CASH BASED PROGRAMMING IN EMERGENCIES

EAST AFRICA REGION

JANUARY-DECEMBER 2017 REPORT
World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Inspired by our Christian values, we are dedicated to working with the world’s most vulnerable people. We serve all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

© 2018 World Vision International

Contributors: Christopher Hoffman, Belete Temesgen, Mark Nonkes, Jacinta Oichoe, Moses Mukitale, Gift Sibanda, Simanga Ndebele, Marion Vera Aluoch

All photos © World Vision

Edited by: Mark Nonkes

Photographers: Mark Nonkes, Moses Mukitale

Design and layout: Brian Kisorio
CONTENTS

05 REGIONAL LEADER’S FOREWORD

06 REGIONAL OVERVIEW

08 CASH BASED PROGRAMMING IN KENYA

10 CASH BASED PROGRAMMING IN UGANDA

12 CASH BASED PROGRAMMING IN SOMALIA

14 CASH BASED PROGRAMMING IN SOUTH SUDAN

16 CASH BASED PROGRAMMING IN BURUNDI

18 THE HUMANITARIAN CASH BASED PROGRAMMING PROCESS

19 EXPANDING CASH BASED PROGRAMMING IN EMERGENCIES: PLANS FOR THE YEARS TO COME
Mothers taking part in the Cash For Work programme in Kilifi County, Kenya
As a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities, World Vision International is committed to responding to the most vulnerable in their time of need. Our global partnership takes action to respond to crisis and ensures people facing disaster are provided with essential, life saving assistance that is context appropriate, dignified and efficient.

Across the humanitarian sector, there is growing recognition of the effectiveness of cash based programming as a powerful approach to respond to people in emergencies.

Indeed, this is an approach World Vision endorses. Two years ago, World Vision International committed to expand its cash based programming approach in context appropriate environments at the World Humanitarian Summit.

Last year, cash based programming became a pivotal response approach to meet the shifting needs of the millions of people facing conflict, drought and displacement. In 2017, World Vision East Africa declared five global emergencies – to a hunger crisis in South Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia and to a surge in refugee arrivals in northern Uganda. Additionally, World Vision continued to respond to multiple needs in Burundi.

As a result, more than US $30 million in cash based programming support benefitted more than half a million vulnerable people in East Africa. The approach was endorsed with the support of grants from international humanitarian actors and government agencies in high income countries, along with private donations facilitated through World Vision’s fundraising offices.

Our teams on the ground have witnessed children’s lives improve as a result of cash based programming. Families have been able to stave off hunger, keep their children in school, afford medicine, purchase seeds and livestock and create small investments to better secure their future and reduce their vulnerability in the face of disaster. We also know that people’s dignity has been restored through the use of cash based programming. Empowered with cash assistance, a family can choose which needs they prioritise and play lead roles in their own recovery.

Various approaches have been used. Unconditional cash grants have provided people the money they need to go directly to the market and provide for their immediate needs. Conditional grants saw beneficiaries strengthen community infrastructure, receive funding to start a small business, attend training programmes, along with other approaches.

With cash based programming, the private sector is an integral partner. In areas where the local market could supply the commodities needed, we watched economies rebound. We’ve seen new businesses start and the family-run shops flourish after cash was injected into a community that was facing crisis. People were able to rely on their community market to meet their needs. Strong markets mean more jobs, with employment vital for recovery.

Strengthening private partnerships have also enabled our teams to harness the power of technology in their cash based programming approach. Mobile payments and digital vouchers have been utilised. Digital record keeping processes and protocols for effective data management have been strengthened to track our reach.

From an operational perspective, we know that cash based programming is considerably more economical to implement. With the financial burden of procuring, transporting, storing and distributing relief commodities removed, money is saved. That translates into more beneficiaries being reached.

More importantly, as we scale up cash based programmes, more families and communities across East Africa will be able to build self-reliant and resilient livelihoods of their choice and with dignity.
In the most recent past, there has been a maturation of the humanitarian sector. We have turned our focus from direct commodity distribution to a more beneficiary empowering mantra that is extremely successful and, in many ways, more effective. Cash based programming and financially inclusive approaches aid those in need. It is no longer an unattainable strategy.

