



Cash & Market Working Group

6th October, 2021



Agenda

- Introduction
- Update from members & FSC
- Update Stories
- May Global Partners' Meeting and way forward
- Vendor research (IRC)
- Webinar on liquidity crisis
- AOB

1. Update from CM-WG members



- Clarifications of roles between CWG and FSC (Mali)

2. gFSC stories



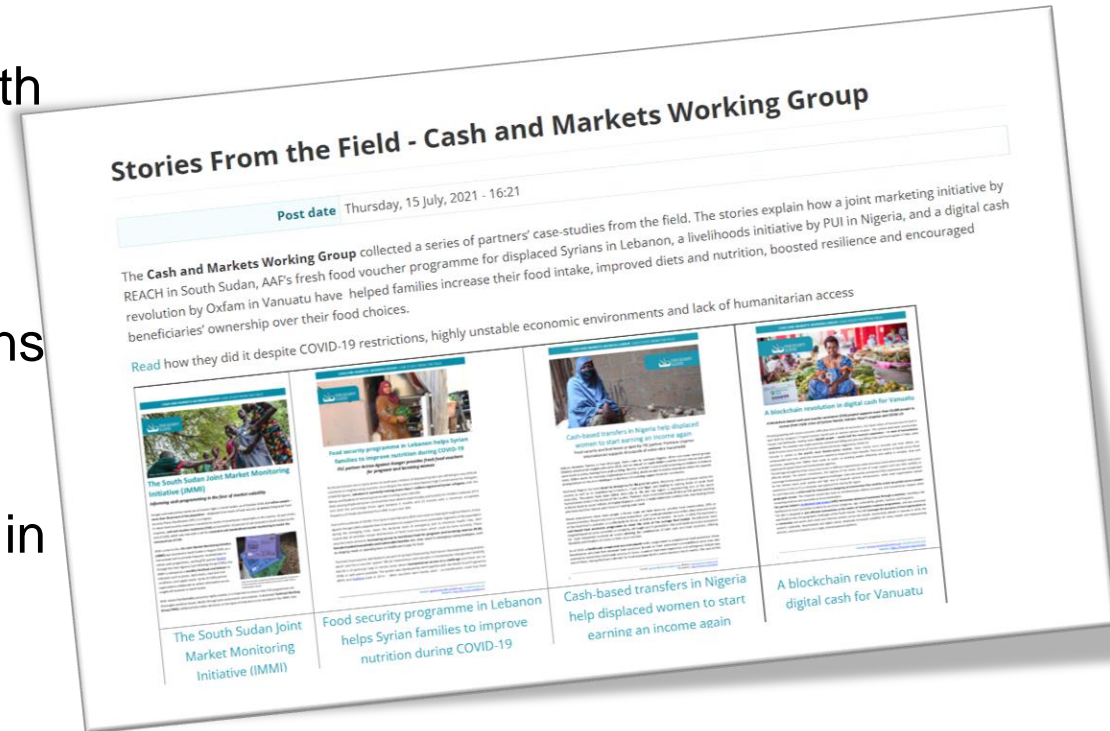
Stories are on the [website](#)

1. REACH and the JMMI in South Sudan

2. ACF's fresh food voucher programme for displaced Syrians in Lebanon

3. A livelihoods initiative by PUI in Nigeria

4. A digital cash revolution by Oxfam in Vanuatu



3. May Global Partners' Meeting and way forward



- 2x Breakout Sessions held : Global Dynamics and Field Support
- Questions asked in each group
- What past or ongoing support / outputs have been most useful from the WGs - for field teams / What past or ongoing support / outputs have been most useful from the WGs - for field teams

Technical support to the field – lessons learned and opportunities



Question	Discussion
<i>What support/ outputs from the working groups have you received/seen in the past few years which have been useful</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Capacity building/training on IPC (CO level?)2. Shared tools for monitoring (CO level?)3. Cooked meal distribution4. The Cash for Work Guidance5. During the height of the C-19 pandemic, the guidance notes and revisions to operations were very helpful from the gFSC. I believe the resources and materials, SOPs and C-19 updates were helpful to field teams.6. Guidance : FSL selection, beneficiaries selection, review of baskets...7. Cluster provides a high level of cooperation among all active actors in the field to avoid any possible overlapping8. digitalizing survey9. Indicator handbook

