

# Cash Working Group – Poland

## Minutes of Meeting

**Date and Time:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 3:00 PM – online + in person, UNHCR Country Office in Warsaw

Co-chaired by: Gokalp Arslan, arslanm@unhcr.org; Ahmed Ali Mustafa ahmed.ali@pah.org.pl

### Agenda:

Topics	From	To
General updates	15:00	15:25
Deduplication approach survey	15:25	15:30
IMPACT REACH, SCI assessment for CP and CVA	15:30	15:50
RRP Activity Info 2023 Q1&Q2 results	15:50	16:00
PDM common indicators	16:00	16:10
Task Force updates	16:10	16:20
CWG co-chair change	16:20	16:25
AOB	16:25	16:30

### Meeting minutes:

Topics	
General updates	<p>Partners reported on their current or planned activity on cash for livelihoods and <u>social and economic inclusion</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Diakonia:</b> Plan to provide small grants for 10 business owners, currently assessing.</li><li>• <b>Save the Children:</b> Plan in 2024 to assist with cash for language learning, vocational trainings, seed funding and grants for small businesses. Planned coverage in three voivodships: Lubelskie, Malopolskie, and Lower Silesia.</li><li>• <b>Mercy Corps:</b> Pilot project on cash for entrepreneurs including case management through national partners in Poznan and Krakow, with 60 beneficiaries, starting August 2023.</li><li>• <b>PAH:</b> Small cash pilot programme under social inclusion component, including language courses and vocational trainings to the beneficiaries of cash assistance.</li></ul>

- **Oxfam:** Planning to provide small grants for Roma people who want to have vocation (sewing), and other activities for developing income generating skills under consideration.

UNHCR targeted cash programme – referrals:

UNHCR explained its MPCA/targeted cash programme in 2023 for vulnerable people as an open call for the partners to ask for referrals with potentially eligible households.

**Action points:**

- UNHCR to share targeted cash programme's information, including eligibility criteria and referral forms/mechanisms with the partners.
- Partners to revise their pool of applicants for their programmes, and after checking them against UNHCR's targeted cash programme's criteria, share the referrals through a list (provided that they have consent for sharing data) or UNHCR's referral forms.

Focal Point: Kashinde Hassani [hassanik@unhcr.org](mailto:hassanik@unhcr.org)

Cash programme updates by partners:

- **PCPM** reported on two programs:
  - 1) Assistance for 6 months for people with specific vulnerabilities until the end of the year 2023, with 1000 PLN per person as the transfer value.
  - 2) MPCA for newcomers in 5 locations: Warsaw, Lublin, Bialystok, Szczecin, and Torun. Target is planned to be reached by the end of September 2023. Updated transfer values are used for this program (820 PLN per person up to 5 persons in HH). Online forms for pre-registration, field outreach, and local partners for referral are used.
- **NRC:** Assisting extremely vulnerable families with 1000 PLN per person from April 2023 in partnership with PCPM, using a scorecard system for the assessment. Online pre-registration and small partner referrals are also in place.
- **Save the Children:**
  - 1) Cash for protection by the end of August 2023 in the Lubelskie region.
  - 2) Cash for caregivers for people 80+ living outside special institutions.
  - 3) Cash for rent in Lubelskie covering 6 months rent (400 HHs targeted, pilot project in Lubelskie for 50 HHs) for those leaving collective shelters. Continue the MPCA programme countrywide.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>IFRC + Polish Red Cross:</b> Providing MPCA in Poznan and Bydgoszcz, targeted 1055 and 500 HHs were already paid all at once (covering four months). Self-registration with a dedicated <a href="#">platform</a> for the application. Delivery mechanisms used: Money Gram, RedRose, as well as bank transfers to those who have bank accounts. Registration has been closed since June 2023.</li> </ul>
Deduplication approach survey	<p>The survey was circulated following the previous meeting in June, and the results were presented by UNHCR. In total, only 6 organizations (IOM Poland, Oxfam, PAH, PCPM, DKH, UNHCR) filled out the survey.</p> <p>The results are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All respondent partners use RAIS for deduplication.</li> <li>• All respondent partners agree to have a common approach for deduplication among CWG partners. However,</li> <li>• There is no agreement in the timeframe for de-duplication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3 organizations prefer 3 months gap - when organization A stops the assistance, organization B can provide assistance after 3 months</li> <li>○ 2 organizations prefer permanently - any person who received MPCA from organization A at any time in the past is not to receive MPCA again from any organization</li> <li>○ 1 organization prefers no gap - the moment when organization A stops the assistance, organization B can provide assistance.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The deduplication approach and time frame were discussed during the meeting, with no agreement reached or decision taken.</p> <p>Due to the lack of participation and common approach of the partners on the issue, it was decided to continue discussing it in the next CWG meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 2023.</p>
IMPACT REACH, SCI assessment for CP and CVA	<p>IMPACT and SCI present the findings of the research conducted in three rounds, using quantitative and qualitative data collection methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• December 2022 - January 2023: 3,540 interviews (Poland: 1,794)</li> <li>• January - February 2023: 3,553 interviews (Poland: 1,745)</li> <li>• February - March 2023: 3,647 interviews (Poland: 1,729)</li> </ul> <p>The full report is <a href="#">here</a> and the <a href="#">link</a> to the data portal.</p> <p>The findings on access to employment, income, and expenditure can be found in the <a href="#">presentation</a>.</p>