Various cash based programming models in response to emergencies have come from the backstage to the forefront. The shift occurred quite significantly following the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul in 2016.

Across the various crises in Eastern Africa, cash has been a crucial method of reaching people fleeing conflict or struggling from drought. At World Vision, we no longer ask the question of ‘Why cash?’ but instead ask ‘Why not cash?’

The ability to choose what to spend your money on is a fundamental human choice, and the humanitarian sector is realising that those in need of assistance can make their own choices towards assisting themselves and their families. We have seen families make wise choices and address both their short-term and long-term needs in Somalia, South Sudan, Burundi, Uganda and Kenya.

Aside from the material gains for those receiving cash based assistance, we have witnessed three main benefits:

• The first is empowerment of the beneficiary-those in need are choosing and prioritising what is best for them and their family.
• The second benefit is market efficiency-by allowing demand driven choices by the those in need, the market in turn creates its own efficiencies surrounding supply of items and services.
• Finally, using cash based programming provides agencies implementing humanitarian responses the ability to spend less per person in need on overhead costs, thus increasing the amount of people that can be helped-removing a number of supply chain costs and inefficiencies, and reducing staff head counts given the ease to which cash can be disbursed.

There are a number of other benefits and pitfalls that continue to be discussed, but on the whole and in the future we should see the narrative change again from ‘Why not Cash?’ to the statement ‘Cash first.’

This report outlines some of the ways people have benefited – from investing in small businesses, paying for school fees or buying their choice of food. Indeed, we have seen cash and financially inclusive programmes provide a number of benefits to both beneficiaries and agencies.
World Vision is currently responding to 6 large scale emergencies in East Africa, with cash programming in 5 countries.

29M
People are in need of humanitarian assistance

36
Grants related to cash transfer received

30M
US $ distributed in 2017

735,281
People assisted through cash transfers in 2017

What do beneficiaries spend their cash on?

- Purchase of food
- Agricultural activities
- Children’s education
- Healthcare
- Purchase of business supplies
- Transportation
Kenya is facing a hunger crisis with over **3.4 million** people in need of life saving humanitarian assistance.

Cash based programming in Kenya takes place in 4 counties: Baringo, Makueni, Taita Taveta and Kilifi.

Kenya cash based programming donors include: World Food Programme

**Grants**

- **4** Grants related to cash transfer received

**Mode of Delivery**

- **Cash for work**

**Beneficiaries**

- **138,280** people assisted through cash transfers in 2017

**Amount Distributed**

- **$1.08M** US$ distributed in 2017
Located in Taita Taveta County, the Mkamenyi area had witnessed several seasons of crop failure. All efforts by the community were frequently rendered useless from season to season. However, by adopting rainwater harvesting technologies promoted by the Taita Taveta Cash for Asset programme, the story in Mkamenyi has changed.

As I brought my motorbike to a halt, I was met with loud cheers and ululation from men and women full of excitement. Having embraced the use of zai pit rainwater harvesting technology, thanks to the cash for asset programme, these community members are now able to produce good harvests. Zai pits are rain water harvesting technologies for crop production commonly practised in the Sahel region of West Africa.

I felt warmth in my heart. Although the weather was a bit chilly that morning, the faces of the farmers were radiant and spoke volumes of what they were experiencing.

There is a proverb in my community which says “Ghwaighu ghwadadukwa nighwanandenyi”. This simply means “The body is carried by a full stomach.”

It was interesting to see the farmers, after finishing their day’s work, were now seated at their cash for asset farm site, ready to be taken through their financial report and discuss the way forward.

“We have managed to realise a total of Ksh. 7,227 (US$70) out of the sale of vegetables this season,” explains the group’s treasurer.

“The next bold step is to open up a farm [of] two to five acres of arable land and grow green grams as our value chain crop.”

A financial guru once stated, “You do not have to be great to start, but you only need to start to be great.”

Through the use of modern and simple rainwater harvesting technologies, these farmers are headed to greater heights in addressing food security.
Uganda is facing a refugee crisis and is now hosting 1.39 million refugees.

