

Sara Pavanello

*Expert in humanitarian policy and practice,
focusing on research, evaluation and programming advice*

Nationality: Italian

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- Twelve years experience in conducting research in humanitarian practice, including leading evaluations, field research, evidence reviews, authoring concept and working papers, policy briefs, and providing policy advice to UN agencies, research institutes, donors, and NGOs.
- Strong track record in delivering research in West Bank and Gaza, Jordan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Yemen, and elsewhere
- Key areas of expertise: cash transfer programming, displacement, resilience and livelihoods.

QUALIFICATIONS

- 2007 MSc Development Management. London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), London-UK
- 2004 BA Economics and Marketing, *magna cum laude*. Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan - Italy

LANGUAGES

Italian
Mother tongue

English
Fluent

Arabic
Fluent

Spanish
Fluent

French
Basic

EXPERIENCE

- 2011-today **Independent Consultant and Research Associate**, Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG)/Overseas Development Institute (ODI), London
- 2008-2011 **Research Officer**, Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG)/Overseas Development Institute (ODI), London
- 2007-2008 **Research Assistant**, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Birmingham, UK
- 2006-2007 **Research Consultant**, Benfield UCL Hazard Research Centre, London, UK
- 2004-2006 **Senior Executive Assistant**, JP Morgan, London, UK
- 2000-2004 **Web Analyst**, Netbureau S.r.l. Milan, Italy
- 1996-2000 **Customer Services Representative**, The National Bank of Dubai, Dubai, UAE

MAIN ASSIGNMENTS

Cash transfer programming

- *Review*
- *Multipurpose Cash Grants and sectoral outcomes: an in-depth review and findings from Afghanistan and Greece case studies*. UNHCR (2018, Team Member)
- *Users' experience of technological systems and delivery models of humanitarian cash transfers*, Ground Truth and HPG/ODI for DFID (ongoing, Team Member)
- *Building evidence on operational models for cash transfer programmes in Greece and Nigeria*, The Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP) (2018, Team Member)
- *Developing Oxfam International's humanitarian cash strategy to scale up cash-based responses worldwide*, Oxfam (2017, Lead Researcher)
- *Landscape mapping of planned and ongoing research within UN agencies, NGOs, research institutes, on cash in humanitarian settings*, IRC (2016, Lead Researcher)
- *Desk review*, ITAD and British Council. Desk review to examine and synthesise evidence and lessons learnt on unconditional cash transfers, vouchers and Cash for Work (CFW) delivered as part of humanitarian responses both worldwide and within Yemen (2015, Lead Researcher)
- *Effects of unconditional cash transfer assistance on negative coping strategies of Syrian refugees living in Jordan, Egypt and Lebanon*, UNHCR. Mixed method study, Led the qualitative component focusing on investigating refugees' perceptions of the effects of cash transfers on their coping strategies in countries of exile (2015, Team Member)
- *Effects of cash transfers on community interactions*. Article published in The Journal of Development Studies exploring the effects of national cash transfers on social capital, social cohesion and community-level empowerment (2016, Lead Researcher).

- *Research and analyses on social protection and women's economic empowerment - Rwanda Country Case Study*, FAO. Led qualitative research in Rwanda focusing on the effects of the public works component of the flagship social protection programme on female beneficiaries' economic empowerment (2015, Team Leader)
- *Qualitative research and analyses of the economic impacts of cash transfer programmes in sub-Saharan Africa - Ethiopia Country Case Study Report*, FAO. Led qualitative research in Tigray focusing on the economic impacts of the unconditional cash transfer assistance delivered as part of the social protection programme on household economy, local economy and social networks (2014, Team Leader).
- *Transforming Cash Transfers: Beneficiary and community perspectives of the Palestinian National Cash Transfer Programme. The Case of the Gaza Strip*, ODI for DFID Led case study in Gaza, part of a multi-country research project to assess beneficiaries and communities' perspectives on national cash transfer programmes, investigating effects of cash transfers on well-being, and perceptions of programme design and implementation. (2013, Team Leader)
- *Support to the design of DFID-funded Food Security and Resilience project in Yemen*, Save the Children. Worked with Save the Children staff in Yemen to design the Cash for Work component of their two-years food security and resilience project. (2013, Lead Researcher and Co-facilitator).

