

# LOOKING THROUGH AN ENVIRONMENTAL LENS



## Implications and opportunities for Cash Transfer Programming in humanitarian response

Karina Blanco Ochoa, Lauren Harrison, Nicholas Lyon, & Marissa Nordentoft





# Disclaimer

This document has been compiled for the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit (JEU) and the Global Shelter Cluster by MSc students at the London School of Economics and Political Science. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect those of the JEU or the Global Shelter Cluster.

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# Acronyms

CaLP	Cash Learning Partnership
CTP	Cash Transfer Programming
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
HNPW	Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
HPC	Humanitarian Programme Cycle
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICRC	International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
IOs	International Organisations
JEU	UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
REA	Rapid Environment Assessment
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UKSF	United Kingdom Shelter Forum
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHS	World Humanitarian Summit

# Executive Summary

Few humanitarian donors or practitioners today would contest the relevance of the environment in humanitarian response, or its inherent linkages to disaster, climate and conflict risk and vulnerability. But does this broad consensus translate to humanitarian policy and practice? In this report, the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit, working in partnership with the London School of Economics and Political Science and the Global Shelter Cluster, explores this question in light of the rise in cash-based assistance and the changing landscape of humanitarian modalities. Looking through an environmental lens, the expansion of cash-based responses introduces both new opportunities and additional complexity in the interaction between humanitarianism and the environment. Ultimately, this points to a critical gap in humanitarian practice – in budgets, evaluations, and the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) itself.

## Modality-driven Environmental Effects

A range of transfer modalities are used in humanitarian response today, including cash transfers, in-kind assistance, and modality hybrids with both cash and in-kind components. As cash transfer programming (CTP) gains traction as a 'preferred and default' humanitarian modality (Agenda for Humanity, 2016a), identifying humanitarian environmental impacts is no longer solely a question of program implementation, but also one of modality selection. In the case of in-kind assistance, in addition to known inefficiencies in aid delivery, negative environmental impacts can emerge through material waste and pollution.<sup>1</sup> On the other hand, while cash-based responses allow beneficiaries to optimise consumption and boost their local economy, if markets and supply chains are unsustainable, they can precipitate environmental stress that compromises future resilience.<sup>2</sup>

Though neither cash nor in-kind assistance is inherently 'environment neutral', some of the programmatic benefits associated with cash, often working in concert

with its higher operational scrutiny, create four unique opportunities to address environmental challenges:

**1. Cash increases efficiency.** In practice, an increase in the efficiency of aid delivery could translate to more space in budgets and programmes to integrate environmental assessments and safeguards. This is particularly salient in the context of budgeting, as one of the most commonly cited challenges with integrating the environment in humanitarian response relates to a perceived financial burden (Brook and Kelly, 2015).

**2. Cash changes narratives around monitoring and impact.** Feasibility assessments and concerns around market viability tend to refocus monitoring systems on outcomes and impact.<sup>3</sup> While this creates an opportunity to mainstream environment, currently cash tends to skew in favour of economic benchmarks that notoriously overlook the environmental externalities of market-based solutions.

**3. Cash facilitates behaviour change.** Although the trade off for greater beneficiary choice is a loss of practitioner control, employing conditions and restrictions on the transfer allows practitioners to guide or constrain those choices (ODI, 2015). When designed with environmental considerations in mind, these instruments can improve environmental protection instead of compromising it, and even facilitate community ownership over their environment and recovery, confirming the transformative power of cash-based programming (WHS, 2016b).

**4. 'Cash for work' is a tool to address environmental impacts.** Another way CTP can facilitate beneficiary ownership over recovery is through cash for work programmes. Extending this concept to include the environment, these programmes could engage beneficiaries in work that addresses the environmental effects of disasters or conflicts and socialise community environmental management.<sup>4</sup>

Collectively, these opportunities demonstrate not only the unique ways CTP interacts with the environment, but also the systemic barriers that explain why those

<sup>1</sup> See for example: JEU. Environment and Humanitarian Action - Country Study: Haiti. UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit, Geneva: JEU, 2016.

