



# Recommendations on Cash for Protection for General Protection Actors Sept 2023

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## Introduction

The aim of this document<sup>1</sup> is to offer recommendations on the use of Cash for Protection<sup>2</sup> interventions in Ukraine, including to create a common understanding among humanitarian partners, and to harmonize practices. This includes:

- Defining Cash for Protection & its objectives
- Scenarios for possible use of Cash for Protection
- Core Elements for using Cash for Protection
- Links between Cash for Protection & key protection activities
- Differences between Cash for Protection & Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)

Cash for Protection is a form of assistance where Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) is used as the modality to address individual and/or household-level protection needs, identified on a case-by-case basis. Cash for Protection is used to prevent, reduce or mitigate the impacts of risks, violence, abuse, coercion, exploitation and deprivation, as well as usage of negative coping mechanisms. Cases may include protection concerns related to right to life, physical safety, psychological well-being, liberty, dignity and other fundamental rights.

Cash for Protection is not time-bound, not conditional and not restricted given the complexities of protection risks facing individuals and/or households. Cash for Protection is not defined by *what* the cash

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<sup>1</sup> Guidance included in this documents draws upon global, regional and national best practices, namely the *Cash for Protection Definitions*, Working Document, Global Protection Cluster, Task Team on Cash for Protection, Regional Ukraine Response, [https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/c4p\\_definition\\_tipsheet\\_pic.pdf](https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/c4p_definition_tipsheet_pic.pdf), and *Cash and Voucher Assistance for Protection*, Global Protection Cluster, Task Team on Cash for Protection.

<sup>2</sup> The Ukraine Protection Cluster considers Cash for Protection interventions to be Emergency Cash assistance, and as such refers to C4P as Emergency Cash for Protection assistance in the Humanitarian Response Plan/Ukraine.

is spent on, but rather on the fact that an individual assessment has been conducted, and there is a clear indication that cash will support protection outcomes.

If well-designed (i.e. protection sensitive targeting, programme design, strong referral component, etc.), cash for basic needs and/or sectoral cash can bring significant protection outcomes – however, this is more likely to be categorized as mainstreaming and integration, rather than as a Cash for Protection intervention. Evidence suggests that basic needs grants have a positive impact on protection, particularly when delivered alongside strong case management and/or other services, including in-kind assistance, Mental Health & Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS) and others.

The provision of Cash for Protection should never be intended to address generic socio-economic vulnerabilities; these can be addressed by multi-purpose cash assistance. Rather, the provision of Cash for Protection is driven by a causal link between a clearly identified protection concern and the analysis of how the cash assistance provided will produce a protection outcome by preventing, reducing, or mitigating the risks identified.

### Scenarios for Possible Use of Cash for Protection

The below are examples of how Cash for Protection can be used to produce a protection outcome for identified individuals and/or households. These examples are not exhaustive.

- *A household faces an immediate risk of eviction because they cannot pay rent.* Cash for Protection may be used as a short-term intervention to prevent eviction. It can also be complemented by MPCA or Cash for Shelter, including Rental Market Initiatives, until the financial situation of the household becomes more stable.
- *A survivor of abuse and violence -- such as someone who has been subjected to arbitrary arrest — must be relocated to a safe location due to potential harm.* Cash for Protection may be used to cover costs associated with the relocation, such as transportation, accommodation, etc.
- *An individual missing civil documentation (ID card, marriage certificate, birth certificate, etc) is unable to access Government services.* Cash for Protection may be used to pay costs for legal assistance, court fees, cost of civil documents, transportation, etc. to obtain the necessary documents.
- *An individual and/or household has damaged or destroyed property and needs Housing, Land and Property (HLP) support.* Cash for Protection may be used to cover costs associated with legal assistance, including lawyers' fees, court fees, cost of documentation, cost of transportation to the court, etc.

### Core Elements for Using Cash for Protection

The below elements should be integrated into the design and implementation of all Cash for Protection programming to support robust and equitable protection outcomes.

- [Protection risks](#) are identified during protection monitoring, needs assessments and/or risk analysis, with the most vulnerable persons prioritised.
- Following assessment, a clear connection is identified and documented regarding *how* Cash for Protection will contribute to reduction and/or mitigation of exposure to protection risks and limitation of the effects of violations on victims.
- Following informed consent by the individual and/or household, confidential and dignified referrals are made to the best placed Cash for Protection service provider who can assess eligibility. Before proceeding to make the referral, it needs to be checked if the receiving agency

is available and/or has the capacity to take on this case, for this purpose anonymous information should be provided first. Personal Data should not be shared if the referral agency is not capable of receiving and helping the referred person. Personal Data shared must be limited to only the information necessary for the referral agency to provide the Cash for Protection.

- Implementation should be complemented by other protection interventions, such as case management, referral, PSS and social activities, etc.
- Protection outcomes are monitored throughout implementation, and [protection indicators](#) are integrated into CVA monitoring tools.<sup>3</sup>
- The CVA intervention is designed to contribute to reducing protection risks while mitigating protection - related negative coping strategies.

In some situations, this will simply mean providing families with CVA of the value of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (or agreed Inter-Agency Transfer Value), to enable them to meet their basic needs without having to resort to negative coping strategies (such as family separation, farming on mined land, child labour, etc.) and can better be considered integrated programming and targeted cash. In other cases, this may mean providing punctual financial support to meet an immediate, protection need (such as providing emergency support post evacuation) or covering an extra protection-related cost for which the value of the Inter-Agency Transfer Value based upon the MEB is insufficient (such as paying for legal fees, or specific services for people with disabilities).

