Inter-Agency Coordination Türkiye

Cash-based Interventions Technical Working Group EQ Türkiye

CBI TWG Meeting Minutes

25 January 2024 Gaziantep

Chaired by: UNHCR & TRC

Venue: Online Zoom Meeting / IFRC Office Gaziantep

Minutes: Busra Seray Duzyol (UNHCR), Ahmet Unver (UNHCR)

Participants: CALP Network, CARE, DC ECHO, DKH, Elaf for Relief and Development, FAO, GeniusTags, GOAL, Hope Revival Organisation, IBC, IDA, IFRC, IhsanRD, IOM, Maram Foundation, Olive Branch Organization, Orange Organization, PRM – US Embassy, REALs, Relief International, SARD, Save the Children, Sened Organization, SEVKAR, SGDD-ASAM, Shafak Organization, Solidarites International, Takaful Alsham, TRC, Trust Consultancy, UDER, UN Women, UNHCR, UNICEF, UOSSM-Der, WFP, WHH, WVI, YSYD

AGENDA:

1) Welcome & Introductions *(10 mins)*
2) Review: Action Points and Announcements *(UNHCR/TRC, 15 mins)*
    a. Introducing CVA Technical Advisory Group
    b. Performance Evaluation Survey
    c. Reviewing MEB with WFP VAM
    d. Meeting Frequency in 2024
3) Operational Planning *(60 mins)*
    a. CVA Learning Event: Knowledge and Insight Exchange
        i. Action & Advocacy Points from CVA Event
        ii. Satisfaction Survey Results
    b. Workplan & ToR Introduction
    c. Program Updates
        i. UNHCR Cash Cross-Checking Tool Updates
        ii. Program Updates from All Partners
4) CVA Skills Gap Analysis
5) AoB

New Action Points from the Meeting:

1. Co-chairs to disseminate updated workplan and ToR for 2024
2. Members to provide feedback on ToR and Workplan and indicate the activities they can provide support
3. Members to provide feedback for 2023 Performance Evaluation Survey until the end of January
4. Co-chairs to disseminate CVA Learning Event Final Report
5. Co-chairs to disseminate CVA Skills Gap Analysis widely

Documents

1. Meeting Presentation
2. ToR
3. 2024 Workplan
4. CVA Learning Event Final Report
5. CVA Skills Gap Analysis

I. Review Action Points & Announcements

- 2023 CBI TWG Performance Evaluation survey was disseminated in previous weeks. Members are expected to provide their feedback until the end of January.
- CBI TWG workplan has been revised to fit needs and focus of partners in 2024. Members are urged to mark their interests in the activities once the workplan is disseminated and provide feedback on the document.
- CBI TWG ToR has been established in compliance with CAG guidance, and national/local needs.
- A specific GBV – CBI organizational workplan is planned to be created. Members will be updated soon.
- Technical Advisory Group (TAG) consisted of five members will provide technical support to CBI TWG members throughout the year. The CBI TWG co-chairs and TAG are working on an inventory of skills and areas that might require additional technical support.

Reviewing MEB with WFP VAM

- WFP, TRC and IFRC have been jointly calculating and publishing MEB calculation in 2023. During a dedicated meeting between CBI TWG co-chairs and WFP, MEB calculations were discussed in depth in terms of items, prices, data sources, etc.
- The data for MEB calculation is mostly received from TURSKTAT and other efforts revealed that there is no such need for price monitoring for MEB calculations as the difference between market prices and TURKSTAT index calculations are minimal. However, the MEB calculation team is open to discussions and suggestions from CBI TWG in terms of methodology and other aspects of the calculation.
- CBI TWG intended to calculate a separate MEB and the decision will be made after discussing the possibility of duplication. The main areas of focus might be the rent prices and sectoral items other than food, such as education, as food price calculation is solid and reliable. Nagis as a financial service provider agreed to share their price database for CBI TWG's possible MEB calculation efforts.
- Members will be informed in case of a decision made to have a MEB-specific ad-hoc meeting.

Meeting Frequency

- CBI TWG co-chairs together with TAG decided on continuing biweekly meeting schedule of CBI TWG until the end of March, 2024.
- The meetings will be held in Gaziantep and Ankara on a rotational basis with possibility of online participation as usual. The meetings will be held on corresponding Tuesday, at 2.00 P.M. to prevent clashing with ABC meetings. Detailed information can be found in CBI TWG ToR.