Evaluations

- *Evaluation of FAO Programme in West Bank and Gaza*. Country evaluation to assess FAO's strategic positioning in the protracted crisis context, impact and sustainability, programme coherence and synergies. Led the evaluation component that investigated FAO's strategic and programmatic approach to cash-based assistance for vulnerable livelihoods (2016, Team Member)
- *Evaluation of FAO Resilience Programme in Somalia*. Country evaluation to assess the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of all of FAO's interventions in Somalia during 2007-12. Led the evaluation component that focused on investigating FAO's contribution in strengthening household and community resilience. (2014-15, Team Member)
- *Evaluation of ECHO-funded Creating Resilience through Integrated Multi-Sectoral Approach in Emergency prone areas of Wolayita Zone, SNNP Region, Ethiopia*, Concern. Led evaluation of Concern Worldwide, People In Need (PIN), and International Medical Corps (IMC) assessing the appropriateness, effectiveness, impact, and efficiency of the multi-sectoral approach adopted by the programme and related activities in nutrition, health, WASH, and livelihoods sectors. Worldwide (2014, Team Leader)
- *Evaluation of DFID-funded Emergency Food Security project in Yemen*, Save the Children, UK. Led evaluation of the cash-based intervention (unconditional cash transfers and food vouchers) to assess its relevance, efficiency, appropriateness, outcome and coverage in addressing food insecurity and poor nutrition of targeted populations. (2013, Team Leader)
- *End-of-project phase workshops for the ECHO-funded 'Regional Resilience Enhancement Against Drought Programme'*, CARE International Planned and facilitated a series of workshops at CARE field offices in Kenya and Ethiopia to distil lessons and support strategy and design of the following programme phases. (2009-2012, Lead Researcher and Facilitator)
- *Evaluation of micro-enterprise development for women Banda Aceh, Indonesia*, Islamic Relief Worldwide. Led evaluation of micro-enterprise development project targeting women as part of rehabilitation efforts post the 2004 tsunami. (2007, Team Leader).

Resilience and livelihoods

- *Technical support to ECHO-funded 'Regional Resilience Enhancement Against Drought Programme'*, CARE International. Provided technical support to CARE's humanitarian response in the pastoralist border areas of Kenya-Ethiopia, including research on cross-border approaches to improve resilience of pastoralists communities, baseline study on livestock marketing, analysis of institutional arrangements around cross-border natural resources management. (2009-2013, Lead Researcher).
- HPG/ODI research on *'Resilience and Humanitarian Action'* Provided research support in the inception phase of the project, including development of research methodology. (2011, Team Member)
- *Research support to DFID-funded Africa Climate Change Resilience Alliance (ACCRA) consortium*, HPG/ODI Researched the contribution of disaster risk reduction, social protection, and livelihood

approaches to adaptive capacity and led the design of the research framework. (2010-2011, Team Member)

Displacement

- *Re-thinking the Humanitarian Response: Emerging Approaches for Engagement in Urban Crises*, ATHA and HPCR at Harvard University. Researched and authored a thematic brief on emerging approaches of humanitarian engagement in urban settings. (2012, Lead Researcher)
- *Research project 'Displacement, migration and urbanisation'* HPG/ODI. Developed the research methodology, led research and report writing of case studies in Amman, Damascus, Nairobi, and Port Sudan, presented case studies findings at several workshops and roundtables, authored policy brief on *Youth, Displacement and Violence in Urban Settings* drawing on study findings (2009 – 2013, Team member).

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Pavanello, S., E. Svoboda with L. Fast (forthcoming) *Fostering partnerships in remote management and high threat settings. Emerging lessons from child protection programming in Syria*. HPG Working Paper commissioned by UNICEF
- E. Fisher, Attah, R., Barca, V., Brook, S., Holland, J., Kardan, A., O'Brien, C., Pavanello, S., Pozarny, P. (2017) *The Livelihood Impacts of Cash Transfers in Sub-Saharan Africa: Beneficiary Perspectives from Six Countries*. *World Development* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2017.05.020>
- S. Pavanello, C. Watson, Onyango-Ouma, O. (2016) *Effects of social programmes on community interactions and dynamics*. *The Journal of Development Studies*. 52 (8): 1147-1161 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2015.1134774>
- S. Pavanello (2016) *Qualitative research and analyses of the economic impact of social protection programmes on rural women's economic empowerment. Rwanda country case study report*. FAO
- Solal-Celigny, A., S. Pavanello, E. Krug (2015) *Evaluation of FAO Resilience Programme in Somalia*. FAO
- S. Pavanello (2014) *Qualitative research and analyses of the economic impact of cash transfer programmes in sub-Saharan Africa. Ethiopia country case study report*. FAO, PtoP project
- S. Pavanello (2014) ECHO-funded "Creating Resilience through integrated multi-sectoral approach in emergency prone areas of Wolayita Zone, SNNP Region" project implemented by Concern Worldwide, People In Need and International Medical Corps. End of project evaluation.
- S. Pavanello (2013) *DFID-funded Save the Children's Emergency Food Security Project in Taiz, Lahj and Hajjah Governorates of Yemen End of Project Evaluation Report*. July 2013
- S. Pavanello and Scott-Villiers, P. (2013) *Conflict-resolution and peace-building in the drylands in the Greater Horn of Africa*. CGIAR Consortium and FAO Investment Centre
- Abu Hamad, B and Pavanello, S. (2012) *Transforming Cash Transfers: Beneficiary and community perspectives of the Palestinian National Cash Transfer Programme. The Case of the Gaza Strip*. DFID-funded ODI Commissioned Paper. December 2012
- S. Pavanello (2013) *Rethinking the humanitarian response: emerging approaches for engagement in urban crises*. Thematic Brief for the Advance Training Program on Humanitarian Action at the Program (ATHA) and Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research (HPCR), Harvard University
- S. Pavanello, Metcalfe, V. with Martin, E. (2012) *Survival in the City: Youth, Displacement and Violence in Urban Settings*. HPG Policy Brief 44. March 2012.
- S. Levine and Pavanello, S. (2012) *Rules of the Range. Natural resources management in Kenya-Ethiopia border areas*. HPG Policy Brief 45. April 2012. ODI Commissioned Brief for Care International under the Regional Resilience Enhancement Against Drought (RREAD) Programme
- S. Pavanello with S. Haysom (2012) *Sanctuary in the city? Urban displacement and vulnerability in Amman*. HPG Working Paper. ODI
- Abdel Ati, H., S. Pavanello and S. Jaspars with H. Abu Amna, M. Idriss and S. Pantuliano (2011) *City limits: urbanisation and vulnerability in Sudan. Port Sudan case study*. HPG Working Paper. ODI
- S. Pavanello and Levine, S. (2011) *Rules of the Range. Natural resources management in Kenya-Ethiopia border areas*. HPG Working Paper. ODI Commissioned Paper for Care International under the Regional Resilience Enhancement Against Drought (RREAD) Programme
- S. Pavanello, Metcalfe, V. with Mishra P. (2011). *Sanctuary in the city? Urban displacement and vulnerability in Nairobi*. HPG Working Paper. ODI
- S. Pavanello (2010) *Fighting hunger in protracted crises: what can be done?* ODI Blog

