

## Session 3 – Building disaster responsive social protection: scaling up existing schemes

Tuesday 22 November, 15.15 – 16.30 (1 hour 15 minutes)

**Moderator:** *Mr Gaspar Fajth, Regional Adviser for Social Policy and Economic Analysis, UNICEF*

### **Session Note:**

This session will show concrete examples on how existing social protection programmes have been utilised to provide assistance to disaster victims. Case studies from Nepal and the Philippines illustrate that the pre-existing registration system, disbursement mechanism and network of social workers allowed support to reach beneficiaries faster and more efficiently. The session will be conducted interactively with two short presentations and multimedia display followed by structured questions from the moderator.

### **Objective of the Session:**

- To provide concrete examples how existing social protection programmes can be scaled up to provide effective humanitarian response in times of disaster; and
- To understand the importance of establishing social protection programmes with a certain degree of flexibility in setting parameters to allow for a quick response.

### **Presentation 1 – Philippine Women and Child-Friendly Spaces Programme (15 minutes)**

*Presenter: Ms. Vilma B. Cabrera, Undersecretary for Operations and Programs (Protective), DSWD, Philippines*

In crises and emergency situations, women and children become more vulnerable to violence and exploitation. To overcome such risk, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) implemented the Women and Child-Friendly Spaces Programme for women and children displaced by Typhoon Haiyan. The programme provides safe spaces where children can access free and structured play, recreation and learning activities; and safe spaces for women to gain access to services such as psychosocial support, reproductive health, skills training and information on gender-based violence.

### **Presentation 2 - Nepal's Emergency Top-up Cash Transfer Programme (15 minutes)**

*Presenter: Mr. Nicholas Mathers, Cash Transfer Specialist, UNICEF Nepal*

Following the 2015 earthquakes in Nepal, the Government of Nepal, with support from UNICEF, introduced an additional Emergency Top-up Cash Transfer Programme (ETCTP) for existing recipients of government cash transfer programmes in severely affected districts. The recipients are among the most vulnerable groups of the population, who have limited coping capacity during humanitarian crises. The top up benefit is intended to provide additional support to meet their immediate needs during the crisis and to reduce risks of negative coping strategies.

The presentation will explain the rationale for scaling up existing programmes and the process of implementing the top-up. Based on the programme's assessment, the presentation will describe the impact of the programme and show how the situation would have been different had it not utilise existing social protection programmes. The presentation will also highlight challenges in implementing the programme and how similar future programmes can learn from it.

**Question & Answer (45 minutes)**