



**Inter-Agency
Coordination**
Lebanon

BASIC ASSISTANCE WORKING GROUP

15 SEP 2017

AGENDA

1. Sector Updates:
 - A. Targeting Assistance
 - B. Midyear Achievements
 - C. 2017/18 Winter Support
 - D. 2018 LCRP Timeline
2. Operational Updates: Roll out of the Desk Formula V2
 - A. Presentation by UNHCR
 - B. Presentation by WFP
3. Briefing from the Livelihoods Sector
4. Cash For Education Programme Evaluation: Presentation by Relief International

1. Sector Updates

1.A Sector Updates: Targeting Assistance

Reported activities in Jul 2017:

57,767 vulnerable households received multi-purpose cash

47,102 SYR HHs

9,631 PRS HHs

511 Leb HHs

523 SYR HHs (unconditional / Education spec)

USD 9,469,824 injected in the local economy

1.B Sector Updates: Midyear Achievements

Reported activities Jan - Jul 2017:



\$75 million – 13%



75,000 HHs reached in regular assistance – 31%

184,000 HHs reached in seasonal assistance – 90%



\$140,000,000 were injected in the local economy in forms of regular and seasonal cash assistance

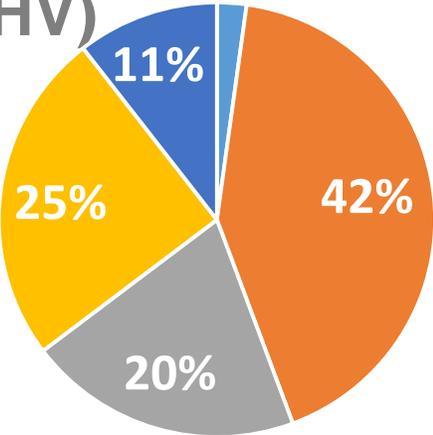
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1.C Sector Updates: 2017/18 Winter Support

Planned Winter 2017 – 2018 Activities:

- *Primary intervention: Cash for winter*
- *Complementary intervention: CRIs*

193,000 Syrian refugee households are eligible for assistance (65% SV & 35% HV)



Budget: Approx. \$127 M

**\$75 Top-up
\$147 full package**

■ Beirut ■ Bekaa ■ Mount Leb ■ North ■ South

1.D Sector Updates: LCRP 2018 Timeline

Objective: Light process updating the 2017 plan; Focus on M&E including targets, indicators, means of verification and inter-sector logframe; Includes 2018 & 2020 targets including inter-sector discussion on transition.

Key Dates:

Sep 2017: Pre-launch preparations: lessons learned, guidance notes, information needs, financial tracking (22 Sept)

Oct 2017

1st inter-sectoral workshop – official launch

6 Oct draft situation analysis

17 Oct draft sector strategy

27 Oct revised sector strategy submitted & deadline for **partners expressions of interest**

Nov 2017

3 Nov: Final list of partners submitted

4 – 17 Nov: Launch partner appeal process

23 Nov: Final sector chapters

Dec 2017

Mid Dec: launch of the 2018 LCRP

2.A Operational Updates: UNHCR

Operational highlights

- **Bottom-up approach + regional quota applied to find geographical balance as per BAWG guidelines;**
 - **Opportunity to assist persons of concern who have not received assistance before;**
 - **Average number of monthly transfers for discontinued HH: 20;**
 - **In May 2017, the LCC had 14,160 household benefiting from MCAP: 2,889 will be picked up by UNHCR MCAP**
- **Assisting the poorest of the poor:**
 - **99% of discontinued HH score above 50;**
 - **74% in new caseload score below 60; 45 % below 50;**
- **All MCAP beneficiaries to be food assisted;**
- **Following the “2-months-prior-notice”:**
 - **Those Included will receive their first cash transfer in November 2017**
 - **Those discontinued will receive their last cash transfer in October 2017**

Refugee families included and discontinued 2017 desk formula results

# of Notified HHs	Programme	Action	Comment	SMS Date
4,567	Cash / Food	Discontinuation	Not Eligible (Highly, Mildly, Least)	September 4 th 2017
11,640	Cash	Discontinuation	Outside the Rank / Resource Limitation	September 7 th 2017
10,178	Cash	Continue / Enrolled	HHs to be maintained in the programme	September 7 th 2017
15,481	Cash	Inclusion	New inclusion / bottom up per region	September 7 th 2017

Refugee families included and discontinued for UNHCR MCAP – regional breakdown

Region	No. of discontinued HH (non-severely vulnerable)	No. of SV HH discontinued (resource constraints/"bottom up")	No. HH continuing to receive MCAP	No. of HH not previously assisted included
Bekaa	392	4,771	6,279	7,683
BML	2,349	1,477	491	3,173
North	1,081	4,240	3,033	3,506
South	745	1,152	375	1,155
TOTAL	4,567	11,640	10,178	15,481

Communication on UNHCR discontinuation

- UNHCR recognizes a communication gap – BAWG actors not timely informed about the communication tool
- Unfortunate timing – Aarsal and return movements triggered perceptions of shrinking asylum space
- Focus on combining positive and negative news to avoid perception of reduction of assistance and shrinking asylum space
- Tight timeframe:
 - Paying attention to 2-month notice period for notification of discontinuation as per BAWG guidelines
 - Longer process than expected to come up with the way forward with refugees best interest in mind

Reactions from refugees

Call center activities since 4 September

- Fewer complaints received than expected – will more reactions come when assistance actually stops?
- Confusion caused by multiple messages concerning various programmes sent on same day – clarification SMS sent by UNHCR
- Majority of calls concern discontinuation of food assistance – higher number of discontinued cases;
- FB/social media activity abundant in first few days after SMS sent – regular clarifications provided by OVs;
- On average 80 families/day approached the Reception Centre in Beirut and were counseled on site by PU-AMI staff deployed by WFP and UNHCR at dedicated helpdesk;

Reactions from refugees

Call center activities since 4 September

Type	01/09/2017	04/09/2017	05/09/2017	06/09/2017	07/09/2017	08/09/2017	11/09/2017	12/09/2017	Grand Total
Offered	474	3714	5026	3138	4678	3643	3161	2119	25953
Answered	423	3366	4604	2919	4370	3416	2985	1995	24078
Outbound	2366	2688	1182	1250	1043	1078	551	2162	12320
Abandoned	51	348	422	219	308	227	176	124	1875

How can we move forward BAWG?

Immediate:

- Ad-hoc BAWG meeting to develop enhanced Q&A
- Share daily summary reports of refugees' reactions – call center and social media;
- Share Q&A with BAWG to support communication with communities;
- Suggestions from partners welcome on how to address reactions – what have you heard?
Can you share with UNHCR FO?

