

Cash based Interventions: Gender and Inclusion Tip Sheet Lebanon's Flash Appeal 2020/ Emergency Response to the Beirut Port Explosion

Introduction

This document aims in supporting the Cash partners in promoting a gender sensitive response while ensuring that the needs of vulnerable people are meaningfully represented. Should any gender-analytical support be needed, please consult UN Women: Claire Wilson (Claire.wilson@unwomen.org) and Olivia Schmitz (Olivia.schmitz@unwomen.org). For support on PSEA, please contact Eva Modvig (modvig@un.org).

Cash based interventions: Why Does Gender and Inclusion Matter?

Many actors in Lebanon are planning to implement cash based interventions (CBI) for the blast response, especially in the shelter, food security and protection sectors.

Women and girls are disproportionately affected by humanitarian emergencies. Without proper consideration of issues such as societal norms, women's and men's domestic responsibilities and financial literacy, cash assistance could potentially lead to greater marginalization and exclusion.

When women and girls have equitable access to and control over resources, and are able to meaningfully participate in and influence decision making processes, they are rendered less vulnerable to sexual exploitation and negative coping strategies, such as child marriage or forced labour. Equitable access to cash assistance also has the potential to facilitate a genuine and positive transformation in discriminatory gender relations, roles and attitudes. Cash assistance must therefore be designed in a way that considers safe and equitable access for diverse groups of women, men, girls and boys.

To promote a gender-responsive cash-based interventions and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable people are meaningfully represented throughout the response the following issues should be considered:

Needs Assessment and Analysis

- ✓ Make sure that the CBI needs assessment team is diverse. *Example: Involve the participation of both women and men and where feasible members of marginalized groups.*
- ✓ Ensure baselines captures sex-age-disability disaggregated data (SADDD) analyzing the composition of the affected population and identifying the most vulnerable groups.
- ✓ Include or consult gender and protection specialists in the design and the implementation of all assessments.
- ✓ Conduct a gender analysis as part of the CBI needs assessment and analyze findings.
- ✓ Include women and girls and other at risk-groups such as LGBTIQ¹, elderly, persons with disabilities, female-headed and child headed households, in the development of an inclusive, community-based and sustainable CBI programme.

Strategic Planning and Resource Mobilization

- ✓ Design programmes that takes into account women's double burden (paid work and unpaid domestic work) and that could for example include providing childcare facilities (or stipends for childcare) and breastfeeding spaces and safe transportation (for Cash for Work).
- ✓ Where possible, budgeted resources for protection, particularly prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and gender mainstreaming as complimentary programming.
- ✓ While planning staffing, plan for enough staff to take on important protection work: including protection managers, gender-based violence (GBV) specialist, social workers, and PSEA focal points.

¹ Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and gender diverse, Intersex, Queer and questioning

Implementation and Monitoring

- ✓ Utilize SADDD for implementing programmes and projects, monitoring purposes and measuring outcomes.
- ✓ Ensure that CBI programmes adequately addresses safety concerns of all beneficiaries (direct and indirect) in the collection and use of cash both inside and outside of the home. [Example: distribute information on protection services with the cash beneficiaries.](#)
- ✓ Set-up gender-responsive, inclusive and confidential feedback and complaint mechanisms including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) reporting measures. Make sure that communities/beneficiaries have information on how and where to confidentially report misconduct.
- ✓ Make sure that the cash modalities selected are inclusive and allow equal access for women and men, elderly, refugees, migrant workers as well as other vulnerable groups. [Example: the timing and mechanism to distribute cash must consider women's household care duties, ease of movement, perceived stigma for LGBTIQ individuals, access to financial institutions and familiarity with technology, such as mobile phones.](#)
- ✓ To empower women and increase their ownership in household related aspects, register adult women as the primary household recipients of cash assistance (except for single-male headed households).
- ✓ Ensure oversight of distributions by aid workers (female and male) who are trained on GBV awareness, referral and [PSEA](#) and that codes of conduct are signed by staff, volunteers and contractors.
- ✓ Provide diversified cash-for-work options to ensure suitable and safe opportunities for women (including pregnant and lactating women), elderly and persons with disabilities with flexible schedules and coupled with childcare where needed and possible. Such childcare can be provided as cash-for-work option for mothers bound to the domestic sphere, which increases value of women's care work. Set work age limits to prevent child labour and ensure that work does not interfere with school attendance.
- ✓ For longer term interventions - pair CBI programs with work to increase women's knowledge on financial management (incl. digital finance and financial literacy), marketing, business development and entrepreneurship, and promote their access to markets, identification documents and technology that is required to receive digital cash transfers.

Further information

https://www.gihahandbook.org/media/pdf/en_topics/cash_based_interventions.pdf

<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/how-promote-gender-equality-humanitarian-cash-and-voucher-assistance-guidelines-grand>