



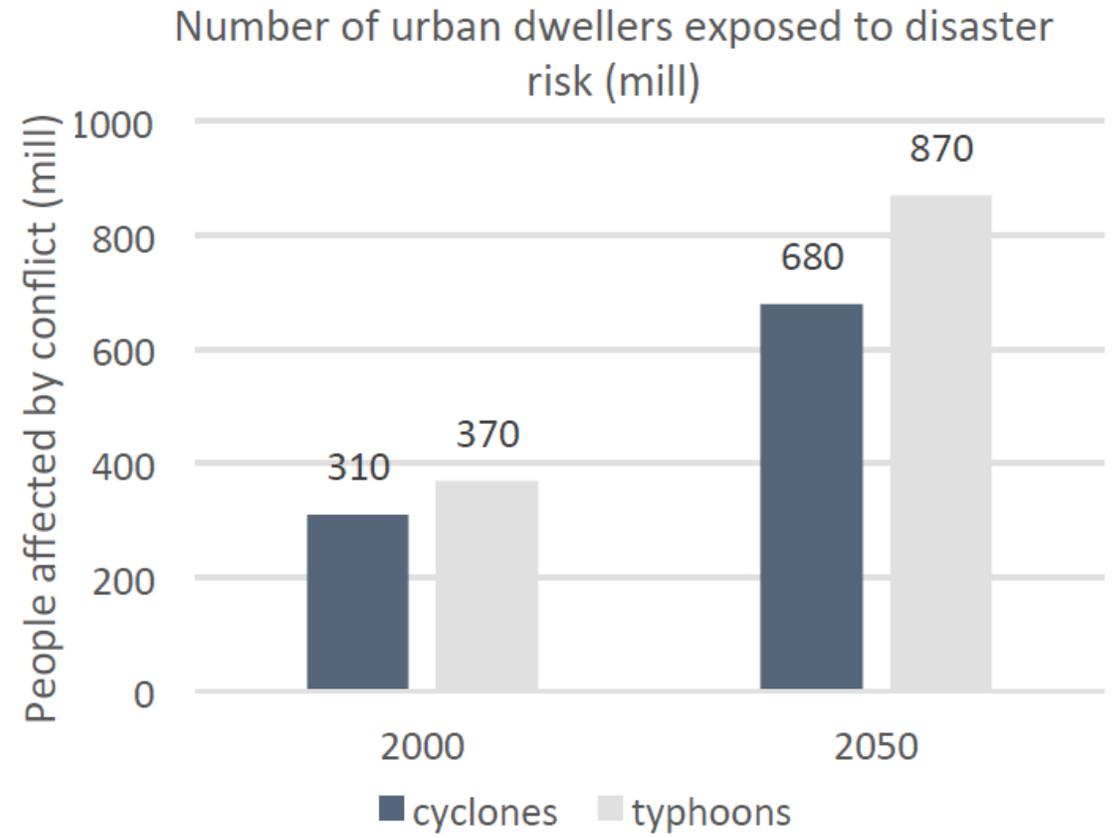
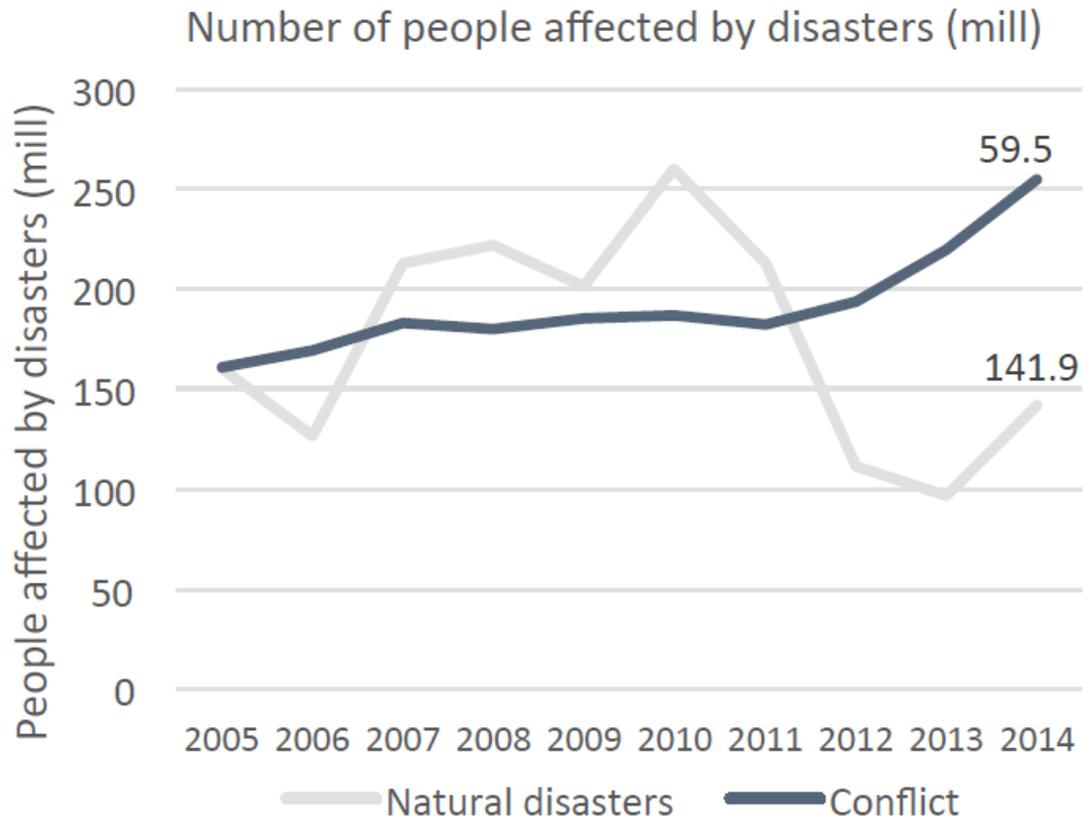
Humanitarian Assistance and National Safety Nets

