Comparing response modalities and delivery mechanisms

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| **Criteria** | **Key considerations** |
| **NEEDS to be met by intervention** | Which modality/ mechanism could meet the needs of the affected population better?  *Consider the objectives and expected outcomes of the intervention, in relation to the specific vulnerabilities of the affected population* |
| **FUNDING** | Which modality/mechanism would be more likely to receive funding? |
| **GOVERNMENT policies** | Which modality/mechanism would be more in tune with government policies and programmes?  *Consider possible synergies and future graduation* |
| **MARKET** | Which modality/mechanism would be favoured by local market conditions? |
| **ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY** | Which modality/mechanism would the agency be more prepared to implement?  *Consider past experience as well as systems, contracts and partnership agreements already in place* |
| **INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES** | Which modality/mechanism would be more suitable and reliable given the existing infrastructure and the services available?  *Consider the limitations imposed by the infrastructure and services available* |
| **TIMELINESS** | Which modality/mechanism requires the shortest roll-out time?  *Consider the time needed to select and contract service providers*  *Consider the time to import, clear customs and transport in-kind items* |
| **BENEFICIARY PREFERENCES** | Which modality/mechanism is preferred by beneficiaries?  *Consider empowerment and dignity issues*  *Consider also beneficiary capacity, for example their ability to:*   * *deal with technology (mobile phones, cards, etc.)* * *transport heavy material from distribution point back home* |
| **RISK** | Which modality/mechanism includes fewer and/or more manageable risks?  *Consider context, programmatic and institutional risks, especially beneficiary and staff security, as well as corruption and misuse issues*  *Consider also the possibility of transferring risks to third parties* |
| **COSTS** | Which is the most cost-efficient modality/mechanism?  *Consider agency costs and beneficiary convenience*  *Consider also implementation and delivery costs* |

The tools advantages and disadvantages of different modalities and advantages and disadvantages of delivery mechanisms might give you elements which could help you to answer the suggested questions.

Further analysis may be necessary regarding risks (see road map for risk analysis for guidance on how to conduct a thorough risk analysis process) and costs (see cost-efficiency quick calculation tool for guidance on how to calculate the cost-efficiency of different response options).