

MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title: Shelter Cluster Partner's Forum – Cash

Meeting called by: Shelter Cluster

Facilitator: Sanjeev Hada

Note Taker: Kim Winiker

Date: 12.08.2015

Cash Coordination Group (CCG) - Marianne Vick	ACTION	
<p>Presentation: CCG's activities, products, and cash knowledge was shared.</p> <p>Cash is generally coordinated outside of the cluster systems. This makes cash reporting often difficult. Cash should be reported in accordance with your planned objective. If this is shelter, it should be reported to the shelter cluster. Multipurpose cash should be reported to the CWG.</p>	Who	When
The cash reporting process has created a lot of duplication. The CCG is working with clusters to address this.		
<p>CCG has 6 bi-weekly projects</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tracking and mapping multi-purpose grants. 2. Cash feasibility mapping 3. Market monitoring 4. Collecting data on cash-for-work rates and conditionalities 5. Cash policies 6. Aggregation on demand 		
The equivalent of 19.6 million USD has/is being distributed.		
CCG has created many maps to visually show the most accurate cash data. These include market assessments, feasibility tracking, and many more.		
Regional markets are tracked to show their product availability.		
Cash for work is a sub modality of cash. Cash for work is complex because different agencies are using different rates and providing cash for different amounts of time. This creates inequity and problems.		
CCG is also documenting government policy for cash at a district level.		
Post distribution monitoring plus – CCG is aiming to create a joint report with partners. This will allow for a unified monitoring system that is simple and easy to follow.		
CCG is interested in helping agencies perform market assessments for reconstruction materials.		
If you would like a crash course on cash-based support, please contact Marianne.		

The CCG website and a library of cash-based resources can be found in the PPT presentation.		
Government plans for cash for work programming are an area of concern. CCG is considering having a separate workshop for the appropriateness of cash for work. It may not be the most logical strategy as there is a shortage of labor.		
Christian Aid - Ranjeet Singh	ACTION	
Presentation: Overview of Christian Aid's work in cash.	Who	When
Cash packages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter – 15,000 NPR • MPG – 10,000 NPR • WASH – 5,000 NPR Livelihood support – 7,500 NPR		
Christian Aid's focus has mostly been on cash for livelihoods. In Sindhupalchowk, the modality for this was cash vouchers.		
Gorkha – cash distributions will begin this week by cash in envelopes.		
Cash distribution plans in other districts are also ongoing, including livelihood support in Dhading and Dolakha.		
Cash for work plans have been made but there are a few issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blanket coverage can be an issue. • Monsoon prevents some work from being carried out. • Beneficiaries should be ready to work on wages agreed by DDRC. • The work is short duration. 		
Market assessments – local vendors should be used, assessments should be carried out based on the needs of beneficiaries, and any distributed cash should match local market prices for goods.		
Challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted beneficiary lists are challenging. • Social welfare programs. • Exclusion issues. 		
Many cash recommendations can be found in the Christian Aid PPT presentation.		
Distribution process: Wards were first assessed for what needs were. Vendors were then asked to stock the proper goods. Then, partner banks were approached to process the beneficiaries and distribute the cash.		
The major time limiting factor for cash distributions is generally preparing the communities. Bank involvement is generally very prompt.		
Danish Church Aid (DCA) - Rita Dhakal Jayasawal	ACTION	
Presentation: Overview of DCA's cash programs.	Who	When
DCA's cash programs were in partnership with ACT Alliance.		
Project was cash for shelter. 10,451 HHs have been reached, which is approximately 55,000 people.		

The total DCA budget was 1.7 million USD.		
<p>Overall observations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 75–80% of beneficiaries have seemed to use their cash for shelter. This was not PDM but it is the overall staff consensus. <p>Mobility to markets has increased due to the increased cash flow.</p>		
<p>Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DCA worked closely with the DDRCs. Mobile phone messages were used as a cash platform There was a one-day simulation used to train distribution teams. Huge crowds gathered for the distributions. They were managed by SMS verification, ID card verification, and on site management. 		
After distributions DCA and other distribution bodies came together to discuss the issues and successes.		
976 HHs received cash in a single day, and beneficiaries were able to do from checking-in to cash in 28 seconds.		
Children’s play centers were available on site for families.		
Hello Paisa, a mobile phone platform was used in coordination with grade “A” banks of Nepal. It was a very transparent process.		
There were a number of difficulties including misspelled names on ID cards, lack of ID cards altogether, mobile network issues, and more.		
Next steps are PDM and cash for livelihoods. A mobile phone app has been developed for the monitoring. Data is collected on phones, shared to Ktm. when there is 3G coverage, and maps/datasets are created and shared.		
The mobile platform works offline and is a very light app. It uses GPS imagery tracking.		
DCA is willing to give a one-hour crash course on the Hello Paisa mobile strategy. Please contact Rita Dhakal Jayasawal if you are interested.		
Save the Children - Clara Pineda	ACTION	
Presentation: Save’s cash programing was presented..	Who	When
To date, Save the Children has only performed one type of cash distribution.		
There is a plan to begin a cash voucher strategy for winterization in some districts.		
From June until now, 2,800 HHs have been reached by cash distributions.		
Beneficiary eligibility was assessed based on government classifications and HH assessments.		
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder meeting before cash distribution Registration of names and verification Verification of citizenship card with EQ ID card Cash counter for delivery of cash in a sealed envelope Receipt signed by the beneficiary 		

An MoU with the bank outlined the bank's responsibilities and those of the implementing agency.		
As the cash was intended for shelter, shelter information was provided all around the distribution site. This included shelter NFIs costs and specification along with other pertinent information.		
Forms for sharing information, financial checklists, and operating procedures were created for a more structured process.		
Issues encountered were very similar to the above agencies: misspelled names on ID cards or beneficiary lists and cash limitation for delivery (as more difficult to reach places were targeted).		
<p>Future plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash vouchers for winterization in Gorkha, Sindhupalchowk, and Dolakha. • Winterization kits and needs are being collected from field visits and assessments. • Market assessments • Voucher system. This requires an in depth process of selecting traders and supplying adequate stocks of supplies. 		
Soft strategies were not used along with cash distributions. Key messages were delivered but trainings were not feasible in cash distributions.		
NEXT MEETING	ACTION	
11:00 Wednesday, August 19 th at DUDBC.		

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