



Cash Transfer Assistance in Humanitarian Crises: What Works?

Credits	2 credits ECTS
Dates	31 May – 4 June 2021
Format	Residential
Language	English
Fees	CHF 1'500
Coordinator	Helene Juillard
Partnership	N/A

Course overview

Short description

In recent years, Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) has emerged as a key game changer in the way humanitarian assistance is implemented, especially as CVA is becoming a common modality to deliver relief. The use of cash and vouchers is not new, and examples date back to the 19th centuries. However, CVA has only become mainstream recently. Despite this global favourable environment, 7 out of 10 humanitarian organisations report having difficulties finding staff with this skill set.

This five-day class has a dual objective to build students' practical skills to design, implement and monitor projects using CVA as well as build their critical and reflexive skills on the topic of cash and voucher assistance.



Objectives of the course

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Explain the different cash and market related concepts and terminologies;
- Discuss the state of cash-related evidence and current Global policy dialogues triggered or encompassing CVA;
- Decide if cash and voucher assistance is an appropriate modality to cover sectoral or multi-sectoral needs in a given humanitarian context;
- Identify output, outcome and process related indicators to measure the success of a project using cash as its delivery modality;
- Discuss the extent to which the increased uptake of cash and voucher assistance is shaking up the overall humanitarian coordination architecture;
- Assess the comparative risks cash can pose or expose especially in light of data protection and AML/CT regulations

Workload

Around 50 hours of work for the whole course, including:

- 20 hours of face-to-face teaching over a consecutive 5-day period including lecture, debate, group work and role play.
- 30 hours of self-study time including e-learning, reading, self-reflection.

Structure of the course

The course will adopt a thematic approach, with each of the five days tackling a specific theme:

- Day 1: Concepts, terminology, global policy dialogues on CVA and CVA Feasibility
- Day 2: Sectoral & multi sectoral evidence, Monitoring & Evaluation
- Day 3: Calculating the transfer value and choosing the delivery mechanism
- Day 4: Risk Management, Data protection and compliance vis a vis Anti Money Laundering and CT regulations
- Day 5: Operational models to deliver CVA, Value for Money and Cash coordination



Promotion

Audience (existent and potential)

- Professionals in the humanitarian, development or social sector looking to develop their competencies in cash and voucher assistance in humanitarian settings
- Professionals from other sectors (marketing, bank system, project management, policy making, donor agency, government officials) who wish to increase their understanding of cash and voucher assistance in humanitarian responses?
- Graduate students with relevant volunteer or intern experience, looking to undertake a postgraduate course with a view to entering the humanitarian sector.

Non-professional audience should possess, as a pre-requisite, a good command of the project cycle management and of the way the humanitarian arena function (who are the different stakeholders, what is the typical architecture of a humanitarian response, etc.).