

Global Food Security Cluster (gFSC) Cash & Markets Working Group (CMWG)

Terms of Reference

(Version 08.02.2016)

Background

Cash transfer is increasingly being used to address food security gaps during emergency and recovery contexts. Many of global Food Security Cluster member agencies are using cash transfer modality in recent emergencies and hence there is a need for the Food Security Cluster to look at ways to establish a systematic mainstreaming process of Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) and ensure coordination of such interventions, as well as a need to strengthen the capacity of partners in CTP. The gFSC partners decided to create the Cash and Markets Working Group (CMWG) during the November 2013 gFSC global partners' meeting that aimed to support these efforts from the global level. The CMWG became inactive by the end of 2014 after the CashCap was launched. It was agreed upon with the gFSC and partners that the CMWG will remain inactive, however the WG members would be kept in a mailing list for sharing information only.

With the current momentum in CTP among different cluster partners and other clusters (e.g., Shelter), a discussion was held among few gFSC cluster partners in September 2015 whether CMWG could be again reactivated as a platform for compiling existing tools and mechanisms and facilitating capacity building efforts for the cluster member agencies. One of the significant deliverables of CMWG was the establishment of CashCap (Cash and Markets Standby Capacity Roster) in 2015, which is currently hosted by NRC with different cluster members serving as steering committee members, and it was felt that CMWG could further contribute to the cluster partners by building on the experiences gained and success made, and share experiences, build capacity of cluster coordinators and cash and market experts, promote innovation and improve cash transfer coordination in sudden onset and protracted crises at country level. This working group will also coordinate with the Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP) programme, other Clusters and any inter-cluster cash working groups to share learning, relevant products and experiences as well as find ways to integrate assistance when multipurpose or multi sector cash transfer is the preferred modality.

With this discussion, the following Terms of Reference have been revised outlining the roles of CMWG, within the gFSC.

Purpose

The purpose of the CMWG is to facilitate and support the mainstreaming of Cash Transfer Programme (CTP) in food security sector in close coordination with other clusters and Multi-Purpose Cash Grant initiatives.

Objectives

- **Objective 1:** Systematically analyze, compile and map the existing cash transfer tools, mechanisms and good practices in food security sector; facilitate capacity building at global and country level in the areas of market assessment and analysis to effectively design and respond through cash transfer programming during sudden onset and protracted crises. It will also include members to be involved in the development and revision of tools to adequately integrate food security sector in the multi-purpose cash transfer programming context.
- **Objective 2:** Share knowledge and experiences on Cash Transfer Programming at gFSC level through collaboration with other cash and market groups of other clusters, such as IASC Task Group on Cash Transfer¹, Geneva-based Cash Working Group², CaLP, WFP Cash and Voucher Unit, Logistics Cluster, Shelter Cluster, UNHCR, FAO, Market in Crisis, etc. The representatives (co-chairs) will share learning and relevant information to members from other similar working groups and platforms by promoting mutual learning and support when necessary through joint initiatives.

Working Group Structure

- The CMWG will comprise of 1 chair and 1 co-chair and is supported by the gFSC secretariat.
- The Chair and Co-Chair shall be elected or agreed through consensus (*as agreed during the global partners meeting in December 2015*) on a yearly basis in the second face-to-face meeting of the year during the gFSC global partners meeting.
- Priorities will be identified on yearly basis and agencies will be assigned to chair different initiatives.
- The following activities are required from member agencies
 - Support the Cluster Coordinators in mapping the CTP in food security cluster/sector at country level
 - Actively participate in the regular virtual (teleconferences) and face-to-face meetings
 - Share learning to others from their CTP experiences, and analyze and compile different tools and mechanisms used in CTP by cluster partners
 - Collaborate with other working group members during different capacity building initiatives (example include - hosting CTP related training for cluster partners, send participants or facilitators to Cluster Coordinators' training, include cash transfer as a module in the Cluster Coordinators' training, etc.)
 - Wherever appropriate jointly work with other cluster partners to design and submit proposals to donors for different cash transfer related initiatives.

Methodology

The Rome Secretariat will manage and ensure the communications with the WG through:

- Regular email correspondences for information sharing or work group
- Regular sharing of tools and products on CTP to cluster members

¹ This Task Group was agreed by the IASC Principles in December 2015 to be led by the World Bank

² This group is an informal cash working group currently led by OCHA, and gFSC is a member of this group.

- Close coordination with OCHA, IASC Task Group on Cash Transfer, Geneva-based Cash Working Group, CaLP, CashCap and other CTP related initiatives, and sharing of relevant information with the cluster members and interested Cluster Coordinators.
- Teleconferences once in two months to coordinate on specific issues
- Working Group Face-to-Face meetings during the bi-annual Meeting of gFSC Global Partners
- Meeting minutes including actions points circulated to all WG members

Work Plan (to be discussed and finalized during the November F2F meeting)

| Activities | Outputs | Focal Points | Deadline |
|---|---|---------------------|---|
| Interface/coordination meeting with Geneva-based Cash Working Group, CaLP, WFP Cash and Voucher Unit, FAO, Logistics Cluster, Shelter Cluster, UNHCR, Market in Crisis, CashCap | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear coordination mechanisms agreed. • Tools on CTP identified and process initiated for harmonisation • CTP tools Harmonized • | Partners? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next F2F food security cluster meeting in May/June 2016 • F2F meeting – Nov/Dec 2016 |
| Analysis, compilation and mapping of existing cash transfer tools and mechanisms and facilitation of capacity building initiatives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of capacity building needs on CTP in different field level clusters • At least two field level food security/cluster coordinators and other partners' staff trained on market assessment, analysis and other elements of cash transfer programming during sudden onset and protracted crises • Number of field cluster coordinators and agencies coordinated and collaborated on cash transfer initiatives | Partners? | <p>April 2016</p> <p>12 months. ongoing</p> |
| Sharing of Knowledge and experiences on Cash Transfer Programming in food security and other sectors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of at least two best practices within 6 months • At least two best practices/case studies on cash transfer programming shared with food security and other cluster partners | Partners? | <p>June 2016</p> <p>November 2016</p> |
| | • | Partners? | Ongoing |
| | • | | • |