Framing the issues

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Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice

Social Safety Nets Core Course 2018



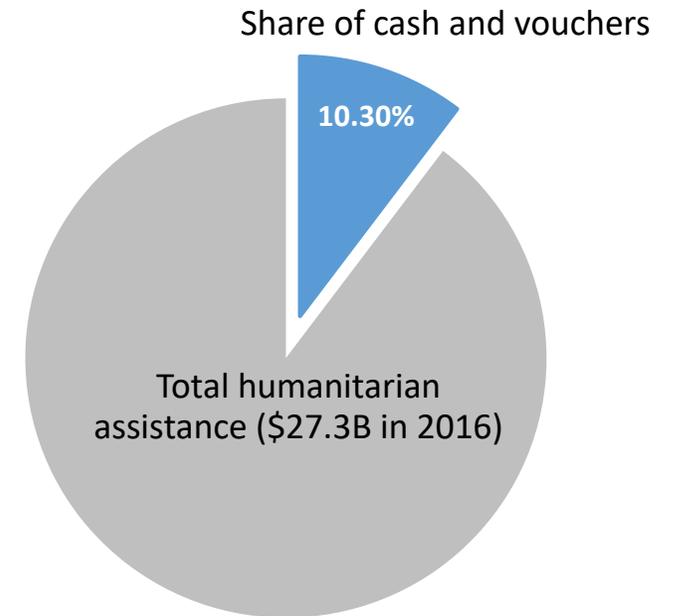
Source: Gentilini (2016)

In theory, humanitarian assistance and social protection are complementary...

- Considerable interest and investments in enhancing the scalability of national capacities
 - Part of “adaptive SP” or similar “shock-responsive SP”
- Humanitarian assistance = filling the gap (temporarily) between needs and SP capacity
 - Guided by humanitarian principles and international law