Cash based programming in Uganda takes place in Arua District.

Uganda cash based programming donors include: WFP, UNHCR

---

**GRANTS**

2 GRANTS RELATED TO CASH TRANSFER RECEIVED

**MODE OF DELIVERY**

CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER

**BENEFICIARIES**

17,919 PEOPLE ASSISTED THROUGH CASH TRANSFERS IN 2017

**AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED**

103,805 US$ DISTRIBUTED IN 2017
SELECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE
By Moses Mukitale

How do you select who gets a cash grant when the need is overwhelming?

Recently, in northern Uganda’s refugee settlements, World Vision distributed more than US$200 to 463 families, thanks to support from UNHCR.

The challenge is there are more than one million refugees who recently escaped violence in South Sudan since 2013. Many arrived with only the clothes on their backs. A May 2017 report by World Vision and other agencies found that more than half of the refugees relied solely on food assistance alone and had no other means of earning income.

Still, choices had to be made to identify the most vulnerable, as funding was limited.

A foster family system is assisting thousands of refugee children in northern Uganda who are separated from their families or unaccompanied.

WorldVision works with partner agencies to place children with volunteer caregivers who provide emotional support and protect children from harm. WorldVision case workers work closely with each child placed in foster families and ensure families get they need. In Imvepi refugee settlement alone, World Vision supports more than 530 foster families.

The cash grant, however, only availed US$240 to 463 foster families. World Vision and UNHCR agreed that the cash grant could help foster families improve living conditions, boost household incomes and provide income generation opportunities.

Evelyn Atim, a World Vision child protection coordinator in Imvepi explains the selection process.

“Our first priority was foster homes with the highest number of fostered children (four and above). The grant is benefiting both the fostered and biological children in each home.”

“We also had special consideration for foster homes headed by refugee mothers. Plus homes with extremely vulnerable individuals like child mothers, child headed households, sick children, children abused on the way to escape South Sudan. We are going to monitor each of these homes to make sure they start up income generating activities and that they buy basic needs especially for the children,” Evelyn explains.

During the first cash disbursement, plans for investing in small businesses were plenty.

Sixty-two-year-old Yavu Victoria, a foster mother of four, is set to open up a vegetable grocery in her 30x30 meters plot of land. She has already identified a dealer who will supply her weekly with vegetables.

“This is my answered prayer. I’ve been wanting to set up a small business since I got here,” Victoria explains.

“People who have some capital have already managed to set up small income generating activities. Some sell in the market area while others in their plots of land. There is a high demand for fresh vegetables around here.

“That’s what am going to sell, okra, onions, tomatoes, cabbages and silver fish.”

Besta Awadiya, a 52-year-old foster mother of 21 separated children, plans to deal in snacks and household items.

Similarly, 62-year-old Bethuel Minga who is taking care of 14 children (10 of whom are his own biological children and four from his relative) plans to rent some farming land from host communities and open up a commercial garden.

“I’ve already found the land I want to rent for at least three years. I want to grow maize, vegetables, and sweet potatoes. I can see there is a ready market for food and fresh vegetable around here. If I am not able to sell the items at the refugee market, I will transport it to Yumbe and Arua markets,” says the joyful Bethuel.

World Vision is also partnering with Post Bank to have the money distributed to refugees at Imvepi settlement.

“We always ensure the most needy are prioritized when we make choices about beneficiary selection,” said Roselyn Akello, World Vision’s cash based programming lead in northern Uganda.

“It’s our commitment to reduce vulnerabilities and help people support to navigate the unfortunate circumstances they face.”

By Moses Mukitale
Somalia is facing a hunger crisis with over 6 million people in need of life saving humanitarian assistance.

Cash based programming in Somalia takes place in Garowe, Eyl, Jariban, Dangorayo, Godobjiran, Burtinle, Burao, Hargesia, Borama, Odweyne, Lughaya, Zylac, Baidoa, Quansadeere, Waajid, Xudur, Dollow, Luuq, Belet Xaawo and Baardheere.