<sup>2</sup> See for example: Steinberg, F. "Housing reconstruction and rehabilitation in Aceh and Nias, Indonesia - Rebuilding lives." Habitat International (ELSEVIER).

<sup>3</sup> Focus group material from Humanitarian Network and Partnership Week (HNPW), Focus Group. Geneva, February, 2017.

<sup>4</sup> See for example: UN. Haitians in UN's cash-for-work scheme earn income as they help their country. January 26, 2010.



opportunities are often missed. In practice, environmental protection is often regarded as a secondary consideration in humanitarian response – one that must give way to issues of operational feasibility and the humanitarian mandate to save lives (JEU, 2014). However, these objectives are not mutually exclusive. On the contrary, there is considerable evidence to suggest that life-saving and the environment are often linked (ibid.). In such cases, neglecting the environment violates mandates to ‘do no harm’ (Brook and Kelly, 2015) and ‘build back better’ (Lyons et al., 2010). While CTP itself is not a solution to this problem, the questions it raises provide a platform to address the barriers to environmental mainstreaming in humanitarian response.

## Maximising Opportunities, Managing Implications: a Diagnostic Approach

In practice, regardless of the modality in question, environmental opportunities and implications associated with humanitarian action call for some nuance.

Variations in context, markets, and issues of protection will shape the scale of environmental risk (Levine and Bailey, 2015). However, the inherent linkages between the environment and these three criteria, which figure prominently in modality selection, indicates a path to embed environmental evaluation in current humanitarian practice.

This process of embedding or ‘mainstreaming’ environment in modality selection can be conceptualised as a diagnostic process (see figure A), one where the underlying differences between a project that anticipates and mitigates environmental threats and one that does not are observed at the programme input level. Motivated under the Grand Bargain commitment to make cash the ‘default’ humanitarian modality (Agenda for Humanity, 2016a), the diagnostic flows toward CTP when feasible. In cases where an input fails a minimum test for viability, the diagnostic reverts to in-kind or hybrid approaches. Viability, in this case, is evaluated against a checklist corresponding to the three core criteria of context, markets and protection.

Beginning with **context**, questions around the scale of need, capacities, access, beneficiary preferences and local policy frameworks are joined with an assessment of environmental damage, risks and vulnerability. These input characteristics then inform **market** assessments

that are currently standard in humanitarian cash practice. In the final stage, the market assessment is augmented with questions on sustainability and **protection** – both for the beneficiary and the physical environment.

While this diagnostic serves as a broad starting point, functionally, these three criteria are not the only dimensions that will shape environmental risk – it will vary across sectors as well. For this reason, humanitarian clusters and cash working groups have a vital role to play in refining the diagnostic, by providing practical guidance for sector specialists. In the case of humanitarian shelter, for example, applying the diagnostic framework reveals sector-specific environmental risks, such as deforestation or soil erosion, that will often move humanitarian programming towards modality hybrids – where some programme inputs are suitable for cash, and others are not.<sup>5</sup> This is particularly notable, as it runs counter to the current industry trend, which leans toward unrestricted, multipurpose cash based largely on evidence from the food security sector (Bessant, 2015). With this in mind, integrating environment in modality selection creates space for differentiation of best practices in CTP across sectors.

## Just the Beginning: Cash, Environment and the Humanitarian Programme Cycle

Even with sectoral adaptation and a range of relevant criteria, evolving conditions on the ground and the inherently limited information at the onset of a crisis suggest the results of this diagnostic process are likely change through time – even in the midst of implementation. Moreover, the contrast between current best practices in CTP for food security, and operational realities in shelter programmes illustrate a substantial gap in our understanding of variations in the environmental impact of humanitarianism. For this reason, environmental mainstreaming must not be confined to an initial modality selection, but should be integrated into every stage of the HPC. This, however, calls for a much deeper reform process than simply rewiring the system to favour cash. Donors have a role to play in requiring environmental benchmarks in monitoring and evaluation as a condition for funding. Likewise, international organisations and working

<sup>5</sup> See the ‘Shelter Cluster Case Study’ included in the main report for analysis.

groups must lead efforts to establish minimum standards for environmental safeguards.

