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## SUMMARY: COVID-19 AND CVA: IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE CRISIS AND RESPONSE

### CVA SCALE-UP, NEEDS, AND FUNDING



CVA is being scaled up significantly in response to COVID-19, but the **gap between needs and funding is growing rapidly.**



There is **no evidence that the scale up of CVA to date has impacted the quality of programming.** However, within a context of tightening budgets, it is possible that investments in quality and accountability to affected populations will be compromised.



### 'NO-REGRETS' ACTIONS IN THE COVID-19 CONTEXT

- **Look for opportunities to link with social protection systems** where appropriate. There are many simple entry points along the delivery chain that can make a big difference, and there is need to fill coverage gaps and functions which may not be prioritised by governments.
- **Work with others to build capacities** to create a win-win situation where cash actors throughout the CVA ecosystem are cash-ready.
- When moving quickly to digital and remote programming, consider **complementary interventions and alliance building to address potential exclusionary effects, digital literacy and to get participation and feedback processes right.**
- **Act short term but think long term.** Always have building back better in mind.

### OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD BACK BETTER

The COVID-19 pandemic is having an extraordinary human cost, but also presents an opportunity to redefine the humanitarian system to better serve the needs of crisis-affected people and build back better:



The COVID-19 response and recovery can **accelerate efforts for new and innovative partnerships between international actors and local civil society.** International organisations will need to learn how to be **better intermediaries.**



The COVID-19 response may provide **the momentum to address long-standing cash coordination challenges.** Cash Working Groups have responded quickly, providing critical analysis and guidance, but structural barriers remain, e.g. resourcing and weak links to the formal response architecture.



The COVID-19 response has **accelerated collaboration between social protection and humanitarian CVA practitioners** at the global level. But, in many cases, in-country responses are being impeded by "waiting games", siloes and competitiveness.



The COVID-19 response is driving a **rapid shift to remote and digital channels for registration, delivery and monitoring of CVA.** These shifts may become the 'new normal', bringing opportunities and requiring careful consideration of risks around safe programming and data management.



The COVID-19 response has **highlighted the need for better market analysis and understanding of how humanitarian response can strengthen market systems.** Market recovery strategies should be integrated into programme design and efforts to connect humanitarian and development actors in market-based programming should be increased.