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As the year under review came to a close, the enormity of the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated impacts started to be seen. Governments and humanitarian agencies around the world scaled up CVA as a major response modality to enable the economic recovery of populations affected by the crisis. Like so many others, CaLP refocused time, energy and resources to support members of the network to respond – based on emerging learning – to the pandemic.

At the time of publishing this report, delayed because of pandemic-related priorities, we can now see that the impacts of COVID-19 will be profound and long lasting. With needs increasing rapidly but funding likely to decline, the need for effective humanitarian action has never been greater, and CVA has a central role to play. Through the collective efforts of CaLP's members and the many stakeholders we engage with, we believe that we can build on the excellent work done in 2019/20 to achieve even more going forward.

We see in CaLP an opportunity to learn in terms of resources, to exchange with different actors to improve our CVA programming. It is also a platform to share our vision on CVA, specifically related to gender and strengthening women economic capacity through CVA.

SANI DAN AOUBE, CARE NIGER

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SANI DAN AOUBE, CARE NIGER

*According to CaLP's State of the World's Cash 2020, CVA constituted 17.9% of International Humanitarian Assistance in 2019.
Setting the Global Agenda on Cash

HIGHLIGHTS

> The global volume of CVA doubled between 2016 and 2019
> Cash Week catalysed discussions on CVA around the world
> Increased debate and learning on key issues including data protection, risk and social protection
> Work on the State of the World’s Cash 2020 report started
> The COVID-19 pandemic changed humanitarian response, including CVA

Over the last 15 years, CaLP has driven dialogue and debate, convening relevant actors to increase and strengthen the use of CVA, and setting the global agenda. In 2019/20, we focused on making progress on a number of critical issues.

In December 2019, our second Cash Week brought together humanitarian actors around the world to reflect, share experiences, learn and plan. Events took place in Kenya, Panama and Senegal ahead of a week of events in London. Sessions, co-created with members of the network, were rich and dynamic, delving into issues from the future of financial assistance to CVA localization and from social protection linkages to different operational models.

Building on the insights and debates on risk and data responsibility, the momentum of Cash Week reflected, share experiences, learn and plan. Events took place in Kenya, Panama and Senegal ahead of a week of events in London. Sessions, co-created with members of the network, were rich and dynamic, delving into issues from the future of financial assistance to CVA localization and from social protection linkages to different operational models.

The COVID-19 pandemic changed humanitarian response, including CVA.

The volume of CVA has doubled since 2016. More cash means a shift in power, putting decision-making power right where it should be: in the hands of recipient

KAREN PEACHEY, CALP DIRECTOR

CalP members responded rapidly, changing ways of working to keep recipients safe and reach those newly in need. Early on, it was clear that the pandemic would make the situation for many vulnerable people worse, and push millions into extreme poverty. It became apparent that impossible choices needed to be made.

The COVID-19 pandemic led to a shift in CalP’s work, and we worked across the network to support the response. Drawing on the collective learning and experience of CalP members, information was crowdsourced and the CalP team published guidance on the use of CVA in the context of COVID-19 in four languages. The guidance, which will continue to be updated based on experience for as long as useful, has been used by members and other stakeholders to understand and prepare for likely impacts of COVID-19, to consider whether CVA is right for the contexts in which they operate and – if so – to assess how they can deliver it safely and effectively.

Based on CVA and COVID-19 guidance, CalP held meetings with some of the Cash Working Groups around the world to further understand key challenges and emerging best practice. We convened or supported regional meetings in Asia, Africa, the Americas and the Middle East. Working with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the office of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, CalP started planning country case studies to understand how social protection systems and humanitarian CVA can work together more closely to support COVID-19 response. At the regional level, CalP supported Cash Working Groups as they adjusted their plans and prepared their response to the pandemic.

Thanks for sharing Anna’s blog post on data responsibility. This aspect of delivering cash never even crossed my mind and it reminded me of the conversation we had around vulnerability of people in these situations.

JULIE NEOGY, MSF AFRICA
Influencing Humanitarian Policy: Linking CVA and Social Protection

Highlights

- Supported stronger linkages between Social Protection and Humanitarian CVA
- Publications included: MENA Crib Sheet and a Tool on connecting humanitarian CVA with government safety nets
- Learning events on social protection in East Africa and the Middle East

CaLP continued to convene members, generate evidence and support progress on key issues and themes. The section below looks in depth at work over the year on one of these themes: linking CVA and social protection.