For the future:

- Share template SMS for input from partners?
- Share exact dates of sending SMS?
- Develop/test Q&A with partners?
- Ensure more consistency between UNHCR/WFP SMS – one SMS instead of several?
- Ensure appropriate protection oriented communication

UNHCR discontinuation/inclusion SMS

Discontinuation SMS (sent 4 Sep for 4,500 non-Severely Vulnerable and on 6 Sep for 11,600 Severely Vulnerable)

File case number

We regret to inform you that in two months you will stop receiving assistance on your Red Card due to limited available funding. The final assistance will be in October 2017. You are still registered with UNHCR and other form of assistance provided by UNHCR remains available. Please keep the red card with you. If you have any questions call 01-594250 Monday to Friday 8am until 8pm.

SMS to MCAP beneficiaries to continue receiving MCAP (10,000)

File case number

You have been selected to continue receiving assistance from UNHCR. UNHCR in (location) will send you an SMS to invite you for physical verification between the months of September and October in order for your family to receive assistance. Please wait for the SMS around this period for instructions and come with your UN paper and red card. You can send any registered family member above 16 years. If you will not attend the verification, you will no longer receive the assistance. If you have any questions call (UNHCR call center and timing).

SMS to newly identified beneficiaries to receive MCAP (15,000 HH)

File case number

You have been selected to receive assistance from UNHCR. UNHCR in (location) will send you an SMS to invite for physical verification between the months of September and October in order for your family to receive assistance. Please wait for the SMS around this period for instructions and come with your UN paper and red card. You can send any registered family member above 16 years. If you will not attend the verification, you will not receive the assistance. If you have any questions call (UNHCR call center and timing).

2.A Operational Updates: WFP

Cash Programme and Targeting Updates

OUTLINE

- ❑ BCG Study Results – restricted voucher, unrestricted cash
- ❑ WFP Cash for Food
- ❑ WFP Cash for food and top up
- ❑ WFP Targeting Implementation updates

Restricted voucher vs. Unrestricted Cash – BCG Study Results



- Use of cash enabled food security that is higher than or equal to that made possible by vouchers
- Modality did not affect beneficiary expenditure on food/non-food.
- The cash group did not reduce its spending on food despite having the flexibility to spend on other needs.
- Cash proved particularly advantageous when food security was lower.



WFP Cash for Food

- ❑ The pilot project started in September 2017
- ❑ 170,000 WFP beneficiaries have been selected to participate
- ❑ All selected beneficiaries have a predicted expenditure below the SMEB according to AUB desk formula results
- ❑ These beneficiaries will continue to receive the same amount of US\$ 27/person
- ❑ Beneficiaries can decide how to use the money from WFP, i.e. withdraw from the ATM or use at WFP-contracted shops
- ❑ Majority of selected beneficiaries are in the Beqaa – as per AUB formula results



WFP Cash for food and top up

- ❑ The programme is planned to start in October 2017
- ❑ 12,800 households have been selected to participate
- ❑ All selected beneficiaries have a predicted expenditure below the SMEB according to AUB desk formula results
- ❑ Households were selected among those with lowest score in country
- ❑ These households will continue to receive the same amount of cash for food, US\$ 27/person
- ❑ The cash for food will be topped up with US\$175 per household
- ❑ Most selected beneficiaries are in the Beqaa – as per AUB formula results



WFP Targeting Implementation Update

- ❑ WFP Targeting decisions are based on the AUB desk formula scoring
- ❑ Households with a predicted expenditure below the SMEB are eligible for WFP assistance
- ❑ Targeting is a core element of responsible and transparent programming. , and inevitably involves numbers changing, because people's needs change
- ❑ 193,000 WFP beneficiaries were informed in September that they are no longer eligible for food assistance, as of November 2017
- ❑ Approx. 215,000 beneficiaries will be prioritized for inclusion in WFP assistance as of November
- ❑ Excluded households will be considered for participation in WFP livelihood activities
- ❑ Current beneficiaries under WFP livelihood programme that have been excluded will continue to engage in WFP livelihood projects

3. Briefing from the Livelihoods Sector



LIVELIHOODS UPDATE

BASIC ASSISTANCE WORKING GROUP – 15 SEPTEMBER



LIVELIHOODS INTERVENTIONS

Outcome 1 - Employment and income generating opportunities enhanced

- Output 1.1: Capacity of the MSMEs sector to create jobs is improved
- Output 1.2: Competitive integrated VC strengthened and upgraded
- Output 1.3: Job creation is fostered through labour-intensive investments

Demand side of the labour market

- 2750 businesses supported, 25 value chains upgraded
- 8,000 jobs created/maintained
- 250 labour intensive projects created 1.1 m workmen days, 37,000 beneficiaries

Outcome 2 – Workforce employability improved

- Output 2.1: Vulnerable people provided with marketable skills
- Output 2.2: Pathway to entrepreneurship and employment strengthened

Supply-side of the labour market

- 20,000 jobs seeker supported
- 4,000 in employment
- 4,000 in home based activities

Outcome 3 – Policy development & enabling environment for job creation strengthened

- Output 3.1: Decent work conditions improved
- Output 3.2: Policies, strategies, plans set up to strengthen business ecosystem

Enabling environment

- Improve enabling environment for decent work and job creation

2017 INTERVENTIONS



Partners:

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | ACF | 17 | Injaz |
| 2 | ACTED | 18 | LOST |
| 3 | ANERA Lebanon | 19 | LabRelief |
| 4 | AVSI | 20 | Lebanese League of Women In Business |
| 5 | AlMajmoua | 21 | MSL Lebanon |
| 6 | BIAT | 22 | Mercy Corps |
| 7 | Basmeh & Zeitooneh | 23 | Near East Foundation |
| 8 | CONCERN | 24 | OXFAM |
| 9 | Caritas | 25 | PU-AMI |
| 10 | DOT | 26 | RMF |
| 11 | DRC | 27 | SCI |
| 12 | GVC | 28 | SIF |
| 13 | Hadatha | 29 | TDM |
| 14 | ICU | 30 | The Nawaya Network |
| 15 | ILO | 31 | UNDP |
| 16 | IRC | 32 | UNIDO |

PROGRESS TO DATE



Outputs

reached / target

of MSMEs/ Cooperatives supported or established 1,300/ 1,676

of value chains valorized and/or being upgraded 7/ 25

vulnerable cadastres benefitting from improved infrastructure and environmental assets 76/251

total number of job created/maintained 1,181/7,908

of job seekers who accessed employment 573/4,000

0%

100%



Activities

reached / target

entrepreneurs who benefitted from business management training 1,814/ 10,000

of MSMEs/ Cooperatives supported through cash & in-kind grants 668/2,750

Value of grant disbursed to MSMEs \$ 2,567,107/ \$17,000,000

of value chain interventions implemented 50/100

of targeted vulnerable persons enrolled in public work projects 2103/ 37,650

USD value invested in public work projects \$937,535 / \$37,273,000

of individuals benefitting from market-based skills training 11,276/ 20,000

of people benefitting from internships, on-the-job training or apprenticeship programmes 1,756/ 10,000

