

Cash-based Interventions Technical Working Group (CBI TWG)

National Meeting Minutes

24 February 2026, Online Meeting

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Participating Agencies: Buca Municipality, CALP Network, ECHO, GIZ, GOAL Global, Human Appeal, IFRC, IOM, Olive Branch, Qatar Charity, SGDD-ASAM, STL, TRC, UNFPA, UNHCR

Operational Issues

2026 February - Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance Guidance in Türkiye

- With regards to the 3RP 2026 appeal, information was shared on the current situation and continued high needs within the Basic Needs Sector, where cash-based assistance remains the most prominent. As ten sector partners are planning cash assistance, it is important to keep guidance and technical information-sharing updated and active (Slides 5-6).
- In this context, an overview was provided on the updated **February 2026 MPCA Guidance** of the CBI TWG.
 - Transfer amounts are calculated based on the total Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), derived from the [TRC's SSN MEB](#) with the addition of average rental costs (based on real estate databases) in provinces with high refugee concentration, adjusted by household size.
 - Household income levels from the Community Pulse (CP) survey are deducted from this total MEB to determine the gap between income and the MEB (including rent). The ratio of this gap to the total MEB forms the recommended MPCA transfer rate (Slides 7-8).
- Given current financial constraints, resources are to be prioritised for the most vulnerable and high-risk households. Accordingly, the target group consists of households that, according to the CP survey, resort to emergency and crisis-level negative coping mechanisms and report being unable to meet their basic needs (approximately 40%) (Slide 9).
 - Based on updated MEB and CP income data, the gap between total MEB and income for this group is approximately 60%. It is therefore recommended that MPCA transfers aim to cover this proportion.
 - While the July 2025 guideline recommended a 50% coverage rate, this has been increased to 60% for 2026 due to rising cost of living (also reflected in the 10% increase in the SSN MEB) and rental costs (Slide 10).
 - Recommended transfer amounts by household size are presented in the slides (Slide 11).
- The updated MPCA Guidance document is expected to be finalised this week and shared with the CBI TWG for feedback. Calculation sheets will be shared as well.
- Information was also provided on the [guidance document on MPCA targeting criteria](#). This document serves as a first-level prioritization tool; partners may further refine prioritisation and targeting based on field observations and may engage bilaterally with the CBI TWG coordination team if needed.
- The [reference document](#) on preventing duplication in Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA), along with the [Inter-Agency CVA Deduplication Platform](#), was shared.
 - Through this platform, organisations can compare beneficiary lists. Identity information is encrypted using blockchain technology and matched in encrypted form; no personal data is stored or shared within the system. This mechanism prevented over 100 duplications during the 2025-2026 winterisation cash response.

Programme Updates

MPCA and Sectoral CVA Updates by Partners

- **UFUK Horizon Development Foundation** is providing **cash for protection** in **Şanlıurfa** in the amount of **USD 75 per person**, primarily targeting the protection and transportation needs of women beneficiaries. The project will continue until the end of **July**.
- **ASAM** is implementing **three cash-based assistance programmes** in the earthquake-affected region, particularly in **Hatay**.
 - **Two** of these programmes, implemented in partnership with **Save the Children**, target **households affected by camp closures**.
 - Under the first programme, **one-off MPCA** has been provided to **198 households**, with the process nearing completion. Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) has also commenced.
 - Under the second programme, recently launched, assessments have been completed for **114 households** affected by camp closures in **Kirikhan and Reyhanlı**, and payments are planned to start **after March**.
 - Through these two programmes, **cash and protection support** will have been provided to **over 300 households** affected by camp closures, particularly those who relocated to closed neighbourhoods with regards to address registration and face challenges in accessing basic services.
 - Additionally, the **third phase** of the post-earthquake cash assistance programme implemented with **GIZ** was launched at the beginning of the year.
 - Under this phase, **one-off MPCA of TRY 31,140** as aligned with the July 2025 MPCA Guidance is planned to be provided to households, primarily in **Hatay and Adiyaman**, by the end of **August**.
- **IOM** continues to implement an MPCA programme under **ECHO** funding, with completion planned by **June**.
 - The first round of **winterisation cash assistance** has been completed, and the **second round** is nearing completion.
 - Following ongoing assessments in **Adiyaman and Hatay**, **MPCA** is expected to be provided to approximately **300 remaining households**.
- Preparations have been completed for a pilot programme planned by **GOAL in partnership with ASAM**, with activation expected next week. The programme will target **female-headed households and persons with disabilities** in **Mersin and Kayseri**. Based on the results of the **three-month** cash assistance intervention, a larger-scale programme will be considered.