- S. Pavanello (2010) *Working across borders: Harnessing the potential of cross-border activities to improve livelihood security in the Horn of Africa drylands*. HPG Policy Brief 41. ODI Commissioned Brief for CARE International under the Regional Resilience Enhancement Against Drought (RREAD) Programme
- S. Pavanello, Elhawary S. and Pantuliano S. (2010) *Hidden and Exposed: Urban Refugees in Nairobi, Kenya*. HPG Working Paper. ODI
- S. Pavanello and Montemurro M. (2010) *Displacement in Urban Areas: Implications for Humanitarian Action in Adapting to Urban Displacement*. Forced Migration Review 34 - February 2010
- J. Lindsey, Jaspars S., Pavanello S., Ludi E., Slater R., Arnall A., Grist N., and Mtisi S. (2010) *Responding to a changing climate: Exploring how disaster risk reduction, social protection and livelihoods approaches promote features of adaptive capacity*. ODI Working Paper 319. ODI. Paper commissioned by the Africa Climate Change Resilience Alliance (ACCRA)
- S. Pavanello (2010) *Livestock marketing in Kenya-Ethiopia border areas: A baseline study*. HPG Working Paper. ODI Commissioned Paper for Care International under the Regional Resilience Enhancement Against Drought (RREAD) Programme
- N. Jones, C. Harper, S. Pantuliano, S. Pavanello (2009) *The global economic crisis and impacts on children and caregivers: emergency evidence and possible policy responses in the Middle East and North Africa*. ODI Background Note
- S. OCallaghan, Jaspars S. and Pavanello S. (2009) *Losing Ground: Protection and Livelihoods in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*. HPG Working Paper. ODI
- S. OCallaghan and Pavanello S. (2009) *Laws of War under Threat in Densely Populated Gaza*. ODI Blog
- S. Pavanello (2009) *Fighting Hunger: the Endless Plight of Pastoralists in the Horn of Africa*. ODI Blog
- S. Pavanello (2009) *Pastoralists' Vulnerability in the Horn of Africa: exploring political marginalisation, donors' policies and cross-border issues – Literature review*. HPG Report. ODI
- S. Pantuliano and Pavanello S. (2009) *Taking Drought into Account: Addressing Chronic Vulnerability among Pastoralists in the Horn of Africa*. HPG Policy Brief no. 35. ODI
- B. Ramalingam, Pavanello S. with Scriven K. (2009) *Gaza Humanitarian Crisis: Lessons for Operational Agencies*, ALNAP. ODI
- S. Bailey, Pavanello S., Elhawary S. and OCallaghan S. (2009) *Early Recovery: an Overview of Policy Debates and Operational Challenges*. HPG Working Paper. ODI
- S. Bailey and Pavanello S. (2009) *Untangling Early Recovery*. HPG Policy Brief 38. ODI
- B. Ramalingam and Pavanello S. (2008) *Cyclone Nargis: Lessons for Operational Agencies*, ALNAP. ODI
- S. Pavanello and Darcy J. (2008) *Improving the provision of basic services for the poor in fragile environments, International Literature Review- Synthesis Paper*. HPG Report. ODI
- S. Pavanello (2008) *Improving the provision of basic services for the poor in fragile environments, International Literature Review- Health Sector*. HPG Report. ODI
- S. Pavanello and Othieno T. (2008) *Improving the provision of basic services for the poor in fragile environments, International Literature Review- Education Sector*. HPG Report. ODI