Technical support to the field – lessons learned and opportunities



Question	Discussion (rank by number of vote)
<i>What should we prioritize going forwards?</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensuring docs are available in appropriate languages2. Identifying/mapping resources to orient and guide field colleagues towards appropriate existing documents – contextualisation3. Digitization of beneficiaries and assistance for social protection and provision of materials and equipment for field agents4. Better ways to disseminate guidance to the field. emails are usually not enough. training sessions/workshops would be more engaging5. Harmonized and systematized tools across countries6. Linking country WG with global WG7. Accompanying activities for emergency actions, for example, providing training and materials on the processing of agricultural products and livestock8. Find out how could we complement existing initiatives (fora)

gFSC WGs coordination & Global dynamics – Lessons learned and opportunities



Current situation: challenges and good practices

GOOD PRACTICES:

- Good cross collaboration between WGs: Cash for seeds (CM & Agriculture); MPC outcome indicators (CM & PQWG); global clusters Cash WG chairs meeting
- Collaboration with other clusters and lead agencies: for instance PTF and Protection cluster (CoP review 2020)
- The connection between WGs and field Clusters has improved greatly and should be continued and enhanced.
- Strong connections with other global fora and platforms
- Working groups have a standing agenda in the FSC meetings - to give updates

CHALLENGES:

- Transforming WGs ToRs into practical actions
- Need to harmonise WG way of working
- Improve routine information sharing between WGs.
- WGs are generally responsive to external engagement but not always proactively seeking links.

gFSC WGs coordination & Global dynamics – Lessons learned and opportunities



Way Forward: opportunities, actions and solutions

- Schedule quarterly cross-WGs calls / meetings to exchange (in between global partners meetings)
- Proactively identify external global level stakeholders and initiatives to link with.
- Engage proactively with Geneva (Global) CWG
- Joint letter on Cash coordination with CaLP
- Ensure FSC teams and WGs leads are in all distribution lists
- Support field WGs (by organising dedicated sessions at country level)
- WGs and PTF TORs review to be harmonised with support of SAG
- Jointly defined priorities discussed at gFSC meeting to inform the workplan + responding to field requests
- 2021 opportunities: for instance: Year for Eradication of Child Labour (PTF and Agriculture WG)



INTERNATIONAL
RESCUE
COMMITTEE



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Vendor experiences with
humanitarian cash and voucher
assistance:
Findings from Chad and Colombia

October 6th, 2021

Project overview

Overall goal:

Generate evidence that will help promote the uptake & design of emergency response & early recovery programming that supports the improved functioning of market systems that are crucial to crisis-affected populations

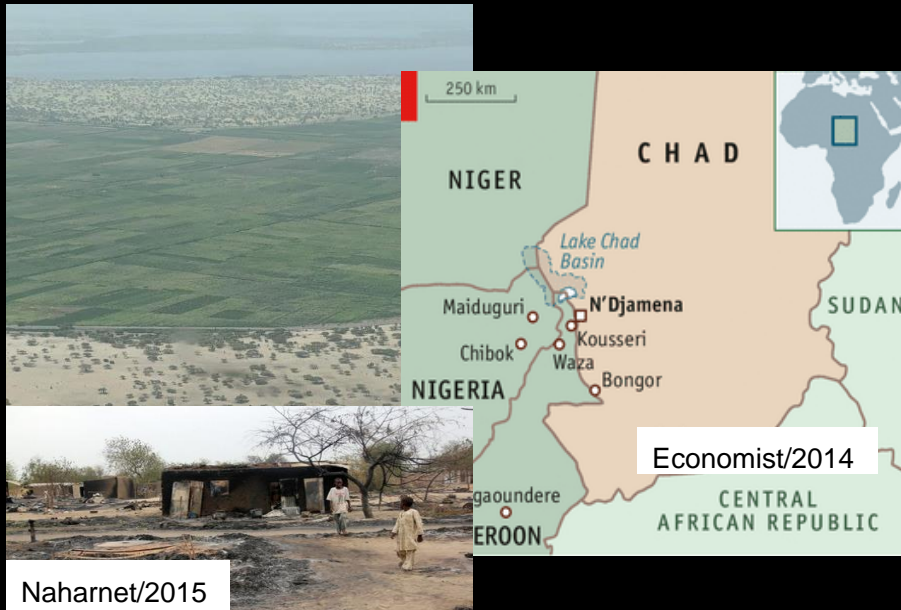
Two main activity areas:

1. Development of quantitative measurement tool on “vendor health”
2. Qualitative research on comparative effects of restricted + unrestricted assistance + challenges faced by vendors of different “sizes” to inform targeting + design of market support activities

Specific research questions

1. What are the challenges and needs of vendors of different “sizes” after crises? What support would be the most useful?
2. How do cash and voucher assistance affect vendors of different “sizes”?
3. What are the costs (time and financial costs, risks faced) that local vendors incur in order to benefit from cash and voucher assistance?

Context



The sample

	Chad	Colombia
# qualitative interviews	219	51
# market places	5	2
Gender breakdown	16% women, 84% men	51% women, 49% men
Vendor size breakdown	9% wholesalers, 26% semi-wholesalers, 65% retailers	11% large, 19% medium, 70% small

Key finding #1

Although humanitarian CVA benefits markets broadly speaking, most vendors don't *perceive* these benefits within their own businesses.

- Cash is so disbursed in local markets that it ultimately has little noticeable benefit for individual market actors
- Positive effect of vouchers is significant, but only reaches a very small, elite group of contracted vendors.

Key finding #2

The negative effects of crises are felt by all vendors, but certain categories of vendors are less able to cope than others.

- Women were more likely than men to have young businesses, to report less-than-excellent business health, and (in Chad) to face household-related business interruptions.
- Small businesses were thought to be less resilient to economic hardship than larger ones.

Key findings #3 & 4

Fairly robust informal support systems and strategies already exist in humanitarian contexts.

Taking goods on credit from suppliers (Chad); market-driven, individualized strategies (Colombia)

Capital constraints are a widespread challenge to business survival and growth in crisis contexts.

Financial assistance was the leading type of business support requested by all types of vendors.

Selected recommendations

1. Humanitarian actors should design cash and voucher assistance so that its economic benefits reach the broadest possible swath of local market actors, and donors should encourage this.
2. Humanitarian actors should propose standalone market support activities beyond just CVA, and donors should fund them.
3. Humanitarian actors and donors should ensure that market assessments collect adequate information for the appropriate targeting and design of market support interventions.
4. Enhance efforts to expand access to financial services, and include market actors affected by humanitarian crises in these efforts

Further resources

More about market-based/market support programming

- [CaLP's tip sheet on market support programming](#) (English only)
- [Market-based programming framework](#)

More about IRC's Cash and Markets research

- [Full report, research brief, tools & video](#) (English/French/Spanish/Arabic)
- [Blog post](#) on gender-related findings from Chad

5. Webinar on liquidity crisis



Cash & Markets WG Workplan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE & PARTNERS	STATUS
SHORT TERM PRIORITIES		
Work to support a <u>gFSC Help desk</u>	Buy in needed – but if agreed across other WGs next 6 months ; gFSC	<u>Achieved</u>
<u>Linkage with other CM-WG</u> of other global clusters: <i>identifying cluster counterparts, building links and sharing experiences</i>	CM-WG chairs and gFSC focal point January 2021	<i>Achieved</i>
<u>Cash and Markets</u> ‘Stories from the field’ - practical case studies across partners on a variety of CM topics + webinar on Market Based Food Security Programming adaptations and COVID19	CM-WG chairs/members May 2021	<i>Achieved</i>
Webinar around <u>adapting CVA delivery</u> in the face of C19	CM-WG chairs/members May 2021	Cancelled



GLOBAL
FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER
Strengthening Humanitarian Response

Cash & Markets WG Workplan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE & PARTNERS	STATUS
MEDIUM TERM PRIORITIES		
Follow up with the GB /STOWC in regards to coordination and new models emerging	CaLP, GB, CM-WG chairs/members November 2021	Ongoing – still of relevance?
Cash and Social Protection guidance : practical case studies (how food assistance, via CVA has linked to existing social protection infrastructure somehow)	CaLP, GB, CM-WG chairs/members November 2021	Ongoing – still of relevance?



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- Global Partners' meeting: tentative date end November – early December
 - New FAO global coordinator (Abdul Majid) starting mid November 2021
 - Ruco on (paternity) leave from November until January. John Lamm from USAID to attend gFSC and CMWG