0%

100%

PERSPECTIVE AND POINTS OF CONVERGENCE WITH BA

- Targetting
 - Primarily self targeting,
 - Expectations that most beneficiaries will be severely to mildly vulnerable.
 - Use of NPTP, internal referrals by partners.
- Legal Framework
 - For Syrians, MoL yearly decision applies – easier process for Syrians on Agriculture, Construction, Environment.
 - Issues with work permit and sponsorship
 - Sector does not promote entrepreneurship of refugees
- Convergence with BA
 - Graduation of part of the BA caseload
 - To be examined as part of 2018 process

4. Cash For Education Programme Evaluation: Relief International



Relief International

Cash for Education Pilot (CFE) Evaluation Results





Cash For Education (CFE) Pilot

Background

- ▶ CFE pilot was a component under the USDOS/BPRM-funded CCPE project
- ▶ 200 children from 146 HH supported: \$45/month and HSG
- ▶ Conditional assistance based on enrolment and retention
- ▶ Done in 2 districts – 13 sub districts in Bekaa
- ▶ Evaluation assessed: impact, lessons learnt, recommendations and best practises on enrolment and retention
- ▶ This evaluation is part of a full review; consultations were done with UNHCR, SCI, IRC, NRC, CARITAS, etc.



Cash For Education (CFE) Pilot

Background - Methodology

- ▶ **Study Design:** Quantitative and qualitative
- ▶ **Study Population:** 200 CFE Children and the 146 HH
- ▶ **Sampling:** Quantitative – 146 sample size, FGD: 6 grps - 60 participants (20 women, 20 men and 20 children)
- ▶ **Data collection process:** ODK for Quant and paper based for FGDs,
- ▶ **Reporting and analysis:** Excel was used
- ▶ **Timing of evaluation:** First 3 wks of July (1.5 months after school closure)

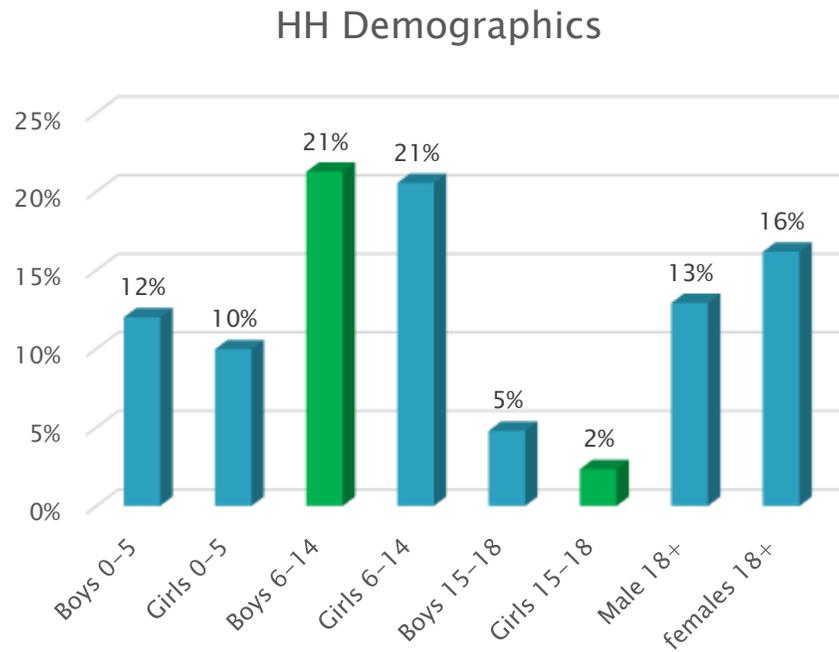


Challenges/Limitations

- ▶ No access to attendance lists at school which affected conditionality assessment
- ▶ Grant cycle – hence support could not start at beginning of school year (transfer covered – 6 out 8 months)
- ▶ Spacial distribution of beneficiaries which affected monitoring
- ▶ First conditional education assistance in Lebanon, hence RI was breaking new ground
- ▶ Movements of HH from Bekaa leading to children dropping out



Results: Demographics

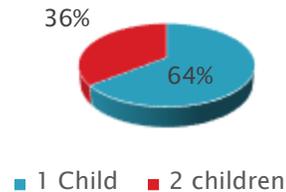


- ▶ 2 districts, 13 sub districts
- ▶ 98% & 117% response rate for Quant and FGD
- ▶ 73% respondents – HoH and 48% - female
- ▶ 71% of HH members are children (42% are 6 to 14 years)

