


Cash Centre of Excellence

Middle East and North Africa

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MENA CVA

• **Mentoring** •

Program

What is the MENA CVA Mentoring program

Many humanitarian responders may find themselves stepping into the role of being cash practitioners without the confidence that they have the capacity to deliver CVA effectively and accountably.

Thus the MENA Cash Center of Excellence initiated the MENA CVA Mentoring Program in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent and Cash Hub.

The MENA CVA Mentoring program aims to address this problem, strengthening regional cash capacity and investing in learning opportunities for practitioners.

In 2023, the first CVA Mentoring program was launched, pairing five MENA CVA practitioners with five cash mentors for a period of 6 months to expand their knowledge and expertise in a specific technical area of CVA of their choice where mentees work on setting learning objectives that are related to a knowledge/skill area they want to expand in CVA.

The mentors guide the practitioners through tailored learning steps, with additional remote technical support available at all times from the Cash Helpdesk. In addition to a final learning paper developed with the support of a research professor to help them dig deeper into lessons learned, solutions, and recommendation related to their objectives.

Let's meet our Mentors and Mentees!

MEET THE MENTORS



Florence Umulisa

Florence is a delegate for the Netherlands Red Cross based in Ethiopia. Over the past four years, she has been involved in managing and supporting Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) projects, as well as preparedness and response programs in various humanitarian settings.

Florence derives joy from sharing the skills acquired through her experiences and engaging in peer-to-peer learning with the mentee and fellow mentors.



Jomari Borlongan

Jomari is currently the CVA Coordinator in the IFRC Poland Country Cluster Delegation. He started his CVA experience in the Philippine Red Cross where he adapted the use of cash in emergency, recovery, and preparedness. He later joined IFRC to support cash preparedness in the Pacific.

He is happy to be able to mentor new CVA practitioners and share his knowledge and experience.



Livio Mercurio

Livio mentioned: "The starred sky above me and the international humanitarian law in me, a zoologist turned into a passionate humanitarian worker, 23 years of work experience 15 with cash but terrible with own cash accounting. Mentoring and volunteering is a way to return all the gifts that this humanitarian life gave me."



Muhammad Iqbal

Muhammad is working with Pakistan Red Crescent Society, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as Director Operations. He has 15 years extensive experience in Cash & Voucher Assistance, Disaster & Programme Management. He successfully completed some mega relief and humanitarian operations including his deployment to Kabul - Afghanistan as RDRT Surge.

He is the Graduate of the Cash School and completed his deployments to South Africa and UN-OCHA as part of the learning process"



Nabeh Allaham

Nabeh is a CVA practitioner with more than 5 years of experience in CVA out of 14 years of humanitarian experience and developing programs in different contexts. Nabeh is currently the Regional CVA thematic lead in the MENA region, He graduated from the "Cash Practitioner Development Programme" (CPDP) / Cash School second cohort, recently Nabeh is serving a mentor role in the third Cohort of Cash School. Nabeh is happy to take part in the CVA mentoring programme to complement his role and passion for building the capacity of CVA practitioners in MENA.

MEET THE MENTEES



Christina Abi Rafah - *Lebanese Red Cross*

Christina is a dedicated professional with a passion for humanitarian work and a focus on Livelihoods and CVA. Over the past three years, she has been an integral part of the Lebanese Red Cross's Economic Security program, where she has actively contributed to initiatives addressing economic challenges in the community. She is a certified CVA Trainer with CALP.

Her goal is to continue leveraging her skills and knowledge to make a positive impact on the lives of those in need.



Mohamad Nahas - *Syrian Arab Red Crescent*

Mohamad serves as the CVA Coordinator at the Syrian Arab Red Crescent's Homs Branch. His CVA experience spans five years, during which he has been one of the first Syrian staff members to implement CVA in the Syrian context. He successfully implemented numerous projects, gaining expertise in developing CVA operational plans, conducting market assessments, etc..

As a new participant in the Mentoring program, he hopes to gain more insights into CVA.



Mohammed Majeed Salim - *Iraqi Red Crescent*

Mohammed is a Field coordinator in Health department – in the Iraqi Red Crescent Society since 2013. His experience in CVA started from 2020 to 2021 as cash officer with German Red Cross, and technical support member in cash team – Iraqi Red Crescent Society since 2021. Until today, he is involved in all CVA stages and in many distributions campaigns.

Through mentoring program, he will add valuable knowledge to his record.



Khaled al Maadani - *Syrian Arab Red Crescent*

Khaled is the CVA coordinator at the Syrian Arab Red Crescent SARC HQ. He has been with the CVA team since 2021. He has worked in more than 60 projects during the last three years.

Khaled has worked with his mentors on setting the objectives and wished to reach these objectives at the end of this program.



Attallah Huwayan - *Jordanian Red Crescent*

Attallah joined the Jordanian Red Crescent in 2016 and serves as the focal point for cash and voucher assistance. He is a certified trainer for first aid and enhancing vulnerability and capacity assessment (EVCA). Attallah has extensive experience in first aid and emergency response. He works with the Red Crescent as a deputy head of disaster management unit a member of the national emergency response team. Attalha joined the CVA mentoring programme to develop his technical capabilities in designing and implementing CVA projects.