

MENA CVA Community of Practice

Meeting #25 minutes

*The meeting #25 did take place in 13/12/2023 on teams COP series meeting.

Meeting Details & agenda:

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| Date: | Wednesday 13th December 2023 - 11:00 to 12.00 (Beirut time) |
| Attendees: | Facilitator: Nabeh Allaham/IFRC CVA thematic lead Cash centre of excellence: Nagham Sayagh/Reem Jawahri Iraqi Red Crescent Society: Rasha Younis Yemen Red Crescent: Hend Wasabi /Abdullah Al-azab. Lebanese Red Cross: Elias Hazoury Cash Hub: Azim Norani Syrian Arab Red Crescent: Khaled Al-Madani Egyptian Red Crescent: Jihad Mohamad Norwegian Red Cross: Michale Consuelo |
| Agenda : | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CVA regional road map for 2024-2025. (15 min).• MENA CVA NSs preparedness overview. (10 Min)• Cash and voucher assistance mentoring programme. (5 min). • Updates from the COP members (15Min).• Updates from Facilitator (10 min).<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COP What's app group.• Cochair cop coordination.• AOB (5 min). |

Meeting minutes:

This COP meeting is considered the Ninth meeting in the series of COP monthly meetings in 2023. It was a good opportunity to cover different points and focus on ongoing activities nationally, regionally and globally with MENA NSs focal points, and provide an update from the facilitator.

1. CVA regional road map for 2024-2025.

The final version of the MENA CVA Road map 2024–2025 is presented by the regional Cash thematic lead to the COP member, who highlights and explains the structure and sections according to the previous exercise and collects information requests. The floor for questions and answers opened. As agreed during the meeting disuccion the road map will be shared online following the meeting so that the CVA focal points can read it and offer their input. The proposed deadline is January 15th, 2024.

2. MENA CVA NSs preparedness overview 2023:

The final version of the MENA CVA NSs overview 2023 dashboard is presented to the COP member by the regional thematic lead, who outlines the main tabs of the dashboard and explains the navigation in the

dashboard, the dashboard has a guideline page that will take the person through the dashboard tabs step by step, the dashboard consists of cash readiness if the NSs, their participation in MENA cash initiatives, implementation CVA into different sector by each NSs.

3. **Cash and voucher assistance mentoring programme:**

The CCOE updates on the CVA mentoring limited to the programme , the mentors and mentees met to agree on the mentee objectives they are looking to expand their knowledge and technical areas of CVA during their learning pathway for six months, and the mentee is committed to writing a document at the end of the programme that reflects their progress with key learnings achieved, in addition, each mentor and mentee schedule the meetings series to allow the mentor to monitor learning progress and provide the support coaching when is required.

4. **Updates from COP members:**

• **Cash center of excellence :**

In light of the Cash Peer to Peer programme invitation shared with the COP members, the Cash Centre of Excellence gave a briefing on the programme, which is scheduled at the 3rd till the 7th of March. The first preparatory meeting will be organised in the next few days to jointly develop the program's agenda with NSs' nominees closely.

• **Yemen Red Crescent:**

Key updates of YRCS limited to: the MPC assistance delivered to 500 HH in Haja and Hadra Mot successfully, in addition, the YRCS managed to conduct a CVA programme tools training on 29TH of Dec for 3 days for three governorates, where YRCS is planning to implement two projects (Multi-purpose cash assistance & voucher for health) to 450 HH, Currently, the team is running the selecting beneficiaries and verification phase be able to deliver the money at the end of DEC 2023.

On the other side, the updates have covered the lessons learned workshop that was conducted on 21 Nov for 3 days, where most YRCS partners, FSP, targeted Branches staff part of the workshop, the workshop focused on the best practices, challenges, and achievements of the CVA programme , and providing the main recommendations to improve the upcoming project next years.

• **Egyptian Red Crescent:**

Updates on ERC CVA interventions were given by CVA projects manager Jihad Mouhamad. Firstly, the ERC has completed work on the ICRC cash project for Sudanese refugees, which targets 2706 HHs. Secondly, regarding the UNHCR project (newly evacuee population from Gaza) in Ismailia, Suez, and Alarish, where the money is expected to be delivered shortly, Regarding to the CDC project, the ERC was able to provide support to 1750 households.