Social protection has emerged as one of the main conduits for strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus. It provides an entry point for crisis response linked to development programmes and systems, while addressing underlying poverty, building resilience and supporting the localization of humanitarian action.

In 2019, we commissioned a series of reports on linking social protection and humanitarian CVA to inform the revision of capacity-building materials. A high level-level briefing paper was published at the end of March 2020 which summarized discussions on critical topics, along with key concepts, policy and programming considerations. A Crib Sheet with a brief but comprehensive history of linking social protection and CVA in the Middle East along with three case studies (Iraq, Lebanon and Yemen) was also published, providing up-to-date materials to support capacity building in the region.

Conversations around social protection and CVA linkages also took place in East Africa. A learning event in December 2019 highlighted the importance of building on existing learning and the work of other actors - showcasing how two consortia (Building Resilient Communities in Somalia (BRCS) and the Somali Cash Consortium) are drawing on each other’s work in Somalia. In West Africa, CaLP collaborated with the regional platform for social protection and produced an Operational Tool to support humanitarian actors and governments to connect humanitarian CVA with social safety nets.

The issue of when, how and whether to attempt to link the two systems has been made more relevant by the response to COVID-19. As the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic emerged, it was clear that there was need to strengthen and scale up social protection to help the most vulnerable cope with shocks and to prevent people falling into poverty. Through close collaboration with the Grand Bargain sub-workstream on social protection, we supported conversations between social protection and CVA actors, with the intention to share learnings and experience through webinars, podcasts and blogs.
STRENGTHENING THE USE OF CVA ACROSS THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

HIGHLIGHTS
› Increased engagement with actors in Latin America and the Caribbean
› Strengthened collaboration with clusters globally and regionally
› Nutrition Decision-Making Tool produced

CalP worked with clusters and sectors at global and national levels to support the effective delivery of CVA across the humanitarian response.

Through our agreement with the Global Health Cluster, we provided evidence to show the impact of CVA on health outcomes in emergency contexts. In West Africa, we provided technical support to the education cluster in Niger and initiated the development of a workplan with the health cluster in Burkina Faso over several areas such as capacity development and evidence building. Similarly, we collaborated with the Global WASH Cluster to plan a series of webinars on WASH and CVA and delivered them in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

Working with Save the Children and the French Red Cross in West Africa, the CaLP team elaborated a Nutrition Decision-Making Tool to support nutrition practitioners in their assessments of the appropriateness of CVA in emergency nutrition programming. Experiences and operational good practices were captured and contributed to the making of global guidance for nutrition actors.

The gender cash symposium hosted in Nairobi in 2018 continued to stimulate work to increase evidence on CVA and gender. In West Africa, CalP partnered with the Malian Red Cross to examine the influence of CVA on gender relations. Through a webinar with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and CARE International, we presented existing evidence on CVA, gender and gender-based violence. CalP is an active member of the Grand Bargain Cash and Gender sub-stream and facilitated sessions at the annual 2019 conference organized by members CARE and UN Women.

With increasing engagement in Latin America and the Caribbean, CalP led or co-led the organization of 36 events during the year, working with organizations such as InterAction, the World Bank, the Risk Emergency Disaster Working Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (REDLAC), the Response for Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants (R4V), and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency. Working with thematic specialists, we tackled discussions on gender, protection, WASH, child protection, health, data protection and more.

75-year old Hoang Thi Nguyet, with her seven-year-old grandson Vi Thanh Tung. She has come to the cash grant distribution point (run by the Vietnam Red Cross) which provides much-needed funds to people following extensive flooding.
RAISING STANDARDS TO INCREASE THE QUALITY OF CVA

HIGHLIGHTS
› Revision of the Programme Quality Toolbox started
› Comprehensive inclusion of CVA in the Sphere Handbook
› Publications included: an MEB Tipsheet and translated versions of the CaLP Glossary
› Regional events held on anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing
› Definitive guidance on tracking CVA at the inter-agency level agreed

In our effort to enhance the quality of CVA, we initiated a review of the Programme Quality Toolbox to ensure it provides the best available operational standards, tools and guidelines to support quality CVA at each stage of the programme cycle. The update of the Toolbox will be completed in 2020 and content revisions will be accompanied by improved functionality.

With the launch of the revised Sphere Handbook, a benchmark for quality of humanitarian aid, CaLP held a panel discussion in Amman, Jordan in June 2019. The comprehensive inclusion of CVA and markets was achieved, for the first time, through effective collaboration between Sphere, CaLP members and the CaLP team. CaLP continues to be an active member of the Humanitarian Standards Partnership and brought its expertise to the development of a common COVID-19 standard guidance document also published by Sphere.

