

MENA CVA Community of Practice

14th of Apr 2025

*The Third CVA MENA COP meeting took place in 14/04/2025 on teams COP series meeting.

Meeting Details & agenda:

Date:	Wednesday April 14th , 2025- 11:00 to 12.00 (Beirut time)
Attendees: 11 attendances	Facilitator: Nabeh Allaham, IFRC CVA thematic lead. Co facilitator: Elias Hazoury Cash Center of Excellence: Reem Jawhari. Egyptian Red Crescent: Kholod Tarek, Helmy Badr. Lebanese red cross: Elisia Abdo, Nour Hamadeh Iraqi red crescent: Rash Younes Iranian Red Crescente society: Abaas Mohammadi Yemeni Red Crescent: Hend Wosabi German red Cross: Lucia Robles Dios. Canadian Red cross: Michael Tesfaye ICRC: Francesca Reinhardt, Chisomo Duncan. Norwegian Red Cross: Consuelo Interiano
Agenda:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome and opening the meeting . (5 min)• Updates from the COP members (20 Min).<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Members will share updates on ongoing 2025 CVA activities.• Updates from the COP facilitator : (25 min)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cash counting exercise for 2025.• Updates on cash assistance in Morocco.• CVA online training available in April .• Updates on my deployment to Syria• AoB (5 min)

Meeting minutes:

This COP meeting is the Third meeting in the series of COP monthly meetings in 2025. It was a fruitful and informative meeting, with focusing on the new updates from the NSs CVA focal point on their ongoing operation , and capacity building events , and focus on ongoing activities regionally, and globally, and provide an update from the facilitator.

1. Opening the meeting:

Started by welcoming the COP members, and present the meeting agenda points .

2. Updates from COP members:

- **Egyptian red crescent:**

Kholoud from ERC started the updates on suddenness crisis response in collaboration with the IFRC, the ERC will deliver the MPCA through the FSP (Fawry plus) , for one instalment , the transfer value will be based on the number of the family individual , (4 ,000 EGP for one capita , 2-4 capita will receive 11000 EGP , while 5 capita and more will receive 16000 EGP , the MSNA is conducted for 340 HH affected , in addition to create a score system to identify the most vulnerable family ,180 HH are ready to receive the assistance already .

- **Lebanese Red Cross:**

Elisia Abdo from the LRC divided the update into two categories, as follows:

On Emergency EcoSec response:

- LRC started responding to the escalation hostilities crisis, by providing the cash and voucher assistance for two phases:
- The First phase, LRC is providing the MPCA (200USD/ one-off Emergency cash) for approx. 9419 families, through cash on counter modality to target areas Lebanon specifically to South, Mount Lebanon (Dahyeh) and Baalback-El, Partners that are supporting the LRC emergency are Canadian, Swiss, Netherlands, Swedish, IFRC, NOR Cross and DRC.
- In the next phase LRC are going to conduct a MSNA tailored to this context, to identify the most vulnerable households from the first phase to be supported with 200 USD for each household for 6 months, where the assistance calculated based on it (100 USD for food security, 45USD for basic needs , 55USD for wash) , where the modality is cash over the counter .
- In addition to a different coordination governmental entity to harmonise the LRC response with the stakeholders.

On the regular programming level:

- LRC is preparing to conduct the CVAP self-assessment exercise in May, the activity is approved by LRC management, with the support from the BRC, CCOE and IFRC.
- LRC-EcoSec has signed on a cash for wash project, where cash is integrated with the wash, by providing conditional unrestricted assistance for the targeted people due to attending the wash awareness sessions, the project is targeting the Syrian and Lebanese population in equal, in collaboration with Austrian Red Cross, while the next phase will complete by providing a cash top up in case the fund is available.
- GRC funds for MPCA project is pipelined, awaiting the feedback needed to initiate the process. The selection will be based on vulnerability scoring as previous MPCA projects, the delivery mechanism is ATM card.
- the ATM cards.
- EcoSec is working to extend their delivery mechanism with purple application with BLF Bank (money wallet) to be used for humanitarian CVA assistance, the new DM will be tested in a pilot project with Netherlands RC, that is going from the last year (cash for food, for 100Lebanese HH, through e-wallet). The evaluation will be conducted to check on the efficiency.

