

Cash-based Interventions Technical Working Group EQ

Türkiye

CBI TWG Meeting Minutes

9 July 2024 Gaziantep

Chaired by: UNHCR & TRC

Venue: Online Zoom Meeting / UNHCR Gaziantep Office Anatolia Meeting Room

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

Participants: CALP, CARE, GIZ, GOAL, IBC, IFRC, IDA, IOM, Olive Branch, Orange, REALs, SARD, Sened, SEVKAR, SGDD-ASAM,

SHAFAK, Solidarites International, Support to Life, Takaful Alsham, TRC, UNFPA, UNHCR, WFP, WHH, WVI

AGENDA:

1) Welcome & Introductions (5 mins)

2) Review: Action Points and Announcements (UNHCR/TRC, 15 mins)

3) Operational Issues (80 mins)

a. MPCA Guidance – Transfer Amounts

b. Presentation: Market Price Tracker

c. Learning and Sharing

i. New Cash Programmes in Hatay

ii. Partner CVA Updates

d. Coordination Needs Discussion

4) AoB

New Action Points from the Meeting:

- 1. CBI TWG to update MPCA transfer amount recommendation
- 2. Partners to share their PDM question repositories if available
- 3. Interested partners to attend Activity Info training if necessary
- 4. Interested partners to attend Hatay Hub CWG meeting on 16 July

Documents

Meeting Presentation

I. Review Action Points & Announcements

- Many thanks to the partners who took the time to provide data, CVA Mapping activity and the draft report have been completed. Final version will be shared with partners once feedbacks are reflected.
- Partners were asked to share their 2023-2024 PDM questions as it would be useful to have a repository for upcoming cash programmes. This issue will be focused on in a more structured way in the coming days.
- CBI TWG is still working on the Sectoral Cash Guidance note which aims to gather all available sectoral CVA guidance. Some sectors have already responded to the activity and the guidance will be disseminated widely once all sectors respond.
- CBI TWG Technical Advisory Group (TAG) will soon start to work on the MPCA criteria that was shared by partners.

- Crosschecking via the UNHCR crosschecking mechanism for winterisation is no longer available as the winterisation programmes are completed and SSN mechanism is still active. Crosschecking and preventing duplication is focused on more in Hatay by Hatay Hub CWG chair.
- CBI TWG TAG was composed of 5 members and 3 members had to leave their position as technical advisors due to their change of positions and heavy workloads. New TAG is consisted of 6 members: Mustafa Alloush (Orange), Semih Çetin (GIZ), Burak Çınar (Support to Life), Ahmad Malla (CARE), Deniz Kaya (Sened), Serhat Bağlar (SGDD-ASAM). Partners are encouraged to contact with CBI TWG and TAG for their questions and inquiries.
- TRC introduced new TRC counterparts to join CBI TWG coordination Burcu Ayvazoğlu as co-chair and Gamze Düzler as coordination support.

II. Operational Planning

MPCA Guidance – Transfer Amounts

- As it was mentioned in the MPCA Guidance, "CBI TWG aims to review the guidance bi-annually, unless sooner is deemed necessary by the group. Next date of MPCA Guidance update is set for July 2024." With the light of this decision and the fact that the price increase is over %16 from January to June, CBI TWG decided to update the transfer amounts for MPCA.
- The forthcoming adjustments will be aligned with the escalation in prices, while the guidelines will remain largely consistent. The recommendation to provide the MPCA for a minimum duration of three months, along with other existing directives within the guidance, will remain unchanged.

 Market Price Tracker
- This innovative tool is designed by IM focal point to monitor price fluctuations of items within the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), addressing the critical need for accurate market price tracking that has emerged over the past few years. It also aims to resolve discrepancies among sources regarding rate changes.
- By automating the capture of price changes, the tool significantly reduces the time and effort required for manual tracking. The tool automatically retrieves prices of goods and services from various websites on a weekly basis, including cimri.com and other relevant websites, ensuring up-to-date information.
- Covering categories such as food, non-food items, energy, and transportation, the tool aggregates data and calculates average prices for key items. The primary objective is to establish a streamlined system for monitoring prices and their variations.
- Future enhancements include incorporating rent prices into the tool, as rent is also a component of the MEB and checking the prices for specific baskets such as hygiene kit, education kit, etc. Furthermore, data visualization will be enhanced and available in the coming months.

 Learning and Sharing
- STL is currently undertaking comprehensive vulnerability assessments in Hatay and Kahramanmaraş, aiming to assist 358 households in each location. This caseload has been determined based on previous cash programs executed by STL. The payments are anticipated to occur from July to September, spanning three months, in accordance with the MPCA Guidance, with the transfer amounts also calculated based on these guidelines. STL has noted that their field activities were affected by recent regional developments. Additionally, STL plans to have another CVA in the Adiyaman Bebek camp, with the signing of the protocol expected shortly.
- Olive Branch implements CVA in Hatay Yayladağı and currently the beneficiaries are under project management proposal writing trainings for 8-days. 50 grants will be distributed with the value of USD 5000.
- **GIZ** has an active MPCA and education emergency project in the EQ zone with the partnership of SGDD-ASAM, Sened and IBC with 3 components: MPCA, cash to lift and education case management. MPCA transfer value and implementation period of three months aligns with the MPCA Guidance. TRY 25080 transfer value will be transferred to 3140 HHs as one payment. Cash to lift is a EUR 140 assistance to dropout students and students in the risk of dropout. Education assistance is EUR 1050 to 1500 children.
- Sened implements a recovery support project in collaboration with Solidarites International in Hatay. The project will continue for 18 months and completed in the end of 2025. One of three components of the project is MPCA and it will cover special needs of families affected by the EQ for three months and the transfer value will be calculated based on the MPCA Guidance. Another program is related to providing cash grants to CSOs. After completing a CSO mapping in Hatay, 15 local NGOs will be targeted to increase their financial capacity as well as providing technical and educational trainings for local NGO staff. Within the scope of summarization, Sened distributed air coolers and summarization kits under Good Neighbors programme.
- UNHCR has 3 national CVA programmes currently. In addition, UNHCR provides cash for specific needs and does not accept new beneficiaries to this programme since 2018 and the programme will be concluded in the end of this month. UNHCR will collaborate with TRC if any beneficiary requires referrals.
- **WVI** completed all the cash programming and implementation. *Coordination Needs Discussion*

- CBI TWG plans to have webinars and in-person trainings within the scope of Capacity Building Plan prepared in collaboration with CALP. Local organizations and public institutions will also be included in these webinars and trainings. The budgetary and other aspects of the prospective trainings/webinars are being handled currently and members will be informed once the arrangements are completed.
- Considering the changing coordination schemes and structures, CBI TWG will remain as a cross-cutting working group with rotating meetings between Gaziantep and Ankara. Therefore, changing environment is planned to have minimal or no effect on the CBI TWG platform.

AOB. Next CBI TWG meeting will be gathered in August, in Ankara.