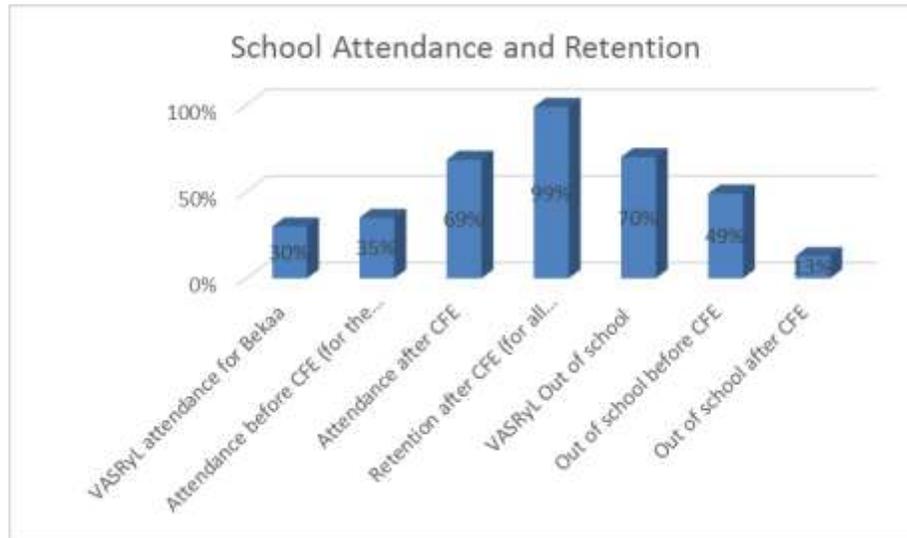


Results: Achievements based on objectives and indicators

Number of Children supported per HH



CFE Assistance



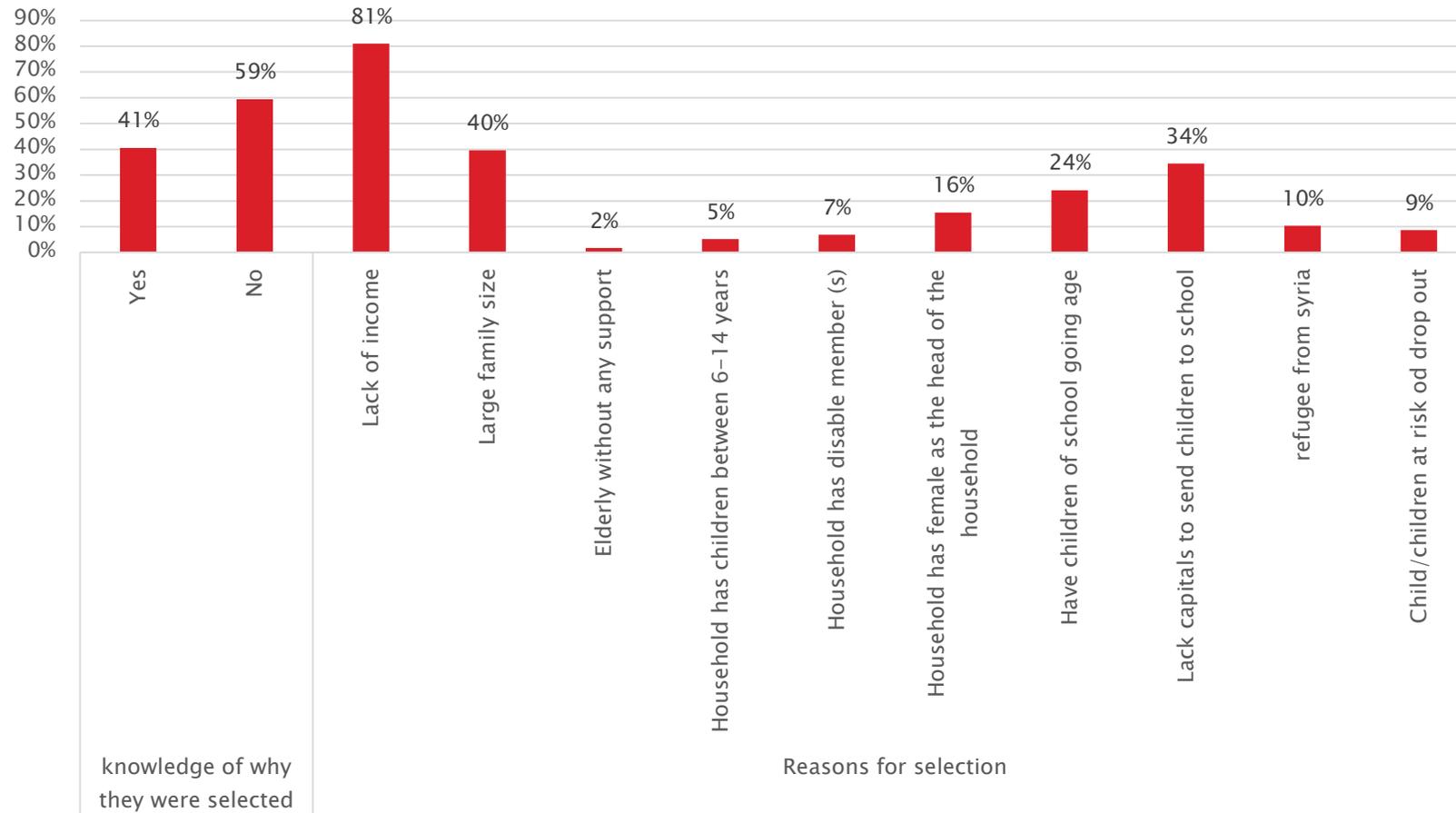
- Be4 CFE out of sch – 49% for target, 30% for Bekaa – VASyR
- CFE – 87% of target enrolled, thus 13% still out of sch
- 54% of the 87% enrolled – directly supported by CFE
- 20% of HH also enrolled other children thru CFE funds
- 21% more children to be enrolled in next academic yr.
- $\geq 75\%$ attendance to sch increased from 30% to 69%
- $< 75\%$ attendance reduced from 65 to 31%
- $< 1\%$ drop out



Results: Selection



Knowledge of selection Process





Results: Selection





Results conti..

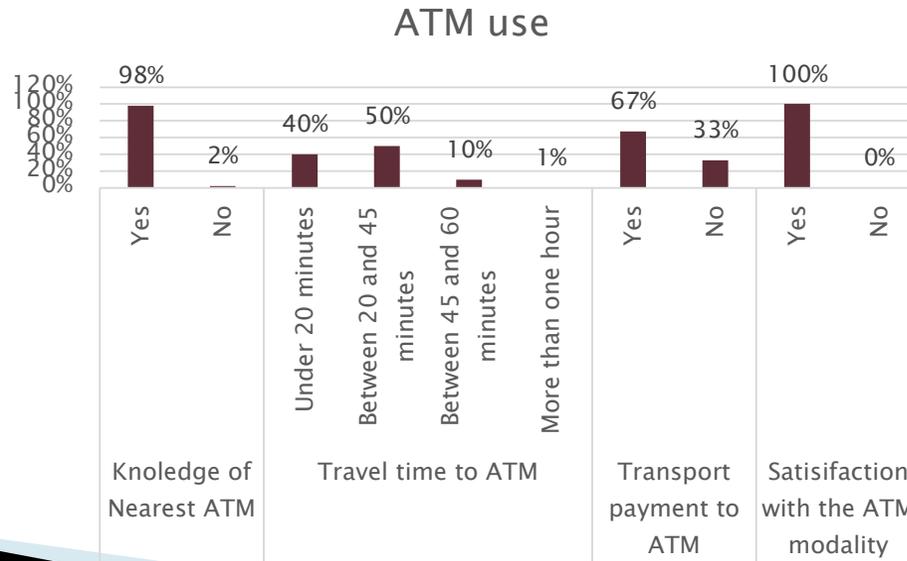
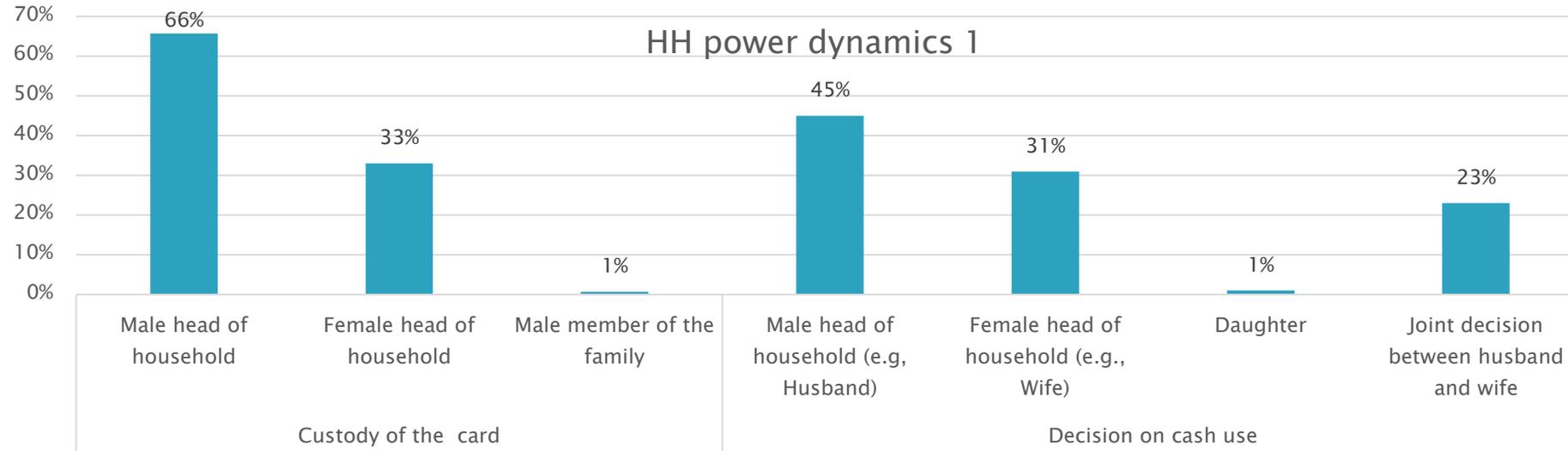