Based on the 2023 Activity-based Costing exercise for the Humanitarian Response Plan, the Protection Cluster's amount for Cash for Protection ranges from *200 USD to 750 USD per person per month* (this cost was defined in consultation with protection partners, the Strategic Advisory Group of the Protection Cluster, and key partners). However, this is an indicative amount, and transfers should be tailored to each case based on their unique needs.

**Box 1: tips for calculating Cash for Protection transfer values**

- Is the case/family using any negative coping strategy that causes protection risks in order to generate income/ access services and goods? If yes, do not consider those in the calculations.
- Is the case/family using these negative coping mechanisms to purchase basic food and non-food items? If yes, consider integrating basic needs costs (3,565 UAH per person per month<sup>4</sup>) into your Cash for Protection transfer.
- Is the case/family using these negative coping mechanisms to access safe shelter? Is lack of safe shelter a cause of the protection risk? If yes, consider integrating shelter costs to your Cash for Protection transfer (see shelter cluster guidance<sup>5</sup>, average of 5,000 UAH per family of 3 per month in the north, 6,500 in the East), 7,500 in Kyiv and 8,500 in the West.
- Are there any other costs associated to addressing the protection risks identified/ financial barriers that prevent the family from reducing/mitigating this risk? If yes, estimate its monthly

<sup>3</sup> Example here <https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/publications/680/policy-and-guidance/tool-toolkit/tool-2-toolkit-monitoring-and-evaluating-child> .

<sup>4</sup> Please note that the Cash WG in Ukraine is revising the amount of UAH. At the time of writing, 3,565 UAH is the amount provided.

<sup>5</sup> <https://sheltercluster.org/ukraine/documents/shelter-cluster-recommendations-cash-rent-august-2022>. Please note that rates are based on August 2022 document. At the time of writing, a cash for rent TWiG is on-going and a rental market assessment is being developed (the revised info will be available in October 2023). Partners should then check the rental rates with the Shelter/NFIs cluster when carrying out transfer values.

cost.

- Always consider the individual/case as part of an economic unit (household unit), with associated potential support/financial burden and responsibilities. Sometimes, supporting the entire household financially is required to meet the protection needs of a single individual in the household.
- Discuss with the case/family about frequency of payments for specific goods/services (this will inform the length and frequency of Cash for Protection assistance) and create a corresponding action plan for what sustainable measures will be used once Cash for Protection ends.

### Linkages with Key Protection Activities

Cash for Protection is linked to key protection activities, including through the identification of individuals and/or households who may be eligible for Cash for Protection and as an active component of protection programming itself. This can be through enhancing access to services, including government social protection programming where possible,<sup>6</sup> and for providing more diverse options for the most vulnerable who may face barriers in accessing services, including the elderly, Persons with Disabilities and LGBTI persons, among others.

**Community-based Approaches:** Identification and referral of eligible persons and/or households may be conducted through community-based activities, such as volunteer groups, community protection networks and/or during activities at community centres.

**Protection Monitoring:** Protection Monitoring is one of the main activities for identification of individuals and/or households in need of protection assistance, including Cash for Protection. Depending on the individual case at hand, Cash for Protection may be the most appropriate intervention to assist with identified risks.

**Access to Services:** Cash for Protection can assist individuals and/or households in accessing services offered by the Government, such as access to legal documentation or social protection services. Cash for Protection interventions may be used to cover transport fees or provision of documentation from authorities if a cost is involved.

**Case Management:** Cash for Protection can be utilised as a key element of the case management process, complemented by other interventions. Cash for Protection may provide more options in finding a solution or action to reduce a specific harm or risk, such as relocation of an individual and/or household, enhancing access to specialised service providers and/or longer-term access to legal assistance, etc.

### Differences between Cash for Protection and Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance

Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance allows conflict-affected persons the flexibility and dignity to address their own needs. Qualification for MPCA is determined by the implementing organization and/or agreed Cash Working Group approach. The goal of MPCA is to meet immediate and basic needs and contribute to the overall well-being of individuals and/or households mostly at the socio-economic level.

Cash for Protection, in contrast, is used directly to prevent, reduce or mitigate financial barriers linked to or driving identified protections risks/threats.

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<sup>6</sup> World Humanitarian Summit, Grand Bargain, 2016

The table below summarises key difference between Cash for Protection and MPCA in Ukraine.

	<b>CFP</b>	<b>MPCA</b>
<b>Needs</b>	Identified protection risk/incident	Socio-economic needs
<b>Objective</b>	Contributes to meaningful protection outcome	Meet basic needs
<b>Targeting Approach</b>	Protection monitoring, needs assessment or risk analysis at individual and/or household	Ukraine CWG Targeting Framework - <a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/ukraine-cash-working-group-task-team-1-targeting-aug-2022">https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/ukraine-cash-working-group-task-team-1-targeting-aug-2022</a>
<b>Eligibility</b>	Ad hoc, but requires a clear assessment linking the need for cash to the situation of the individual or household	Standard score card (among other)
<b># of Distributions</b>	Contextualized for each case	One-off, time bound (3 months of assistance)
<b>Amount</b>	Tailored for each case	3,565 UAH per person per month up to three months or more depending on the needs
<b>Modality</b>	Cash and Voucher Assistance	Cash and Voucher Assistance
<b>Monitoring</b>	Protection monitoring and/or PRT indicators embedded into PDM tools	Post-Distribution Monitoring