

CASH-BASED ASSISTANCE



UNHCR's vision is that the people it serves can meet their needs in **dignity**, are **protected** and can transition to **solutions** through the **expanded use of cash assistance**.

© UNHCR / S. Rich

Cash Facts
UNHCR 2016



\$688 million

cash assistance reaching people



2.5 million

people receiving cash assistance



60 countries

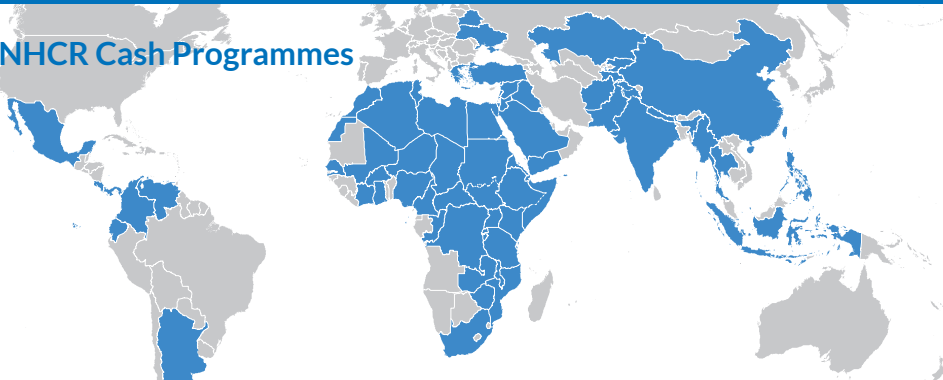
with UNHCR cash programmes



For each \$

UNHCR delivered up to 93 cents to people (source: *joint PwC/UNHCR study*)

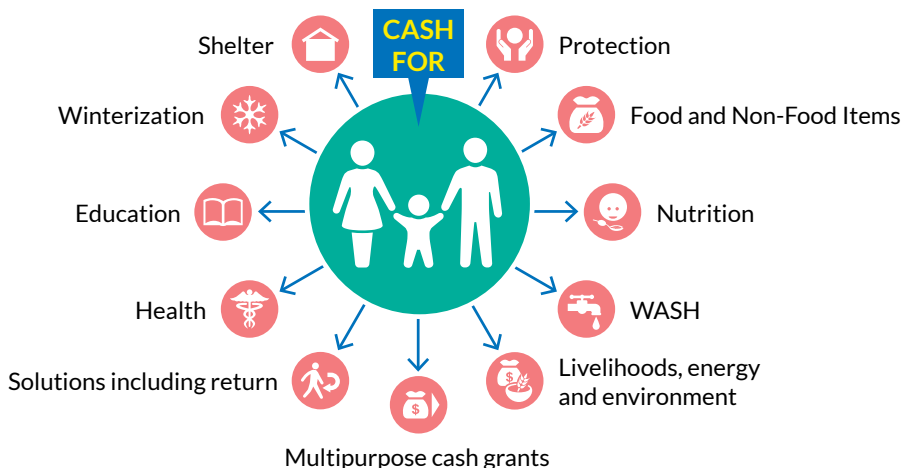
UNHCR Cash Programmes



Cash creates important new opportunities for meeting **humanitarian needs** in ways that restore and enhance individual **dignity** and increase operational **effectiveness** and **efficiency**.

10 LARGEST CASH OPERATIONS

- 1 Lebanon
- 2 Afghanistan
- 3 Jordan
- 4 Somalia
- 5 Ukraine
- 6 Sudan
- 7 Iraq
- 8 Egypt
- 9 Syrian Arab Republic
- 10 Turkey



Along with in-kind support and services, **UNHCR uses cash to protect and assist people** in all phases of displacement to meet their basic and other needs.

Cash is the means and not the objective. Saving lives and protecting people comes first. The choice of modality to respond to the needs of people is context-specific.

FROM POLICY TO CHANGE

UNHCR's vision for cash assistance and key outcomes for its increased innovative and systematic use are outlined in the **5-year Policy on Cash-Based Interventions** and the **UNHCR Strategy for the Institutionalisation of Cash-Based Interventions**



UNHCR cash assistance

is based on solid institutional policies & procedures, innovative tools and increasing capacities.

By 2020



50% of all UNHCR staff trained on cash



Institution adjusted to deliver cash at large scale



Global cash network of experts in place

PARTNERSHIP

Working with **host governments**, UNHCR aims to the extent possible to include refugees in national social protection and safety net delivery systems. UNHCR envisages an **increasing role of NGOs in ensuring the effectiveness of cash**. UNHCR is pursuing an open and collaborative engagement on cash and is committed to work with the fullest range of partners and stakeholders.



Tools, Guidance and Evidence: For the benefit of the humanitarian community

- Cash Delivery Mechanism Assessment Tool
- Market assessment companion guide and toolkit
- Operational Guidelines for Cash-Based Interventions in Displacement Settings

- Operational Guidance and Toolkit for Multipurpose Cash Grants
- Guide for Protection in Cash-based Interventions
- Cash-based interventions for Health Programmes in Refugee Settings – a Review
- Cash-based interventions for WASH Programmes in Refugee Settings – a Review.

INNOVATION: UNHCR is implementing innovative and cost-effective cash assistance

COMMON CASH FACILITY (CCF): UNHCR has pioneered a discipline to **establish globally agreed standards for setting up cash transfer services**, managed by the private sector but available to all partners on an equal and direct basis. This ready-to-use arrangement creates **predictability and cost efficiency** by removing the need for competing cash transfer arrangements, enabling agencies to focus on their core business. In Jordan, the CCF has **decreased the bank fees from as high as 5% to 1.67%**.



MORE INFORMATION

Please visit <http://www.unhcr.org/cash-based-interventions.html> for the latest versions of the policies, tools and guidance mentioned above or contact hqcash@unhcr.org