



Anglophone and Lusophone Community of Practice of Cash Transfers in Africa



Dear Members of the Anglophone and Lusophone Community of Practice of Cash Transfers in Africa,

The Community of Practice of Cash Transfers in Africa (CoP) Steering Committee (CS) Members together with the UNICEF/WB Facilitation Team wish to extend you all our greetings; we trust our email finds you all well and safe, despite the difficult times.

In these hard times, our Community is particularly important to share knowledge and find common intervention strategies to contain the COVID effects. It is therefore very important to keep engaged and continue the momentum of the CoP: on our side, we have been working on keeping our Community alive, and adapting to a virtual format as a result of COVID. We would like to invite you all to read through the attached End of Year note, which resumes the CoP activities in 2019, and to welcome our first Newsletter, which illustrates what we have worked on before and during the pandemic, and our proposed upcoming activities.

We look forward to your feedback and active participation!

I. What we have been working on:

In February 2020, the CoP's Steering Committee and the UNICEF/WB Facilitation Team in partnership with the [Partnership for Economic Inclusion](#) (PEI) met with the Ethiopian Government and the Ethiopian Organizing Committee in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for a 4-day summit. While an important aspect of the meeting was the organization of the CoP Face-to-Face (F2F) Ethiopia meeting on Economic Inclusion (at the time planned for May 2020), the **conversations concentrated on the governance and the sustainability of the CoP, as well as on the potential partnerships for our Community**. At a critical point of the CoP existence, our discussions touched upon the needs to strengthen our engagements and relationships with existing and potential donors, as well as the paramount importance to increase the proactive and meaningful participation of CoP members.

After the Addis F2F event was cancelled in March 2020 due to the COVID outbreak, the work of the CoP focused on existing and potential partnerships. In terms of existing collaborations, we cemented our collaboration with the World Bank's **Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI)**, already forged to co-organize the F2F event. In terms of potential collaborations, we are exploring ways of working more tightly with the **Francophone Community of Practice of Cash Transfers in Africa**.

Lately, the Community's efforts have been directed towards finding ways to work virtually with its members and adapting to a virtual format as a result of COVID.

II. More activities to come:

More recent efforts have concentrated on strengthening the proactive and meaningful participation of CoP members. In this light, we are organizing an **online conversation to showcase inspiring ways in which countries have responded to COVID outbreak**.

If you would like to present the case from your Country, please reach out to our Facilitation Team by September 2nd with a concrete example of what you would like to showcase. To express your interest please send an email to Giulia (gparzani@worldbank.org) and Tayllor (trspadafora@unicef.org). The SC and the FT will select best cases and will support your Country in the preparation of the presentation.

The Webinar will be hosted on **September 16th, 2020 – PLEASE SAVE THE DATE** (more details to follow).