



## **Shock-Responsive Social Protection**

### **Regional Seminar for Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Lima, Peru - October 30 and 31, 2017**



PERÚ

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores



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Ministerio de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social



Programa Mundial de Alimentos

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### **Final Statement**

The Ministry of Social Development and Inclusion and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Peru, together with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), organized the first *Regional Seminar on Shock-responsive Social Protection in Latin America and the Caribbean*, which was held in Lima, Peru on 30 and 31 October 2017.

The objectives of the Seminar were the following:

- Promote an exchange of experiences between countries and a regional dialogue on shock-responsive social protection;
- Contribute to create a shared regional vision on this topic including possible future actions, while recognizing the different contexts in each country;
- Disseminate and inform the finalization of the *Study on Shock-Responsive Social Protection in Latin America and the Caribbean* by WFP and Oxford Policy Management.

More than 150 people from 20 countries participated in the event, from Latin American and Caribbean as well as other regions of the world: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay and Peru. In addition, the livestream of the event received more than 500 online views from 10 countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Panama, Peru and the United States.

National, regional and international experts from several organizations took part in the event, including from: the United Nations System, the World Bank, the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Central American Coordination Center for Natural Disaster Prevention (CEPRENAC), the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC), Fundación Capital, the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG); the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Oxford Policy Management (OPM), the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), among others.

The Seminar took place between two key regional events on closely related topics: The Second Meeting of ECLAC Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean held the previous week, in Montevideo; and the VIII Meeting on International Mechanisms of Humanitarian Assistance (MIAH) held in Lima the week after the seminar. Furthermore, the Seminar reiterated the international commitment to the humanitarian-development continuum and linking humanitarian and development actions, as foreseen in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the World Humanitarian Summit, among others.

For Peru, it was very important to host this Seminar, primarily because it is the first of its kind in the region, as well as for the special moment in which it took place. This year, many Latin American and Caribbean countries have been affected by some of the most devastating hurricanes, floods and earthquakes in recent times, causing loss of human lives, affecting millions of people, and destroying livelihoods.

The Seminar represented an invaluable opportunity for an exchange on an extremely relevant topic within the international, regional and national context: the importance of designing and implementing shock-responsive social protection systems that ensure the integrity of people, their livelihoods, and the exercise of their rights; this can prevent the effects of emergencies from deepening pre-existing conditions and generating new situations of poverty, vulnerability and exclusion.

During the seminar, the participants emphasized some key aspects prioritized by the regional and national instances of each country, some of which are the followings:

- The importance of **preparedness** to ensure that social protection systems are responsive in emergencies.
- The recognition of **national leadership** in the design, management and implementation of a shock-responsive social protection system, including its funding.
- The need and commitment to effective **inter-institutional coordination**, beyond the traditional roles of the actors involved. This was recognized as one of the challenges but also one of the main opportunities in the establishment of a shock-responsive social protection system. In addition, the establishment of strategic partnerships with national and international actors should be considered, in order to allow, among other issues, the mobilization of resources.
- The importance of providing a **comprehensive support package** to meet the range of basic needs of people in the different phases of an emergency. This package may include transfer programs, cash or in-kind, benefits linked to specific needs for different stages of the life cycle, among others.
- The urgency to develop **innovative social protection models** for vulnerable groups that are increasingly affected by recurrent and more intense crises, providing support throughout the lifecycle through the social protection system, including during periods of chronic stress and crisis.
- Recognizing the need to build a shock-responsive social protection system **based on evidence and to adapt it to specific national contexts**.

Based on these discussions, the participants:

1. Agree to disseminate in their respective countries and institutions the conclusions of the Regional Seminar *Shock-responsive Social Protection: A New Humanitarian Route for Latin America and the Caribbean?*, including this Statement, as well as documents, studies, and experiences shared during the event;
2. Reaffirm the need to invest and give concrete follow-up to the priority areas identified during the Seminar and in this Statement, in order to build and/or strengthen national shock-responsive social protection systems;
3. Suggest the organization of follow-up *Workshops on Shock-Responsive Social Protection* in their countries, with the participation of national and sub-national institutions and partners, to develop a Road Map that prioritizes actions adapted to each context;
4. Propose to meet again at regional level, to share progress and achievements based on what was discussed during this first Seminar. In the meantime, participants express interest in the

establishment of a platform or *Community of Practice on Shock-responsive Social Protection in Latin America and the Caribbean*.

*Note: This Final Statement is also available in Spanish and French at the following link:*  
<http://es.wfp.org/Estudio-sobre-Proteccion-Social-Reactiva-ante-Emergencias-en-America-Latina-y-el-Caribe>

*The recording of the event is available at the following link:*  
<http://socialprotection.org/livestream-regional-seminar-shock-responsive-social-protection-latin-america-and-caribbean>