

# The time is now: Resetting the Humanitarian system & the role of cash assistance



## Join the Dialogue – Online

Date: 16 May 2025 | Time: 09:00 – 13:00 | Register [HERE](#)

**Background:** The time is now for a total reset<sup>1</sup> of the humanitarian system. We need to better serve those increasingly affected by crisis and exacerbated by poverty, economic instability, conflict and climate change.

Reform of humanitarian assistance has been long discussed, not least through shifts achieved through the Grand Bargain, and the current funding crisis will force us to change further and faster. That change needs to be for the better. We must look for ways to bring greater results for crisis-affected people and make resources go much further.

Most people prefer cash. It enables choice, stimulates local markets and is a far more cost-efficient way to meet lifesaving and survival needs, strengthening people's resilience over the longer term.

We need to swiftly transform our organisations to be able to deliver quality cash assistance at scale. It is no longer acceptable to say that this cannot be done due to our systems and ways of working. We need solid evidence to drive leadership commitment, including national governments, and to mobilise new sources of funding. We need to work together in new ways and with new partners and remove some of the barriers of our outdated aid system.



Join the dialogue on the role that cash assistance can and must play in the Humanitarian Reset- discuss, share, comment and network via this [LinkedIn group](#)

**Objective and expected outcome:** We will start to co-create the agenda for cash in the Humanitarian Reset, learning from our experiences in the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement with humanitarian stakeholders in the UK.

Time	Agenda Item	Purpose
09:00-09:15	<b>Welcome</b>	Introductions and presentation of agenda
09:15-10:15	<b>Panel Presentation – Leading a Humanitarian Reset</b> Sharing experience from RCRC Movement leaders	Highlight opportunities and enablers for changing the humanitarian system through cash assistance from a leadership perspective
10:15-11:15	<b>Panel Presentation – Transforming aid through cash assistance</b> Sharing experience from RCRC Movement local actors	What is needed to scale up the use of locally-led, people centered and scaled up cash to meet peoples' preferences? What can we learn to amplify for the Humanitarian Reset?
11:15-12:15	<b>Join the Dialogue: Perspectives and feedback</b> Sharing experience from humanitarian stakeholders in the UK	Feedback and key messages from invited members of the UK Government, the Cash Learning Partnership and humanitarian representatives
12:15-12:30	<b>Agenda for Action &amp; Closing</b>	
12:30-13:00	<b>Networking lunch for those in person</b>	

### CONTACT

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<sup>1</sup> [The humanitarian reset](#) | OCHA [www.unocha.org/news/humanitarian-reset](https://www.unocha.org/news/humanitarian-reset)