



TIP SHEET

CASH AND VOUCHER ASSISTANCE DURING COVID-19

1. **Is it safe, feasible, and possible to implement your current or planned projects using cash and voucher assistance?** Has the situation changed dramatically, such that implementation would put CARE staff, partners, or participants at risk? Can you add behavioral change or sensitization sessions related to disease prevention to existing or planned projects? Does your feedback mechanism still work? If you are not sure or need adaptation assistance, contact Global Advisors Holly Welcome Radice holly.radice@care.org (English and Spanish) and Sani Aoude Sani.DanAoude@care.org (French and English).
2. **Do you understand how COVID-19 is affecting your target populations?** Use [rapid market assessment tools](#) to determine how access and functionality of markets (goods, services, labor) has been affected, whether functionality is static or changing, and who has access to what. If you are not sure of how to do this, use the steps in the [CaLP Program Quality Toolkit](#) and [CARE's Guidelines](#).
3. **Have you checked with your participants or at-risk communities?** Globally, CARE is analyzing the gendered implications of the COVID-19 pandemic through a [global policy paper](#) and Rapid Gender Analysis. At context-specific levels, do you understand how to use a [gender-sensitive approach to CVA](#) to address challenges and take advantage of opportunities during the evolution of the crisis? (This resource is also available in [Spanish](#), [French](#), [Arabic](#) and [Portuguese](#)). Remember that **women in isolation will be more prone to violence**. Public health and gender experts have already connected [GBV to this crisis](#). Have you checked in with your program participants? Do you know how to reduce GBV risks in CVA? Use the [CVA & GBV Compendium](#), also available in [Spanish](#), [French](#), and [Arabic](#).
4. **Have you documented any restrictions to using, sending or receiving money or goods during the pandemic?** Are there government or private sector restrictions on access to payment areas? Can your financial service provider (FSP) deliver in all of the places that you are targeting (Can they reach safely? Is enough cash in circulation? Are the products available for vouchers)? Talk to the FSP at capital and payout locations, as this may vary by location. Remember that access and regulation may change along as the crisis evolves. If you don't have an FSP, do this to help [prepare an analysis](#) to potentially use CVA after the pandemic is contained.
5. **Have you identified points of entry for CVA once the COVID-19 emergency period passes?** Are there community or government mechanisms that will help support recovery? Are there VSLAs in the community? Do you have a sense of how this will impact products' availability (e.g. produce, beans) or normal seasonal diseases? Do you know when and where in the [value chain you could support](#) communities?
6. **Do you know what other CVA actors are doing, thinking, and planning?** Find out what peer organizations are planning. Mercy Corps released [CVA and COVID-19](#) guidance that gives great food for thought on the appropriateness of different actions. Cash, sectoral (e.g. food security, WASH), and social protection working groups will discuss CVA in the coming weeks. To understand how best to participate and contribute to cash coordination, see the [CaLP guidance](#). CaLP Members are contributing to a [crowd sourced document](#) on CVA amid the COVID-19 crisis.