Distribution Process

- 98% attended distribution process
- Notification was done thru phone call 77% and sms 23%
- 100% trained and given training material
- 99% comfortable with asking questions



Results conti:.



Appropriateness of distribution methodology

- All were satisfied with ATM as a modality
- No challenges on accessing ATMs
- 67% paid Transport - LBP2344/ USD1.6
- NO security issues
- **ALL PREFERRED TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE CASH THRU ATM**

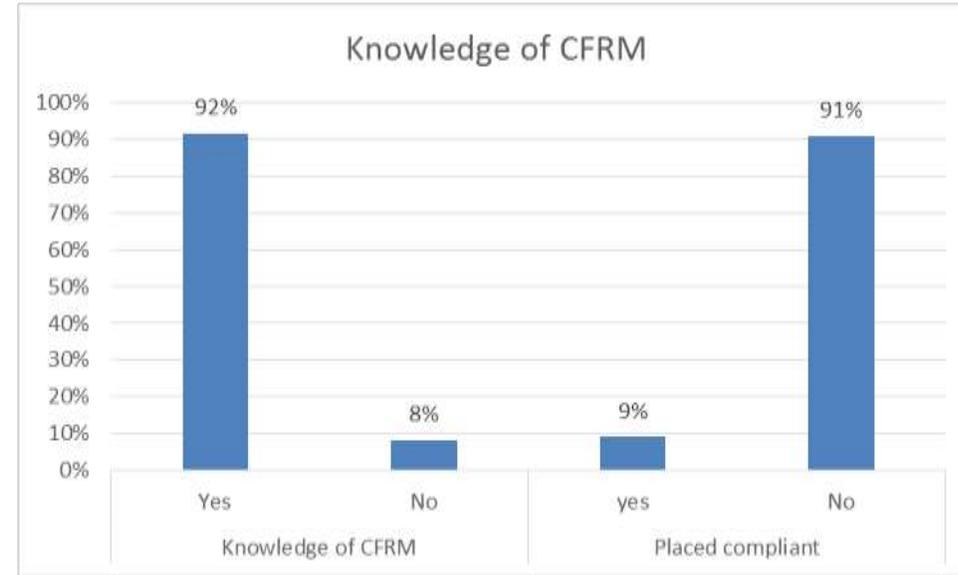


Results conti...

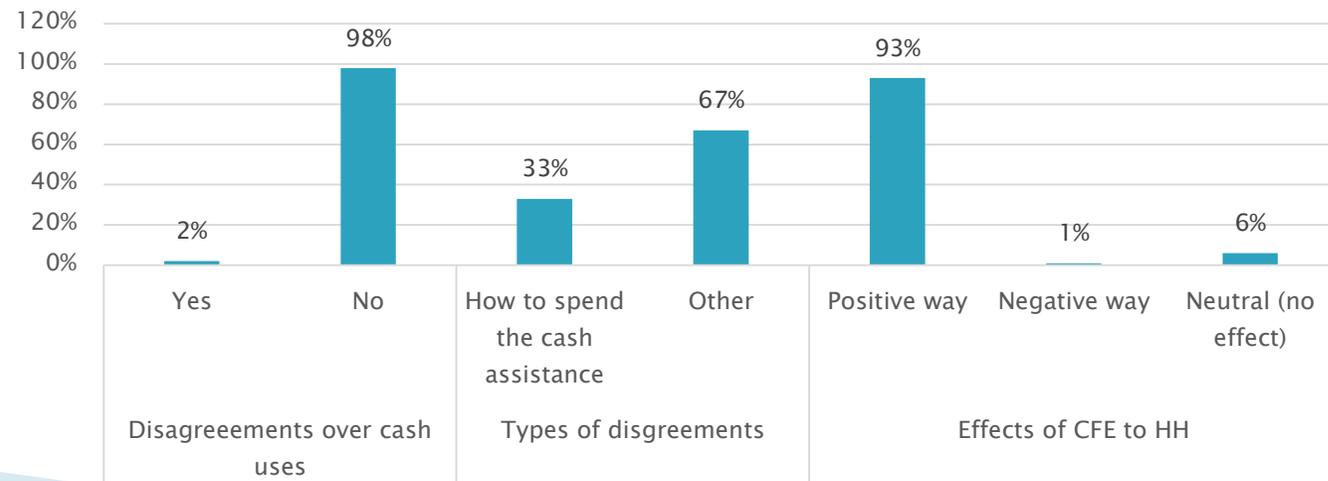


CFRM

- 92% knew the CFRM
- However only 9% used it
- 94% were satisfied with the CFRM process



