

# The Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance in Humanitarian Programmes to Promote the Well-Being of Crisis-Affected Adolescents

## Resources for Practitioners

Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) has gained momentum as a viable conduit in humanitarian settings to provide adolescent-responsive programming supporting their protection, education, and well-being. The resources shared below were developed by [Plan International](#) and the [Women's Refugee Commission](#) (WRC), with support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), to help practitioners effectively use CVA to achieve protection, education, and well-being outcomes for crisis-affected adolescent girls and boys (10–19 years).

**Guidance and tools** for the assessment, design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of CVA integrated into adolescent-responsive programming that promotes the protection, education, and well-being of adolescent girls and boys in humanitarian action. They are designed for Plan's programming around the world and are aligned with its [CVA Programming Step-by-Step Guideline](#) and [Adolescent Programming Toolkit](#) as well as best practice resources, including the CaLP Network's [Programme Quality Toolbox](#). These resources can be used by any organisation and are easily contextualised as they have been technically validated through pre-testing in selected Plan country offices and through inter-agency review.

**What is the purpose of the guidance and tools?** These resources are designed to support cash and sectoral practitioners' work to ensure that adolescent-responsive programming integrates CVA as appropriate and comprehensively meets the needs and enhances the capacities of diverse adolescents affected by crisis.

**Where and when should the guidance and tools be used?** These resources should be used in all humanitarian settings where CVA is deemed appropriate and feasible. They are ideal for the design phase of the programme cycle to ensure quality programming. The resources are organised in "mini guides" and are linked to corresponding tools for each phase of the programme cycle.

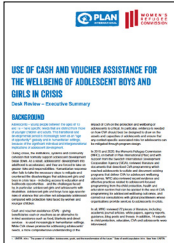
**How should the guidance and tools be used?** All the resources are designed to be adapted to context and are modular so that cash and sectoral actors delivering adolescent-responsive programming can work together to bridge gaps in current practice.

## Literature Review



**Cash and Voucher Assistance for Adolescents: An evidence review of how cash and voucher assistance can achieve outcomes for adolescents in humanitarian settings**

This is a [literature review](#) on adolescent-focused programming from various sectors such as protection, education, sexual and reproductive health (SRH), food security, and livelihoods to support sectoral and cross-sectoral outcomes. It allows for the design of evidence-based programming by sharing insights on the best approach to prioritize ongoing evidence gaps on adolescent programming within the humanitarian architecture.



**Cash and Voucher Assistance for Adolescents: An evidence review of how cash and voucher assistance can achieve outcomes for adolescents in humanitarian settings. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A [two-page executive summary](#) of the desk review described above.

## Case Studies



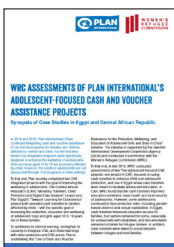
**Cash Transfer and Child Protection: An integrated approach to address the needs of unaccompanied and separated adolescents in the Central African Republic**

In November 2019, WRC conducted an assessment of Plan CAR's "[Monetary Transfer and Child Protection](#)" project in the Central African Republic to understand the perceived strengths and weaknesses, including implementation challenges and successes, benefits and associated risks for beneficiaries, and priorities for continued capacity building.



**Cash Transfer and Education: Supporting basic education for Syrian refugees and Egyptian host communities**

In December 2019, WRC conducted an assessment of Plan Egypt's "[Tawasol: Learning for Coexistence](#)" project to understand the perceived strengths and weaknesses of CVA, including implementation challenges and successes benefits and risks for beneficiaries, and capacity-building opportunities.



**WRC Assessments of Plan International's Adolescent-Focused Cash and Voucher Assistance Projects: Synopsis of Case Studies in Egypt and Central African Republic**

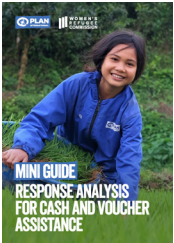
A [four-page synopsis](#) of the two case studies described above.

## Guidance and Tools



### Mini Guide: Needs Assessment for Adolescent-Responsive Cash and Voucher Assistance

This [mini guide](#) and its associated tools provide guidance for conducting needs assessments for adolescent-responsive CVA. It covers the following topics: needs assessment, objectives of needs assessments, data collection, data analysis, data validation, needs assessment dissemination, financial service providers assessment, market assessment, (child) protection and safeguarding risk assessment, participatory tools.



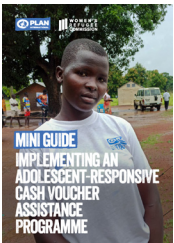
### Mini Guide: Response Analysis for Cash and Voucher Assistance for Adolescents

This [mini guide](#) and its associated tools provide guidance to carry out a response analysis to decide whether to use CVA to meet the humanitarian needs and achieve protection, education, health, and well-being outcomes for adolescents and their parents/caregivers. It covers the following topics: response analysis, feasibility analysis, financial service providers (FSPs), financial service providers assessment, market assessment, CVA feasibility analysis, (child) protection and safeguarding risk assessment, complementary programming.



### Mini Guide: Design an Adolescent-Responsive Cash Voucher Assistance Programme

This [mini guide](#) and its associated tools provide guidance on designing an adolescent-responsive CVA programme. It covers the following topics: programme design, purchasing power, opportunity cost, indirect and direct CVA recipients, transfer value, CVA delivery mechanisms, transfer value, minimum expenditure basket (MEB), frequency of transfer, regular transfer, conditionalities, restrictions, exit strategies.



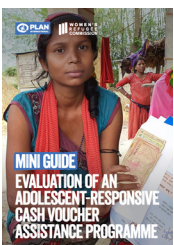
### Mini Guide: Implement an Adolescent-responsive Cash Voucher Assistance Programme

This [mini guide](#) on implementing adolescent-responsive CVA covers the following topics: the selection, training, and supervision of your team; registering and verifying the identity of recipients of adolescent-responsive CVA; working with financial service providers; delivering your adolescent-responsive CVA; and transition and handover of adolescent-responsive CVA.



### Mini Guide: Monitoring an Adolescent-responsive Cash Voucher Assistance Programme

This [mini guide](#) gives you step-by-step considerations for engaging adolescents in your evaluation of your adolescent-responsive CVA. It covers the following topics: evaluation, outcomes, objectives, unintended effects, research ethics, consent, assent, primary data, secondary data, qualitative methods, quantitative methods, mixed methods, experimental design, descriptive design, CVA design features, socio-ecological approach (social ecology of adolescent development).



### Mini Guide: Evaluation of an Adolescent-responsive Cash Voucher Assistance Programme

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## Good Practice Brief



### Good Practice Brief: 8 Key Actions to Implement Adolescent-Responsive Cash Voucher Assistance Programme

This [good practice brief](#) highlights key actions you need to take when advocating for and preparing, implementing, and monitoring and evaluating adolescent-friendly CVA programming.

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