THINKING OF USING SOCIAL ASSISTANCE DATA AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO SUPPORT TARGETING FOR SHOCK RESPONSE?
FOUR KEY STEPS!

Australian Aid

1 ASSESS your social assistance data and associated registries and information systems, and compare with alternatives.

Depending on existing design choices...

- What percentage of population is covered?
- Whose data is collected/stored?
- What data is collected/stored?
- How (and how often) is data collected and updated?
- What approach to information integration is used?
- How is data validated, stored and maintained?
- Who is responsible for data collection and management?
- What level of security and data privacy is guaranteed?
- What pre-existing data sharing agreements and protocols are in place?

...these will be more or less suitable for shock response in terms of their...

- **Completeness** — Level of coverage of population/needs
- **Relevance** — Suited for the purpose (e.g. helps identify HHs exposed to shocks)
- **Currency** — Up-to-date
- **Accessibility** — Ease to obtain
- **Accuracy** — Free from mistakes and omissions
- **Data protection** — Ensuring security and privacy

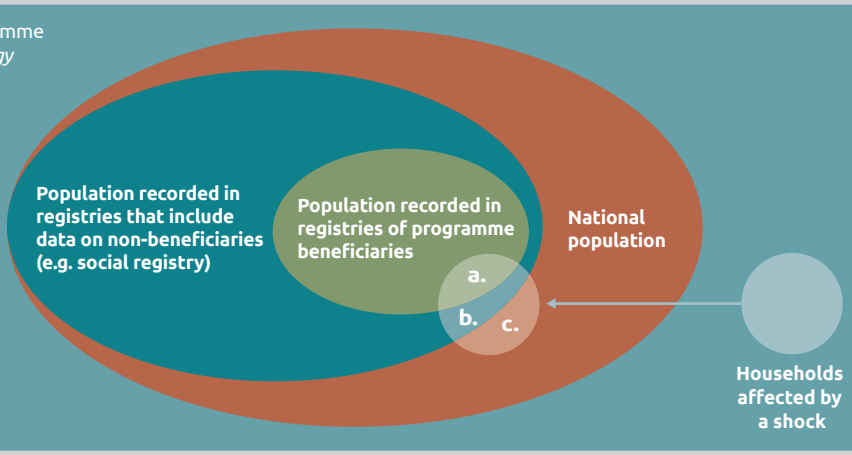
2 Based on this assessment and on your analysis of the needs that you are trying to address, DECIDE how you will be using that data or its underlying systems, if at all.

a. Vertical expansion of existing programme/s or new programme **piggybacking** on **beneficiary data**? *Make sure you have strategy to reach all other affected households.*

b. Horizontal expansion of existing programme/s or new programme **piggybacking** on the **data of potential beneficiaries**? *Think this through carefully in advance of the shock, requires high levels of preparedness and does not fully address potential for exclusion (and inclusion) errors.*

c. Strategies to reach affected households whose data are not held within existing registries will **always be needed** (e.g. refugees/non-citizens, etc).

a., b. and c. Using existing capacity and systems for collection and management of new data, or validation of existing data? *Evaluate potential for existing capacity to be overwhelmed and address this.*



3 PREPARE! Ensure you have thought through what this will entail in practice when the shock hits. Lack of preparedness will severely compromise timeliness and meeting needs. For example:

- Strengthen **data quality** and **audit** existing systems to ensure **trust**.
- Ensure **informed consent** and comprehensive **outreach** and communications.
- Sign **memorandums of understanding** for data sharing.
- Develop **protocols and standard operating procedures** on how data will be used.
- Ensure software/hardware has required **flexibility**.
- Ensure **surge capacity, training and guidance** for all stakeholders involved.
- Where possible, use existing data to **estimate financing needs, caseloads**, etc.
- **Pilot** the new approach!

4 In the long term, you could also ADAPT existing data and underlying systems to better respond to shocks (where relevant, e.g. especially recurrent, predictable shocks). For example:

- Adapt **variables collected** to better capture vulnerability to shocks.
- Ensure **higher coverage in vulnerable areas**.
- **Integrate caseloads** from previous emergency responses into routine provision.

Oxford Policy Management