CVA IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

WHY USE CASH TRANSFERS TO RESPOND TO COVID-19?

- CVA (Cash and Voucher Assistance) as a preferred mode of assistance to affected population that provides flexibility, choice and dignity.
- Cash grants, preferably multi-purpose cash grants, are the most flexible.
- Mobile money transfers or digital systems are well developed and functional.
- Reduces mass gatherings and can deliver cash quickly.
- Cash distribution is generally 25-30% more cost-efficient that in-kind distribution. This can increase to up to 90% more cost-efficient if mobile transfers are used.
- At a global level, there is discourse and consensus being generated to integrate humanitarian cash with governments’ social protection programming.
  - More than 171 countries have activated or reinforced their social protection measures
  - The scope of cash transfers in nexus programming

CVA GUIDANCE AVAILABLE

Contextualized gender compliant technical guidance on CVA available. Please contact us for their copy.

HOW DOES CVA SUPPORT OUR STRATEGY ON ADOLESCENT GIRLS?

- Prioritization of adolescent girls needs are more precisely identified using a targeting process together with the provision of complementary activities (cash plus approach).
- Current research project funded by SIDA How Can Cash Contribute to the Education, Protection and Overall Wellbeing of Adolescent Girls in Crisis
- A toolkit is also being developed that will include training resources that keep adolescent girls into consideration.

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL CAPACITY

- Approximately 600 Country Office staff trained on cash transfers
- Remote support is available by the Plan International Global Hub CVA team.
- Contextualized gender compliant technical guidance on CVA including a commitment paper are already in place. These could be quickly utilized for program design and delivery. (This isn’t capacity)
- The national and regional Cash Working Groups are also assisting their members with technical inputs and coordination. Plan International is active across several of these platforms.
- Plan International is active in global forums and networks:
  - Co-Chair of Global Cash and Markets Working Group (2 terms 2016-2020-recently concluded the tenure)
  - Co-Chair of Global Education and Cash Task Force
  - Member of Global Protection and Cash Task Force
  - Technical Advisory to CaLP.
- CVA Taskforce at Global Hub leading technical guidance & support to COs.

HOW CAN CVA BE USED IN DIFFERENT SECTORS?


**Health**
- Cash / vouchers for vaccination or accessing health services
- Cash for work for health center construction/renovation

**Wash**
- Cash or vouchers for hygiene sessions
- Cash for local masons to provide their services to vulnerable families,
- Cash for work for water supply projects

**Child Protection**
- Cash to prevent and respond to family separation
- Cash support to vulnerable families to reduce reliance on negative coping strategies
- Cash to prevent and respond to GBV

**Food and Livelihoods**
- Cash or vouchers for food, seeds & tools.
- Conditional cash for youth empowerment training
- Cash for work for short term employment

**Education**
- CVA for basic needs to compensate teacher income losses
- CVA in replacement of school feeding
- CVA to facilitate resumption of schooling

Please contact Aftab Alam (Aftab.Alam@plan-international.org)