<p>RRP Activity Info 2023 Q1&amp;Q2 results</p>	<p>UNHCR presented the RRP cash indicators' results for Q1+Q2 2023.</p> <p>The total number of MPCA assisted populations for the mentioned period is 111,389 individuals (61 % Female and 39 % Male), the most of the population assisted (57 %) in the age of 0 -17 years.</p> <p>The dashboard can be accessed <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>Action points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Due to different methodologies and understanding of reporting indicators, the results across partners are inconsistent. Partners are strongly advised to revise their reports which can be edited in the Activity Info retroactively.</li> </ul>
<p>PDM common indicators</p>	<p>The aims are to collect a proposed list of indicators that members of the Poland Cash Working Group might wish to include in their Post Distribution Monitoring Surveys of those who received Basic Needs Assistance through Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) grants.</p> <p>Ahmed (PAH) has shared the PDM indicators <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>Action points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Partners to revise the tool and provide their input including changes and additions.</li> </ul>
<p>Task Force updates</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Deduplication TF</u>: no particular updates.</li> <li>2. <u>Targeting TF</u>: A draft targeting criteria <a href="#">document</a> was shared, pending TF partners' feedback. The document is to be finalized and expected to be used as a guidance document for targeting MPCA in Poland.</li> <li>3. <u>Social Protection TF</u>: The survey targeting the government institutions and humanitarian actors, aiming to find out the access and challenges for access to Poland's social protection programs by Ukrainian refugees received only 8 feedbacks from NGOs and none from the Governmental institutions.</li> </ol> <p>The TF will have a meeting next week.</p> <p><b>Action points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Partners to revise the Targeting TF <a href="#">document</a> and enter their comments.</li> </ul>
<p>Co-chair change</p>	<p>Ahmed Ali Mustafa (PAH) who has been the co-chair since February 2023 and PAH as an organization since March 2022 will leave the post of co-chair as of August.</p> <p>As discussed and agreed in the meeting, PCPM and Agnieszka Nosowska (<a href="mailto:anosowska@pcpm.org.pl">anosowska@pcpm.org.pl</a>) will take over the co-chair role as of August 2023.</p>

AOB

**UNHCR** has proposed to donate equipment to partners who need it and are interested. The equipment include three ticketing machine, electronics (camera, lamp, cable, mouse etc.), and furniture (desk, drawer, chair etc.).

**Action points:**

- UNHCR to share the list of equipment with the partners.
- Interested partners to reach out to UNHCR.

**Focal Point:** Gökalp Arslan [arslanm@unhcr.org](mailto:arslanm@unhcr.org)