Cash-based Interventions Technical Working Group EQ Türkiye

CBI TWG Meeting Minutes

29 March 2023 Gaziantep

Chaired by: UNHCR & TRC

Venue: UNHCR Gaziantep Office Anatolia Meeting Room (Hybrid)

Minutes: Busra Seray Duzyol (UNHCR), Ahmet Unver (UNHCR)

Participants: Action Against Hunger, CARE, CashCap, DG ECHO, DRC, FAO, FCDO, IFRC, INGEV, International Rescue Committee, IOM, Johanniter International, Medair, MUDEM, OCHA, People in Need, Positive Living Association, Qatar Charity, SARD, Save the Children, Sened, SEVKAR, SGDD-ASAM, TRC, UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHH, WVI, Violet Organization

AGENDA:

1) Welcome & Introductions *(5 mins)*
2) Review: Action Points and Announcements *(UNHCR, 5 mins)*
3) Operational Planning *(all partners, 45 mins)*
    a. Hatay Hub Meeting and HCT visit to Adıyaman
    b. Duplication Matrix Tools for EQ response
    c. Transactional Analyses Report by TRC
4) Sectoral Use of CVA *(Save the Children, 15 mins)*
    a. CVA Feasibility Report Presentation
5) Any Other Business *(5 mins)*

New Action Points from the Meeting:

1. UNHCR to disseminate Donor Advocacy Note
2. Members to provide feedback on Donor Advocacy Note once available
3. Members to complete their data entry to 3W
4. Members to complete their data entry to Reporting Activity
5. Members to contact co-chairs and OCHA regarding their technical/thematic needs
6. Co-chairs to share Cash for Work Workshop invitation

Documents

1. Meeting Presentation
2. TRC - Transaction Analyses of Kizilaykart Beneficiaries in the Earthquake Zone

I. Review Action Points & Announcements

- Reporting Activity carried out by OCHA has been presented and partners are encouraged to complete their data entry regarding MPCA programs they are conducting until March 30, CoB. OCHA will be publishing an initial report to capture the advancements in the response since February 6th based on the information provided via Activity Info. Members can contact Özgür Savaşcıoğlu (savascio@unhcr.org) and Thomas Rommel for their access needs and questions.
- Mohannad Alghabra (CARE) volunteered as the WEHA WG Focal Point and will be representing CBI TWG in the WEHA meetings for better coordination and information flow between WGs.

- Two new colleagues to provide technical support to CBI TWG are assigned by CashCap and hosted by OCHA. Members can reach out to Rukiye Uysal, Cash Coordination Advisor (uysal@un.org) and Thomas Rommel (thomas.rommel@un.org), Cash IMO for their inquiries.
- Deduplication Guidance will be operational for every organization to prevent duplication for EQ response.
- Members' feedbacks and thematic needs are crucial to determine CBI TWG's workplan and for preparing Harmonization of Approaches document. When this document is ready, it will be an important source for harmonization together with MEB calculation by WFP-TRC-IFRC.
- Cash for Work Workshop will be organized with Food Security and Livelihoods in Gaziantep Shimall Hotel, March 30th between 5.00-6.00 p.m. relevant invitation will be shared with members after the meeting.

II. Operational Planning

Hatay Hub Meeting & HCT Visit to Adıyaman

- Co-chairs attended to Hatay Hub Meeting that took place on Friday, March 24th and made a visit to Adıyaman on Monday, March 27th.
- After these visits it was concluded that CBI TWG should be more present and visible in this level and attempt to participate in weekly meetings as much as possible.
- Colleagues in the field emphasized that the markets are starting to be more functional and in-kind assistance does not reach everyone. They are expecting this group and MPC to be more active in Hatay so that the switch to in-kind from CVA can be ongoing.
- In Adıyaman, coordination and referral mechanisms are established between humanitarian organizations. However, humanitarian visibility is lacking and partners should be more active ensuring that humanitarian capacity is not limited.
- A lack of coordination with government bodies are observed and co-chairs will be in touch with officials in senior level to enhance coordination.
- For detailed information please see *Slide 7.*

