

UKRAINE

CASH WORKING GROUP (CWG)

FACT SHEET

As of 25 March 2022



Eastern Ukraine.

Photo Credit: Aleksey Filippov

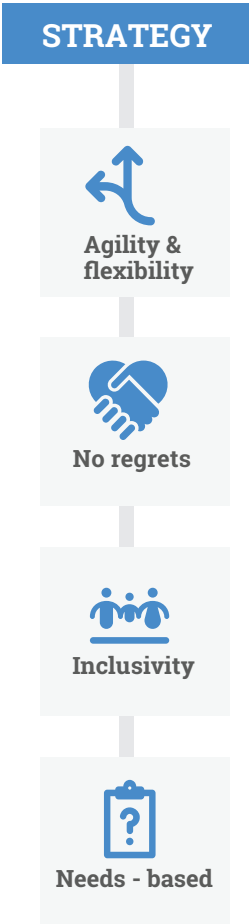
The Ukraine Cash Working Group (CWG) was introduced in 2014 and fully established in 2016. It is a technical working group co-chaired by ACTED and OCHA within the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), under the overall strategic and programmatic direction of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).

The CWG focuses on the operational coordination of Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) programming and the support to the coherence of the use of cash as a modality in the wider humanitarian response.

ROLLING OUT MPC IN UKRAINE

The CWG is supporting the emergency roll out MPC in the country. The CWG has defined the MEB, transfer value, and set up thematic tasks teams in order to establish cash feasibility and to implement MPC as soon as possible to affected populations.

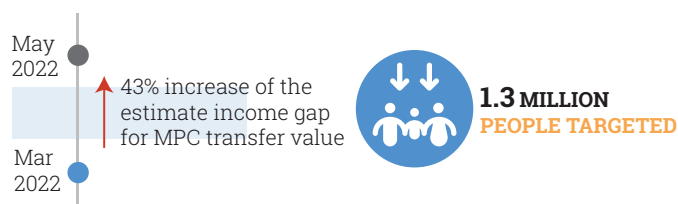
WHO	The Ukraine Cash Working Group (CWG) was established in 2016 and is co-chaired by ACTED and OCHA .
WHAT	The CWG is a technical working group within the Inter Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) under the overall strategic and programmatic direction of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).
WHY	The CWG aims at harmonizing and coordinating Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) programming and the use of cash as a modality in the wider humanitarian response.
HOW	The Flash Appeal requested \$288 million to assist 1.3 million people via MPC between March and May 2022. The CWG aligned the calculation of the MPC transfer value to the Ministry of Social Policy's monthly subsistence level against average income per person for vulnerable households living along the line of contact and covering 100% of the income gap (UAH2,220 or \$74 per person per month).



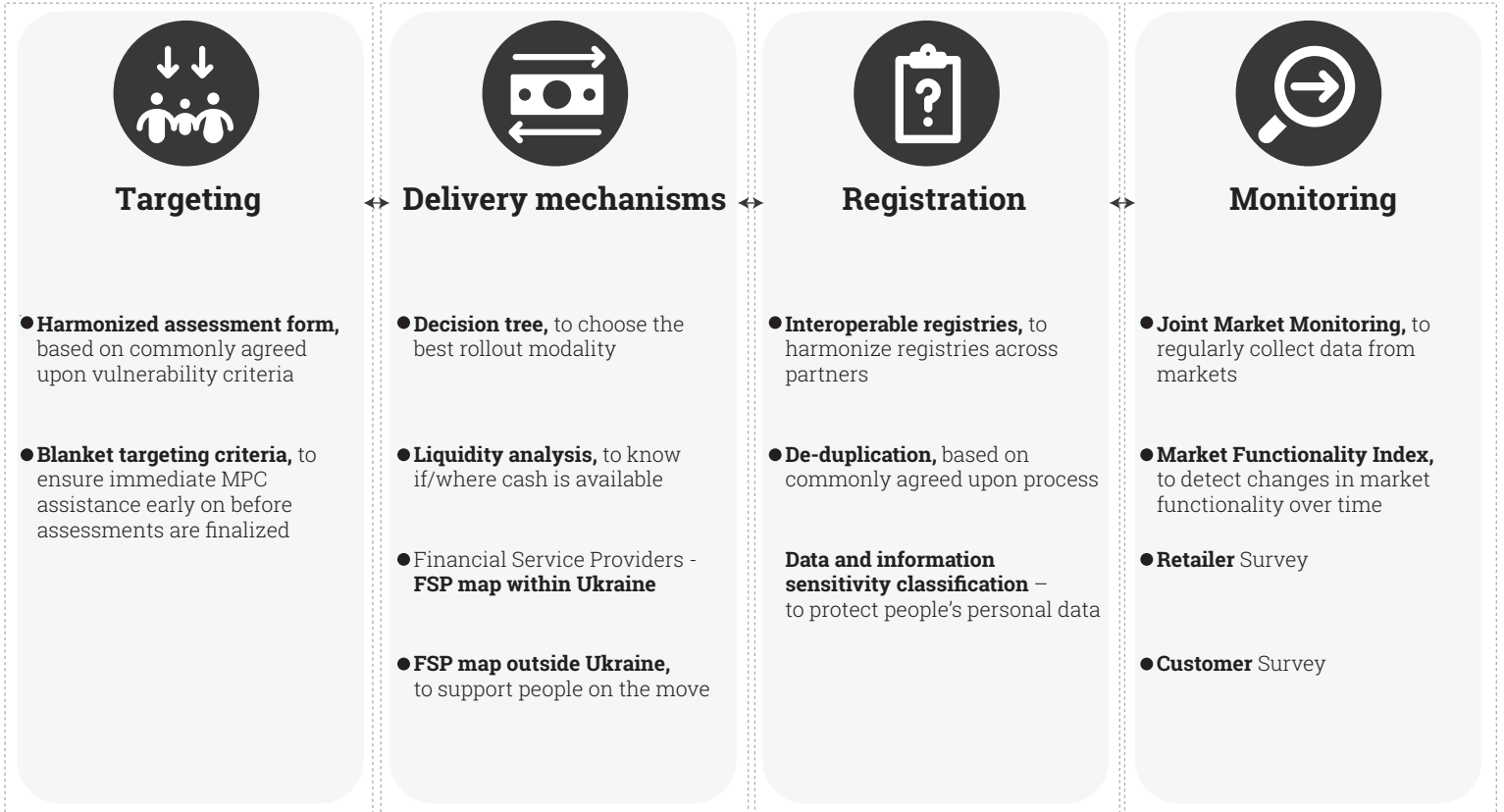
MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET(MEB)