Though these larger reforms transcend the modality debate, as observed above, the challenges CTP poses to humanitarian practice presents opportunities to challenge the status quo. Higher operational scrutiny, an emphasis on efficiency, and putting the beneficiary at the centre of response and recovery, harmonise with the principles of 'do no harm' and 'building back better'. Including environment in this calculus is not just rational, it is vital to ensure beneficiary populations not only recover from a crisis, but also become more resilient to them over time.

# Chapter 1: Introduction

In theory, environmental issues figure prominently in today's humanitarian and development consciousness, appearing as a cross-cutting priority in nascent policy agendas (Agenda for Humanity, 2016a). The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) picked up where the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) left off, acknowledging the importance of mainstreaming environmental considerations as a central precondition to improve development outcomes. During the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), humanitarian leaders leveraged the SDGs as a key motivation for commitments to 'manage risks and crises differently' (Agenda for Humanity, 2016b) under Core Responsibility 4 of the 'Agenda for Humanity', the central policy output of the summit, with an ambition to transcend the 'humanitarian-development divide'.

Environmental threats are exacerbated in the face of climate change and the expected increase in the frequency of extreme events will pose additional challenges for securing livelihoods that depend on natural resources. The need to foster environmental integrity and adopt ecosystem-based approaches in addressing disaster and climate risks has been acknowledged in both the Paris Agreement (UN, 2015) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (UNISDR, 2015), where environmental degradation is ultimately recognised as a barrier to the full enjoyment of human rights (UNGA, 2011).

Donors and practitioners now face the challenge of integrating environmental concerns into humanitarian practice while balancing a mandate to put beneficiary needs at the centre of response, moving 'from delivering aid to ending need'. As part of this broader goal, under the framework of 'the Grand Bargain', the WHS also marked a commitment to increase the share of Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) in humanitarian assistance, referring to it as the 'preferred and default method of support' (UNGA, 2016). In light of these overlapping commitments, it is important to consider how modality choice in the provision of humanitarian assistance impacts the environment and, subsequently, our ability to manage risk.

Although the use of CTP in humanitarian response is not a new phenomenon, an institutional shift from in-kind assistance towards CTP began in earnest with the response to the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and

earthquake (Harvey and Bailey, 2011). Arguments in favour of CTP highlight its 'unique advantages related to the flexibility and efficiency of assistance' (ODI, 2015), allowing for greater beneficiary choice as well as more responsive and accountable humanitarian aid (WHS, 2016a; ODI, 2015). As programming trends toward cash, and CTP portfolios expand, the question remains -- how does cash reconfigure opportunities and implications for the environment in humanitarian response?

## 1.1 Scope and Research Questions

Currently, there are no assessments investigating how the move towards CTP could affect the environmental impact of humanitarian assistance. This report is a first effort to apply an environmental lens to CTP within the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC). It develops initial responses to the following questions:

- To what extent have environmental considerations been taken into account in the past when using CTP as part of humanitarian assistance?
- From an environmental perspective, what implications and opportunities are associated with CTP? What factors should be considered for humanitarian cash across sectors?
- Is it possible to identify environmental preconditions to determine when CTP, in-kind or a hybrid option should be the preferred modality employed as part of a humanitarian response?

