

CASH WORKING GROUP REGIONAL AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST & DU CENTRE

REGIONAL CASH WORKING GROUP WESTERN & CENTRAL

Meeting minutes

Date: April 6, 2022

Location: Online (meeting recorded) and face-to-face in Dakar, Senegal in the OCHA office

Number of participants: 47 including 15 women

Organizations: UNOCHA, CARE, REACH Initiative, WFP, FAO, CALP Network, GRAT-Mali, UNHCR, CRS, DNPSES (Government of Mali), Heiper, WHH, Diakonie, IRC, IFRC, Senegalese Red Cross, CashCap

1. Update from National CWGs

The CWGs of Mali, Nigeria, Niger, CAR, Cameroon, Chad and DRC shared their updates which mainly around the MEB process, the transfer of leadership between WFP and OCHA in Mali in connection with the new coordination model adopted recently by the IASC, the relaunch of CWG activities in Chad, the mapping of financial service providers, the Dashboard and mapping of CVA interventions and many other points that you can discover in the recording.

2. Presentation of the toolkit – Links between humanitarian CVA programmes and Social Protection

After contextualizing of the possible link between social protection and humanitarian CVA as well as the main options, Julie Lawson McDowall of CALP first indicated how and where to find this toolkit on the CALP website. She also presented the types of resources included in the toolkit that range from feasibility assessment and analysis of technical advice options or tools, guidance for programme design, country-specific resources, and models as well as training or introduction to a topic. She concluded with the presentation of the five blocks of the toolbox:

- 1. Stakeholders and institutions
- 2. Data and information systems
- 3. CVA Program Design
- 4. Delivery system
- 5. Financing

3. Potential impact of the Russia/Ukraine conflict on CVA in Nigeria

After presenting the current context of Nigeria, Chukwudi, the strategic lead of the CWG of Nigeria characterized by several types of risks including among others non-state armed groups, diseases and epidemics, losses of production assets, floods, he continued with the impact of the crisis due to the conflict between Ukraine and Russia which is already characterized by an increase in wheat prices of 14.91% and maize at 11.21%. This situation comes amid the depreciation of the Nigerian currency. The crisis already imposes a threat of food insecurity as a result of rising prices globally and particularly in Nigeria aggravated by the loss of revenue of the federal government due to the limited level of possibilities of increasing oil production. It is expected that the level of poverty, trans-Saharan migration and crime will increase. As a recommendation for CVA actors in Nigeria, the targeting criteria and the link to the social protection programme should be reviewed.

4. Presentation new CVA coordination model adopted by the IASC

After presenting the history of the process that led to the adoption of the new coordination model adopted by the IASC, Juliet Lang from the OCHA Global Office first detailed the advantages of this model:

- Predictable and accountable mechanisms for cash coordination which can take timely decisions as needed
- Leverages existing coordination structures, ensures clear accountability to one agency
- Mitigates conflict of interest in performing coordination duties (through non-programmatic/ programmatic co-chairs)



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- Provides a referral path in country (to the IS/ICCG and subsequently to the HCT if needed) and globally
- Creates a global level Cash Advisory Group to promote principles, guidelines, and tools for effective cash coordination

It is now up to OCHA through the inter-sector to ensure the leading role of CWGs at the country level and global level. There will also be a programmatic co-lead and the government who will complement OCHA in the animation of the group.

Juliet ended her presentation with the next steps:

- IASC has adopted cash coordination model
- Establishment of global CAG report to the IASC Deputies Group, as outlined in the IASC Strategic
 Priorities for 2022-23
- CAG to complete and present detailed transition plan by September 2022 to IASC Deputies Group for endorsement
- Transition over 18 months
- Support short term surge to bridge cash coordination gaps, where required.

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- CALP plans to conduct a regional mapping of financial service providers
- Trainings organized jointly with the CWGs of Mali and Niger at the same time as a co-facilitation opportunity for participants of the training of trainers.

You can also view the recording of this meeting on the <u>West and Central Africa Regional CWG page</u> on the <u>CALP Network website</u>.