



## Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) and market-based approaches in COVID-19

Prioritise

Adapt

Maintain

**PRIORITISE** gendered markets assessments to make changes to ensure gender-sensitivity that is balanced with safety of staff, participants and partners

**ADAPT** modalities, delivery mechanism, number of transfers, transfers approaches or transfer values based on needs in short term and approaches to ensure gender-sensitivity and safety

**MAINTAIN** connections to sectoral specialists to understand the shifts in needs and approaches; participation in Cash Working Groups

1. **Is it safe, feasible, and possible to implement your current or planned projects using cash and voucher assistance?** Has the situation changed dramatically, such that implementation would put CARE staff, partners, or participants at risk? Can you add behavioural change or sensitization sessions related to disease prevention to existing or planned projects? Does your feedback mechanism still work? Ask at different levels, different communities, ask women and ask men. [Adapt](#) as needed along the “value chain” of the transfers.
2. **Do you understand how COVID-19 is affecting your target populations?** Refer to existing market monitoring systems ([FEWSNET](#), humanitarian interagency government services, etc.). Do interviews with traders, local

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contacts (VSLA, Youth Network, volunteers, etc.) and in coordination with local authorities for what concerns the risks of market disruption. [Use rapid market assessment tools](#) to determine how access and functionality of markets (goods, services, labour) has been affected, whether functionality is static or changing, and who has access to what. Resort to remote data collection and digital interview mechanisms where possible, see [CARE's Tip Sheet for Remote Monitoring Data During COVID 19](#). If you are not sure of how to do this, use the steps in the [CaLP Program Quality Toolkit](#), the [Minimum Economic Recovery Standards](#) and [CARE's Guidelines](#).

3. **Have you checked with your participants or at-risk communities?** Globally, CARE is analysing the gendered implications of the COVID-19 pandemic through a [global policy paper](#) and [Rapid Gender Analysis](#). Check your regional or country Rapid Gender Analysis Report (if any). At context-specific levels, do you understand how to use a [gender-sensitive approach to CVA](#) to address challenges and take advantage of opportunities during the evolution of the crisis? (Also available in [Spanish](#), [French](#), [Arabic](#) and [Portuguese](#)). Have you checked in with your program participants? GBV risks are high during this crisis. Do you know how to reduce [GBV risks in CVA](#)? Use the [CVA and GBV Compendium](#) (Available in [Spanish](#), [French](#), and [Arabic](#)). Resort to remote data collection and digital interview mechanisms where possible, see [CARE's Tip Sheet for Remote Monitoring Data During COVID 19](#).
4. **Are there any changes to using, sending or receiving money or goods during the pandemic?** Are there government or private sector restrictions on access to payment areas? Can your financial service provider (FSP) deliver in all targeted places safely? Is enough cash in circulation? Are the products available for vouchers? Talk to the FSP at capital and pay-out locations, as this may vary by location. Remember that access and regulation may change along as the crisis evolves. If you don't have an FSP, do this to help [prepare an analysis](#) to potentially use CVA after the pandemic is contained.
5. **Have you identified points of entry for CVA once the COVID-19 emergency period passes?** Are there community or government mechanisms that will help support recovery? Are there VSLAs in the community? Engage with [social protection working groups](#) to see entry point for humanitarian CVA. Do you have a sense of how this will impact products' availability (e.g. produce, beans) or normal seasonal diseases? Do you know when and where in the [value chain you could support](#) communities?
6. **Do you know what other CVA actors are doing, thinking and planning?** Find out what peer organizations are planning—CVA supports outcomes for various sectors (i.e. [food security](#), [WASH](#), [health](#), [shelter](#)). Check the [CaLP page on COVID-19](#) and a [crowd-sourced document](#) on CVA amid the COVID-19 crisis. Cash working groups will help define transfer rates, adapted approaches—CARE can To understand how best to participate and contribute to cash coordination, see the [CaLP guidance](#).

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