Duplication Matrix Tools for EQ Response

- TRC presented the duplication matrix which is designed in 2017. The matrix has been used in TRC system to support other humanitarian actors in providing assistance to the people in need.
- One of the main objectives of this mechanism is to prevent the duplication of assistance provided by the various organization operating in the humanitarian sector.
- A cross checking beneficiary list submitted by organizations to ensure that their beneficiaries are not already receiving assistance under the any given program of KızılayKart, which are the ESSN, C-ESSN, CCTE and in-camp. For the earthquake response, WFP-TRC-IFRC program will also be cross-checked.
- TRC have developed an automated system that ensures the coordination in the field and carries out the process with the consent of the persons involved. A standardized format for the beneficiary list is also created which includes minimum required data fields such as the name of the organization, province, contact number, ID number, etc. Moreover, an official letter is required to carry out this cross-check activities purposefully. After receiving the beneficiary list, TRC process them with Göçmen database.
- Organizations that want to cross-check beneficiaries will be able to choose which programs and eligibility criteria they would like to check with by specifying programs in the official letter.
- TRC will share the official letter and the Excel format for duplication matrix and the relevant e-mail addresses for the process.

Transactional Analyses Report by TRC

- TRC presented their report on transactional analyses of KızılayKart beneficiaries in the earthquake zone that they developed with an aim to uncover any problems regarding FSPs and other stakeholders, to see if cash is feasible in the region and to determine the beneficiary movements out of the region.
- As per the limitations of this study, TRC pointed out that they utilized addresses registered in the FSP as beneficiaries' addresses and that this study only covers February payment period. Therefore, the report encompasses the period between February 28th – March 5th. The analysis was also conducted only for card holders, meaning that the head of households instead of the household in general.
- The study revealed that 48% (127,426) are still residing in the region. 89% of the beneficiaries registered in the disaster area have used their assistance. Of the users, while 72% used the amount fully, 18% used the assistance partially. Moreover, while most of the beneficiaries used their assistance during the payment day, in the disaster area most of the beneficiaries used their assistance during the following day. This might signal to access to ATMs issues in the earthquake region.
- For Hatay, 82% of all beneficiaries used their assistance in the payment week. After the earthquake happened on February 6th, transactions by shopping activities were observed. According to the transactional data 546 head of households used their card in Ankara after the earthquake.
- Important changes in beneficiaries' spending habits were not observed after the earthquake. Beneficiaries still use most of the assistance for market, staple goods and rent.

III. Sectoral Use of CVA

CVA Feasibility Report

- Save the Children has a standard feasibility assessment tool that they have adapted to the three key earthquake response.
- The study is still on-going and started on March 13th. The aim is to understand the feasibility and appropriateness of CVA in SCI operational areas and determine from the community and local authorities with an integrated approach. STC have conducted the study in the districts and areas where they already have other types of programs.
- The study adopted a qualitative approach meaning that community consultations and interviews were used as the method instead of conducting a statistical study.
- The results indicated that the markets are recovering fast and well. Even though markets are affected, only a few markets were unfunctional. The main challenge for markets is unstable electricity, low quality of water and lack of demand from customers.
- Some market owners complained about in-kind and voucher distributions because most of the voucher agreements were concluded with market chains such as BIM or A-101 and local businesses suffer from this tendency of organizations.
- Demand from people also seemed to be low now that the vouchers are restricted to market chains. Shop owners are considering applying an increase in the prices due to increasing expenses and low demand.
- Women stated that they do not experience accessibility issues. However, during in-kind assistance especially pregnant women and elderly cannot leave their tents and claim the assistance. STC will provide tent-to-tent distribution to prevent these issues.
- For detailed information please see *Slides 11-22*.

AOB. N/A