Grand Bargain Gender and Cash Sub-Workstream
– Closing document

In 2016, world leaders, United Nations (UN) agencies, and humanitarian agencies came together to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian action resulting in 51 commitments known as the Grand Bargain. During the second Grand Bargain Cash Workstream Workshop in June 2018, meaningfully addressing gender in cash and voucher assistance (CVA) was set as a priority action. CARE and UN Women committed to lead a sub-workstream dedicated to mainstreaming gender throughout the wider Cash Workstream.

The sub-workstream of gender and cash, composed of NGOs, UN agencies, donors and research institutions, met over the span of three years as peers to collaborate on encouraging and equipping the humanitarian sector to embrace and increase capacities in integrating gender equality and women’s empowerment, as well as the prevention and mitigation of and response to GBV, when using CVA in crises and humanitarian settings. Contributions to these actions were significant across different members. The group consulted, informed, and provided guidance to the Cash Workstream of the Grand Bargain.

The main objectives of the sub-workstream on gender and cash included:
● To find ways to ensure better synergy, development, and cross-fertilization of gender in the work of the Cash Workstream and other workstreams:
● To seek opportunities to engage and add value to the current discussion and efforts.

Over a period of three years, the sub-workstream facilitated learning, information sharing, and served as a convener on discussions about gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (GEEWG) and gender-based violence (GBV) in CVA, all while contributing to the Cash Workstream’s thought leadership to ensure gender was systematically discussed, mentioned, and featured in activities and events. Events were held with the aim of strengthening the field’s commitment to incorporating gender in CVA, with a focus on improving practice, research, and policy. The development of guidance materials on CVA and gender and the culmination of webinars, trainings, and workshops are a byproduct of interagency collaborative efforts, and this ultimately aided in providing resources in multiple languages broadening potential reach and working towards language inclusivity.

The co-conveners want to thank and acknowledge the many organizations and agencies that contributed to these outputs. Many of these resources are also available on the Women’s Refugee Committee’s repository: Resources for Mainstreaming Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Considerations in Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) and Utilizing CVA in GBV Prevention and Response and the GBV Guidelines website.
The Gender and Cash Sub-workstream’s objectives were broken-down into the following three pillars and respectively showcase the materials and activities carried out:

**Practice:** Developing guidance materials on CVA and gender meaningfully and systematically incorporate gender into cash and voucher assistance and market-based approaches.

**Tools and guidance**

- **Cash & Voucher Assistance and GBV Compendium:** Practical Guidance for Humanitarian Practitioners available in English, Spanish, Arabic, French and Somali.

- Accompanying editable risk matrix available in Amharic, Arabic, Bahasa Indonesian, Bengali, Burmese, Dari, English, French, Hausa, Hindi, Kiswahili, Kurdish, Nepali, Pashto, Portuguese, Thai, Turkish, Somali, Spanish, and Urdu.

- **Cash & Voucher Assistance and GBV Compendium Training Modules** available in English, Spanish, French, and Arabic.

- **How to promote gender equality in humanitarian cash and voucher assistance,** UN Women

- **The Importance of Acting on Grand Bargain Commitments for a Meaningful Focus on Gender in Cash and Voucher Assistance: Responses to the Covid-19 Pandemic** available in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic.

- **Guide to Cash and Voucher Assistance and Gender-based Violence Resource**

- **Gender Based Violence and Cash and Voucher Assistance: Tools and guidance**

**Case studies**

- **Enablers and Gaps: Gender Equality, Gender-Based Violence Response and Mitigation in Cash and Voucher Assistance at Response levels:** analysis on three case studies, available in also Spanish, Arabic, French

- **Cash and Voucher Assistance, Gender Equality and Gender-Based Violence Integration in Humanitarian Response Plans: Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants Case Study,** available in also Spanish

- **Establishing a Cash Working Group and Gender-Based Violence Sub-Cluster Task Force Northwest Syria Case Study,** available in also Arabic

- **Gender Equality and Gender-Based Violence Risk Mitigation in Cash and Voucher Assistance: Vanuatu Case study**

**Trainings**

- **Cash & Voucher Assistance and GBV Compendium Training Modules**
Training on gender equity and GBV risk mitigation in projects with CVA – 2-part series of practitioners working in the Asia Pacific region, co-sponsored with The GBV AoR for Asia Pacific Region, OCHA, WFP, and Plan International

Webinars

- Better Gender Outcomes in Food Assistance through Complementary and Multi-Modal Programming-ground truthing (English #1, English #2, French) (2019). A final webinar focused on dissemination was the culmination of the activity (2020)

- Gender, CVA, and COVID-19 webinar focused on Latin America and the Caribbean, in Spanish, co-sponsored with CaLP, WFP, CARE International, UN Women, CashCap, and OCHA, through the REDLAC Gender Working Group, 2020

Research: Fostering the continued evidence base on gender and cash and voucher assistance. Learning: what are we doing — communicate it to others? What is working? Not working? What are the impacts? What needs to change?

- Better Gender Outcomes in Food Assistance through Complementary and Multi-Modal Programming (2020) and Promising Practices Tip sheet available in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic (2021)

- Research agenda on Gender and CVA from 2019 workshop, (p. 2-3)

Policy: Convening interested stakeholder on gender and cash topics; Engage with donors, governments, UN, and NGOs to make changes and support promising practices.

Webinars:

CVA and Gender-Based Violence 8-part webinar series

- “Reducing risks of Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian Cash and Voucher Assistance”
- “CVA and GBV Compendium: making the guidance into practical training”
- “Comment at ténu er les risques de Violence Basée sur le Genre dans les transferts monétaires ?”
- “Utilizing Cash and Voucher Assistance within Gender-based Violence Case Management to Support Crisis-Affected Populations in Ecuador”
- “Process for a CVA actor integrating gender and managing GBV in CVA projects”
- “Utilizando programación de transferencias monetarias (PTM) de dentro de los servicios de gestión de casos de violencia basado en género para apoyar a las poblaciones afectadas por crisis en Ecuador”
- “Women’s experiences of violence during cash transfer programs in emergency settings: Learnings from Raqqa Governorate, Syria & Recommendations for Risk Mitigation”
- “Safer Cash: Practical Tools to Mitigate Risks to Women and Marginalized Groups in CVA Programming”
Workshops:

- 2nd annual Grand Bargain meeting, Annual meeting- webinar and fireside chat, virtual, July 2021.
- “Strengthening the Commitment to Gender in Cash Transfer Programming”, London, December 2018 at CaLP’s Cash Week 2018 (event report).