HH power dynamics 2

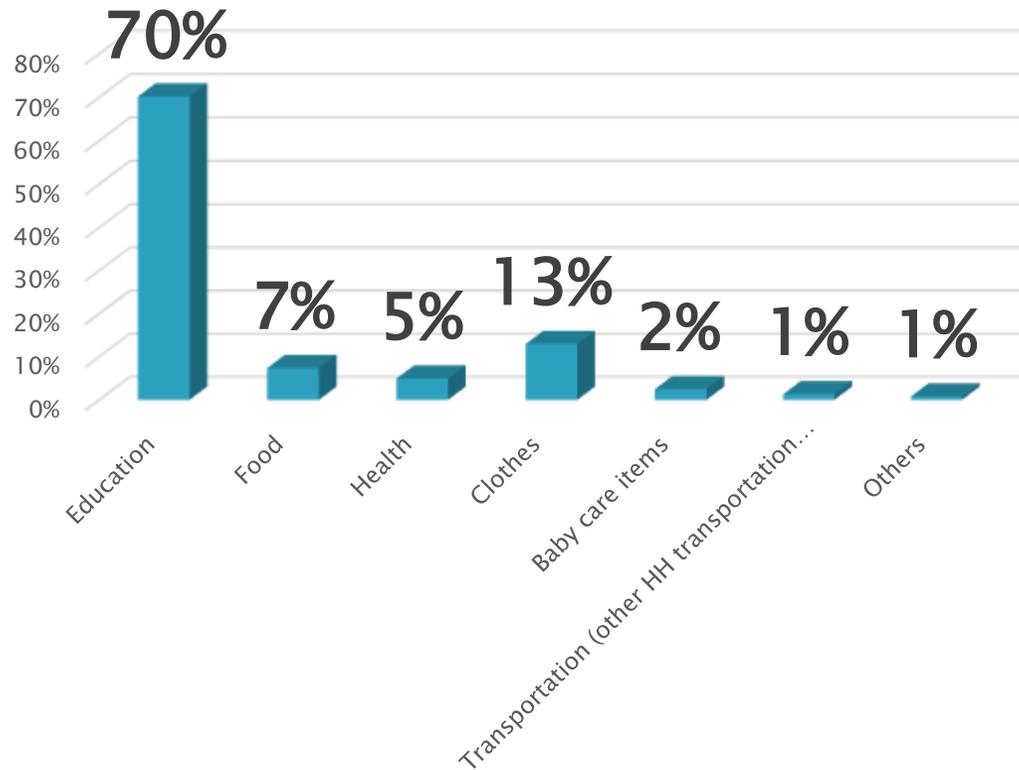




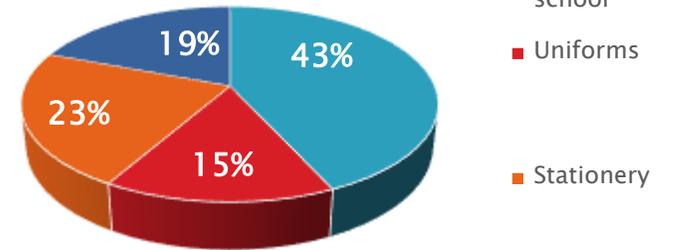
Results: CFE cash use



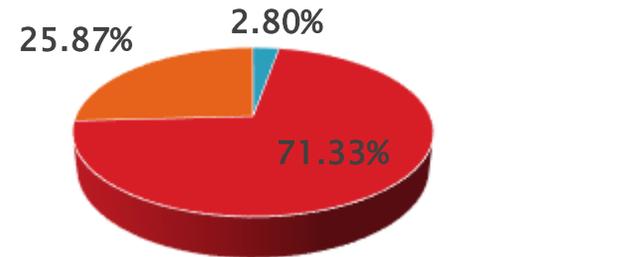
Major Use of Cash



Educational Uses



CFE contribution to Sch Expenses



■ Was more than enough ■ Was just enough ■ Was not enough

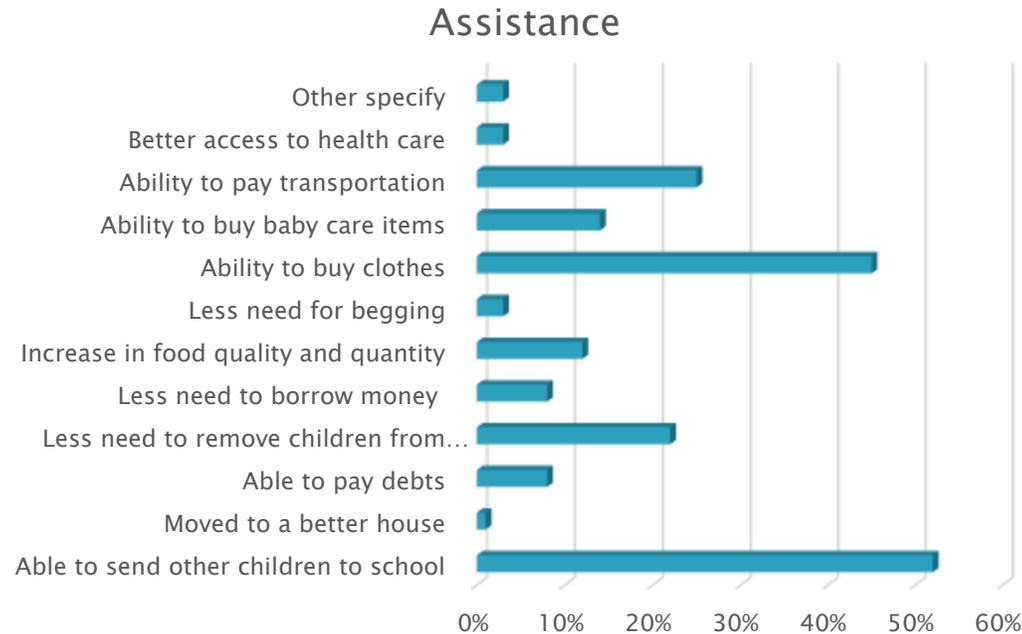
- All were happy with loading date
- Most amount used for Education
- For Education: transport, stationery, food and uniforms
- Supported other children in the HH
- Most HH: the cash was just enough



Results: Conti....

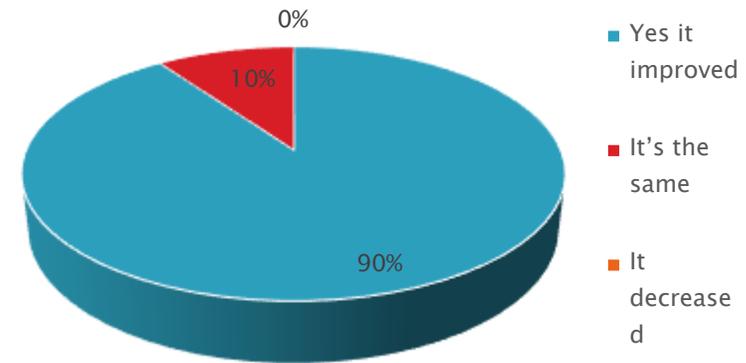


Overall HH improvement through CFE



70% – CFE led to overall improvement of HH situation

Peception towards Education



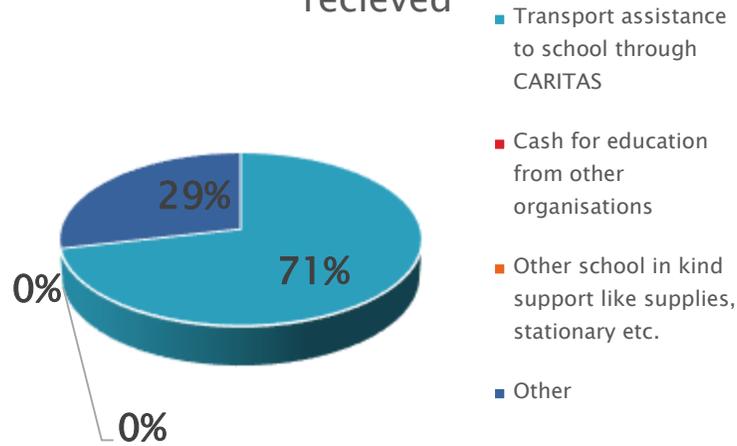
Perception towards education greatly improved for both children and parents