II. Operational Planning

CVA Learning Event: Knowledge and Insight Exchange

- CBI TWG gathered a 1-day learning event in Gaziantep on December 19, 2023. 57 participants form various organizations attended to the event.
- Action points from the CVA Learning Event encompass several critical areas. Firstly, **addressing the volatility of prices and budgeting** requires the development of tools to monitor fluctuating commodity prices and inflation rates, alongside supporting partners in formulating coping strategies. In **optimizing coordination efforts** for 2024, it's essential to ensure common criteria and guidance for multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) and sector-specific cash are provided. **Collaboration and information sharing** across sectors must be strengthened to prevent duplication and enhance efficiency. Establishing a participatory process for **strategic targeting of beneficiaries**, **sharing technical expertise on verification processes**, and guiding partners in **consulting with public institutions** are vital steps. Additionally, **capacity building** through training programs, exploring **private sector involvement**, and **refining monitoring and evaluation frameworks** are crucial for effective CVA implementation.
- The Advocacy Points from the CVA Learning Event highlight critical areas of focus. Firstly, advocating for **donor flexibility** is essential to navigate modifications and ensure smooth implementation. Continuous **communication strategies with government partners** are encouraged to promote program **localization** and engage local staff effectively. **The need for contingency CVA plans**, especially in remote areas, underscores the importance of adaptability in transfer modalities. **Collaboration with governmental authorities** is emphasized to overcome permit challenges and access temporary settlements. Furthermore, advocating for better integration with social protection systems, including coordination with relevant ministries and mapping activities, remains a priority for enhancing program effectiveness and impact.
- For detailed information, please see *Slides 6-8*.
- CVA Learning Event Satisfaction Survey has been filled by 23 participants. Results revealed over 90% of satisfaction with sessions of the Event including breakout sessions and interactive CVA practice. The general feedback regarding venue, coffee breaks, etc. are also positive. Participants articulated their interest in and mainstreaming of such events that will be organized by CBI TWG.

Workplan & ToR Updates

- CBI TWG Terms of Reference has been updated in line with CAG guidance and both local and national needs coming both from refugee and EQ responses. As outlined in ToR, the six strategic objectives of CBI TWG are

enhancing the coordination and programming of CVA in Türkiye, information sharing and learning, empowering local leadership, capacity building, advocacy and linking social protection.

- The workplan is created based on the six strategic objectives outlined in CBI TWG ToR. The workplan has been walked through during the meeting and members are urged to share the activities that can support and allocate time and resources.

Program Updates

- WHH targeted 7500 HHs for 12 months in 2023. They achieved the target and exceeded for 80 HHs. For 2024, WHH aims to target 2400 HHs for 6 months and will provide additional support to 300 HHs in Gaziantep, Hatay and Adıyaman. The transfer amount for MPCA is determined as TRY 6000 based on the previous CBI TWG guidance. Based on the currency rate and upcoming CBI TWG MPCA guidance, the amount might be subjected to change.
- IFRC & TRC will increase MPCA transfer amount for the upcoming payments and programs which was TRY 4500. TRC-AFAD cash scheme transfer amount will also be updated. TRC-IFRC jointly supported around 15.000 HHs in January and they will discuss the targeting of the programme in February. TRC-IFRC will provide support under protection and livelihoods sectors as well in 2024. Details can be provided in the upcoming meeting.
- IBC with the support of GIZ and ECHO TRY 8600 is provided to 1830 HHs in Nurdağı, Hatay, Şanlıurfa, Adıyaman, Konya and Kilis. So far, more than 500 HHs received cash support. With the support of World Vision, TRY 9500 cash support was provided to 4000 HHs in Kilis and Şanlıurfa. These projects will continue until mid-March.
- UNHCR completed EQ response assistances in 2023 and one of them was a MPCA support. Within the context of this assistance, UNHCR reached over 14.000 HHs. Under winterisation assistance, 16.000 HHs were reached and the payments will continue until February. Within Cash for Protection programmes over 2500 individuals are targeted and under Cash for Specific Needs, 1300 HHs are supported in 2023. Both of these programmes will continue in 2024. Cash for Protection transfer amount is adjusted every year with social assistance support. The discussions are still ongoing.
- UNHCR shared the updates regarding cash cross-checking tool and indicated that the tool can be developed for following cash programmes rather than focusing only on winterisation support. So far, 3 organizations which are UNHCR, IOM and CARE cross-checked data and over 1.000 duplications are prevented. The users of the tool evaluated its performance and the overall results indicate satisfaction with the tool.

III. CVA Skills Gap Analysis

- A skills gap analysis will be disseminated widely to determine capacity building needs for future capacity building events targeting every individual dealing with cash in every level. Members are urged to provide their inputs to the analysis once it is disseminated.

AOB. N/A