Somalia cash based programming donors include: WFP, USAID-FFP, UNOCHA, SIDA, SDC, DEC, ANCP, SHO

**BENEFICIARIES**

229,224 people assisted through cash transfers in 2017

**AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED**

15.2M US$ distributed in 2017

**GRANTS**

17 grants related to cash transfer received

**MODE OF DELIVERY**

Unconditional cash transfers
Following a severe drought in the village of Beer in Burao, Somaliland, most of its people did not have enough food.

In response to the hunger crisis, World Vision implemented a cash transfer programme, helping 67 households affected by the drought obtain a variety of food through vendors, including sugar, pasta, oil, tuna, rice, dates and wheat.

Households benefiting from the programme included those living in poverty, people living with a disability, the elderly, households headed by women, households with orphan children and families who had lost animals during the drought.

“It was the first time that I saw such kind of drought,” said Ahmed, a community member, “There was a huge loss of livestock, shortage of water, pasture, food, degradation of land and crop failure.”

“The situation of people was bad, we were suffering because of shortage of food, water and shelter,” adds Hussein, a community committee member of Beer village.

But when we received cash support from World Vision, we managed to buy food and regained hope of our life, thanks to World Vision,”he adds.

According Nasra, a mother of three, the drought meant her family went without food.

“My family members were hungry. We had nothing at our home, they(her family) used to sleep without eating,” she explains.”I got a variety of food items from World Vision, and was able to feed my children.”

Halimo, also a mother, adds that the programme saw significant changes in her village.

“There was a big change for the community members when it comes to food security and nutrition status. Households received preferred and preferred food items with high nutrients compared to the traditional food,”Halimo says. “My children received food, and they are now happy and healthy. They have also gone back to school,” adds father of six Adan Osman.

For Nura, a mother to five children, the cash transfer programme helped her make the decision to stay in her village.

“When I got the food, I decided to stay here with my children, husband, and relatives. Everyone in the community decided to stay,’ she says.

World Vision uses a number of methods in Somalia to ensure projects are on course and beneficiary communities are fully engaged. These include on-site monitoring where the accountability, monitoring and evaluation department routinely (at least once a month) conduct on-site monitoring. The monitoring focuses on project implementation (beneficiary selection, beneficiary verification), voucher distribution or top-up and redemption processes. Additionally, post distribution monitoring is conducted, through quarterly surveys which, beyond looking at the utilization of the cash and food vouchers, also focus on processes within the project.

In Somaliland, World Vision is using mobile money technology to distribute cash assistance to thousands of people.

Transferring money on your phone to another person’s account is a common way to pay for goods at shops or to pay individuals for services.

Here, 2,434 people received US$1,509,316 in mobile money transfer over a period of nine months.

World Vision distributes cash assistance through a Telesom provider in Hargeisa. The programme is called Zaad Services.

Guuleid Mohamad Aden works for the tech giant and ensures money is properly delivered to the phone lines of families who are recipients of the money.

Guuleid adds that the mobile money cash assistance also makes business easier for his company.

“This cash transfer has created loyal customers for our company, because each beneficiary has a specific SIM card with Zaad Services,” Guuleid concludes.

World Vision is embracing innovation and partnering with the private sector to support families struggling with hunger, loss of livelihoods and failure of income generation opportunities due to disasters.
South Sudan is facing a hunger crisis caused by a conflict with over 7 million people in need of assistance.

Cash based programming in South Sudan takes place in Renk, Juba, Western Equatoria and Northern Bahr El Ghazal.

South Sudan cash based programming donors include: WFP, FAO, WV-Hong Kong, and the Canadian Government (GAC).

**Grants**

- **9** grants related to cash transfer received

**Mode of Delivery**

- Conditional cash transfer
- Cash for assets
- Voucher for work
- Unconditional value vouchers
- Conditional nutrition vouchers

**Beneficiaries**

- **346,258** people assisted through cash transfers in 2017

**Amount Distributed**

- **$13.2M** USD distributed in 2017
CASH TRANSFERS ASSISTING THE PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED
By Simanga Ndebele

Lona Gire Misaka, 31, lives in South Sudan’s capital Juba, where 52 per cent of the population is classified as food insecure.

Blind since the age of 13, Lona is married with four children aged two, five, seven and nine. The family, which shares a single-room bamboo home, found it difficult to purchase food, pay rent and send the children to school.

