



## LEARNING EVENT

### Improving uptake of multisector CTP in West Africa

#### Terms of Reference

December 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> 2017, Dakar, Senegal

#### 1) INTRODUCTION

Until 2015, experience and interest in cash transfer programming in West Africa have been very much restricted to food security actors, developed during the responses to major food and nutrition crises in 2005 and 2012. Many actors in the West Africa region have considered multipurpose cash grants as utilized in the Syria response to be inappropriate and not relevant for the regional context, but the growing crises in northern Mali and in the Lake Chad Basin have pushed non-food actors to consider cash as a valid response option. The "[Operational guidance and Toolkit for Multipurpose Cash grants](#)," published in 2015, has been a milestone in the way cash is considered. The momentum from global discussions of cash, including statements before the World Humanitarian Summit<sup>1</sup> and Grand Bargain commitments, the dissemination of lessons learned from the Middle East and the growing interest (and concern) of Global Clusters in cash<sup>2</sup> has driven major changes in attitudes towards cash in West Africa. In 2016, "basic needs" discussions started to support design of CTP, challenging safety net amounts (Mali) and aiming to cover needs beyond the food basket (Nigeria). Since then, Cash Working Groups have increasingly welcomed new sectors and increased linkages to the inter-sector coordination groups at country level, with discussions around possible inclusion of cash in different sectors in the HRPs and ongoing work on MEB definition in Mali, Niger, Chad, Cameroon and Nigeria.

Despite these developments, many barriers remain to the design and implementation of multipurpose cash grants in West Africa. Among others, ensuring an inclusive process to define MEB with uptake from sectors and government is a challenge. Also, there is a lack of resources and capacities to lead necessary assessments, multi-sector market assessments in particular. Such assessments are crucial to inform a sound response analysis process that considers a range of modalities, alone or in combination, to ensure that basic needs are covered in the best way possible.

#### 2) THE EVENT

CaLP and IRC have come together to contribute to enhancing learning and capacity in two particular aspects of multisector cash transfer programming: defining MEB and leading multisector market assessments. They will thus host a 2-day event in Dakar, to be held for members of country and regional-

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<sup>1</sup> « *High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing* » and the [Agenda for Humanity](#) from the General Secretariat of the United Nations

<sup>2</sup> [Global Shelter Cluster position paper](#), March 2016 and [Global WASH Cluster position paper](#), December 2016

level cash working groups, sector leads and technical advisors from the West Africa region on 6-7 December 2017.

The first day will be led by CaLP and particularly by the participants of the BIEP (Building Individual Expertise Programme<sup>3</sup>) cohort, presenting different methodologies, processes and challenges that have been used across the region to develop Minimum Expenditure Baskets (MEBs). The second day will be led by the International Rescue Committee (IRC), and will be dedicated to multi-sector market analysis, as part of the “Improving the Uptake of Humanitarian Market Analysis” project, supported by USAID/OFDA.

### **3) PURPOSE**

The overarching purpose of the learning event is to:

- Align understanding of the importance of MEB and multi-sector market analysis as part of the process of designing multi-sector cash responses
- Contribute to bridging the most critical capacity gaps related to the design and implementation of multi-sector cash responses

Specific objectives for day 1, dedicated to MEB:

- Showcase experience from across the region in developing MEBs
- Align understanding of the importance and challenges of developing MEBs, and its potential to improve quality programming and appropriateness of the response
- Share learning and experience from different methodologies and approaches used to develop MEBs in a collaborative and inclusive manner
- Draw recommendations on the relevance of MEB definition according to each context

Specific objectives for day 2, dedicated to multi-sector market analysis:

- Build an understanding of the importance of market analysis and help address market analysis-related knowledge gaps among humanitarian stakeholders in West Africa, especially among those who have had little exposure to market analysis-related discussions and trainings
- Ensure participants have the baseline understanding of the what, why and how of market analysis for multi-sectoral cash programming
- Showcase examples of good practice in the collection and application of market information for humanitarian programming in West Africa

The 1<sup>st</sup> day and opening session of day 2 are intended for a more general audience and will focus on the relevance of MEB and market analysis to humanitarian programming across sectors. The latter session will be slightly more technical and will provide attendees with an overview of how to conduct market analysis, including an introduction to tools and approaches, and will provide a more in-depth exploration of good practice in the region.

### **4) PARTICIPANTS**

Sector leads, CWG representatives, head of programmes, technical advisors and other decision makers involved in humanitarian coordination, and the planning and design of emergency responses in the West Africa region will be invited to the event. The event will primarily target NGO and UN agency staff, but

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<sup>3</sup> Program piloted in West Africa since April 2017 to strengthen specific capacities of cash experts across the region, with a particular focus on multisector CTP. The cohort is composed by 14 participants from 7 organizations, 6 countries and regional level.

government and donor stakeholders are encouraged to attend as well. Non-FSL specialists, particularly those from the shelter, WASH, health and/or protection sectors, will be encouraged to participate. Individuals based all across the region are encouraged to attend.

#### **5) FACILITATION**

The first day will mainly be facilitated by CaLP, with speakers from the CWGs and MEB task forces from Mali, Niger, Cameroon, Chad, Nigeria. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, the IRC will contract a consultant experienced in humanitarian market analysis and multi-sectoral market-based humanitarian programming to prepare for, facilitate and report on the event. Both days will be facilitated in French, while individual presentations may be in either English or French, with simultaneous translation. Numerous sessions throughout both days will be led by attendees with relevant knowledge and experience.