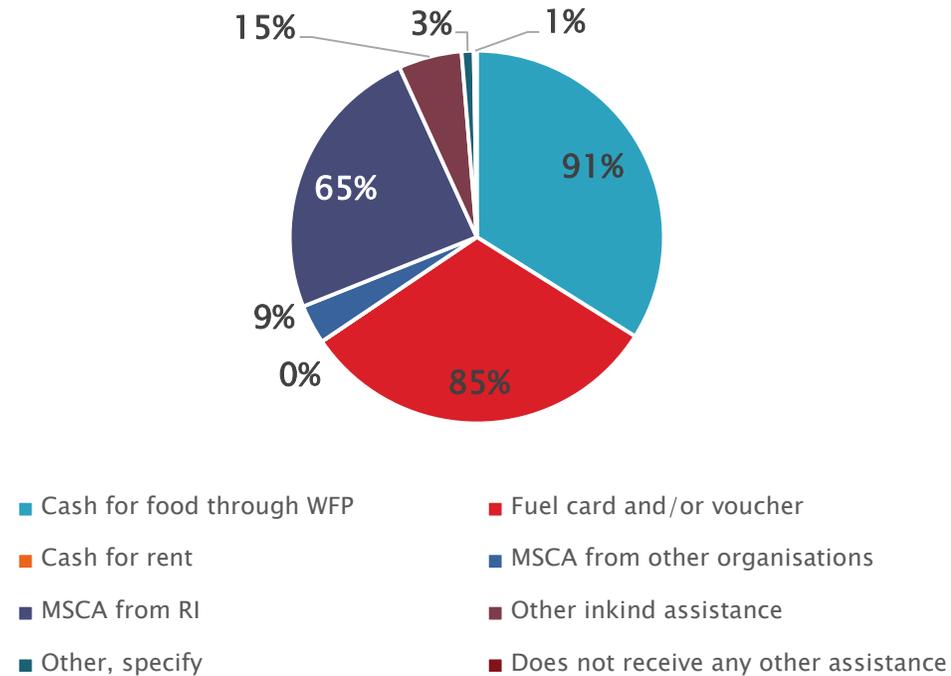
Results: Other support received



Other Education support received



Other Non Education Assistance Received



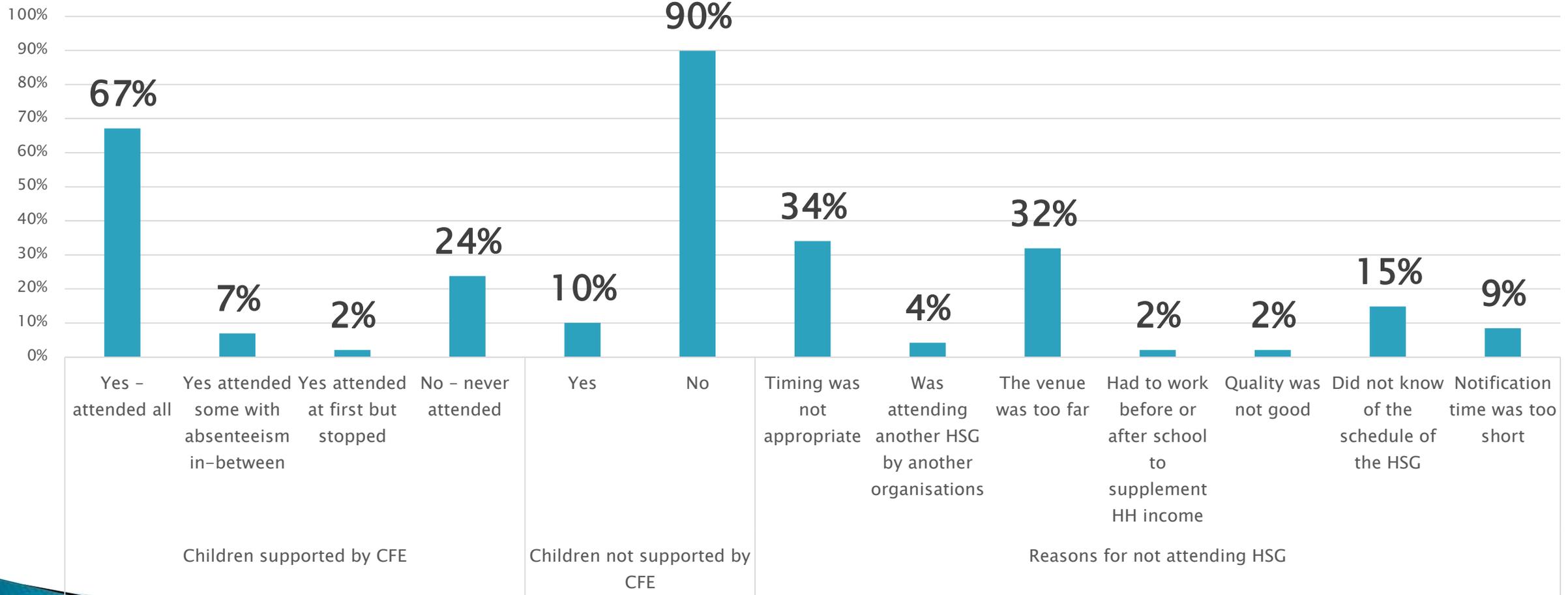
- 5% of HH received education support from other orgs – 71% of these received transport support from CARITAS
- 91% received other non educational support
- 65% received RI MPCA



