Türkiye Cash-Based Interventions Technical Working Group – Flash Appeal

Terms of Reference

CONTEXT

An earthquake of magnitude 7.7 was recorded in Türkiye at Pazarcık district of Kahramanmaraş province on Monday, 6 February at 04.17 local time (02.17 CET) impacting 11 provinces in the south-east region of Türkiye; namely, Kahramanmaraş, Hatay, Gaziantep, Osmaniye, Malatya, Adiyaman, Adana, Diyarbakir, Kilis, Sanliurfa and Elazığ as well as in north Syria.

The Turkish government is leading the response through coordination by the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD). The Türkiye Earthquakes Flash Appeal was launched on 16 February upon the Government of Türkiye’s call for international assistance, to galvanize resources and enable humanitarian organizations to rapidly ramp up their operations in earthquake-affected areas in support of the government-led response.

Flash Appeal provided an estimate of the response requirements, amounting to USD 1 billion to support 5.2 million people. The total population in the eleven most affected provinces is of 15.5 million, of which 9.1 million are directly affected. Within that Flash Appeal, Multi-purpose Cash & Social Protection sector targeted 1.5 million earthquake affected people and appealed for USD 143.6M, as well as sectoral cash and voucher assistance is planned under Shelter/NFI, Food Security, Early Recovery and Livelihoods sectors. To meet the coordination needs around multi-purpose cash and sectoral cash and voucher assistances, the Cash-Based Intervention Technical Working Group accountable to the 3RP coordination in Türkiye, expanded to address coordination needs specific to earthquake response.

PURPOSE

Cash Based Interventions as terminology covers all cash and voucher form of assistance, which are used to transfer resources to an individual or household during and after a humanitarian crisis, in times of economic shock, or through social assistance programmes across a range of different sectors. Cash Based Interventions are being considered as a viable response option over commodity-based (in-kind) assistance by affected populations, as well as the humanitarian and donor community.

The purpose of the CBI TWG is to effectively coordinate the delivery of cash and voucher assistance (CVA) from multiple actors across the response to maximize resources, avoid duplications, address unmet needs, increase effectiveness, and enable programmatic coherence.

The CBI TWG is an intersectoral platform which is accountable to Coordination Cell, coordinates multi-purpose cash programmes and serves all sectors in FA Türkiye to meet the basic and specific needs of the persons of concern through cash and voucher-based assistance programmes.

The CBI TWG operates by addressing issues including efficiency of the systems for delivery; effectiveness of CBIs against the programmatic and sectoral objectives; harmonization of monitoring and evaluation frameworks; technical aspects of the definition of the MEB and the transfer value against the market.
analysis and trends; and works to prevent overlap and duplication of programmes and beneficiaries.

The CBI TWG, at an operational and technical level, is intended to be a mechanism of information sharing, appropriate harmonization of approaches, sharing and collating good practices and lessons learnt, determining and coordinating joint advocacy efforts, agreeing relevant minimum standards and planning to improve targeting of the most vulnerable households, and increase their resilience to future shocks and stresses.

In this context and direction, CBI TWG aims:

1. To provide clear and predictable entry points for linkages to social protection to the extent appropriate for the response and/or preparedness efforts.
   
i. Map government-led CBIs specific to EQ, their technical aspects, target groups, transfer amounts and implementation modalities.
   
ii. Review CBIs planned and led by UN agencies, İ/NGOs specific to EQ, their technical aspects, target groups, transfer amounts and implementation modalities.
   
iii. Promote understanding of government policies related to CVA amongst cash actors.
   
iv. Systematically identify entry point for social protection linkages.
   
v. Participate in and/or liaise with relevant coordination mechanisms, wherever appropriate, such as ISCG, local hub meetings and others to engage and coordinate with AFAD, MoFSS and PMM.

2. To provide technical guidance, advice, and support to enhance the harmonization of approaches, the accountability, and the quality of CVA programming.
   
i. Promote gender-specific and protection-mainstreamed considerations and strategies for mitigating risks in cash programming with due consideration of the principles of inclusion and Accountability to Affected Populations.
   
ii. Review and advise on minimum requirements of assistance through CVAs.
   
iii. Review and advise on minimum standards of data collection and monitoring processes to inform evidence-based improvements to programming.

3. Contribute to and provide technical capacity development to humanitarian community in Türkiye in the domain of CBI.
   
i. Promote rapid capacity building efforts of cash actors at national and provincial level in collaboration with CashCap and CaLP.
   
ii. Capitalize on capacity building opportunities or resources which are available through participating agencies at regional/global level.

4. Promote information sharing, knowledge management, and learning amongst CBI actors and across sectors.
i. Identify trends, gaps and potential areas of collaboration and harmonization.

ii. Ensure sharing of available data on price monitoring, market bulletin, economic updates etc.

iii. Facilitate regular discussion on lessons learnt and best practices when feasible.