## 1.2 Methodology

To account for the gap in available literature, the study relies heavily on the following primary data sources:

- Online survey (37 participants; Annex C)
- Key-informant interviews (12 participants; Annex E for contributor profiles and Annex D for interview guide).
- Expert consultation at the 2017 Humanitarian Networks and Partnership Week (HNPW) in Geneva, Switzerland (47 participants; Annex F).
- Expert consultation at the 19th UK Shelter Forum (UKSF) hosted by Habitat for Humanity and Catholic

**Table 1. CTP Typology**

Transfer Type	Description
Unconditional cash transfers	Given directly to beneficiaries without any qualifying conditions, maximising respect for beneficiaries' choices (ibid.). This type of cash transfer is often used at the onset of an emergency (ICRC and IFRC, 2007).
Conditional cash transfers	Requires beneficiaries to fulfil certain conditions in order to receive them (ECHO, 2013). For example, the receipt of funds may be dependent upon beneficiaries reconstructing their house according to specific guidelines, or enrolling their children in school (Harvey and Bailey, 2011).
Unrestricted cash transfers	Cash may be used for any good or service the beneficiary chooses, without any limitation imposed by the implementing agency. Broadly, cash transfers are unrestricted by default, unless otherwise limited to a specific expenditure to qualify for future payments (CaLP, 2017).
Restricted cash transfers	Cash is restricted to certain types of expenditures or vendors (UNHCR et al., 2015). Commodity vouchers (coupons, credits or tokens) by default are restricted, specifying exact items or services for which they can be exchanged (Harvey and Bailey, 2011; ICRC and IFRC, 2007). Vouchers are a common form of restricted transfers which allow implementers to tie the cash to a particular good or service, allowing for more control.
Multipurpose cash grants	Transfers that are unrestricted, but can either be conditional or unconditional while placing 'beneficiary choice and prioritisation of his/her needs at the forefront of the response' (UNHCR et al., 2015). This type of transfer is intended to target needs across sectors/clusters.
Cash for work	Form of payment through either vouchers or cash to the beneficiary in exchange for their work in designated public or community programmes (Harvey and Bailey, 2011).

## 1.3 Limitations

The limitations of this report include:

- *Survey*: Respondents include attendees at HNPW, practitioners recommended by the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit/Global Shelter Cluster Environment Community of Practice and members of the Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP) online forum, where the survey was posted. Limited sampling may not be representative of the wider humanitarian community.
- *Key-informant interviews*: Key informants were selected based on their expertise, referrals from the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit and the Global Shelter Cluster Environment Community of Practice, as well as suggestions from key informants. The number of practitioners with expertise on this topic is inherently limited; this is addressed by triangulating

key informant insights with secondary literature and focus groups.

- *Focus groups*: Attendees with an interest in CTP and the environment self-selected into the HNPW session over alternative options. The expert consultation at the UKSF looked at these issues particularly from the standpoint of the shelter sector, which may not be representative of perspectives across sectors.

## 1.4 Structure

The report proceeds as follows. Chapter 1 (above) provides a brief motivation for the report, as well as an overview of the scope, methods and limitations of the research. Chapter 2 takes stock of environmental considerations in humanitarian response, analysing what principles, standards and programmatic barriers

support or limit environmental mainstreaming in humanitarian response. Chapter 3 captures opportunities and implications of CTP from an environmental perspective based on insights from key informants, current literature and survey respondents. Chapter 4 analyses modality choices in context of the HPC, examining current criteria and identifying linkages to the environment. Chapter 5 offers an analysis of how a modality might be chosen with environmental preconditions in mind within the stages of the HPC. Chapter 5 is followed by a Case Study on the Shelter Cluster, operationalising material from the report to identify the interaction between modality and the environment in the context of humanitarian shelter. Chapter 6 concludes, followed by recommendations for future interventions and analysis.

# Chapter 2: Environment in Humanitarian Response

The 2011 Sphere Standards define *environment* as ‘the physical, chemical and biological elements and processes that affect disaster-affected and local populations’ lives and livelihoods. It provides the natural resources that sustain individuals and contributes to quality of life. It needs protection and management of essential functions are to be maintained’ (Sphere, 2011). With this definition in mind, failure to incorporate environmental considerations into the earliest stages of the HPC can pose acute threats to affected populations. Past cases of dried up wells from excessive drilling (Weinthal et al., 2014); cholera outbreaks from failed waste treatment standards (Cravioto et al., 2011), fishery depletion from an oversupply of fishing boats (Alexander, 2006); water scarcity pulling women into insecure areas (Aolain, 2011; IRC, 2013); and refugee shelters at risk of landslides (UN Children’s Fund, 2018) all exemplify the enduring impact of a lack of environmental consideration in humanitarian practice.