Summary of Cash for Winterisation

- **Winterisation Task Team** provided a summary of activities for the 2025-26 winter period. In this context, the publication of the PDM guideline is planned for February, and a wrap-up meeting focusing on lessons learned and good practices is planned for April.
- **IOM** provided winterisation cash assistance and MPCA to **387 beneficiaries** in **Hatay İskenderun and Yıldırımtepe Camp** (transfer amounts shared in the presentation).
 - IOM's next intervention is planned in **Hatay Opet and Bahçelievler Camps** and will include both winterisation assistance and MPCA (transfer amounts shared in the presentation).
- **STL** is targeting households affected by the closure of the **Bebek (Akpınar) Temporary Accommodation Centre in Adiyaman**. The target is **208 households**; as of **February**, **92 households** have received an **additional winterisation payment of TRY 8,500 on top of MPCA**.
 - In addition, since November, STL has been providing **MPCA and winter-related top-up support** in **Adiyaman, Hatay, and Kahramanmaraş**. Transfer amounts were aligned with the CBI TWG MPCA Guidance. The most vulnerable households were targeted, and distribution has largely been completed.
 - To prevent congestion at bank branches, beneficiaries were divided into three groups. For households in the first three groups who were unable to withdraw their assistance, other households identified through vulnerability scoring were included in a fourth group; payments have been completed for all but one household in this group.
 - Across the three provinces, **502 households (2,750 individuals)** were reached, of which **196** were refugee

households. The **average** payment per household was approximately **TRY 39,500**, with amounts determined based on household size.

- Scamming attempts involving phone calls targeting refugees in Adiyaman requesting identity information and money were reported. Beneficiaries were informed via SMS, and following an intensive two-week period, the situation has largely stabilised.
- In Kahta and Besni districts of Adiyaman, where humanitarian presence has been relatively limited, additional communication was conducted regarding targeting criteria and the use of reduced funding.
- The inter-agency deduplication mechanism was used in coordination with **Save the Children and ASAM**, preventing approximately 40 cases of duplication.

CBI TWG Governance and Planning

- A brief update was provided on the **Cash and Voucher Assistance Technical Advisory Group (CVA TAG)** under the CBI TWG. For further details, members may refer to the relevant CVA TAG section of the [CBI TWG Terms of Reference \(ToR\)](#).
 - It was noted that the composition of the TAG will be renewed for 2026, and that a call for expressions of interest, also outlining the group's activities over the past year, will be circulated to members within the next two weeks.
 - Interested members will be requested to submit a short summary outlining their CVA expertise and experience (not a CV).
 - It was emphasised that the role is voluntary and that TAG members are expected to actively contribute in line with the responsibilities outlined in the ToR, including providing technical input to CVA processes and materials.
- An update was provided on the **2025 CBI Mapping** exercise. The exercise aims to analyse the programmatic scope of cash-based assistance in Türkiye, including budget size and target groups. Collected data are shared through publicly available analytical reports and dashboards, serving as a reference source for trends in implementation and targeting across the sector.
 - In previous years, data collection took place between November and January; however, for 2025, the mapping exercise will be launched in the coming weeks, as many organisations have not yet finalised their programme closure processes. Despite reduced funding and implementation volume, **27 organisations implemented cash programmes in 2025**, underscoring the importance of updated mapping.
 - Organisations will be requested to complete a data entry form (approximately 10-15 minutes) to share existing programme information. A flexible but reasonable timeline will be set, and further details will be communicated separately.
- The **CBI TWG 2026 Work Plan** will first be updated by the coordinators and subsequently shared with members for feedback.
- Following the meeting, a registration form will be circulated to **update the CBI TWG mailing list** for 2026.

Next Steps

- **TRC** will clarify whether the **reapplication** period for individuals excluded from the **SSN** caseload due to revised criteria will remain **three months**, as in previous years.
- In light of **recent regulatory changes regarding access to health insurance for Syrians under temporary protection**, the potential role of MPCA will be assessed in coordination with the Protection and Health Sectors.
 - It was noted that the new regulation narrows access to free health services due to the introduction of fee payment requirements, and that gaps may arise during the assessment process for individuals with specific needs applying for reimbursement through the Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations.
- **Capacity development needs** will be discussed at the next meeting, and potential support options will be explored. In this regard, **CALP** is expected to participate in the upcoming meeting.

- The next meeting is planned for **31 March**.

Action Points

- The **February 2026 MPCA Guidance** will be finalised and shared with CBI TWG members for feedback.
- A call for expressions of interest for the renewal of the **2026 CVA TAG** composition will be circulated in the coming days.
- The **2025 CVA Mapping** exercise will be launched in the coming weeks; details on data entry will be shared separately.
- The potential implications of **health-related regulatory changes for temporary protection** on needs and the role of MPCA will be addressed in coordination with the **Protection and Health sectors**.
 - Update: The issue has been shared with the Health sector and will be consulted with the Protection sector.
- In line with 2026 governance tasks, the Work Plan, ToR, and mailing list will be updated.