With the translation of the CaLP Glossary into Arabic, Spanish and French, we worked towards our goal of providing clarity and encouraging common understanding and harmonized use of CVA terms and definitions. This was also supported by the launch of the Spanish discussion group, providing a space of interaction and exchange between CVA actors.

Questions related to Minimum Expenditure Baskets (MEBs) and transfer values remained an important and often contested issue in CVA programming. As a result, CaLP worked to synthesize ongoing discussions related to Minimum Expenditure Baskets (MEBs) and produced a comprehensive tipsheet to help field practitioners navigate the different approaches to calculating MEBs and advance discussions in terms of defining a standard quality for MEB.

During the year, CaLP also tackled a number of emerging issues, including Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Terrorist Financing sanctions and how such measures can impact on principled humanitarian CVA action. As well as the blog and scoping study referenced above, CaLP convened two regional workshops to address these topics in the Middle East and West Africa.

CaLP’s co-leadership of the Tracking CVA sub-workstream of the Grand Bargain resulted in definitive guidance on tracking cash and vouchers at the inter-agency level. And during the year, it was agreed that the Tracking CVA sub-workstream would merge into the new Efficiency, Effectiveness and Value for Money sub-workstream under the Grand Bargain Cash Workstream, which CaLP will continue to co-lead.

CaLP’s support has been very instrumental in supporting the MEB process. The work you led was very helpful to structure the process and ensure engagement from sectors.

AJAYI AYOBAIMELE, OCHA NIGERIA

Following a devastating storm, cash transfers enable Eduardo Salmerón to access goods at the grocery shop in Usultan, El Salvador.
DRIVING IMPROVED COORDINATION AT ALL LEVELS

HIGHLIGHTS

› Peer learning events took place in Amman, Bangkok, Dakar and Nairobi to enhance coordination
› Coordination Tip Sheet published
› ‘Political barriers to progress on CVA’ identified as a new priority for the Grand Bargain cash workstream, with USAID and CaLP agreed as co-leads
› Technical support provided to Cash Working Groups and clusters to include CVA in the Humanitarian Needs Overview and Humanitarian Response Plan processes

While CVA coordination remains a thorny issue, much was achieved at an operational level. Through extensive consultation with coordination actors at national, regional and global levels, CaLP helped foster learning and distil lessons for wider use. We encouraged peer learning between CVA coordination bodies with, for example, meetings of Cash Working Group Leads in Amman, Bangkok, Dakar and Nairobi. While experiences varied widely, there were commonalities. The Asia-Pacific meeting of Cash Working Group leads, like others, provided a valuable platform to share good practices based on practical experience and also highlighted the ongoing challenges resulting from the lack of overall agreement about coordination roles and responsibilities.

The learning and challenges distilled from these events, and many other interactions, resulted in the publication of a blog and fed into the development of a Coordination Tip Sheet. The tip sheet provides practical support to help actors ensure effective coordination of CVA and so improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of responses.

CaLP also used findings to underscore the need for urgent action on this issue and to influence global discussions. Feedback about the challenges, consequences, opportunities and needs related to cash coordination were shared in key policy forums, including the Geneva-based Cash Working Group, CashCap’s steering committee and the Grand Bargain cash workstream meetings.

As a result of frustration at the lack of global agreement about roles and responsibilities for the coordination of CVA, the issue was again discussed at the Grand Bargain cash workstream meeting in June 2019. As a result, political barriers to progress on CVA were identified as an additional priority action for the Grand Bargain cash workstream for 2019/20, and CaLP was agreed as a co-lead, along with USAID.

Committed to promoting enhanced response analysis, the CaLP team supported Cash Working Groups and clusters at national level to include CVA in the Humanitarian Needs Overview and Humanitarian Response Plan processes and encouraged humanitarian actors to make choices of modality based on evidence and the preferences of crisis-affected communities. CaLP continued to provide technical support to CVA actors, including support to the Burundi, Kenya and Somalia Cash Working Groups in East Africa, revitalizing the Cameroon and Mauritania groups in West Africa, and providing support to Cash Working Group leads in Latin America and the Caribbean, including supporting the establishment of a group in Mexico.
HIGHLIGHTS
› Training resources made available in additional languages
› Crib sheets published to support the contextualization of training in different regions
› Training of Trainers course held in Colombia, Kenya and Senegal
› 45 CaLP trainers certified globally
› More than 13,000 people accessed CaLP online training courses
› The popular Building Individual Expertise Programme continued in West Africa

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Training delivery, either directly through CaLP staff, in collaboration with our Training Partner Organizations, or via CaLP-certified trainers, remained a crucial contribution to the humanitarian sector. During the year, over 1,100 people successfully completed face-to-face training courses ranging from the five-day Core CVA for Programme Staff course to short courses on CVA and, for example, livelihoods, social protection and understanding the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) process.

