

Cash and Markets Technical Working Group Meeting (CM-TWG) - 17th May 2017 – MINUTES

The Agenda of the Meeting will be :

1. Introductions and mapping of all cash and markets actors.- 10 min
2. Election of the CMTWG Co-lead -10 min
3. Review the previous Cash &Markets strategy. -30 min
4. Planning for key deliverables/development of strategic documents(TOR/Strategy/CBT Guidelines)-10 min
5. AOB-10min

Minutes:

1. Introductions and mapping of all cash and markets actors.

The following partners were identified to be implementing cash based interventions . These were Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Africa Action HELP, WFP, Action Contre la Faim, Oxfam, World Vision, Concern, Acted, Merci Corps, SAADO, Danish Church Aid, World Bank, Women for Women, Hope Agency for Relief and Development, LWDO, Grassroots Relief and Development Agency, Joint Aid Management, CARE, American Refugee Committee, Danish Refugee Council.

2. Election of the CM-TWG Co-lead.

initiated the discussion stating that, given the big temporal inactivity gap of this TWG, it would be really important to elect a co-lead and get the group started as soon as possible. A further suggestion was the proposition of an NGO's partner representative for the co-lead position.

further remarked the need for the Lead of the TWG to put forward the TORs for the Co-Lead to boost up the election process and start rolling with the development of the strategy for the group. WFP will need to lead and also share the Expression of Interest. Once this is done, the group can have another meeting and start discussing relevantkey documents and strategies. These points were agreed by other participants as well.

FSL Cluster Chair: the process will be initiated and by the end of the week the group will start with the present and interested partners.

3) (WFP) PRESENTATION - Review the previous Cash & Markets strategy.

The current strategy was already presented last year. So this still relevant for SSD given the political and general situation in the country.

Tactical objective of the strategy: **Provide technical guidance** –Final objective: **resilience in conflict affected area**

- 1) Offer better guidance to emergency response programs
- 2) Better use of local capacities: identify and evaluate markets and their dynamics / research and develop supply chain improvement strategies / lead and engage and integration of markets
- 3) Deliverables: I reporting, knowledge management, ii Advocacy and strategic positioning / iii Evidence and result based programming through integrated approach

QUESTIONS:

Partners remarked that the TWG is not really functioning properly, in its entirety, yet and further asked whether the market aspects of cash activities could be expanded within the strategy, taking into consideration different value chain opportunities and market feasibility assessments.

The response from the TWG chair was that there was a market assessment in 2015. However, in order to be able to achieve the goals of the cash and MARKET components, the group and the strategy would need to evaluate and better consider the different markets' value chains for sure, in their entirety.

FSL-Cluster: posed a question - what has changed and what needs to be changed from the previous strategy?

- 1) WFP: proposed to possibly expand points (ii) and (iii) of point '3' of the presentation - Deliverables: (i) reporting, knowledge management / (ii) Advocacy and strategic positioning / (iii) Evidence and result based programming through integrated approach - in order to involve other clusters and actors.

The TWG members then added: going back to the final objective of the strategy proposed, "is it not too strict to focus the final objective to exclusively resilience in conflict affected areas?"

members also added: "in general, we would look more into feasibility of cash assistance activities. Some contextual analysis are needed in order to look and review the current economic, social and environmental conditions in the country. Different methodologies need to be evaluated properly to see whether they are still the best option currently available to provide cash assistance (vouchers/FFA/FFE etc..). Feasibility studies for piloting efficient methods (using local resources for delivering assistance) promoting a shift from pure cash assistance to best practices, in members opinion would also be something really important and relevant to be done.

The session was concluded by stating: " the TWG should provide general guidance for how cash assistance can be used in the country, providing and taking into consideration contextual information on markets regional and local supply chains and feasibility assessments".

4 Planning for key deliverables/development of strategic documents(TOR/Strategy/CBT Guidelines)-10 min

Agreement for the timing of the next meeting: 14th June

WFP/FSL Cluster: Share the TOR for the CO-Lead / Expression of Interest / Copy of the guidance (presentation) by Monday 22nd of May.

Elections of the co-lead during the next meeting .

AOB.

Announcement about the CBT to be held on the 6-8th of June 2017.