Cash Working Group - Minutes of Meeting			
Date	*27/08/2026*	**Time**	*10:00 AM*
Facilitators	*Hadi Haddad (MoSA); Steven Choka (UNHCR); Pauline Eid (WVI); Raffi Kouzoujian (UNHCR)*	**Duration**	*Approx. 1 hour 45 minutes*
Minutes Prepared by	*LCWG Co-chairs*		
Presentations	*Cash for Nutrition; Funding, Reporting and FSP Mapping; Markets; and SRSN GRM Analysis*		
Agenda	*1. Nutrition Sector: Cash for Nutrition* *2. MPCA Funding and Reporting Update* *3. Market and Economic Update* *4. FSP Mapping Results* *5. SRSN GRM Analysis* *6. AOB*		
Agencies represented	*The meeting was attended by representatives from ACF Spain, ACTED, ActionAid, Al Majmoua, Anera, AVSI, B&Z, Banin Charity, British Embassy, CALP Network, CARE International, Caritas Lebanon, CashCap, CESVI, CRS, Danish Church Aid (DCA), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), ECHO, the European External Action Service (EEAS), the European Union (EU), the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), GiveDirectly, GOAL, Himaya Daeem Aataa, ICVA Network, ICRC, the International Labour Organization (ILO), IOCC, Imam Sadr Foundation, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Rescue Committee (IRC), the Lebanese Red Cross, LHIF, LUPD, MCC, Medair, Mercy Corps, the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), MSF, Nabad Association, Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), NORCAP, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Nusaned, Oxfam, PCPM, Plan International, Save the Children, Secours Islamique France (SIF), Lebanese Red Cross, ShelterBox, Solidarités International, SBT, SPOT for Social Change, Taawon, Terre des Hommes (TdH), Trocaire, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, UN Women, the United States Embassy Beirut, WeWorld, WFP, and World Vision International.*		

1. Cash for Nutrition (Nutrition Sector)

- *The Nutrition Sector presented the evolution of the Cash for Nutrition programme, which originated as a transportation allowance for beneficiaries enrolled in acute malnutrition treatment services and evolved into a dedicated sectoral cash intervention designed to improve nutrition outcomes among vulnerable households with young children and pregnant and breastfeeding women.*
- *Cash for Nutrition aims to prevent and treat malnutrition by supporting access to nutritious food, nutrition services, transportation, breastmilk substitutes for non-breastfed infants, and individualized nutrition support.*
- *The programme primarily targets children aged 0–23 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women, with prioritization based on nutrition vulnerabilities, risk of malnutrition, disability, and geographic vulnerability.*

- *The transfer value increased from USD 40 to USD 60 per month following review of monitoring data and partner feedback indicating that households were increasingly using assistance to cover basic household needs due to economic pressures.*
- *Nutrition partners highlighted the absence of a nationally agreed cost of a nutritious diet methodology and requested further engagement with the Cash Working Group on transfer value calculation approaches.*
- *Partners discussed distinctions between cash for nutrition, cash for food and MPCA, noting that each addresses different objectives and should be viewed as complementary rather than interchangeable interventions. CVA under FSAS will be presented in the next Cash Working Group where linkages with Nutrition and MPCA will also be covered.*
- *Participants emphasized the need for stronger referral pathways between nutrition programming and broader social protection systems to ensure nutritionally vulnerable households receive adequate support beyond sector-specific assistance.*

2. MPCA Funding, Reporting and Information Management (CWG IMO)

Reporting Status

- *Partners were reminded of the importance of timely reporting through the ActivityInfo reporting platform.*
- *Only a limited number of organizations submitted July reporting at the time of the meeting, resulting in an incomplete representation of the cash response.*
- *Partners were requested to update both regular and emergency reporting forms and ensure use of the newly introduced payment-cycle indicators.*
- *The reporting system now includes indicators distinguishing first, second and subsequent assistance rounds to better track repeated support to beneficiaries.*
- *Partners who had already reported before introduction of the new indicator were requested to update previous entries.*
- *Partners supporting refugees known to UNHCR were encouraged to coordinate through RAIS to improve assistance planning, targeting and deduplication efforts.*
- *The co-chairs informed members that the revised 2027 CVA Reporting Guidelines are under review and will be circulated once finalized*

Funding Updates

- *Based on funding reported through the Lebanon Aid Tracking system, the Cash Working Group had reported approximately USD 22 million against a funding requirement of approximately USD 321 million under the regular response framework.*
- *Under the Flash Appeal, approximately USD 55 million had been reported against requirements of approximately USD 134 million, representing around 40% of appeal requirements.*
- *Partners were encouraged to ensure accurate and timely reporting of funding received and regularly review submissions for consistency and accuracy.*

3. Market and Economic Outlook (WFP RAM)

- *WFP presented key findings from the World Bank Summer 2026 Economic Update. GDP is forecast to contract by approximately 6.4% in 2026 following conflict-related shocks, compared to pre-conflict growth projections. Conflict impacts were estimated to have resulted in approximately USD 3.4 billion in economic losses.*
- *Inflation is projected at approximately 17.5% in 2026, reflecting increased economic pressures following conflict escalation. While inflation has stabilized in recent months, prices remain elevated compared with previous years. The SMEB was reported at approximately USD 550 for a household of five, while the MEB was approximately USD 700 for a household of five.*

- *Energy costs remain a key driver of expenditure, with generator and fuel costs significantly higher than previous years.*

4. Financial Service Provider (FSP) Mapping (CWG IMO)

- *Twenty-six submissions from twenty-four organizations informed the 2026 FSP mapping exercise.*
- *Cash delivery remains heavily dependent on money transfer operators, representing approximately 85% of reported arrangements, while banks account for a smaller share. Over-the-counter cash remains the dominant transfer mechanism used by partners.*
- *Most providers primarily operate in USD while approximately half can also disburse assistance in Lebanese Pounds.*
- *Nationwide coverage was reported by a majority of providers.*
- *Partners highlighted challenges relating to proxy collection, accessibility for persons with disabilities, and documentation requirements, which can affect specific population groups.*
- *Most unsuccessful payments were attributed to incorrect recipient data or documentation issues rather than provider failures.*
- *Partner satisfaction with current FSP arrangements was reported to be very high.*
- *The LCWG intends to activate an FSP-focused task team to further analyse findings and identify opportunities for harmonization and efficiency gains.*
- *Partners were encouraged to continue participating in reporting and information-sharing exercises and to engage in follow-up discussions related to FSP harmonization and cash coordination.*

5. SRSN GRM Analysis (MOSA)

- *Between March and 25 August 2026, the call centre received over 73,000 calls and generated approximately 63,000 tickets.*
- *Around 19% of cases required escalation, while the majority were resolved at first contact through provision of information.*
- *Women represented approximately 58% of callers; Most callers were aged between 19 and 65 years.*
- *South Lebanon accounted for the largest proportion of calls, reflecting the concentration of beneficiaries in that area.*
- *The majority of inquiries related to beneficiary eligibility, entitlements and payment information.*
- *Data correction requests such as phone number updates, beneficiary details and household composition changes represented a significant proportion of cases.*
- *Reports relating to fraud, misconduct or integrity concerns remained limited.*

Next Steps

- *Nutrition Sector and Cash Working Group to continue discussions on transfer value methodology and complementarity with social/humanitarian assistance programming.*
- *Partners to finalize July ActivityInfo reporting and update emergency reporting records where required.*
- *Partners to ensure timely Lebanon Aid Tracking submissions.*
- *LCWG to circulate the final FSP mapping report and establish a task team to explore harmonization opportunities.*