We took significant steps towards making training resources more accessible. To this end, we invested in translating the Core CVA Skills for Programme Staff course into Arabic, French and Spanish and developed regional new crib sheets for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Pacific to enable trainers to better adapt training courses to those contexts. The resources, as with the training courses themselves, were made freely available on the website for anyone to use.

The Pacific crib sheet served as a key resource in the Training of Trainers course we held in Vanuatu in October, one of four such courses held during the year, with the others taking place in Colombia, Kenya and Senegal. Globally, there are now 45 CaLP-certified trainers, including 13 French, 7 Spanish and 3 Arabic speakers.

Through the Building Individual Expertise Programme in West Africa, we provided deeper and more focused expertise on CVA, and created a community of Francophone CVA experts in the region. The success of the programme has resulted in plans being developed for similar initiatives in other regions.

Uptake of CaLP’s online courses continues to be strong. More than 13,000 people accessed our online courses through the Kaya, Disaster Ready and International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) learning platforms. Over 3,800 people accessed the Introduction to CVA course and practitioners from more than 100 countries accessed the Introduction to Market Analysis course.

Best aspect of course? ‘Interactions of facilitators and participants and sharing the previous experiences of others on CVA. It’s about thinking globally and acting locally’

TOT PARTICIPANT, CORE PROGRAMME COURSE IN DAKAR, JUNE 2019
SPREADING THE WORD

HIGHLIGHTS

› A new website launched
› ‘Cashcast’ podcast series launched: two podcasts published and downloaded 310 times in three months
› 19 blogs published and read by 6,353 people
› 1,389 publications on the CaLP library were downloaded a total of 24,703 times
› 82,368 website users
› 4,320 new followers across all social channels (Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, Dgroups)
› 718 posts on Dgroups

A new website was developed and welcomed by users for its fresh look and ease of navigation. The website provides practical tools to strengthen the network, such as enabling members to submit job vacancies, co-host webinars and collaborate on writing blogs. It also includes a new page to promote CaLP’s ‘flagship’ products, and more content on the site is translated into French, Spanish and Arabic – helping CaLP to broaden its audiences.

During the year, CaLP produced its first podcasts forming the start of a series called the ‘CashCast’. The CashCast was created to explore key topics in-depth through interviews with CVA experts. The first podcast, launched in December 2019, was called ‘Will risk aversion hold us back from realizing the potential of CVA?’ while the second was titled ‘Is informed consent possible in humanitarian CVA?’ By the end of March, the two podcasts had been downloaded 197 and 113 times respectively.

To fulfil our commitment to widen our reach globally, we increased the number of CaLP training materials and publications available in Arabic, French and Spanish as well as English, and increasingly produced webinars, newsletters and social media in four languages.
A GROWING MEMBERSHIP

HIGHLIGHTS

› Ten new members from nine countries joined CaLP
› A membership event was held in Senegal
› The CaLP Technical Advisory Group and Board met regularly during the year

During the year, we welcomed ten new members to the CaLP network – joining from Australia, Belgium, Finland, Haiti, Jordan, Kenya, Norway, Somalia and the UK.

Through events and workstreams, we convened CaLP members to share expertise, further debates and strengthen engagement across the entire network.

Highlights of engagement with members included Cash Week 2019, held in late November and early December, which featured sessions in the UK, as well as Panama, Senegal and Kenya. As well as the policy and technical debates mentioned earlier in this report, Cash Week provided a valuable forum to gather ideas and feedback to inform the drafting of the new State of the World’s Cash report and shape the direction of the new CaLP Strategy – both of which will be published in 2020.

An event in Senegal brought members together to strengthen the CaLP network within West and Central Africa. Participants from 11 CaLP member organizations, including UN agencies, Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, private sector, national and international NGOs shared what it means to them to be a member of CaLP, how they benefit from being a member and the challenges they face when engaging with the network.

The CaLP Board and Technical Advisory Group (TAG) met regularly during the year, with both forums welcoming new participants. Nigel Timmins, who had chaired the CaLP Board since its inception in January 2016, stepped down and his place was taken by Ron Delnevo of the ATM Industry Association (ATMIA). The Board also welcomed seven new members during the year (see below).

