



Cash-based Intervention Technical Working Group Turkey

CBI TWG Meeting Minute

7 August 2019

Ankara · Gaziantep · Istanbul

Chaired by : Ahmet Unver (UNHCR), Hiba Hanano (WFP)

Venue: UNHCR CO Meeting Room 1 (Ankara), UN House Zeugma Meeting Room (Gaziantep), WFP IAO (Istanbul)

Participants:

Ankara Ayman Sallawy Alhalb (Türk Kızılay), Lara Özügergin (UNHCR), Özgür Savacıoğlu (UNHCR), Livio Mercurio (UNHCR), Cemile Altıntaş (ASAM), Cansu Şengür (ASAM)

Gaziantep Faruk Acar (WFP), Ahmed Ekzayez (FAO), Chris Bender (UNHCR), Mine Gültekin (UNHCR), Marc Herzog (WHH), Matthijs Zelista (UNHCR)

Istanbul Arzum Karasu (WFP)

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome & Review of Agenda
- 2) CBI Landscape: Strategic Role of Cash in Sectors
 - a. FS&A
 - b. Protection
 - c. Livelihoods
 - d. Basic needs
- 3) Q&A
- 4) AOB

Action Points - Follow up Issues and Updates:

- ✓ Advertise NGO Technical Adviser Role: It is advertised. If you are volunteer, please reach to co-chairs. **On going**

New Action Points from the Meeting:

- ✓ Review and analysis of cash programs in protection sector

1. Welcome and Action Points from Previous Meeting

Following a round-the-table and agenda introduction, update on the action points from the previous meeting (see above). The NGO Technical Advisor role is advertised and is still open. Interested volunteers can reach to co-chairs.

2. CBI Landscape: Strategic Role of Cash in Sectors

CBI TWG idea behind focusing on the CBI Landscape was to understand strategic role and achievements of cash based interventions. Therefore, CBI Landscape thematic focus did not do a stock taking exercise; coordinators of each respective sector presented the strategic role of cash programs in their sector and brought out achievements

and challenges. Education sector could not participate due to hectic schedule in the sector and Health sector did not participate due to not having CBI programs.

Overall message delivered by the sector coordinators can be summarised as:

Use of Cash based interventions in sectors have been increasing in the recent years,

Cash support is effective as long as it is combined with other types of support,

Distribution of cash cannot be objective of any program,

Due to CBI being relatively new, resources that analyses significance of cash in supporting PoC is limited, yet there are available resources which can mainly be accessed via CALP, ODI, UNHCR Data Portal

CBI can also be used as a means to establish inter-sectoral linkages,

Cash support has the capacity to achieve dignity of PoC, reduce protection needs, mitigate protection needs, and contributes to local

a. Food Security and Agriculture: Sector coordinator highlighted the significance inter-sectoral coordination in transition, skills development for income generating activities and for areas with high employability potential and enhanced inter-sectoral linkages.

- There is strong link between cash support and FSA programming.
- Moving to cash as a modality for supporting vulnerable population achieves dignity of individuals (freedom to purchase what they see fit for their needs) and supports the local economy.
- Food insecurity, low purchasing power to access the food in urban context. Two ways to tackle food insecurity, provide cash to increase access to market and provide employment opportunities.
- FS&A is strategizing for the supporting livelihoods via employment, job creation and economic support.
- Phases of FSA programming are Emergency (food assistance), recovery (skills development) and development (income-generating activities). FSA is currently more focused on skills development
- Cash interventions in FSA Sector are: (I) Incentive (cash) for skills development, (II) Cash for work (III) income generating schemes (IV) entrepreneurship programmes
- Skills Development aims to capitalise on opportunities of self-employment. CfW through some members in FSA is providing short term employment opportunities and therefore providing cash. Some of the income generating schemes are different type of agricultural inputs, husbandry, bee-keeping etc. all which aims self-employment of the PoC. Several partners move into entrepreneurship activities which involve guidance and micro-supports.
- Activities target several different groups; vulnerable groups such as women or elderly are targeted in relevant activities.
- These activities aim to provide immediate and also long-term solutions to PoC and support self-reliance, and cash is used as the modality of support. FSA aims to support PoC in receiving in-kind supports or basic needs assistance to income generating activities.
- Cash support amounts, durations or support and other related details vary from program to program. Harmonisation is necessary but differences between programs are inevitable considering the difficulty of working in agricultural sector. Programs and modality needs to be tailored according to the needs. On the other hand, guidelines can be generated through inter-sectoral efforts via benefiting from ISWG.
- *Cash is a cross-cutting, inter-sectoral modality. In order to ensure effective coordination in all sectors, therefore coordination of cash based intervention is critical and it requires participation of all related sectors.*

