

## Context

### Global

Cash transfers have been increasingly adopted by countries worldwide, as central elements of their social protection and poverty reduction strategies. A growing number of studies provide rigorous evidence on the impact of cash-based activities and the role of specific cash transfers design and implementation features in shaping outcomes. (ODI, July 2016)

In light of this positive context towards cash, humanitarian actors are increasingly using cash-based activities as a powerful tool for humanitarian assistance and for support to countries' development and social protection efforts.

### Uganda & Refugee Context

In Uganda, the government is using cash transfers for its Social Assistance Grants for Empowerment (SAGE), reaching about 150,000 households per month. (ODI, July 2016)

The humanitarian community in Uganda is following that trend and is looking at how to provide quality humanitarian assistance to refugees through cash transfers. And this in that context that WFP, UNHCR and partners decided to launch this Inter-Agency Working Group on cash transfers.

*Uganda currently hosts more than 870,000 refugees, the largest number in Africa. Refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and from South Sudan make up the majority of them, but there are numbers of refugees from Burundi, Somalia and Rwanda. The progressive refugee policy and political stability has made Uganda a refuge of choice for refugees and asylum seekers in the region. By the end of 2016, UNHCR forecasts that the total number of refugees in Uganda -- including from DRC, Burundi and other countries -- will reach close to one million.*

## Objectives

The Technical Cash Working Group has five objectives:

1. Map cash players;
2. Identify areas of assistance through Cash transfers;
3. Identify areas of collaboration and discuss potential for standardisation;
4. Exchange best practices, evidence & enhance learning;
5. Make cash interventions more efficient & effective.

Consequently, the WG should be the forum for:

1. Technical support on cash-based interventions
2. Sharing plans (current and future)/data and analysis (assessment, studies)/experiences/best practices
3. Coordination of some activities such as market assessment
4. Building a joint advocacy for cash
5. Mutual/joint capacity building on cash.

## Structure

### Composition

- The cash WG is open to all agencies engaged in cash-based activities in the refugee response.
- It consists of UN agencies, government authorities, NGOs, CBOs and other organizations. All stakeholders should have a primary focal point and an alternate.

### Coordination

The cash WG will be coordinated by WFP and UNHCR.

## Secretariat

WFP and UNHCR will be responsible for the Secretariat, i.e. invites and minutes.

### Dates frequency and venue

The meetings will take place every month or as necessary.

Meeting will take place on the **third Wednesday of every month.**

Meeting duration: 1h30.

## Contacts

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