After registering for the World Vision and UN World Food Programme in November, Lona received training in nutrition, hygiene promotion, food security and livelihoods, child protection and business skills.

“Despite being blind I have been able to impart a sense of cleanliness to my children, as a result of the training that I received,” Lona said. “We were [also] supported with US$45 to help us to purchase food.”

Before the project began, Lona and her family struggled to eat three meals a day, resorting to skipping meals or reducing quantities to make the food last.

“It’s a miracle how we survived, especially after the July 2016 crisis, when all the shops closed and food commodities were in short supply,” Lona said.

“At some point we resorted to sending our children to my husband’s brother, so that they can get something to eat.

“The cash that my family received, has been a life saver, as we are now able to purchase food for my family, including vegetables, and beans which [we] previously were unable to purchase.”

Following her training in business skills, Lona is now running a small charcoal business.

WORLD VISION SOUTH SUDAN – IN PURSUIT OF THE CASH BASED PROGRAMMING AGENDA
By Gift Sibanda

During the past five years, World Vision South Sudan has accumulated a wealth of experience in cash based programming, both under conditional and unconditional transfers.

However, targeting and selecting beneficiaries, especially in urban settings, has remained a challenge. This is due to the complexities and dynamics within urban settings, coupled with cash based programming as the major intervention, where all people want to be targeted even if they are not vulnerable.

To address this, the best practice is to target programming through other partners, such as associations that interact with vulnerable groups including the elderly, those living with disabilities and health centres. This ensures potential beneficiaries are not excluded. World Vision South Sudan also applies a vulnerability assessment tool to all referrals from partner organisations.

Cash based programming relies heavily on the functionality of markets in targeted areas. Where there is quick scale up of cash based programming, it’s essential an agency has updated market assessments data. This enables a rapid start-up of the response and making of critical decisions. Having staff with expertise in cash based programming to quickly set up systems is also important.

World Vision South Sudan’s decision is also taking cash based programming beyond the traditional food assistance sector, with recently-completed pilots using cash in nutrition projects.

A family is given vouchers which they redeem for commodities such as sorghum, milk, fish and other household food goods, avoiding sharing of nutrition supplies from the nutrition centers.

A Canadian Government-funded project, Liser 3, is also using conditional cash transfers for laying of water pipes and digging of pits latrines for vulnerable groups in Renk. Additionally they are using vouchers for non-food items (NFIs) where selected beneficiaries redeem NFI items such as soap and hygiene kits in shops.

With recent reports indicating an agreement to open the borders between South Sudan and Sudan, this paves the way to implement interventions using cash transfer methodology. This is more cost-effective and logistically easier than moving food commodities.
Burundi is facing multiple crises with malaria remaining a major concern. There were 7 million reported cases of malaria in 2017.

Cash based programming in Burundi takes place in Karuzi, Gitega and Bujumbura Mairie.

Burundi cash based programming donors include: WFP, UNDP and ADH.

---

**GRANTS**

4 GRANTS RELATED TO CASH TRANSFER RECEIVED

---

**MODE OF DELIVERY**

CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER

---

**BENEFICIARIES**

3,600 PEOPLE ASSISTED THROUGH CASH TRANSFERS IN 2017

---

**AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED**

561,408 US $ DISTRIBUTED IN 2017
In Burundi, two out of every three people are living on less than US$2 a day. For mothers, ensuring their children get enough food to eat is often a struggle.

Most families rely on small parcels of land to grow vegetables for their daily meals. During harvest times, families have enough to eat but after a few months, food stocks run out and children go hungry.

However, for mothers in one farming community, this is now a thing of the past, after World Vision, with support from the World Food Programme, organised a cash for work programme. The project has benefited more than 5,700 families who receive the equivalent of US$25 a month for their labour.

Participants dug organic composting pits (for spreading on their land, increasing soil fertility), created kitchen gardens (providing vegetables for their families) and constructed and repaired a road for access to the market.

For 25-year-old mother of three Emmanuela, the programme ensures her children have three meals a day.

“We’ve already made a down payment on another small piece of land and we bought a piglet.”

