Connecting through Crises
Opportunities and Challenges in Strengthening Informal Support Networks

October 20, 2022
9:00-10:15 am ET
TODAY’S Agenda

Opening Remarks
- **Michael Kunz** | USAID Center for Resilience

Key Concepts in Social Capital
- **Maha Elsamahi** | Mercy Corps

Panel Discussion
- **Guhad Adan** | Independent Development Consultant
- **Dr. Jessie Anderson, PhD** | USAID Center for Resilience

Open Q&A

Closing Remarks
Michael Kunz

Senior Knowledge Management Advisor | USAID Center for Resilience
Maha Elsamahi

Research and Learning Advisor,
Resilience | Mercy Corps
Connecting through Crises:
Strengthening Informal Support Networks in Resilience Programming

Maha Elsamahi
Research & Learning Advisor, Resilience
Mercy Corps
Connecting through crises: Strengthening Informal Support Networks in Resilience Programming

A Rich Body of Evidence
Informal Support Networks During Crisis

Connecting through crises: Strengthening Informal Support Networks in Resilience Programming
Lesson #1: Measure informal support networks as a key outcome and early warning indicator.

- Account for informal social protection systems in assessments and monitoring activities
- Measure the effect of external assistance on informal support networks
Lesson #2: Design targeting and community engagement strategies in ways that support, and at the very least do not undermine, informal support networks.

- Increase support for community committees, while also helping them remain accountable
- Work towards community-driven approaches to targeting
Lesson #3: Seek out and invest in opportunities to partner with informal support efforts.

➔ Identify and support existing informal initiatives that households rely on during times of need

➔ Disseminate early warning information through existing informal support networks
Thank you!
Today’s Panelists

Guhad Adan
Independent Humanitarian
and Development Consultant

Dr. Jessie Anderson, PhD
Senior Conflict Advisor
USAID Center for Resilience
Thank You

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Questions or comments? Email contact@resiliencelinks.org