**Consultancy assignment: Developing and piloting a module of child protection indicators for multi-purpose cash grants, with associated guidance and capacity building material**

Contract length: 44 days

Location: Home-based (32 days); Travel to pilot country (12 days, including travel; potentially to increase to 24 if two pilot countries are identified)—to be finalized with consultant identified

**Background**

The mission of the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (the Alliance) is to support the efforts of humanitarian actors to achieve high-quality and effective child protection interventions in humanitarian contexts, in both refugee and non- refugee settings. As a global network of operational agencies, academic institutions, policymakers, donors and practitioners, the Alliance facilitates inter-agency technical collaboration on child protection in all humanitarian contexts. It sets standards and produces technical guidance for use by the various stakeholders. The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) currently co-leads the Alliance with Save the Children. Within the Alliance, there are a number of working groups and task forces, including the Assessment, Measurement and Evidence (AME) Working Group and the Cash and Child Protection Task Force.

The Alliance facilitates inter-agency collaboration on normative work, including standard setting and development of technical guidance. It also provides its members with technical support and guidance where needed.

**Purpose**

The Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) sector has historically not been very strong in systematic collection and use of evidence. This is a result of the complexity and interconnectedness of the issues covered under child protection, the urgency of immediate response, and the limited technical and financial resources for measurement efforts. As the sector matures, however, it is imperative to develop a stronger evidence base to help communities, practitioners and donors prioritize child protection and respond more effectively in humanitarian settings.

In this regard, the Assessment, Measurement and Evidence (AME) Working Group was established within the Alliance to strengthen the evidence base for child protection programming. It contributes to the development of tools and guidance, such as the Child Protection Rapid Assessment Toolkit, Situation and Response Monitoring Toolkit, and other tools to measure child separation in emergencies. The AME Working Group has been designated as one of the four permanent work streams of the Alliance.

The AME Working Group is co-led by the Care and Protection of Children (CPC) Learning Network at Columbia University and Save the Children, which are responsible for implementing the work plan. They advise on strategic direction, supervise activities and preparation of technical products; represent the working group in inter-agency meetings, and mobilize resources. The AME Working Group will support the Cash and Child Protection Task Force (Cash & CP TF) of the Alliance to strengthen the available tools and guidance for evaluating the effects and impact of multipurpose cash grants (MPG) on CPiE . The Cash and CP TF, co-led by World Vision, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), and the CPC Learning Network was established under the Alliance to address the lack of documented evidence on the effectiveness of cash transfers on children in emergencies, their potential for greater use and impact, and their risks. By collaboratively investing in greater measurement and research on linkages between cash transfers and child protection outcomes, the Cash & CP TF will generate learning to guide improved policy, practice and innovation, which will enable the humanitarian community to address risks and ultimately realize the full potential of cash transfers to support child protection.

The AME Working Group and the Cash and Child Protection Task Force seek to identify, collate, and develop the measures, tools and guidance to better capture the effectiveness of cash transfer programmes (CTPs) on child wellbeing with the aim of developing and piloting a module of common and user-friendly indicators and guidance for integrating child protection in MPG monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

MPGs have gained popularity as an assistance modality for the degree of choice, flexibility and dignity they offer to recipients. As a mechanism for addressing the basic needs of individuals and households in health, food security, shelter and education, MPGs have the potential to significantly affect child protection outcomes. However, these causal pathways and linkages have not yet been thoroughly researched or evaluated in humanitarian settings. Recent reports by Save the Children and Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP), along with a forthcoming evidence paper published by the Cash & CP TF, point to persistent evidence gaps and the need for a clearer understanding of what interventions have the greatest impact and how those can be most effectively coordinated and implemented on the ground. The development of common tools, standards and effective monitoring are cited as essential components of quality CTPs.

The purpose of this consultancy is to:

* *Review monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) frameworks associated with MPG intervention designs and engage with key stakeholders to assess tools and capacities for capturing child protection outcomes*
* *Map M&E indicators that are being used in the child protection sector and identify potentially promising indicators for inclusion in MPG M&E frameworks*
* *Develop and pilot a module of common and user-friendly indicators and guidance for integrating child protection in MPG monitoring & evaluation frameworks*
* *Global and local dissemination and capacity-building using the module*

The module will be piloted in a country that is identified as starting an MPG project in early 2019. The indicators will be included in the M&E framework of the project, and M&E staff will be trained to monitor progress against the indicators. Once the pilot is complete, feedback will be sought from implementing partners. This module will ultimately serve the needs of multiple stakeholders, including front-line actors, donors and researchers, in both refugee and non-refugee settings.

The precise content, nature, and timing of the deliverables associated with this project will be agreed with the consultant identified prior to commencement of the project.

**Minimum requirements and competencies:**To be successful you will have a background working in an INGO or UN environment with the modality of cash to achieve specific outcomes, notably child protection outcomes. Preferred experience includes operational work at a country level that demonstrates strong skills in monitoring and evaluation and capacity building humanitarian actors. You will also have a sound background in child protection, as well as a proven track record of successfully leading and facilitating research. You will be self-driven and able to motivate others educated at the graduate level in a relevant subject or have equivalent experience in developing training packages. In addition, you will have:

* An understanding of the humanitarian aid architecture;
* Good situational agility skills with a high degree of flexibility and adaptability in order to respond to changing needs;
* Strong skills in the usage of Microsoft packages, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint;
* Proven experience in data analysis and interpretation;
* Excellent English, both oral and in writing;
* Strong interpersonal skills, diplomacy and cultural sensitivity to interact with persons from a range of socio-cultural backgrounds;
* Experience conducting quantitative research and review, in particular previous experience working with cash-based interventions in the Child Protection or related sector(s); and
* Experience developing and delivering capacity building / training materials.

Desirable:

* Working proficiency in either French or Arabic;
* Experience in writing INGO or UN reports
* Skills in statistical programs, such as SPSS or STATA.

We need to keep children safe so our selection process reflects our commitment to the protection of children from abuse.

Please see the attached “Timeline” for the proposed activities, number of days allocated, and the proposed timeline.

Please apply in English with your CV and daily rate. Applications should be sent to the Assessment, Measurement, and Evidence Working Group coordinators at ame.wg@alliancecpha.org and the Cash and Child Protection Task Force coordinators at cash.tf@alliancecpha.org.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Deadline for applications is **7 January 2019**. Expected start date is **11 February 2019**.