5. **Assist and advocate** to sectors to incorporate CBI into their response.

i. Where possible (depending on programming and considering different levels of services provided) promote harmonization of the standards for delivery mechanisms to improve the quality and the accountability of service provision to affected populations.

ii. Promote transparency and two-way information sharing between relevant stakeholders.

iii. Explore opportunities for new and improved approaches to CBI, researching and developing tools (including through emerging technologies) that will enhance the appropriateness and quality of delivery mechanisms.

**ACCOUNTABILITIES**

In 2022, the IASC formalized the inter-sector/inter-cluster coordination (IS/ICCG) group’s responsibility for overall cash coordination, with day-to-day tasks delegated to a linked and formalized CWG. CBI TWG in FA coordination context is accountable to Coordination Cell.

In settings with no IASC or refugee coordination arrangements in place, the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator RC/HC is responsible for ensuring cash coordination arrangements are set up in alignment with the proposed model and with support from OCHA, the Development Coordination Office (DCO) and the Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO).

**MEMBERSHIP AND COMPOSITION**

Participation into CBI TWG is open to all humanitarian partners including international and local NGOs, the Turkish Red Crescent, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, concerned government departments, UN agencies, donors within the 3RP Response in Türkiye and any other relevant actors; the participation is primarily envisaged for those organizations with previous/current experience in cash or voucher-based interventions in Türkiye or worldwide, and then to those planning to implement interventions in future. Membership requirement of the platform is having formal registration in Türkiye to represent/operate in Türkiye. Conditions of registration is declared by MoI in Türkiye, by the fifth paragraph of Article 2 of the Presidential Decree No.128, that entered into force by being published in the Official Gazette dated 03/03/2023 and numbered 32121.

Participating agencies are encouraged to send technical/programmatic representatives to contribute to the greatest possible extent, enhancing the quality of the discussions and ensuring sound technical support and advice to sectoral working groups. All actors planning or implementing cash-based interventions in Türkiye (in support of refugee populations) are strongly encouraged to attend the Working Group and share information regularly. If needed, task forces under this sector may be set-up to respond coordination and technical support needs.

Decisions are taken in the group by consensus; when times the consensus is not reached group co-chairs
will run a voting system, with each agency having one vote regardless of number of its members. Majority of votes will determine the final decision.

LEADERSHIP

UNHCR (as the refugee agency as per new cash coordination model, in the mixed refugee local population setting of Türkiye Flash Appeal) and TRC (national local NGO) are accountable for efficient and effective cash coordination and promotes co-chairing by governments and/or local and national actors (LNA).

The current CBI TWG co-chairs and contact details are as follows:

- Ahmet Ünver – unver@unhcr.org
- Ali Eren Karadeniz – eren.karadeniz@kizilay.org.tr
- Cansu Ateş – cansu.ates@kizilay.org.tr

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The co-chairs of the CBI TWG are responsible for leading and coordinating the platform and they are members of the ISCG. They are responsible to their constituents e.g., CWG members and operational cash delivering actors in country and report to ICCG. Sector co-chairs are expected to participate in the CBI TWG regularly and remain abreast of the cash programming in Türkiye. Their responsibilities include:

- Ensure CBI TWG meetings, workshops and other events are organized to respond coordination and information needs around CBIs in Türkiye.
- Ensure appropriate linkages for sharing of technical expertise between sectors and partners.
- Ensure that planned and on-going earthquake specific cash activities are mapped.
- Conduct desktop review and collect information to analyse market situation.

IMO reporting to the chair(s) will support the CBI TWG by developing information products which enable CWG and IS/ICCG members to make informed, evidence-based, and strategic decisions. Activities may include:

- Enabling CBI TWG member inputs to information products,
- Ensuring accurate reporting of humanitarian cash assistance across the response.

CWG members should attend the CWG meetings on a regular basis. Expectations include:

- Sharing relevant operational delivery data (such as cash delivered, beneficiaries assisted etc).
- Contributing technical inputs, learning, and programmatic information, as requested
- Provide inputs to set the strategic direction of the CWG, through reviewing TORs and identifying key gaps in response-specific tools, standards, and learning.
MEETING FREQUENCY/ SCHEDULE

The CBI TWG will meet weekly, unless decided otherwise with reference to OCHA inter-agency calendar and partners’ needs. Depending on needs and opportunities ad-hoc meetings can be scheduled out of the weekly schedule.

Meetings will be convened with a hybrid approach both in-person, and online/virtual. Hybrid meetings will be held in Gaziantep (and other locations if needed) with option to join online for partners residing in other cities. Depending on the needs, platform can meet entirely on virtual platform.

Ad hoc workshops will be organized to discuss on specific topics, with participation of all relevant actors and if available, consultants. CBI TWG will assess the needs of partners and provide trainings when applicable.