- LRC is facing some challenges in mobilising the fund to support ongoing and regular projects during the response.
- Regarding to the ECO SEC training path, the path has completed, where tow training has been revised by the L&D team , where the 900 Volunteers will be targeted in these critical trainings , in the other side , LRC will continue the critical training related to cash and market .

- **Yemeni Red Crescent:**

Hend for the Yemeni Red Crescent provide updates on the ongoing CVA projects, started with the MPCA pilot projects to be implemented in Almahu , and Amad Governorates ,with the support from BRC and ICRC , the project target 650 HH in each gov , for three rounds , the FSP hasn't identified till yet , but it will be one of the fixed FSP agent ,The TV will be 122,000 YER in north , and 200,000 YER in south, the project still in the assessment phase , the first distribution proposed to be in May.

YRCS conducted a training in March for various branches branch in purpose of building their capacity in CVA, develop the SOP and introduce the required tools.

The other projects in Hajja, is voucher for Health, with the support from GRC, in addition to cash to cover the transportation of targeted people.

- **Iraqi Red Crescent:**

Racha from the IRCS provided the updated on the ongoing projects for 2025, these projects are mainly in collaboration with the German red cross, and Danish red cross.

IRCS will start with the vocational training in one week through a service provider for 120 person in three areas (Mosul, Sinjar, Tal Afar) , the training will focus on (Sewing , food production , and mobile maintenance , computer maintenance as well , after finishing the training the IRCS will deliver to each person (who pass the training successfully) 1,000,000 IQD (around 1000 USD) to buy the toolkit to start his business .

Another MPCA project is under process to support for 650 HH in the collective shelter (Domize 1 , Domize 2), where the list of beneficiaries has finalised and approved by IRCS management , the transfer value for 600,000 IQD (400 Usd) , one instalment , the distribution will be start once the new FSP contract will be signed with IFRC , While the IRCS will use a new modality through E card

- **Iranian Red Crescent:**

Abbas the IRCS CVA focal point mentioned that Iranian red crescent through a volunteer organization department implementing two CVA project, where cash is used to support the families in both sectors health & treatment, and livelihood,

The two projects target 67,529 person, the total money allocated 3,304,000 USD, from the governmental budget, where the cash will be transfer through the bank account.

IRCS managed to conduct an orientation session on CVA to the relevant department like treasury office, and volunteer organization who is implementing the two projects, etc.

- **Cash center of excellence CCOE:**

Reem started the updates Regarding to the Peer to peer exchange programme , reem mentioned that we are working on developing the TOR , and it will be shared with the COP members , where all the members are able to apply to the prograemme .

3. Updates on the cash counting exercise 2024:

Nabeh started with the cash counting exercise reported NSs where 4 national societies submit their Info, and highlighted to the importance of this exercise to present the amount of cash that done in 2024 In MENA region.

The next point focused on the Morocco RC, where the CVA team is implementing MPCA in 3 governorates (Taroudant, Alhouz ,shishaua) that affected by the earthquake , where number of targeted HH is 5000 HH , and the transfer value is 100 USD, for four instalments

In the other side, cash for Ramadan as well is taking a place to be implemented soon, target 4000 HH, for one instalment.

And one pilot project focused on the cash for shelter outcomes in AL Houz governorate to target 50 HH, in close collaboration with the government to get all required approvals.

Nabeh mentioned again to the online training that has been shred with the COP member to apply on, (cash and voucher assistance in emergency, and Core CVA Skills for programme staff by providing more details of the training contents in addition to the CVA IM training in person in Budapest

Meetings schedule

The CoP meets every second Wednesday of the month at 11:00 Beirut time until March 2026 – the frequency of schedules will be reviewed during the February 2026 meeting.