b. Protection: Sector coordinator highlighted that cash based interventions are facilitated to mitigate protection risks, cash is not the objective but a means to support PoC, cash is effective when it is complemented with other types of support, and linking cash with protection should mind risk reduction, decreasing protection needs, and possible risks of social tension between refugees and host community.

- Sector has seen increase in use cash based interventions in the last couple of years.
- Sector aims to mainstream protection in programming, key considerations are in place for design, implementation and monitoring.

- Protection mainstreaming has 4 main principles, (I) prioritize safety & dignity, and avoid causing harm (II) meaningful access (III) accountability (IV) participation and empowerment.
- Some of the key considerations are inclusion of affected populations in all phases of program cycle (AAP approach), consideration of whether CBI will create or exacerbate protection risks and benefits, application of an age, gender, diversity lens in all phases, establishing an accountability framework and ensuring that capacity of staff and partners is developed on PSEA and protection referral mechanisms.
- Recommendations are shared for Programming Protection-Sensitive CBI. Understanding protection risks and designing according to needs and sensitivities of the PoC, analysing potential risks of PSEA in delivery process, seek linkages with national social protection mechanisms (such as aligning transferring values with national modality), establish protection referral mechanisms, enhance them and provide SOPs for effective referral.
- Cash is not an objective but a means to support PoC. As in all sectors, Protection sees the benefit of supporting local economy through cash support and points at positive outcomes in social cohesion.
- *CBI is used as a means in in child protection, prevention of early marriages and GBV. Effectiveness of CBI in providing protection in these areas depends on complementing cash with other types of support. Otherwise, provision of CBI might lead to increased protection needs and resorting to negative coping mechanisms.*
- Expanded use of CBI in protection is relatively new, as it is in all sectors, and studies that provide direct impact of cash in building protection space is rather limited. Members quoted studies and reports related with cash & protection. Cash Learning Program (CALP) website is a one known resource for reports and studies related with CBI. Another resource is the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), reports related with CBI can be accessed from their official website. UNHCR did a review of cash into sector outcomes.
- Nexus is not a linear process: There will be more monitoring reports and studies, yet bringing out direct linkage between cash and protection would be difficult owing to the complexity of protection needs and risks.
- Sector shared examples from the current programs that uses cash support combined with other types of supports.
- UNHCR's SGBV Mainstreaming Project provides cash support to survivors of sexual and gender based violence. Intervention includes assessment of MFT committee, protection & case management follow up and unconditional cash support. Amount of support is monthly 760 TL, which is aligned with support provided by national agency. Support is provided countrywide. Through cash immediate needs are met and PoC is prevented from negative coping mechanisms. Multi-layered and multi-sectoral approach aims to address the root cause and hence provide longer term and sustainable solutions to PoC. This is achieved in close coordination with local authorities and national service providers. Support will be expanded with providing skills development and livelihood opportunities to PoC. Under this program, conditional cash support is also provided to PoC at risk of GBV. Turkish course attendance is required to be eligible to cash support and payment amount is 30 TRY per day. This support is piloted in Hatay & Istanbul.
- Individual Protection Assistance (IPA) & Special Needs Fund (SNF) are established program modalities available in the sector.
- IPA aims to reduce, remove and prevent individual protection risks for responding cases where simple and time-bound interventions are required. Cash-related support includes accommodation, CRI, document issuing fees and unrestricted cash to meet urgent and immediate needs.
- SNF is a complementary cash support programme to IPA and case management, and it is not restricted to protection. Common examples are cash for medical expenses that are not covered under SUT or cannot be covered by individuals due to economic hardship/social disruption.
- Overview of Cash-Related Indicator: there are 8 reporting agencies and 4 supporting agencies. Individuals receiving cash under to meet their protection needs is approximately 6000, and this number is behind the 3RP targeted values.

