

# 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 than 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

is the preferred mode of assistance of affected populations



## 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.
  - Lead of Technical Working Group under Global Food Security Cluster to develop contextualized technical tools on food security in relation to COVID-19.
- CVA Taskforce at Global Hub leading technical guidance & support to COs.

## HOW CAN CVA BE USED IN DIFFERENT SECTORS?

Unconditional/multipurpose cash is recommended. Conditions for cash/voucher to be relaxed for Covid-19 response under lockdown/restricted situation.

### 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

### EDUCATION



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

### 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

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