

Cash Narrative – 2019 HRP

The use of cash and vouchers for humanitarian assistance has grown steadily in the north-east since 2016. Between 2017 and 2018, the number of sectors with Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) grew from four to eight namely Education, Health, Shelter/NFIs, WASH, Nutrition, Early Recovery, Protection (GBV& Child Protection) and Food Security – while CTP accounted for 33% of the total financial requirements in 2018 HRP. In 2018, the CWG conducted various assessments including the Joint Cash Feasibility Assessment of February 2018 and the Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment of August 2018 to examine the potential for scaling up CTP. The key findings from these assessments indicated that cash assistance would grow approximately 45% and remain a significant component of the humanitarian response in 2019 across sectors. The aim of CTP is to ensure that vulnerable beneficiaries receive a wide range of basic needs and services and to link them to early recovery efforts to support the rebuilding of resilience and livelihood in an efficient and effective manner.

The CWG workplan developed in 2017 will be reviewed to i) ensure CTP is integrated into the humanitarian coordination mechanism ii) support the scaling up of CTP across sectors (sectoral CTP and/or Multi-Purpose Cash Grant) in line with the priorities of the overall response) iii) Strengthen the government's leadership, ownership, and capacity development and link humanitarian action to government social protection and development programs

i) Integrate CTP into the humanitarian coordination mechanism: CWG as a sub-working group to the ISWG will integrate CTP into all the coordination platforms including government-led humanitarian coordination forums both at the national and state levels, donor briefing mechanisms, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), as well as Inter-sectoral and sectoral platforms.

ii) Mainstream evidence-based programming by providing technical support for the scaling up of CTP across sectors (sectoral CTP and/or Multi-Purpose Cash Grant) in line with the priorities of the overall response: With the increasing uptake of CTP by the sectors in 2019, the CWG will provide technical support to the sectors to strengthen evidence-based programming, promote harmonization of tools and approaches, share best practices and, mainstream protection across CTP.

The CWG will continue to jointly conduct market and cash feasibility assessments and comparative analysis to make evidence-based decisions about the most appropriate transfer modalities among cash, vouchers, in-kind and hybrid options.

The CWG will continue to work with the sectors to ensure better reporting of CTP activities by developing cash indicators and cash friendly 5Ws that separate cash and vouchers. In addition, the CWG will collaborate with the sectors, REACH, FEWSNET and WFP/Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) to harmonize price monitoring tools, monitor prices of items, and produce market price analysis (both sectoral and cross-sectoral). The CWG will carry out Financial Service Providers mapping to provide recommendations and guidelines for their selection and establishing legal agreements.

The CWG will support a pilot of the delivery of Multi-Purpose Cash Grant (MPCG), through a collaborative approach. The collaborative approach entails using a common design logical framework with– objectives and indicators – and harmonized tools, such as -MEB, transfer value calculation, price monitoring and post distribution monitoring. It is envisaged that based on the success of this pilot, MPCG will be rolled out at scale in more locations.

iii) Strengthen the government's leadership, ownership, and capacity development and link humanitarian action to government social protection and development programs. In 2019, the CWG will increase its engagement with relevant government partners such as the National Social Investment Office (NSIO), National Office for Cash Transfers (NOCT), National/State Emergency Management Agencies (N/SEMA), and Victim Support Fund (VSF). The CWG will ensure that the governmental institutions will play a leadership role and promote ownership in a sustainable transition to the humanitarian development nexus. Thus, the CWG will support linking CTP with Social Protection and Development Programs