

MENA CVA Community of Practice

11th of June 2025

*The Fifth CVA MENA COP meeting took place on 11/06/2025 on teams COP series meeting.

Meeting Details & agenda:

Date:	Wednesday June 11th, 2025- 11:00 to 12.00 (Beirut time)
Attendees: 11attendances	Facilitator: Nabeh Allaham, IFRC CVA thematic lead Cash Center of Excellence: Reem Jawhari Lebanese Red Cross: Nour Hamadeh Iraqi Red Crescent: Rasha Younes Iranian Red Crescent Society: Abaas Mohammadi Yemeni Red Crescent Society: Yasmin Mohamad Syrian Arab Red Crescent: Rama Muzayen Egyptian red crescent: Kholoud Tarik -Helmi Bader Iran Red Crescente: Abbas Mohammadi DRC: Daniel Wanyoike Mungai
Agenda:	Welcome and Opening Remarks (5 min). Updates from COP Members (20 min). <ul style="list-style-type: none">Members will share updates on ongoing 2025 CVA activities, (please find the structure below to organize your updates). Updates from the COP Facilitator / Co-Chair (15 min). <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cash Counting Exercise 2024-2025.What is coming? AoB (5 min)

Meeting minutes:

This COP meeting marked the sixth session in the series of monthly COP meetings for 2025. It focused on discussing key developments and ongoing activities at the national, regional, and global levels. The agenda included updates from COP members, showcasing progress and experiences from various National Societies, cash counting exercise, as well as updates from the COP facilitator on upcoming priorities and coordination efforts.

1. Opening the meeting:

The meeting started after a long holiday of Eid, then with a warm welcome to the COP meeting attendees, followed by a reminder of the meeting agenda.

2. Updates from COP members:

- **Lebanese Red Cross:**

Noor Hamadeh shared updates from the Lebanese Red Cross, highlighted the progress of the cash intervention under the emergency, following the recent conflict in Lebanon. In the first phase, Disaster management managed to provide 9419 HH with one-time payment of \$200.

The program is now moving into its second phase, where LRC managed to secure 2214 HH to support with \$200 per month for six months. If additional funding is secured, the target number of households will be increased accordingly.

Noor, also mentioned that the CVA team started coordination with the social protection team of LRC and

The EcoSec team also launched the Cash and Voucher Assistance Preparedness (CVAP) process. The CVA self-assessment exercise was conducted in collaboration with the Cash Centre of Excellence, IFRC, BRC and NorRC. This assessment involved all relevant departments within the Lebanese Red Cross and was followed by a workshop that brought together key stakeholders to evaluate the organization's current cash response capacity.

Under the regular interventions:

In the Bilateral agreements with BRC and ICRC a cash component has finalized for targeting Fishers and Honey producers in different area in Lebanon, in both individual and household.

Bilateral agreement with ICRC, piloting a livelihood in the south Lebanon (Tyer).

Another cash projects (GAG_NRCS) distributing food parcel's 800. in addition to 100 HH with cash assistance through a purple modality (mobile app), in Akkar, with 60 USD FOR 12 payments for each HOUSHOLD

In collaboration with Austrian RC, LRC's ECOSEC and WASH supporting 100 Syrian HH living in ITSs, and Lebanese household, with attending the hygiene promotion awareness session as a condition to receive the assistance.

Under the GRC _MOFA support, LRC supporting 83 HH with 200 USD each payment, the total payments are six, where the project implemented in Tripoli.

In terms of Disaster risk reduction component in Saida, the LRC with the support of Danish RC preparing for a winter storm crisis, where the ECOSEC (CVA team) supporting in market functioning assessment and distributing the cash assistance once the alert will announce from the DRR team, the preparedness phase is aiming to assist 2000 HH.

In terms of CVA preparedness the self-assessment workshop took a place in May, and the POA shared with the other units for their approval, before sharing with SG office for final approval.

- **Egyptian Red crescent:**

Helmi Bader from ERC provide the CVA updates , where ERC with the support of IFRC under the Sudanese crisis EA delivered the cash assistance for 186 Sudanese HH in greater Cairo , the total amount was 2750000 EGP through the fawry plus FSP , the assistance provided based in the number of HH (4000 EGP for one capita , from 2 to 4 capita support with 11000 EGP ,while more than 5 capita with 16000 EGP) .

In addition, the ERC in collaboration with the ICRC preparing for CVA project to support 1000 Palestinian HH.

- **Iraqi Red Crescent:**

Racha from the IRCS provided updates on ongoing projects in 2025 funded by Danish RC:

- Cash assistance delivered for the Syrian women and girl survived from the Gender based violence GBV, for 39 women in three shelter (Shari, Khanki, Dumez 1), the transfer value was 100 USD.
- Cash assistance provided to 84 pregnant women in Dehook and Ninawa area, in addition to support 30 pregnant women in Ninwa only, the transfer value was 100 USD.

- **Syrian Arab Red Crescent:**

Rama provide the updates on SARC activities, while the Syrian context has changed since the new developments after 8th of Dec , where CVA team started mapping the FSP in the areas were SARC has no exist , and due to a new FSP has started their business in all over Syria , in addition to conduct a market assessment to understand the functioning of the market to make sure the CVA is feasible .

Under the ongoing projects, the CVA team in collaboration with the WASH department form the first time, preparing for cash for hygiene in two governorates (Lattakia, Tartus) with the support from the Swiss RC.

Under MPCA, Rama mentioned on the ongoing project with the support of BRC, GRC, and ICRC, and related to the food security, SARC implement a food voucher project to support the most vulnerable people for 8 months through the AL baraka bank, in collaboration with ADRA organization.

Regarding to the wildfire DREF with IFRC, SARC targeted 1057 HH affected by the wildfire in two governorates (Lattakia, and Homs).

In April, the ICT delegate from NRC conduct a feasibility study on using the best digital payment solution, where the study requested by SARC management to explore the appropriate system for SARC, like (Redrose, Access RC, Q Red, and 121)

In terms of the challenges, CVA team face a challenge with the lack of liquidity in Syria, that cause a delay in delivering the assistance for the targeted people.

- **Cash center of excellence CCOE:**

Reem from the Cash Centre of Excellence shared updates on upcoming two webinar, where the invitation for the (cash for health outcomes webinar) will take place next week, in addition to another webinar of (cash coordination) still under preparation.

Regarding to the mentoring programme is in the last phase, where the programme will be launched at, the end of the next month.

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3. Updates from COP facilitator

Nabeh started with the Cash Counting Exercise, where the exercise has been finalized and share with Geneva, after sharing the NSs inputs for their review and endorsed and thank all the colleagues for their active participation and support.

In the other side, Nabeh remind the COP member to share any photos from their CVA intervention to be used in the MENA Doc, or training materials as well.

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 March 2027 meeting.