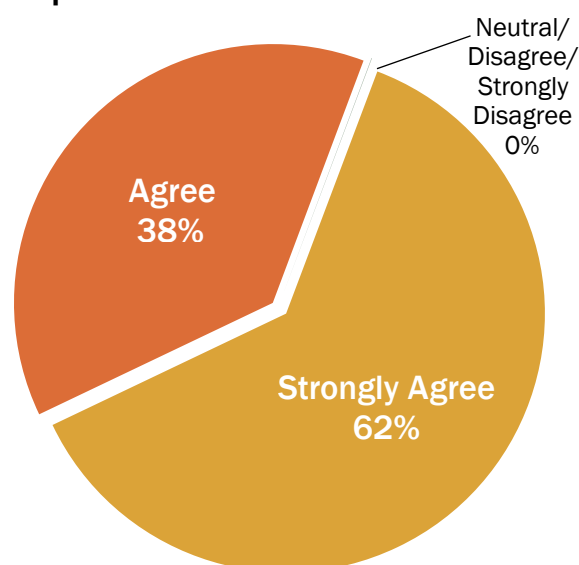
## 2.1 Linking Development and Humanitarian Action

Humanitarian aid is traditionally associated with short-term responses to crises, whereas development assistance frequently implies long-term engagement focused on durable solutions to systemic problems. Environmental impacts hold both short-term and long-term implications for beneficiaries, which makes this issue highly sensitive to the humanitarian-development nexus. Moreover, the expansion of protracted crises globally makes this nexus increasingly important for effective response (Bennett, 2015). Efforts to mitigate adverse environmental impacts include efforts to improve disaster risk reduction\* (DRR) (Twigg, 2015), which emphasises the importance of relief while also building capacity to absorb shocks in future disasters (IFRC, 2012).

The importance of tackling short and long-term environmental impacts is captured in the WHS commitment to transcend the humanitarian-development divide, building momentum to mainstream the environment in humanitarian intervention (WHS, 2016a). The perceptions of survey respondents from various backgrounds reaffirm this shared responsibility,

with 62% strongly agreeing and 38% agreeing that environmental factors are important in the design of humanitarian response (see Figure 1). Nevertheless, despite a broad consensus that the environment matters, environmental issues are not systematically mainstreamed into humanitarian response (JEU, 2014), in CTP programmes or otherwise. Though this gap between theory and practice is often attributed to the pressure to mobilise responses quickly in an unfolding crisis, the limitations of both our understanding of environmental impacts in crises and our capacity to address them perpetuates a pattern of programmatic neglect.

**Figure 1. Is the Environment Important?**



## 2.2 Identifying Environmental Impacts

This report refers to two possible narratives in conceptualising environmental impacts in humanitarian emergencies. In the first narrative, environmental impacts manifest in three forms: direct impacts, secondary impacts and impacts from relief and recovery operations, or ‘operational impacts’. **Direct impacts** refer to how ‘disasters and conflicts can physically damage the natural environment’ (JEU, n.d.).

**Secondary impacts** refer to how ‘disasters and



conflicts can also impact the *human* environment (such as buildings, dams, and infrastructure)' (ibid.). Finally, **operational impacts** refer to how 'natural resources are required to meet immediate relief needs' (ibid.). When combined, these three dynamics can have a compounding effect. If direct environmental impacts are not dealt with in the short-term, they can contribute to the magnitude of secondary or operational environmental impacts and impede long-term recovery (ELAW, 2008).

