

MENA CVA Community of Practice

Meeting #7 Minutes

Date:	Wednesday 2nd March 2022 - 11:30 (Beirut time)
Attendees:	<p>Facilitator: Gabriella D'Elia</p> <p>British Red Cross/CashHub: Azim Noorani Danish Red Cross: Veerle Schouten Egyptian red Crescent: Pilar Badran Lebanese Red Cross: Hikmat Al Amine Libya Red Crescent: Ziad Othman Palestine Red Crescent Society: Eman al Deek Qatar red Crescent: Ahmed Salem Ahmed Syrian Arab Red Crescent: Nabeh ALLaham</p>
Agenda:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction of new members 2. Updates from members 3. Updates from facilitator – Cash Day outcome and upcoming trainings/webinars 4. AOB

Meeting minutes:

1. Introduction of new members

Qatar Red Crescent: Ahmed Salem is the new CVA Focal Point, replacing Subhi Ejeh.
 Palestine Red Crescent nominated Eman al Deek as national CVA Focal Point.

2. Updates from members

Lebanese Red Cross started the first CVA activities for 2022 with BRC support. For this year, the NS has 2.6 Mo USD available for CVA (MPCA, food, NFI).

The NS is identifying the way forward with Market-based programming. The CEA system is being digitalised, with a WhatsApp bot as a first point of contact. Data Sharing Agreement signed with the UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies to access information and update their interventions for Syrian refugees. The information will be uploaded to UNHCR RISE platform (i.e.: will cover only people registered in the UNHCR system) and allow deduplication among agencies and identification of registered refugees not currently served by any organisation. The system will not allow inputting of new cases from partners.

Qatar Red Crescent: no programme updates; the NS has now 4 staff/volunteers PECT-trained, 2 of whom are ready for deployment.

Egyptian Red Crescent is in the process of hiring staff for the technical CVA team. The CVA Focal Point is currently providing technical support for the CVA component in the Aswan floods emergency response.

The NS is developing the CVA SOPs.

Palestine Red Crescent Society: setting up CVA preparedness; a CVA self-assessment workshop is in the planning stages; next steps will be recruitment of a CVA team, development of SOPs. DRM and CEA departments are currently doing an assessment to identify community preference for the modality and delivery mechanism.

Syrian Arab Red Crescent: Closing 2021 projects (in collaboration with German RC, British RC, IFRC and NGOs).

2022 planning ongoing: potential collaboration with Canadian RC, Danish RC, Swiss RC.

Preparedness PoA finalised; planning Capacity building activities; exploring digital CVA transfer modalities; developing tools for future use and adapting to the Syrian context. Activities expanding to 4 new Governorates: recruitments planned.

Libyan Red Crescent: exploring with the ICRC the possibility of delivering e-vouches through a local communication company.

Danish Red Cross: in collaboration with German RC and British RC will present the newly formed RCRCM Cash Consortium to the IRCS.

British Red Cross/CashHub: update on the Global cash Forum held on the 10th of February. 450 people connected to the event, and the MENA session was very successful. The event report is available on [the CashHub site](#).

3. Updates from facilitator

First MENA Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Annual Technical Meeting: took place on the 21st February in Beirut with all the National CVA Focal Points, who participated in person or virtually. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss the progress on the Regional CVA Plan of Action developed in 2019, and update it according to the new priorities. The Deputy Regional Representative of the CaLP network provided an overview of the Network current work, plan for the coming year, and services and support they can provide to the RCRCM and individual NS. The MENA Cash Centre of Excellence provided an overview of the workplan and the achievements to date.

Upcoming Moodle training: IFRC MENA secured 10 seats for MENA NS. The training will run between the 4th May and the 29th June; a separate email will be sent with the call for applications as soon as the Livelihoods Resource Centre allows. Completion of the training (or the IFRC 4 days CTP training, CaLP II training, or equivalent) is a prerequisite to apply to the PECT training.

PECT training: the first Arabic PECT training is planned for the second week of June (TBC). More information will be shared as soon as it becomes available. Application and Selection process will be followed with no exceptions, and late, incomplete or inaccurate applications will not be considered.

CVA for Health outcomes: considering the growing interest from NS and CoP members, a session with the RCRCM CVA for Health Outcomes Working Group will be organised in the next months.

4. AOB

As agreed in the first meeting in September, the monthly meetings schedule was reviewed. The group decided to maintain the monthly interval and move the meeting to the second Wednesday of each month, 11:30 Beirut time.

Meetings schedule

The CoP meets every second Wednesday of the month at 11:30 Beirut time until March 2023 – the frequency of schedules will be reviewed during March 2023 meeting.

MENA CVA Community of Practice meetings schedule	
Meeting #	Date
1	1 st September, 2021
2	6 th October, 2021
3	3 rd November, 2021
4	1 st December, 2021
5	5 th January, 2022
6	2 nd February, 2022
7	2 nd March, 2022