RI HSG Attendance



Attendance to RI supported HSG

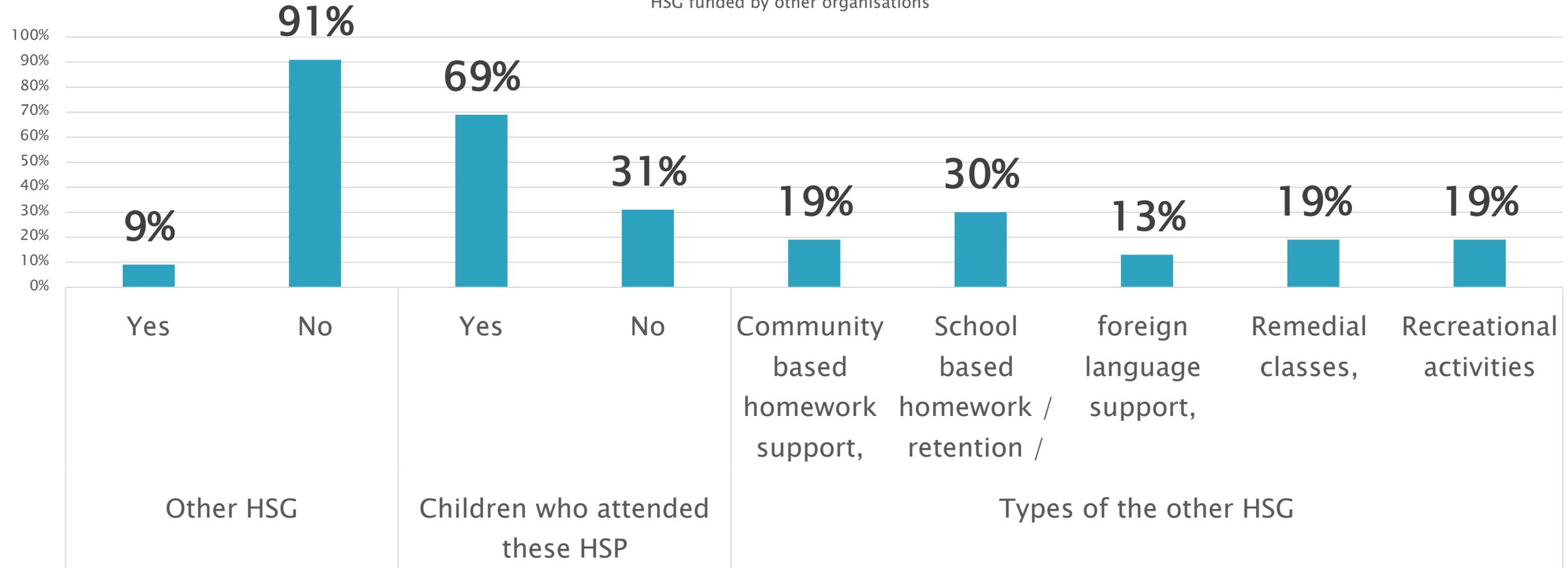




HSG – other orgs



HSG funded by other organisations

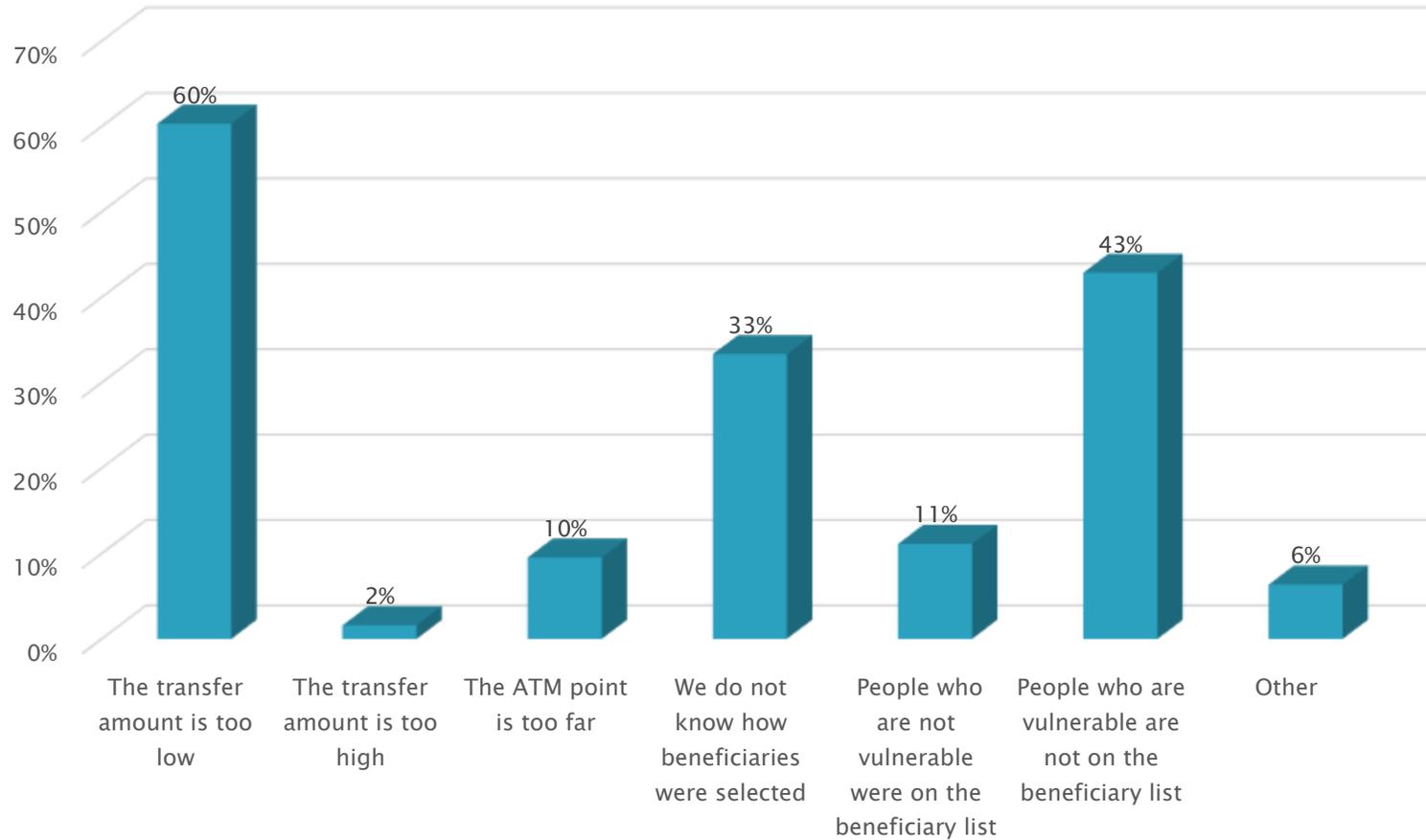




Results conti..



Ways to improve the Provision of CFE assistance





Discussion



▶ CFE Support

- Assistance was 6 months VS 8 months for sch
– Grant cycle
- Costs vary with time of year – highest at sch opening
- Conditionality – include clustering, certificates and explore use of information from the education volunteers



Discussion



▶ Retention

School Class attendance	% of children Before pilot	% of children After pilot
25% of classes	7.69%	0.70%
25 to 50% of classes	32.87%	2.10%
50 TO 75 % of classes	24.48%	28.67%
ABOVE 75% of classes	34.97%	68.53%



Discussion



- ▶ **Disputes over assistance and CFRM**
 - low usage of the hotline – depicting need for increased awareness and exploring of other CFRM methods
- **HSG**
 - Only 67% of children attended regularly hence need to increase awareness, use cluster approach, community managed, coordination with other partners



Conclusions



- ▶ Overall objectives were largely achieved as both enrollment and retention significantly improved
- ▶ Retention: 69% for sch and 67% HSG that is for those who attended 75% and more of classes
- ▶ Overall improvement of HH situation also reported: food, health and baby care, enrolment of other children in HH etc.
- ▶ However a lot needs to be done to ensure sustainability of the gains made so far.

