#### **CASH AND VOUCHER ASSISTANCE AND HUMAN MOBILITY:**

SHARING EXPERIENCES, DEBATES, AND LESSONS LEARNED













#### INTRODUCTION

The number of people who, due to conflicts, violence, or disasters, are forced year after year to leave their homes has reached the highest number since records have been kept, according to data from the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), now exceeds 103 million people. Recognizing that these figures do not represent all people on the move who are in need of assistance, that the reasons for human mobility are varied, that people on the move are not a homogeneous group with the same needs, that these needs are not constant over time, and that different circumstances may cause host communities to need assistance, Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) has emerged as one of the optimal aid modalities to ensure the dignity and respect of millions of people around the world.

In the humanitarian field, CVA are an aid modality that has been established for decades, and despite experiencing significant growth in recent years, from 7.9% in 2015 to 19% in 2021, it remains underutilized. According to CALP, if CVA were implemented whenever feasible and appropriate, this modality would represent between 30% and 50% of total humanitarian aid. Given that, in addition, evidence suggests that, in most parts of the world and crisis contexts, recipients of assistance prefer cash to in-kind aid, it is essential to value this aid modality, which clearly puts people at the center and enjoys a broad consensus among the people to whom it is directed.

With regard to human mobility, in recent times, CVA has been used more frequently, for example, in the areas of labor migration, circular migration, irregular migration, re-migration, return, reintegration, survivors of trafficking, returnees, displaced persons or refugees, among others. In addition, several studies highlight their impact in different thematic areas, such as transfer modalities, gender differences and work with stranded or unidentified persons or with host communities, without forgetting their impact at the regional level.

# **OBJECTIVES**

The workshop has the following objectives:

- 1. To learn about different perspectives / experiences of organizations on CVA in human mobility contexts.
- 2. To identify the challenges of CVA in human mobility.
- 3.To identify experiences and lessons learned in relation to CVA and human mobility.

#### **TARGET AUDIENCE**

The workshop is aimed at:

- Professionals in development cooperation and/or humanitarian action from public administration, NGOs, universities, and people with interest and/or experience in CVA and/or human mobility.
- Other professionals interested in deepening and updating their knowledge in these matters.

### **METHODOLOGY**

The workshop intends to be practical in nature and will alternate theoretical presentations with the exposition of reflections, findings, and practical cases. One part of the workshop will be conducted in plenary; the other part will be managed in small groups to facilitate the active participation of all participants. The workshop will be facilitated online through the Zoom platform.

#### REGISTRATION

Registration for the activity is free of charge.

Due to limited capacity, priority will be given to professionals from the Spanish cooperation - governmental and NGO sector and their local partners, and to professionals related to human mobility and/or global OMCs.

## **WORKING LANGUAGES**

The workshop will be facilitated in Spanish with simultaneous interpretation into English and French\*. Working groups will be organised according to language.

\*The languages of interpretation will be confirmed, depending on the preferred language of the people who register for the workshop.

#### **PROGRAM**

15.30 - 15.40

Presentation of the workshop:

- Cristina Gutierrez, Head of the OAH of AECID
- Álvaro Frías, Training Officer of IECAH

15.40 - 16.20	<ul> <li>Approach to CVA in contexts of human mobility</li> <li>Diego Prado, CALP Network Deputy Regional Representative for the Americas</li> <li>Save the Children representative</li> <li>Representative of the Federation of Red Cross-Africa and a national society</li> <li>Francisco Astudillo Poggi, IOM MTP Initiatives Officer</li> <li>Moderator: Holly Radice, CALP Network Regional Representative for the Americas</li> </ul>
16.20-16.50	<ul> <li>Working groups</li> <li>Facilitators: <ul> <li>Diego Prado, CALP Network Deputy Regional Representative for the Americas.</li> <li>Holly Radice, CALP Network Regional Representative for the Americas</li> <li>Camille Nussbaum, Executive Coordinator of IECAH</li> <li>Álvaro Frías, Training Officer of IECAH</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
16.50 - 17.30	Conclusions of the working groups and closing Facilitator: Álvaro Frías, Training Officer, IECAH