WFP’s Work in Enabling Social Protection in the Philippines

Highlights of the World Food Programme’s Contributions to Social Protection in a New Normal

March 2021
With most service providers unable to operate as usual because of quarantine restrictions, the Ministry of Social Services and Development in BARMM (MSSD-BARMM), requested support from WFP for the distribution of financial assistance to households impacted by COVID-19, under the SAP. To meet the request, WFP offered a customized version of its beneficiary information and transfer management platform SCOPE, where MSSD-BARMM could collect, control and manage its own data. As a technical solution, SCOPE was readily available, did not require procurement of any equipment to be operational as MSSD-BARMM enumerators were able to use their own smartphones, and, the government had already witnessed previous deployments of SCOPE for emergency response, for example the Marawi Siege (2017), Typhoon Ompong (2018), and the eruption of Taal Volcano (2020). By May 2020, MSSD-BARMM had completed its financial assistance distribution to 353,000 households.

Beyond the COVID-19 response, the support provided by WFP serve two longer-term objectives:

1. that the generated evidence and knowledge of the vulnerabilities faced by the Filipino population and the performance of the SAP can be used to inform future social protection programming; and
2. that the support in the creation and use of digital solutions can further the development of a strong digital ecosystem to facilitate the extension of social protection in the country.

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To know more about WFP's work in enabling social protection around the globe check the full publication and infographic: