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Facts in a nutshell:

- **May 2016:** the WHS took place and Switzerland participated as a speaker in the cash side event.
- **June 2016:** the CTP Introductory course took place with 18 participants: 14 from the SHA and 4 from the Swiss Red Cross, Caritas Switzerland and Swiss Solidarity.
- **July 2016:** Switzerland becomes a member to the CaLP Board for three years. The CaLP Board has extended its membership from the 5 founders organizations of CaLP (Save the Children, OXFAM, ACF, IFRC and NRC) to 14 members, out of which there is one UN organization (WFP) and one Donor representative (Switzerland).
- CaLP is confirmed as co-chair of the Geneva-based Cash Working Group, together with OCHA.

Hot topic: update on Humanitarian cash transfers and Social Protection

SHA CTP, in collaboration with SDC Quality Assurance-Poverty, has been instrumental in **work towards joint positioning on Social Protection**. SDC focuses its interventions in Social Protection in the categories of social assistance (non-contributory and regular transfers) and social insurance (insurance schemes). Linking to existing or emerging national Social protection systems, Humanitarian actors can leverage their expertise in emergencies to allow for a larger panel of contextual responses to slow and rapid onsets shocks.

SHA currently provides senior cash secondees with large expertise to partners like WFP to explore new possibilities to intervene through the Social Protection schemes and safety nets. WFP is investing resources, and willing to make corporate changes in its processes and partnerships, to ensure that: 1) Governmental Social Protection schemes are strengthened with a shock-responsive component, 2) that a conceptual and technical support is provided to Governments for the reinforcement of their longer term interventions, 3) that Governments willing to develop those instruments are supported technically in their design and specific components, and finally, 4) that WFP play a role of facilitator amongst Governmental bodies for knowledge transfer, with a South-South collaboration approach. See illustration below of a global presentation by SHA secondee to WFP Asia, Louis Rovira.

WFP Haiti work on shock responsiveness of the emerging national safety net was supported by a Swiss cash expert. Two cash secondees are piloting the provision of technical support of WFP to emerging social protection programmes in Myanmar, echoing the work that is being done for Asia overall. And yet another secondee will be leading WFP's exploration phase for Colombia.

SHA is now part of a sub-group on social protection within the CaLP Technical Advisory Group (TAG) which also includes members from NGOs and the UN.

Where does WFP stand now in terms of integrating Social Protection and Safety nets in its scope of work?



ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF WFP SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENTS IN THE AREA OF SOCIAL SAFETY NETS

WFP SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENTS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SHOCK RESPONSIVE COMPONENT OF SAFETY NETS

- **Philippines** (Haiyan Hurricane, 2014)
- **Fidji** (Winston Cyclone, 2015)
- **Sri Lanka** (Floods, 2016)

WFP SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENTS IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF THEIR SAFETY NETS

- **India** (Technical support request from India GVT for shift to cash, Dec 2015)
- **Pakistan** (Technical support for nutrition sensitiveness & shock responsive Safety nets, Oct. 2016)
- **Bangladesh** (Technical support enhancing resilience and promoting nutrition-sensitive social protection programs)

WFP SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENTS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THEIR SAFETY NETS

- **Myanmar** (Mandalay - Take advantage of a WFP Cash-Based Transfers Project to create an embryo of SSN - Interest from SDC)

WFP SUPPORT TO GVTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION NETWORKS FOR SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY BUILDING ON SAFETY NETS

- **Pacific region** (Aftershock Follow-up with Fidjian GVT)
- **India** (SSN Pilot projects - Chandigarh - Pondicherry)

CaLP is rolling out trainings on humanitarian cash transfers and Social Protection. A SHA cash expert participated to the pilot training in Nairobi in July 2016.

Cash Transfer Programming

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News from our cash secondees: What's going on? A sneak peek into a rare secondment



ICRC

As of early 2016, SHA is supporting ICRC with the unique secondment of a Cash and Markets Specialist, our Senior expert André Dürr. It is the first time the SHA is providing a cash secondment to the ICRC. This fits into ICRC's plans to significantly increase its cash portfolio (currently at CHF 60 million) in the coming years.

In this newly established cash regional/global post within the Economic Security Unit in Geneva, André provides technical support for CTP and market assessment to ICRC staff from different units and countries, deploys for rapid emergency response or for other specific tasks (ie. assessments, evaluations) and is responsible for implementing cash and market related trainings at delegation level. The trainings often include representatives from the local National Societies.

André Dürr specifically supports delegations in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, North Africa, West Africa, and has effectuated missions to 8 countries since the start of his secondment in February 2016. He is also the first SHA secondment to the ICRC in many years.



ICRC cash distribution in Jordan together with the national society @ICRC



ICRC training on market assessment conducted by André for the Syrian Arab Red Crescent in Damascus @ICRC André Dürr

Quick fact and figures on two of André's missions:

Nagorno Karabakh April 2016

Set-up of rapid and short Cash emergency response to cover basic needs of displaced populations:

- Targeting of 500 IDPs who couldn't return to their villages.
- Emergency response with cash set up in less than 3 weeks.
- One-off multi-purpose cash transfer covering 2 months of assistance (set at 70 percent of the Minimum Expenditure Basket).
- Use of the Post Office for over-the-counter delivery, with which there was a pre-existing agreement thereby facilitating quick set-up.
- Monitoring showed the cash was for its largest part spent on food, clothing and medical expenses.

Ukraine August 2016

Training on market assessment for ICRC sub-delegations in Ukraine on both sides of the frontline and implementation of market assessment in Sevrodonetsk and Mariupol:

- Trainings based on RAM (Rapid Assessment of Markets) were implemented for 5 sub-delegations.
- The trainings were followed up by the implementation of a market assessment in Sevrodonetsk and Mariupol.
- The assessment focused on livelihood commodities: livestock, animal feed, seeds and fertilizer.
- The market assessment findings are to inform the response analysis for the upcoming livelihood programmes.

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**LESSONS
LEARNED FROM
THE LAST DIRECT
ACTION USING
CASH
to date**

Publication by SHA: Operational Manual - Sri-Lanka project in a post-conflict context (2009-2015)

This manual was designed for practitioners. It provides practical information to assess beneficiaries' needs and to holistically plan and implement aid delivery, including cash transfers, to conflict affected returnee populations. This lessons-learned exercise promotes a systemic programme approach and highlights the importance of linking relief, rehabilitation and development, in response to complex post-conflict needs on the ground.

Click here: [Link to Operational Manual Sri Lanka, Construction and Cash](#)

For those within SDC please use a private support for access to avoid administrative blockages.

At glance: use of cash transfers in the project

7,500 families have benefited, over 6 years.

Cash for owner-driven house rehabilitation:

- Owners are in charge of the reconstruction → increased ownership, sustainability.
- SDC contribution: Needs assessments, technical assistance (build back better, quality assurance) in combination with flanking measures to support the programme, financial and psychosocial counseling, advocacy and community strengthening efforts (conflict sensitive approach), coordination with stakeholders, implementation and monitoring.
- Six cash instalments, tied to the construction progress.

Cash for livelihood support:

- Start-up cash transfers to kick-start income generating activities, including post-conflict protection and support of communities.
- Shift to development approach: Creation of producer groups and facilitating market linkages to rebuild local value chains.

Cash for work, for the rehabilitation of community infrastructure:

- Rain water retention ponds, community buildings, wells, clearing of main access roads, irrigation channels, tanks and culverts from jungle.



Beneficiaries receiving financial counseling for the management of their cash transfers.



Lea Moser, the cash and construction expert who participated to the project implementation and compiled the manual in early 2016, presented her experience on day 3 of the Basic CTP course (Switzerland, June 2016).

Beneficiaries were getting transfers through a local bank branch close to their village.

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A quick look back on the period since the last edition:

WHS and the post-WHS world

- *Prior to the WHS:* on CTP, SHA engaged in the Grand Bargain cash workstream as well as in the initiative led by the CaLP [100-days-of-cash](#)
- *At the WHS:* Head of Swiss Humanitarian Aid, Manuel Bessler, was a key note speaker at the cash side event, organized jointly by CaLP, ODI and others. He was joined by Ertharin Cousin, Executive Director of WFP, Monique Pariat, Director General ECHO, and Gareth Owen, Humanitarian Director of Save the Children UK, to discuss the best ways to join the “cash revolution” where collective power was highlighted.



- *After the WHS:* **Momentum for cash:** Cash as a “winner” of the WHS, tentatively King, [see Ground Truth article](#)

A shift towards greater use of cash transfers as aid was generally endorsed, [see Irin article](#)

SG draft report on the outcome of the WHS mentions CTP various times as relevant for efficiency, beneficiaries and the context at the center: “Numerous commitments were pledged to scale-up cash-based programming and risk-informed social protection. Commitments were also made to put people at the centre of design, implementation and decision-making, such as the adoption of the Core Humanitarian Standard by more than 90 stakeholders”. “The Summit also confirmed cash-based programming and more direct funding to local actors as critical operational measures for increasing efficiency”, “I also encourage initiatives on efficiency, including on strategic cash-based programming and support to local responders”.

Or was the WHS not bold enough for cash in general?

[CaLP article](#) and [Guardian article](#)

Good recent reads & resources

- **Cash and Localization:** Read the literature review funded by the SHA [“Localisation and Locally-led Crisis Response”](#)
- [IASC Cash Transfers in Humanitarian Contexts](#)
- [Gentilini’s reality check on cash-based transfers](#)
- [ODI Review of evidence on cash](#)
- [NRC’s guidelines for cash in remote areas](#)
- [Multi-sector cash in Niger](#)
- [Video of UNRWA e-cards in the West Bank](#)
- [CaLP membership newsletter](#)
- [Cash and Gender, who should get the entitlement? It’s not always what you might think](#)
- [CTP used by many: Check the Che Guevara vouchers](#)

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