... and humanitarian assistance becoming increasingly cash-based

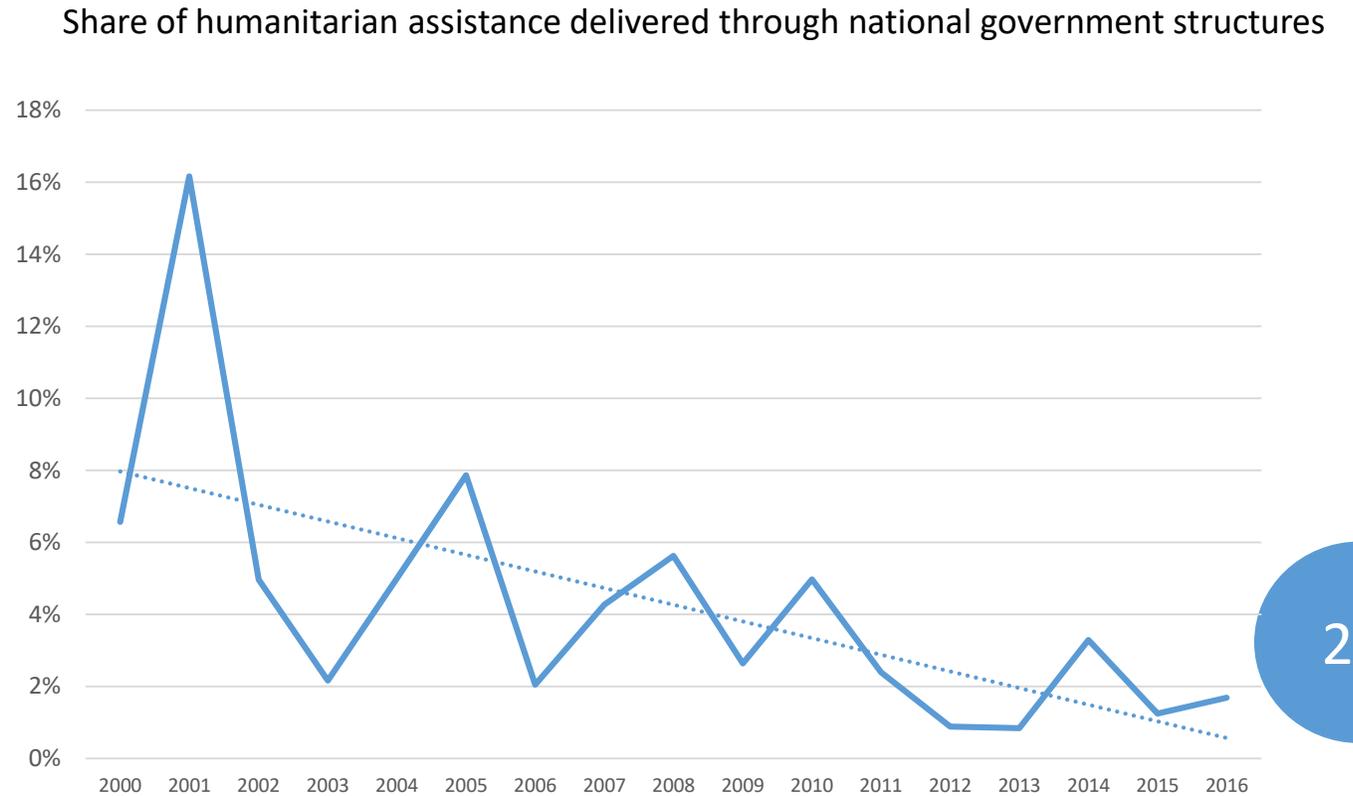
- In 2016, the volume of humanitarian cash transfers and vouchers topped \$2.8B, a 40% increase since 2015
- This dovetails the increasingly cash-based national safety nets = more opportunities for synergies



Source: CaLP (2018)

... but nearly all humanitarian assistance is provided *outside* national structures

- In a recent survey of humanitarian practitioners (n =375), only 28% reported that “... national/local actors are appropriately involved in the coordination of humanitarian cash transfers”



Source: Stoddard (2017) based of FTS data

Why is that?

- Objectives and scope may justify a degree of ‘going parallel’
 - Volatile and chaotic environments posing immediate threats to the lives of affected populations (‘humanitarian imperative’)
 - Limited implementation capacities and legislation (e.g., refugees)
- Diagnostics and operational protocols
 - International Phase Classification (IPC) and program standards (e.g., Sphere)
 - UN clusters
- When protracted and large-scale, it may generate trade-offs with national structures
 - Risks of doing the same thing (e.g., public works), for same communities, with different parameters (e.g., data collection, targeting methods, wage rates, etc.)

Emerging practical complementarities

- Piloting and transferring models (e.g., Mauritania)
- Common or connected social registries (e.g., Senegal, Kenya)
- Payment platforms (e.g., Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine)
- Top-up of transfers (e.g., Philippines)
- Planning of interventions (e.g., Ethiopia)
- Sequencing of disaster response (e.g., Fiji)
- Providing quality standards (e.g., public works in Mozambique)
- Logistics support (e.g., Ebola crisis)

It is not always black-or-white

- What do we mean by ‘humanitarian assistance’?
 - International (DAC? through UN? Within agencies, there are humanitarian and SP groups...)
 - Domestic (sometimes located outside the SP remit, e.g., disaster authorities)
- What is a ‘national structure’?
 - Source of funding
 - Channel of delivery
 - Implementation
- Combining these elements gives us a basic framework to locate further models...

Many blend models

Is humanitarian assistance....

*... funded
domestically?*

*... channeled through
national structures?*

*... implemented by
national institutions?*

Example

Syria

Yemen

Ethiopia

Pakistan



Questions for our panel

- From your perspective, what issues are emerging from humanitarian assistance in your country or region?
- What may prevent humanitarian system and social protection to be better connected and coordinated?
- How could social protection systems be made more 'shock-responsive'?