



GPC GLOBAL PROTECTION FORUM 2020 CONCEPT NOTE FOR VIRTUAL EVENTS

Cash & Voucher Assistance: The Cash For Protection Agenda and Integration of GBV Risk Mitigation in Cash

21 September 2020, 14:00 Geneva / 08:00 New York

Rational/purpose

The use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) in humanitarian setting is growing. Practitioners have long recognized that CVA – along with in-kind, services and case management – is well positioned to contribute to protection outcomes. While the use of CVA to help achieve protection outcomes is progressively used among humanitarian practitioners, there is still a lack of common understanding of cash for protection as a concept, what are evidence-based uses of CVA for protection outcomes, and promising practices. There is also varying levels of buy-in, uptake and scaling across the areas of responsibility (AoRs). In order to translate this great potential into practice, stakeholders need to work on identifying and scaling best practice. Essential to this process is the ongoing engagement of humanitarian donors, coordinators, and field-practitioners to build capacity, take up guidance and tools, foster cooperation between Protection and CVA communities of practice, center localization agendas and support quality programming and rigorous action research.

Alongside commitments to strengthen the use of CVA for protection outcomes within the protection sector, many organizations have committed to expanding their use of CVA to meet basic needs across sectors and contribute to the resilience of vulnerable populations. With the COVID-19 pandemic the vast number of displaced and marginalized individuals has increased and will continue to. In order to maximize its effectiveness of CVA, humanitarian actors should establish GBV risk prevention and mitigation measures to ensure that CVA delivery is safe, and that the CVA modality does not create or exacerbate tensions within the family or the community, thus creating additional risks for women and girls. The global COVID-19 pandemic has already highlighted the gendered impacts of the virus: an exacerbated burden of unpaid care work on women, women's reduced livelihoods and income opportunities, increased gender-based violence (GBV) and protection risks, and interrupted access to sexual and reproductive healthcare.

Humanitarian stakeholders need to ensure that the design and implementation of CVA across sectors is not only gender- and protection-sensitive but also that GBV considerations are mainstreamed to ensure safe receipt and use of CVA for all women and older girls – as outlined by the global GBV guidelines for all sectors¹.

Field experience shows that there is still a lack of “cross fertilization” between CVA and GBV. Though there is today a body of practical tools to guide humanitarian actors in their design of CVA programmes² and to being using CVA in protection programming, there is a crucial need to facilitate additional capacity building and knowledge sharing: ensuring these key tools are used in a meaningful way at field level.

¹ [IASC GBV guidelines.](#)

² Such as [Cash & Voucher Assistance and GBV Compendium: Practical Guidance for Humanitarian Practitioners, the WRC/IRC toolkit](#); and [UNHCR-WFP abuse of power project, amongst others.](#)



Expected Outcome

The Cash for Protection (C4P) Task Team has recently published the Cash for Protection Stocktaking Paper in order to support a common understanding of the use of CVA in the protection sector, share up-to-date evidence and highlight gaps in knowledge, practice that require critical attention and resources. This session will help protection specialists, including but not limited to GBV specialists, to better understand the potential of using CVA for protection outcomes, evidence and evidence gaps, and key stakeholder actions to tackle gaps in evidence and practice. This session will dive into CVA for GBV outcomes and GBV risk mitigation in CVA as a potential roadmap for expanding CVA and Protection integration across the other AoRs (Child Protection, Housing Land and Property, and Mine Action).

Ensuring GBV risk mitigation in CVA programming is critical to ensuring displaced women and girls' protection. This session will share key tools and guidance for Cash and Protection actors on how to ensure GBV risks are minimized (in the design, implementation and monitoring of any CVA programme) through a practical walk through the "GBV risk analysis matrix"³ - which is a simple tool to ensure do no harm to women and girls' when using CVA as a modality of assistance.

Format/Content of the Event

Plenary

English

1. Welcome, introduce speakers and present agenda, share pre-survey results – 10 min
2. Overview: Cash for Protection Task Team, Stocktaking Paper on Cash for Protection Outcomes in the Protection Sector – Task Team, and CVA and GBV integration – UNFPA – 25 min
3. Mini- training on the "GBV risks and benefits analysis tool) – 30 min - UNFPA
4. Best practices and lessons learned from the field – case snapshots of GBV risk mitigation in CVA and CVA in GBV response; Q&A– 40 min (UNHCR, UNICEF, IRC, UNFPA; CARE tbc)
5. Linking CVA with other areas of protection – poll on evidence gaps, next steps for the Task Team, forthcoming research papers and guidance – TT and guests
6. Q&A 10 min

Speakers/Moderator/ technical donor partner

- Moderator: Stefan Schmoltdt (GPC Task Team on Cash for Protection Co-Chair, Cash Technical Advisor – IRC)
- Speakers: Stefan Schmoltdt, Tenzin Manell (GPC Task Team on Cash for Protection Co-Chair, Senior Technical Advisor, Cash and Livelihoods - WRC), Joanna Friedman (Cash and Voucher Assistance Specialist – UNFPA), Luana de Souza-Monbaron (GBV Specialist -GBV AoR) and special guests (UNICEF, UNHCR, IRC, CARE - tbc)
- Technical donor partner: SDC (tbd)

Cluster/Operations

N/A

³ Extracted from the [Cash & Voucher Assistance and GBV Compendium: Practical Guidance for Humanitarian Practitioners](#)



Pre-event questions /survey to be shared with participants

1. Have you used cash or vouchers before in protection programming to support protection outcomes? (Yes, No, Not sure)
2. Do you feel equipped with knowledge, skills and tools to use cash or vouchers in protection programming to support protection outcomes? (scale). If no, what are barriers to you gaining the knowledge, skills and tools needed? (open ended)

[Link to survey](#)

Background Reading

- Cash and Voucher Assistance for Protection: Taking Stock of Cash and Voucher Assistance to Achieve Protection Outcomes in the Protection Sector in Humanitarian Settings
- The Cash & Voucher Assistance and GBV Compendium: Practical Guidance for Humanitarian Practitioners