

### Making evidence matter - HIEP



IMPACT

Humanitarian crises are averted, more lives are saved, economic and livelihood losses are reduced and recovery is faster

More effective and coherent disaster risk management, resilience interventions and emergency response operations







Outcome s

Outcome 1: Humanitarians regularly integrate evidence and evidence generation in the design and delivery of disaster risk management and humanitarian response

Outcome 2: International donors (including DFID) and governments increase investments in humanitarian research and innovation

- Research and evidence across DFID £390m a year
- 50% FCAS
- HIEP £54.6m
- General lessons and constraints of research in Humanitarian settings
- Future research priorities/modalities? Feedback



## **HIEP results - significant change:**



- -26 projects, 160 research papers, 10 impact evaluations, 127 innovations
- Cash, nutrition, social protection and healthcare, insurance and risk finance, WHS priorities; localisation, innovation, multi-year funding
- Emerging needs, Ebola, Syria, escalating insecurity and new sudden onset disasters

## Changed the way we work

- "Children" BASIC SP, Centre Disaster Protection, Cash first, MYHP
- DFID Country Programmes Coherent (H+D), risk informed IRF, contingencies incl.. evidence collection and research
- Layered and flexible; K4D call down, CHASE Humanitarian Research
  Fund
- Stronger operational links TA and Guidance included (BASIC, MAINTAINS)

# Success factors and recommendations (evaluation)

- Build on momentum: consensus for a new approach (e.g. cash)
- A large body of evidence 11 studies mental health and psychosocial support by R2HC
- Long-term commitment to build on earlier findings Avoid single case studies
- Humanitarian research alongside operations.. Joint planning and separate research teams?
- Increase HRI project partners' monitoring of impact. At least 2 year after final conclusions
- Agency and operational improvements in evidence collection systems, sharing and transparency.
- Develop strategies to overcome obstacles to the scale-up and application of evidence and innovation.
- Develop processes for GASI in (DFID) humanitarian research and innovation
- Flexibility to respond to newly identified needs and opportunities
- Operation explanation, implications and support to policy and application tools, hand on support, TA



# Saving lives, building resilience, reforming the system: The UK Government's Humanitarian Reform Policy



#### **Five Pillars**

- I. Protecting people in crises (BEPAC)
- II. World class UK response to rapid onset disasters (Innovation x2)
- III. Managing risk better (MAINTAINS)
- IV. Long-term approach to protracted crisis (Protracted Displacement)
- V. Improving the international humanitarian system





#### Possible Future Research Agenda

- Digital Transformation in humanitarian work (underway, but slow, contested)
- The 'nexus', or long-term service delivery in places that move in and out of conflict so we shift our instruments back and forth)
- Anticipatory financing
- ???

**BUT**.....despite lessons, many constraints

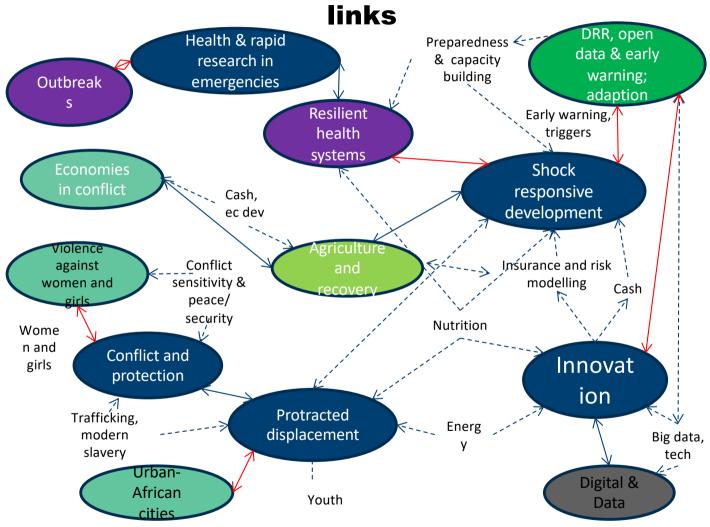
#### How to address the problematic role of data and evidence in humanitarian work?

- Political data and evidence often highly political, e.g. who is committing violations of IHL
- Funding model short term
- Hard contexts hard to collect good data, often no state/ONS,
- Culture of rapid response (despite most money spent in protracted)
- Emphasis on outputs and supply not outcomes, so not need evidence
- Sharing and competition
- Ethical issues





# Research Review areas of focus- cross RED







#### More than HRT – RED:

- Growth Research Team Reducing Conflict and Improving Economic Performance [ReCIPE]
- Agriculture Research Team: Supporting Pastoralism & the Agriculture in Recurrent & Protracted Crises (SPARC)
- Social Protection in Protracted Crises (Basic)
- Climate Energy and Water M4H Mobile for Humanitarian (300446)
- Education Education Research in Conflict and Protracted Crisis programme
- Science for Humanitarian Emergencies and Resilience (SHEAR). Monitoring, assessment and prediction of natural hazardEarly action investments in resilience (El Nino, La Nina, Landslide, EQ – Cholera forecasting)