to further the localisation agenda and, if so, how does it do so?; and 3) What lessons can be learnt from National Societies and their CVA responses? The report provides numerous examples of opportunities for aligning humanitarian CVA and social protection.
- Stephen Devereux’s recent paper on "Social protection responses to COVID-19 in Africa" sheds light on approaches adopted in Ethiopia, Botswana and South Africa, as well as the broader region, and provides examples of harmonisation between humanitarian action and social protection.
- The Cash and Livelihoods Consortium for Iraq (CLCI) has recently concluded two studies. The first was a gender analysis of livelihoods programming and individual, household and community dynamics. The second was an exploration of the concept of self-reliance among former cash participants using the cash targeting model as a framework. In Iraq, MPCA is intended to act as temporary consumption support so that households may eventually be linked with social protection assistance or return to income-generating activities after the period of shock has passed. In Iraq, the long-term effects of
the protracted armed conflict have led to sustained levels of unemployment and the social safety net system cannot support the 1.7 million people that are still in need of humanitarian assistance. The Exploring Self-Reliance at the Humanitarian-Development Nexus: A Longer Term Review of MPCA Outcomes report makes relevant recommendations for the linking of MPCA to SP. The Summary Report - Gender Analysis of Livelihoods Programming and Individual, Household and Community Dynamics in Iraq explores gender norms in Iraq and the interplay between gender norms and livelihood programming in areas of intervention.

- CaLP has released “An assessment of Financial Service Providers and cash delivery mechanisms in Yemen” which brings together the perspectives of the main CVA stakeholders in the country to increase understanding between CVA actors and generate an updated mapping of the CVA landscape. From April to May 2021, interviews were held with key informants from affected communities, humanitarian organisations and financial service providers (FSPs) to discuss available CVA delivery mechanisms, FSPs, challenges, risks and mitigation measures.
- The Review of CaLP’s Work in the MENA Region and More Broadly 2018-2020 showcases many of the successes and challenges for humanitarian CVA; programming ranges from large-scale initiatives such as the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) to NGO cash consortia to sector-specific initiatives. This evaluation assesses CaLP’s overall contribution to building an enabling environment for CVA programming in the region and more broadly. CaLP has also shared its Annual Report 2020-21.
- The Cash Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning Organizational Network (CAMEALEON) (an NGO-led consortium co-managed by the Norwegian Refugee Council, Oxfam and Solidarités International) has shared its latest research report, “Confidence and Usage of ATMs - Experiences of Syrian refugees assisted by WFP’s multi-purpose cash programme in Lebanon”. The research looked at the level of confidence and coping strategies used by Syrian refugees in Lebanon to withdraw cash assistance from the ATM.
- MIT’s Technology Review highlights grave concerns regarding the use of biometric devices and databases in Afghanistan. You can access the article here and also see the Peace Research Institute Oslo’s blog below which raises similar fears.

Media, news articles, newsletters and Op Eds

- Writing for the New Humanitarian Irwin Loy also focuses on the topic covered in the MIT Technology Review (above) discussing the risks of biometric data and the Taliban in an interview with Karl Steinacker, a former UNHCR official, and Katja Lindskov Jacobsen, a senior researcher at the University of Copenhagen’s Centre for Military Studies. In the interview they discussed the potential risks, why aid groups collect so much data in the first place, and the right to be forgotten.
- USAID’s July Resilience Links newsletter focuses on What is social protection and why is it important? and provides links to a number of useful social protection-related resources.

Tools and Guidance

- CARE’s Cash and Markets team has shared a number of resources on gender sensitive CVA and sexual and reproductive health and rights:
  - Gender Sensitive Cash and Voucher Assistance: Guidance to ensure the approach in the field available in Arabic, English, French, and Spanish
  - Guidelines on Using Cash and Voucher Assistance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Programming, equipped with complementary docs (SoPs, FDG models for design and monitoring, questions for market assessment, KAP and PDM surveys) to be adapted for individual contexts. Arabic, French, and Spanish translations soon to come.
  - In addition, the many translations of the Cash and Voucher Assistance and Gender-Based Violence Compendium: Practical Guidance for Humanitarian Practitioners and the editable version of the GBV Risk Analysis for CVA template are now available and can be easily referenced and accessed through this complementary brief. And the individual documents can be found here: Full compendium: English, Spanish, Arabic, French and Somali. The Risk Matrix is available in editable form in Amharic, Arabic, BahasaIndonesian, Bengali, Burmese, Dari, English, French, Hausa, Hindi, Kiswahili, Kurdish, Nepali, Pashto, Portuguese, Thai, Turkish, Somali, Spanish, and Urdu.
- The Cash Working Group (CWG), the Health Cluster and the Protection Cluster in Iraq are in close coordination to design the strategy for the use of CVA in the health sector. They have recently produced Guidelines: CVA for Health Services in Iraq which outline the guidance to effectively incorporate the use of CVA by the health partners in Iraq.
Looking Ahead – Webinars/Events during the coming weeks: 26 September – 20 October 2021

Over the course of the coming month you can sign up to attend the following events:

- On **Monday 27 September**, ECLAC and GIZ are holding a workshop which aims to help learn about experiences in responding to the pandemic and reflect on the future of using digital tools to identify and register social protection recipients in Latin America and the Caribbean. The workshop will be a space for critical reflection, debate, and dialogue with simultaneous interpretation between English and Spanish.

