

## CALP NETWORK TAG MEETING SUMMARY

21 FEBRUARY 2024

### WELCOME

- Action points ongoing – SOWC 2023 is on the agenda on a rolling basis; efficiency to be discussed today; please see Karen’s blog too <https://www.calpnetwork.org/blog/>
- No new TAG Reps to welcome.
- Simon le Tocq from PIN joins this meeting as an observer.

### ANTICIPATORY ACTION

Ruth McCormack and Celine Sinitzky, Technical Advisors, presented on anticipatory action, including:

- 3 core elements of AA are risk information, forecasting and early warning systems; planning, operations and delivery; pre-arranged financing (e.g., climate/disaster risk financing instruments, DRM budgets).
- Findings from SOWC2023:
- Anticipatory cash can have positive impacts in both the immediate and longer term, contributing to resilience.
- Timing matters – even small differences can have an impact.
- Cash is most useful before and after disasters, rather than during a rapid onset shock.
- Evidence indicates a preference for anticipatory cash as a means to address needs and protect assets.
- Delivering cash assistance with complementary activities can help to mitigate hazard impacts.
- Combining cash assistance with early warning information and guidance can increase effectiveness.
- Anticipatory action, including CVA, should be part of a holistic contingency planning process, linking to early and ongoing shock response.
- Unconditional cash allows people to determine their immediate priorities and increase their resilience, including potentially deciding to move.
- The potential to leverage social protection systems to institutionalize anticipatory action is documented but not yet operationalized at scale.
- Effective use of CVA for AA reflects effective CVA preparedness in general in many respects.
- Key design elements are: markets, targeting / registration, payment mechanisms, transfer values, etc.

The TAG then split into break out groups to work on a Miro board.

### IMPLICATIONS OF HUMANITARIAN FUNDING CUTS

Lynn Yoshikawa, Head of Network Development, introduced the topic: How can the CVA community collectively prepare for ongoing humanitarian funding cuts?

- We know these cuts will be unprecedented and some have already started happening. Costs have increased

- We know CVA growth has slowed and there is increased risk that CVA may reduce; although it's also an opportunity for CVA.
- CALP's priorities this year will include work on cost efficiency and risk, including by refreshing and resharing existing evidence.

The TAG discussed the effects on their own agencies and initiatives, helping them to mitigate effects of cuts:

- A number of countries have had MEB/transfer value increases. Hopefully global inflation is levelling off. Ukraine and Colombia have had to adjust recipient numbers as transfer values increased.
- Key is cost efficiency. If efficiency is low, CVA will be under scrutiny.
- Try to retain CVA capacity within the team eg. Systems, practices for cash readiness, enabling to scale up and down quickly.
- Centre decisions around affected people
- Assess CVA mainstreaming within your organisation – which staff need to have which CVA specialisms, is there a competence standard across staff? Upskill existing structure.
- Opportunities to emphasise collaboration – better coordination, signing global payment solutions to be more efficient.

## **SOWC 2023: BREAKDOWN OF PRIORITY ACTIONS & SOWC 2023: UPTAKE/ INFLUENCING**

Kate Hart, Head of Policy, Evidence and Learning, shared what has been done so far by the CALP Team to support uptake of the actions identified in SOWC2023:

- Exploring opportunities for engagement with senior leaders & system level initiatives (This is often where key decisions are made before coming to the CVA community)
- Each CALP Technical Advisor has influencing plans for their area of work linked to SOWC 2023 chapters & other key documents
- Regional discussions
- Systematic tracking of engagement & uptake for internal discussion to identify traction & barriers, with aim of mutually reinforcing efforts

Asks of the CALP TAG:

- Can you support efforts? Miro board from last TAG meeting e.g. internal brownbag sessions; linking with development colleagues etc.
- Quarterly review/ action planning at TAG meetings?
- The power of the collective to enable system change?

CALP ran through a brief summary of each of SOWC priority actions for 6 chapters:

- People-centred CVA
- Volume and growth
- Locally led CVA Preparedness and capacity Social Protection linkages
- Data and digitalisation
- Climate and environment
- Financial inclusion (part of the CVA Design chapter) - Amadou is reaching out to TAG Reps about facilitating financial inclusion for a paper to bring recommendations/ case studies together.

TAG reps were asked to consider the following:

- What priority actions is your organisation interested in getting behind/leading?
- Are there other actions your organisation is prioritising?

## COMMON STANDARDS

A question was asked to the TAG which has been asked of the CALP team: Do we need common standards for CVA?

- TAG Reps agreed that it is not realistic/ appropriate/ feasible.
- CVA is already included in the SPHERE handbook; we have the MISMA and other standards etc.
- This issue has also been raised with the CAG.

## AOB

'Ongoing research' webpage: <https://www.calpnetwork.org/resources/ongoing-research/>. CALP is currently reviewing the effectiveness of this webpage and has reached out to current users. TAG Reps were asked to get in touch if they had feedback on the page.