

MENA CVA Community of Practice

Meeting #31

*The meeting #32 did take place in 10/07/2024 on teams COP series meeting.

Meeting Details & agenda:

Date:	Wednesday July 10th , 2024- 11:00 to 12.00 (Beirut time)
Attendees:	Facilitator: Nabeh Allaham, IFRC CVA thematic lead
15 attendances	<p>Cash Center of Excellence: Reem Jawhari Lebanese Red Cross: Nour Hamadeh Syrian Arab Red Crescent: Khaled Al-Maadani Yemen Red Crescent: Hens Wosabi Egyptian Red Crescent: Raham Ahmad Hanafy – Kholoud Tarek Iraqi Red Crescent Society : Rasha Younis , Mohanad Shakerallah Iranian Red Crescent Society: Abbas Mohammadi Palestine Red Crescent: Majad Batrawi Libyan Red Crescent: Mohamad Sehli. British Red Cross: Azim Noorani Danish Red Cross: Rendal Allen Norwegian Red Cross: Michael Interiano</p> <p>Anticipation Hub / German Red Cross: Anita Auerbach</p>
Agenda:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and introduce you to the new member in CVA COP. (5 min). • Cash and voucher assistance with anticipatory action : (15 min). Anita Auerbach from Anticipation Hub will provide a briefing on CVA with AA, with real examples. • Cash center of excellence CCOE : (10min). Update on ongoing activities, and events. • Updates from the COP members (20Min). NS society focal points will provide an update on both current and future projects, pieces of training, and initiatives in 2024. ** • Updates from the Facilitator (5min). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CVA level 2 training in Lithuania. • Cash counting exercise 2023 • AOB (5 min) •

Meeting minutes:

This COP meeting is considered the sixth meeting in the series of COP monthly meetings in 2024. 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. Opening the meeting:

Nabeh started by welcoming all COP members, especially the new members who joined the COP officially and the first time as follows:

Egyptian Red Crescent: Rahma Hanafy, and Kholoud Tarek

Libyan Red Crescent: Mohamad Sehli.

Iraqi Red Crescent: Mohanad Shakerallah

Danish Red Cross: Rendal Allen

And the guest from the Anticipation Hub /German Red Cross: Anita Auerbach

2. Cash and voucher assistance with anticipatory action.

Anita provided an introduction on Anticipation Hub what is anticipatory action, and how we can prepare better to respond and act early to reduce the impact of the disaster when the threshold is reached. She completed by asking if the COP member has an anticipatory action in their NS, Noor Hamadeh from the LRC, explained on LRC's experience in cold wave response in north Lebanon, and then Abbas From Iranian RCS contributed to add that IRCS established a Center in HQ to have access and gather the information from related organization and analysis the information to be prepared in case any crisis.

Anita started by highlighting that anticipation Hub has 23 early action plans with cash, and within the current funding mechanism of IFRC DREF to anticipatory action under the annual readiness budget, the CVA position is covered, and under the full EAP, the position will be covered for 5 years.

Then continue to present the slides to cover different components, firstly, how forecasts become more accurate when the hazard will hit, and what the impact will harm, with AI to predict the disaster earlier. Then gave an exercise on the lead time with different disasters to rank them, in order to elaborate the forecast, as to how we can respond after the early warning.

Then complete with AA plan component (triggers, Early action, Finance mechanism, delivery), with an explanation of AA forms, and how to set the threshold and when to act in the impact level.

By providing examples of using CVA in different responses from other contexts.

At the end shared with the COP members very useful links and resources on AA.

3. Cash center of excellence CCOE:

a. Syrian Arab Red Crescent webinar on earthquake response:

Reem began by providing a briefing on the SARC webinar that will take place on the 17th of July, where the Cash team in SARC will share their experience in response, and then Reem shared the registration link with the COP group.

b. Cash mentoring programme .

Reem explained for the new member of the mentoring program and mentioned that the participants are currently working on finishing the research paper, after 6 months of learning journey with their mentors.

c. Case study of Yemen red crescent

CCOE is working currently on a case study of using CVA in YRCS intervention.

4. Updates from COP members:

- **Iranian Red Crescent Society:**
Abbas started with accommodation on the IFRC platform to review the CVA materials, and he did it and found it very useful, then abbas mentioned his plan for next month to have a CVA awareness session on CVA to provide it to IRCS departments to be more familiar with CVA.
- **Iraqi Red Crescent Society:**
Mohannad provided an update on Flood DREF operation through CVA, where the distribution will start next month hopefully, in addition to the CVA project with German RC on cash for work and vocational training while the procurement process for tools is ongoing.
- **Egyptian RC:**
Rahma shared the updates on CVA distribution for 108 Palestinian families and 30 individuals who received medical treatment in the hospitals and hosted by the Ministry of Solidarity, the transfer value was 7000 E.p for family, and 3500 E.p for individuals with collaboration from Hungary embassy.
for future intervention, the ERC is planning with UNHCR to provide CVA to the Palestinians who are hosted by the Ministry of Solidarity as well next month.
- **Lebanese Red Cross:**
Nour provided an update on the CVA project, where the current projects are going on the plan, and there is no major update from the last month, currently LRC working on six new CVA projects for 2024, in terms of Capacity building 2 Officers accomplished the CVA core skill with CALP and new tow officers registered in the same training.
- **Syrian Arab Red Crescent:**
Khaled mentioned new three CVA projects, cash for education to target 3200 students in collaboration with Swiss RC, Second projects cash for health to cover the transportation of SARC medical points in collaboration with German RC, and the third project MPCA for 48000 families for one installment with covering 65% of MEB.
- **Yemen Red Crescent:**
Hend provides an update on the current challenges that YRCS faced in their intervention, with the shortage of liquidity in the central bank that affected the other banks where YRCS has its account, especially in the north, and delayed the CVA distribution to the targeted people as planned, and to the hospitals who provide the services to pregnant women(health project), to mitigate the impacts of the people, YRCS is taking new steps and alternative actions S to open a new account in new bank to continue their activities.

Updates from the COP facilitator:

Nabeh provided two updates:

1. On the CVA level 2 training in Lithuania that shared with the COP group,
2. Cash counting exercise for 2023 , and asked the NS who didn't reply to final version of NSs inputs

Meetings schedule

The CoP meets every second Wednesday of the month at 11:00 Beirut time until February 2025 – the frequency of schedules will be reviewed during the February 2025 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
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
28	10 TH January 2024
29	14 th February 2024
30	13 th March 2024
31	10 TH April 2024
32	May 8 th , 2024
33	June 12 th 2024
34	July 10 th 2024