-
- c. **Livelihoods:** Cash is used to contribute to longer term and sustainable livelihoods solutions in the sector. There are two main areas where cash is used as a means, Cash for Work and Cash for Trainings.
- CfW guideline drafting committee, in Ankara and Gaziantep. Members: İŞKUR, UNDP, UNHCR, IOM, GIZ, WFP, Concern, STC
 - Aim is to provide minimum standards for the harmonization of CfW projects across agencies, their design and delivery modality.
 - The same amounts of payment per unit of time, same durations of the CfW assistance, and similar eligibility criteria. İSKUR circular will be the reference.
 - Harmonization of Cash for Trainings is also aimed in the sector.
- d. **Basic Needs:** Sector uses CBI in meeting basic needs and it packs the highest funded and the most comprehensive cash program in 3RP. Unconditional monthly multipurpose cash and unconditional one-time multipurpose cash supports are provided to PoC. Cash support provides opportunity to support PoC without geographical restrictions, therefore coverage area is flexible. In addition, providing basic needs assistance as cash instead of in-kind support contributes to local economies, decreases logistics workload, enables PoC to purchase up to their needs and is more environmental friendly (locally procured and goods accessed individually rather than comprehensive and single handed distribution).
- Basic Needs Approach aims to ensure protection of refugees from all nationalities. Assistance is provided to socio-economically vulnerable households, enabling them to meet basic needs without increasing negative coping mechanisms. Basic needs assistance aims to provide immediate assistance and support longer term solutions to transition from basic needs to self-reliance.
 - ESSN program provides unconditional **multi-purpose cash support** to refugees under temporary protection and international protection, which allows households to prioritize their expenditures while maximizing the impact of limited resources for the humanitarian response. Currently, 1.65 Million refugees benefit from the program. Gender distribution of beneficiaries is 48.7 percent male and 51.3 percent female. 88% of the beneficiaries are Syrians under temporary protection.
 - IOM provides one time multi-purpose cash to vulnerable families in SE of Turkey, who are falling out of Emergency Social Safety Network (ESSN) criteria and demonstrating high vulnerabilities according to the inter-agency vulnerability matrix. Targeting included also vulnerable families from the host community in the same areas of intervention in coordination with Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundation (SASF): host community case load is 18 percent. Winterization support is provided by IOM to beneficiaries with restricted unconditional e-vouchers which can be utilized in one of the 66 contracted shops in 2 provinces (7 districts).
 - Another area where CBI is used is TAC closures and decongestions. UNHCR implemented Alternative to Camps program in several TACs in 2018 and 2019, this program combined CBI with other types of support in coordination with DGMM and other local authorities. Families received one time 100% payment with PTT card to cover the relocation costs. Support is unconditional and multi-purpose cash. Support amount is determined by the family size.
 - Sector has seen the effectiveness and flexibility of CBI in providing basic needs assistance. Increasing consumer prices in Turkey and economic situation is expected to challenge PoC in winter months this year. Sector brought out percentage % change: in the prices of winter items and inflation decreased compared to previous quarters. However, prices are still expensive due to the huge increase in the last half of 2018.

3. Q&A:

Next meeting:

The next CBI TWG meeting will not take place in September due to the hectic schedule of 3RP planning. Next meeting is planned on 30 October, date and time will be confirmed closer to the time.