The CWG has a **Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)** which determines a household's requirement to meet its basic needs and average cost. Since 2017, the MEB has been fully aligned with that of the Government of Ukraine using the Ministry of Social Policy's data on minimum expenditure which is regularly updated to reflect the market dynamic as a benchmark for calculation.

Following the escalation, the CWG under the overall guidance of the ICCG /HCT decided to revise the [MPC transfer value](#) and expanded from 70 to 100 per cent of the estimated income gap, which amounts to UAH2,220 (\$74) per person per month and targets 1.3 million people between March and May 2022. The CWG also accepts sectoral cash to top up the MPC value, e.g. cash for rent.



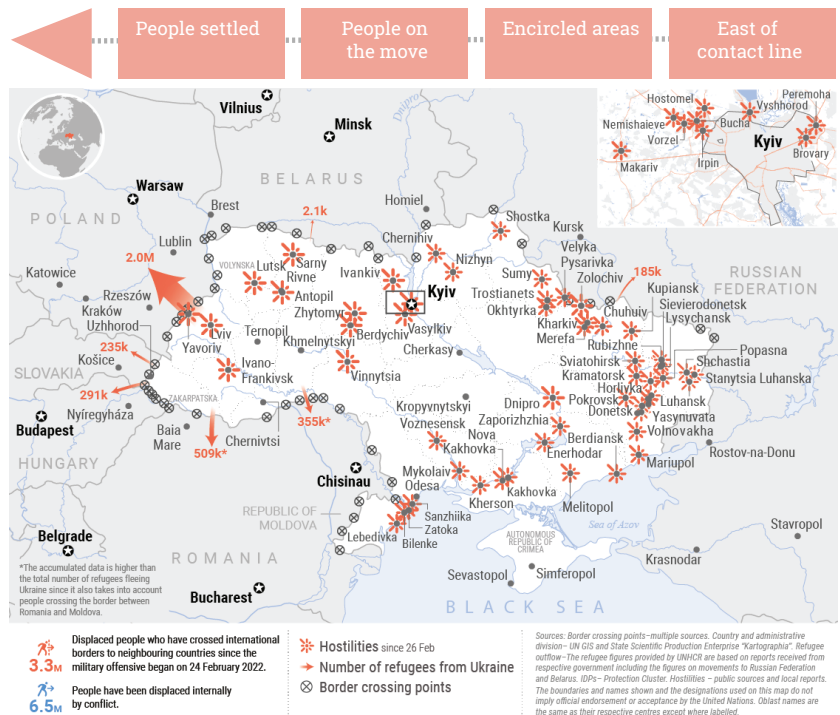
In supporting the emergency MPC rollout, the CWG set up thematic **Task Teams** focused on **targeting** (TT1, facilitated by WFP), **transfer mechanisms** (TT2, facilitated by NRC), **de-duplication and registration** (TT3, facilitated by UNHCR), **and market monitoring** (TT4, facilitated by ACTED). As a result, the CWG created a **toolbox** to harmonize and operationalize **common approaches**. The toolbox is a **one-stop shop** with a suite of tools **ready to be used** by any humanitarian partner planning to roll out MPC in Ukraine.



MODALITY RATIONALE

Even before February 2022, **evidence** showed that conflict-affected people identified cash as a preferred type of assistance. Since 2015, MPC has been and continues to address the immediate multiple needs of affected population in Ukraine, while upholding **their dignity and preferences**.

In February, the HCT unanimously agreed to use **MPC as a preferred/default modality (wherever operationally feasible)** to scale up the response for the first three-month period of the **Flash Appeal**. MPC would support people to meet their multiple basic needs, while contributing to local economic recovery by injecting cash into functioning markets offering locally produced goods.



A suite of complementary approaches including in-kind, vouchers and sectoral cash are being used where operational or programming circumstances require. The decision-making tree in the toolbox will inform the modality rationale, which will largely depend on the local context.

Geographically, in-kind will likely remain the preferred modality east of the contact line, as well as in most encircled areas. Moving westward, the context would gradually allow for a mix of in-kind and cash assistance, particularly with displaced population. In the westernmost areas, MPC will be preferable, as markets and services are less disrupted and people more settled.

LINKAGES WITH SOCIAL PROTECTION

To assist those in need and target beneficiaries effectively, the CWG has reached out to different parts of the Government to identify opportunities to align humanitarian assistance with its existing social protection approaches. For instance, the social protection database of the Ministry of Social Policy will be critical to **harmonize, coordinate and align target beneficiaries** to ensure effective and well-targeted assistance moving forward.

The CWG is also keen on exploring opportunities to collaborate with **International Financial Institutions** on social protection approaches, conscious of the various support packages recently announced, including by the World Bank, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the International Monetary Fund.

KEY CONTACTS

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