• **Lebanese Red Cross:**

the CVA coordinator gave a quick overview of the LRC CVA interventions, where the ECOSEC team is planning to give the final CVA payment for all regular CVA programmes beneficiaries for 2023 soon, along with one installment for Winterization intervention.

Nonetheless, the LRC and UNICEF want to work with 1000 southern displaced households, providing one financial installment.

• **Syrian Arab Red Crescent:**

The Cash focal point provided updates on ongoing CVA projects, where Cash for Winterization project in running in ten 10 governorates for 24,000 HH, in terms of Cash for relief with ICRC, SARC is planning to deliver cash for 90000 HH, where the Cash should be delivered for 5000 HH affected by the earthquake response before the end of 2023, the second installment of cash for education project will be delivered soon, at the end, there are about 10 cash projects are running with different INGOs and PNSs

Furthermore, SARC managed to conduct a CVA self-assessment exercise on the 7-8th of Dec for 2 days, where the CVA team is working on the self-assessment report, and will be shared when is finalized.

- **Iraqi Red Crescent:**

The CVA focal point Rash Younes has covered different points in the updates, starting with GRC projects, the beneficiaries selected in three governorates for 2970 beneficiaries (Almothana, Zee Qar , Salah Aldien), the verification results proved that 80% of the assessment survey are correct, then Asia Teel company start distributing the SIMs card to the targeted people (with zero Fees), the money will be transfer soon to the Aisa pay company to start distribution, furthermore, the IRCS nominated a team to keep monitor and follow up on the process closely, and conduct an awareness session for the people to be aware on all the project details.

5. Updated from Facilitator:

- **Present CVA achievements of 2023:**

As this meeting is the last meeting of the year, the regional CVA thematic lead shared a list of key achievements with COP members and thanked them on their active participation and commitment as follows:

- CVA self-assessment exercise in Arabic.
- CVA risk Register with 5 NSs participation.
- Cash preparedness research with 510
- List of CVA recommended training.
- Establish the Regional technical team to support FSP contracting.
- Cash counting 2022 exercise.
- End up of CVA MENA page on the Cash Hub website.
- Finalized the CVA regional road map 2024-2025.
- CVA NSs Overview Dashboard.
- Conduct 10 successful COP meetings.
- FSP mapping for the NSs in the MENA region.
- Conducted the second version of the Cash Peer to Peer programme, with participating 5 NSs.
- Launched the CVA mentoring programme in the MENA region.

- **COP What's app group:**

the new initiative for the MENA COP is to create a What's App group where the COP members can share their questions, support, and share new materials or essays on CVA, and to open communication between the members, the ideas presented for internal discussion and none of the COP members object to the idea, therefor the group will be created at the beginning of Jan. in addition the essential ideas that clarified that this group will not replace any of coordination mechanism that agreed before (bi-weekly meeting, COP monthly meeting. ETC.)

Meetings schedule

The CoP meets every second Wednesday of the month at 11:00 Beirut time until March 2024 – the frequency of schedules will be reviewed during the March 2024 meeting.

| MENA CVA Community of Practice meetings schedule | |
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| 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 |
| 8 | 13 th April, 2022 |
| 9 | 11 th May, 2022 |
| 10 | 8 th June, 2022 |
| 11 | 14 th July, 2022 |
| 12 | 10 th August, 2022 |
| 13 | 14 th September, 2022 |
| 14 | 12 th October, 2022 |
| 15 | 9 th November, 2022 |
| 16 | 14 th December, 2022 |
| 17 | 11 th January, 2023 |
| 18 | 8 th February, 2023 |
| 19 | 8 th March, 2023 |
| 20 | 12 th April ,2023 |
| 21 | 10 th May 2023 |
| 22 | 14 th June 2023 |
| 23 | 12 th July 2023 |
| 24 | 9 th August 2023 |
| 25 | 11 th October 2023 |
| 26 | 8 TH November 2023 |
| 27 | 13 th December 2023 |