- From **28-30 September**, 10:00-15:00 CEST each day you can attend the online 2021 CHS Exchange. This year’s theme is "Raising the Standard for people in crisis: Holding ourselves to account". Over the course of three days, discussions will explore how people know and exercise their rights and how humanitarians are held to account, through three perspectives:
  - Leadership by crisis-affected people – focusing on how people affected by crisis influence decisions that affect them.
  - Shifting the power – What more can those who currently hold power do to create the changes needed?
  - Collective action – How we can come together to collectively assess and address gaps in quality and accountability?

- Together with the Global WASH Cluster and other partners, Save the Children is co-organising a series of online events on **Market-Based Approaches for National WASH Cluster Response Plans** to support practitioners in specific countries to integrate market based programming into their WASH activities. These webinars will build on the recent launch of the updated **Market-Based Programming (MBP) in WASH Technical Guidance for Practitioners**. They will provide practical guidance and use participatory methods to facilitate and support WASH national coordination teams and key implementing partners to develop markets-based approaches as part of the humanitarian response plan 2022. Each of the following webinars will be 75-minutes in length and will focus on humanitarian practitioners working in specific countries. The upcoming webinars are as follows:
  - Webinar 1 on **Wednesday September 29**, 2021 at 2:00pm CET (8:00am ET). In French. This webinar is aimed for humanitarian practitioners working in Central African Republic, Mali, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Madagascar, Chad and Niger.
  - Webinar 2 on **Wednesday October 6**, 2021 at 4:00pm CET (10:00am ET). In English and Spanish. This webinar is aimed for humanitarian practitioners working in Ecuador, Venezuela, Columbia, Honduras and Haiti.
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

- Webinar 3 on **Wednesday October 13**, 2021 at 11:00am CET (5:00am ET). In English, Arabic and Portuguese. This webinar is aimed for humanitarian practitioners working in Myanmar, Sudan, Libya, OPT, Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Mozambique.

- On **Thursday 30 September** the ICRC will be hosting its 7th digital dilemmas debate. Experts from the humanitarian, technical and operational fields have been invited to discuss what the introduction of biometrics might mean for humanitarian programmes. The focus will in particular be on the specific mitigation measures (both technical and policy-related) that humanitarians should implement to use biometrics as responsibly and as safely as possible.

- Also on **30 September**, UNICEF, ILO, UNPRPD, DFAT and ADB’s webinar will provide participants with an overview of how social protection can support development of community support services and systems for persons with disabilities across the life cycle. Speakers will share lessons learned from reforms for care and support for children with disabilities in Europe and Central Asia. Sign language and captioning will be provided.

- On **Thursday 7 October** WFP’s webinar aims to share an overview of how social protection programmes in the LAC region have incorporated migrants. An overview of regional trends and key findings will be given, concentrating presentations on the role of international organizations and humanitarian agencies in these programs. In addition, the experiences of inclusion of migrants in the Cadastro Unico in Brazil and inclusive social protection in Colombia will be explored in more detail.

- Also on **7 October** you can join the launch of the “Good Practice Review on Cash Assistance in Contexts of High Inflation”, a publication which has been developed through a consultative and collaborative process through the CaLP Network and led by the Donor Cash Forum (DCF).

- ALNAP’s 2021 Meeting is being held on **19 and 20 October** with an agenda centred on ‘Learning from disruption: evolution, revolution or status quo’. A number of sessions will look at the role of digital technology in managing and leading disruption, focusing on the new opportunities and possibilities emerging over the last 18 months.

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<th>DATES</th>
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<td>Monday 27 September</td>
<td>Online Workshop - Towards a shared understanding of digital social</td>
<td>ECLAC, GIZ</td>
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<td>protection: What are the lessons from the COVID-19 crisis and the</td>
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<td>implications for the future? - LAC Region</td>
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<td><a href="#">Register here</a></td>
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<td>Tuesday 28 - Thursday 30</td>
<td>2021 CHS Exchange</td>
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<td>September 30 September</td>
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<td>Wednesday 29 September,</td>
<td>Market-Based Approaches for National WASH Cluster Response Plans</td>
<td>Save the Children, Global WASH Cluster</td>
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<td>6 and 13 October</td>
<td><a href="#">Register here</a></td>
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<td>Thursday 30 September</td>
<td>Digital Dilemmas Debate: Biometrics – Over-purposed by design?</td>
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<td>Thursday 30 September</td>
<td>Social protection and community support system for inclusion of persons</td>
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<td>Thursday 7 October</td>
<td>The role of international cooperation in supporting the inclusion of</td>
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<td>migrants in social protection systems in Latin America and the</td>
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**Online community SP in Crisis Contexts**

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<tr>
<td>Thursday 7 October</td>
<td><strong>Good Practice Review on Cash Assistance in Contexts of High Inflation</strong> Launch Webinar</td>
<td>CaLP and the DCF</td>
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<td>Tuesday 19 to</td>
<td><strong>ALNAP 2021 Meeting</strong></td>
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**Contributions**

- **With thanks to:** Karen Natalia Pinzón, Elizabeth Hendry, Louisa Seferis, Valentina Barca, Stephen Devereux, Irwin Loy, Pauline Perez, Katja Lindskov Jacobsen, Julie Lawson-McDowall, Karl Steinacker, Vincent Graf Narbel, Sapenzie Ojiambo, Crys Chamaa and Justinas Sukaitis

Please email **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.*