As well attending meetings and providing ongoing technical guidance, many TAG Representatives also played a vital role in guiding the development of key pieces of work, including the Future of Financial Assistance Report, the drafting of the State of the World’s Cash 2020 Report and CaLP’s Strategy development process. The TAG welcomed 11 new members during the year, and six TAG representatives successfully applied for a second term.

NEW CALP NETWORK MEMBERS JOINING DURING 2019/20

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<tr>
<th>MEMBER</th>
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<td>Alta Juba Relief and Rehabilitation Organization (AJRRO)</td>
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<td>Amanacard (part of Huozhi Ltd)</td>
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<td>Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
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<td>Paynovate. SA</td>
<td>Private sector</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEMPO</td>
<td>Fintech social enterprise</td>
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Outgoing Members of the Board in 2019/20 were:

Nigel Timmins
OXFAM
Jacqueline Birrer
Swiss agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Joanna Macrae
Independent

Gareth Owen
Save the Children
David Peppiatt
British Red Cross
Radha Rajkotia
International Rescue Committee
Eric Demers
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP, AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019–20, COMPRISED:

Celine Sinitzky
Cash Based Interventions and Social Protection Advisor
Action Against Hunger

Rachid Boumnijel
Senior Technical Specialist – Cash Transfers
Action Aid

Emma Delo
Cash & Markets Technical Team Manager
British Red Cross

Frederic Wiesenbach
Global Cash and Programme Quality Advisor
Caritas Switzerland

Jennifer Weatherall
Technical Advisor – Cash & Markets
Catholic Relief Services

Kristina Flegg
Senior Humanitarian Advisor, Caribbean (Cash & Markets)
Christian Aid

Christer Lænkholm
Senior Humanitarian Adviser
Danish Church Aid

Ed Fraser
Global Advisor Economic Recovery – CVA Lead
Danish Refugee Council

Etienne Juvanon DuVachat
Cash and Voucher Programming Team Coordinator
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Jo Burton
Cash Transfers & Markets Specialist
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Caroline Holt
Manager, Global Cash Transfer Programming
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

Isabelle Pelly
Independent consultant

Elizabeth Tromans
Senior Technical Advisor for Cash and Emergencies
International Rescue Committee

Helene Julliard
Key Aid Consulting co-founder
Key Aid Consulting

Rosa Akbari
Senior Advisor
MercyCorps

Tim McInerny
Global Advisor – Cash & Markets
Norwegian Refugee Council

Louise Gentzel
Humanitarian Affairs Officer – Cash
United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Kristin Smart
Global Cash Transfer Programming Coordinator
Oxfam GB

Syed Mohammed Aftab Alam
Cash Based Programme in Emergencies Specialist (Global lead)
Plan International

Francesca Battistin
Humanitarian Cash and Markets Advisor
Save the Children UK

Stefan Bumbacher
Programme Officer for Cash and Voucher Assistance
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid (SDC)

Paola Castiati
Global Cash Specialist
Tearfund

Annika Sjöberg
Senior Cash Officer
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

John Lamm
Food Security and Market Advisor, FFP
Office of Food for Peace (FFP), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Belete Temesgen
Senior Technical Advisor – Cash and Market Based Programming
World Vision International

Tenzin Manell
Senior Program Officer, Livelihoods in Emergencies
Women’s Refugee Commission

Being a CaLP member means being part of a global network of organizations working in different contexts, with different mandates and different expertise. It means mutual enrichment from each other experiences.

HAROUNA MOUSSA, SOLIDARITÉS MALI
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CaLP’s work is funded by donor grants, membership fees and in-kind contributions. We are also grateful to Action Against Hunger, Norwegian Refugee Council and Oxfam, who host us. And to CARE International, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), who have seconded staff or provided other in-kind support.

EXPENDITURE APRIL 2019 – MARCH 2020

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In Koulikoro, Mali, cash provided by the Red Cross allows beneficiaries to buy essential food items.

Thérèse Faye/CaLP. June 2019.
Red Rose is a CaLP member so that we can support our partners to provide better assistance, and by being here and engaged with CaLP we can understand what some of the challenges and barriers are and help provide and find solutions to overcome them.

MARY COX, RED ROSE, TURKEY

CaLP is an organization that helps to convene agencies and create interesting learning spaces that ultimately help to promote better coordination. I think that CaLP could play a key role in the region by helping to consolidate the management of best practices and tools in CVA.

PAOLA ANDREA SANCHEZ, IRC COLOMBIA