Ensuring women can be self-reliant is another positive effect of the programme.

“My husband is in Tanzania, looking for work. He sends money every two months or so, but if he doesn’t have anything, he sends nothing,” says Marie-Goreth Nicempaye, a mother of one.

“I am not relying on the cash my husband sends anymore. I hope the small things I’m buying will help me in the future and that I will not go back to what I was in the past.”

Thirty-five-year-old mother of seven, Esperance, was able to invest in her family’s future.

“The first cash payment I got, I bought fertilizer to increase our crop production. I put a down payment on a small piece of land in the marshland where I can grow crops in the dry season,” explains Esperance.

“My hope for the future is that the land will provide for my family. Even after I die it will support them.”

“I am really thankful for this project. The project helped me secure that piece of land that will help me provide for my family.”

Evidence from a range of countries shows that increasing the share of household income controlled by women, either through their own earnings or cash transfers, changes spending in ways that benefit children” - The World Bank, 2011

By Mark Nonkes
THE HUMANITARIAN CASH BASED PROGRAMMING PROCESS

STEP 1
Needs assessment
Community consultation
Market analysis
Risk analysis

STEP 2
Response options examination
Programme model selection
Transfer value setting
Staff organisation and structure

STEP 3
Reach target recipients
Register recipients
Implement transfer assistance
Verify recipients and payments
Reconcile and report

STEP 4
Monitor
Ensure accountability
Evaluate
Learn lessons
EXPANDING CASH BASED PROGRAMMING IN EMERGENCIES: PLANS FOR THE YEARS TO COME

By Belete Temesgen, Senior Technical Advisor - Cash and Market Based Programming, World Vision International

World Vision is committed to increase its disaster management assistance through cash based programming by 2020.

The commitment presents both challenges and opportunities to address protracted displacement crises effectively. Indeed, cash based programming ensures choice and dignity for affected communities, as well as bolstering cost-efficiency.

Where feasible and appropriate, World Vision is determined to drive the use of more market based approaches, working with local and global partners.

As one of the tools to address humanitarian needs in the region, World Vision has made significant progress in implementing cash transfers in East Africa. More beneficiaries have been reached with cash and voucher programming than ever before.

In addition to what’s being implemented, expanding single and multi-sector and multi-purpose cash transfer programming across the nine countries World Vision works in East Africa is a key priority in the coming years.

World Vision aims to expand the use of digital and electronic systems, where feasible and appropriate. A recently signed partnership with Mastercard in Kenya and Uganda is a good step towards this. World Vision is also working on new products to expand biometric digital registration and record keeping as well as electronic voucher capabilities through the Last Mile Mobile Solutions system.

Ensuring that cash based programming is effective and improving also requires commitment to enhancing quality of assessment and analysis, design, implementation, accountability and evaluation as well as impact monitoring. Working with other partners will be crucial to scale up cash transfers in fragile contexts in places like South Sudan and Somalia. This includes:

- Working more with local partners.
- Additionally, to further extend the role of cash based programming, World Vision is committed to investing in building national capacity.
- Finally, World Vision is committed to continuing to document and share the lessons we’ve learned across our programs and within the country offices where we currently operate.

We will work with the local and international cash transfer programming community to ensure mutual learning and adoption of best practice occur.

Through these strategies, we are certain World Vision will continue to expand its work in cash based programming in emergencies across eastern Africa in the years to come.

Known Benefits Of Cash Programming For Children

- Better nutrition, diet diversity
- More regular meals
- Increased school enrolment
- Better school attendance, fewer school drop-outs
- Better access to healthcare, illnesses get treated sooner

Contact information

Christopher M. Hoffman
Regional Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs Director
Email: Christopher_Hoffman@wvi.org
Skype: chrishoffmandrm

Belete Temesgen
Senior Technical Advisor - Cash and Market Based Programming
Email: Belete_Temesgen@wvi.org
Skype: belete.temesgen

Dr. Kathryn Taetzsch
Global Director, Humanitarian Partnerships & Cash Based Programming
Disaster Management/ Technical Resources Team
Email: Kathryn_Taetzsch@wvi.org