Preparing for the use of Cash and Voucher Assistance in the RRM

In-kind, cash, voucher and services are programme delivery modalities that need to be given equal consideration when planning and designing emergency preparedness measures. Current RRMs preparedness measures are still focused to a large extent on delivering through the in-kind and service modalities. Cash and vouchers require specific preparedness measures, as summarized below. It is advisable that CVA preparedness measures are planned and designed for the entire RRM, in an intersectoral manner.

1. **Assess CVA appropriateness and feasibility (in collaboration with Cash Working Groups and other sectors) to identify preliminary programme options**

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| Market system function | * Look into markets for: learning materials, school bags, uniforms, transport to and from school.
* Tools: [Pre-crisis market analysis guidance](https://www.emma-toolkit.org/sites/default/files/bundle/PMCA_FINAL_WEB.pdf) and the [Market analysis guidance (MAG)](https://www.emma-toolkit.org/sites/default/files/bundle/PMCA_FINAL_WEB.pdf).
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| Acceptance of the CVA modalities by communities, government and donors | * Assess what is politically possible from a donor and government perspective, and preferences of affected people in terms of programme delivery modality.
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| Potential transfer mechanisms and capacity of (financial) service providers  | * Assess mechanisms to be used in case of crisis: cash in hand, paper voucher, (mobile) banking, mobile phones, e-vouchers.
* Assess the capacity of financial and IT service providers.
* Tool: Mercy Corps’ [Delivery Guide: Scoping the Humanitarian Payments Landscape](https://www.calpnetwork.org/publication/the-delivery-guide-scoping-the-humanitarian-payments-landscape/).
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| Risk assessment and analysis | * Assess contextual, programmatic and institutional risks that can hinder the implementation of CVA
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| Capacity assessment (RRM partners and national social protection systems)  | * Determine if the capacity for implementing CVA exists within partner organizations and define whether additional capacity and resources are needed and when
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If the answers to the above questions show that overall CVA is not feasible and no viable programme options can be identified, it is advisable for the RRM to revert to the usual in-kind and service provision modalities.

1. **Identify and set up mechanisms and procedures (including signed agreements with partners) to support implementations of cash and vouchers**

Based on the options identified through step A above, the following measures needs to be implemented:

* CVA learning needs are included in the learning plans of RRM partners and their capacity is built;
* RRM partners initiate procurement processes for identified financial service providers and framework agreements are signed with them. The CaLP Programme Quality Toolbox offers a number of [resources](https://www.calpnetwork.org/toolset/partnership-preparedness/) ;
* CVA coordination mechanisms are put in place within the RRM, and linked with existing external CVA coordination mechanisms such as the Cash Working Group and the ICCG.