The second narrative unpacks the ways humanitarian intervention itself interacts with the environment. Environmental impacts are often multi-phasic, observed as **short-term** and **long-term** effects. This concept relates to what is known as the '**good enough**' **approach**, where a simple solution is deemed 'good enough' in the immediate aftermath of an emergency, but requires adjustment later on in recovery (Emergency Capacity Building Project, 2007). For example, a 'good enough' approach to emergency shelter may include plastic sheeting, but as conditions become more stable, more durable and sustainable solutions should be implemented. The 'good enough' approach dictates an incremental approach to programming, where environmental considerations are increasingly incorporated as responses progress through the HPC and conditions evolve on the ground.



Credit: ©UN Photo/UNHCR/M Kobayashi

## 2.3 Principles, Standards and Programmatic Barriers

### Principles

The principles of 'do no harm' and 'building back better' are established norms that motivate the inclusion of the environment into humanitarian actors' efforts of improving people's lives and livelihoods.

**Do no harm** is a value humanitarian actors gradually adopted alongside the International Committee of the Red Cross' (ICRC) main principles of humanity, impartiality and neutrality (UNICEF, 2003; ICRC and IFRC, 2015). Though originally created to address the role of humanitarian aid in peace or war (Anderson, 1999), the application of 'do no harm' has expanded. With respect to the environment, 'do no harm' implies humanitarian organisations must minimise adverse impacts on affected populations and their environment (Brook and Kelly, 2015).

Although initially associated with the construction of shelter, **building back better** has evolved as a broad principle that now includes reducing vulnerability, rebuilding livelihoods and local markets, and empowering affected populations (Lyons et al., 2010). As such, it has also been identified as a global priority for action in the Sendai Framework (UNISDR, 2015). Applied to the environment, 'building back better' implies that the humanitarian response should improve local environmental resilience beyond the immediate aftermath of a crisis.

### Standards

Integrating environmental considerations in humanitarian programming is often referred to as a process of 'environmental mainstreaming' (JEU, 2014). Efforts to mainstream the environment are reflected in the 2011 edition of the Sphere Standards, in which the environment is recognised as one of seven cross-cutting themes (Sphere, 2011). The Code of Conduct for the ICRC and NGOs in Disaster Relief specifies 'relief aid must strive to reduce future vulnerabilities to disaster as well as meeting basic needs' while paying 'particular attention to environmental concerns in the design and management of relief programmes' (ICRC, 1996).

Flowing from these standards, a limited set of key guidelines and programming tools lays the foundation for mainstreaming the environment into humanitarian response (Annex H). However, guidance tends to focus on specific tasks or sectors rather than how programmes interact with the environment throughout their lifecycle. Although these resources can help guide practitioners, there are currently no universal policies or standard operating procedures. Thus, an apparent disconnect exists between theory and practice, demonstrating the need to operationalise and build on existing guidance to successfully mainstream the environment (UNHCR et al., 2015).



Credit: ©UN Photo/Martine Perret

## Programmatic Barriers

There is little evidence that current standards and guidance translate to the field. As identified by key informants, survey respondents and the existing literature, such as the JEU study *Environment and Humanitarian Action: Increasing Effectiveness, Sustainability and Accountability* (2014), barriers to considering environmental implications in humanitarian response include the following:

### 1. Terminology

There is a lack of understanding to what the term 'environment' captures in the context of humanitarianism. If humanitarian actors are unable to identify and appropriately engage with the topic it is unlikely they will incorporate effective and proactive practices at the field-level.<sup>6</sup> This barrier is often exacerbated by a lack of expertise and vision on how to address environmental issues in humanitarian response.

### 2. Prioritisation

The priority of emergency responders is to save lives (UNICEF, 2005). In some cases, the environment is not

perceived to be a life-saving priority, despite the fact 'that people's immediate survival after a disaster is often based on accessing natural resources such as water, wild foods, and wood for cooking, heating and shelter construction' (JEU, 2014). Functionally, saving lives and considering environmental impacts are many times treated as being mutually exclusive.

### 3. Stakeholder Preferences

There is a common belief that humanitarian stakeholders, from donors to beneficiaries, do not care about the environment, preferring to prioritise other issues such as health and security.<sup>7</sup> This is linked to the competing pressures faced by practitioners, whom in the proposal development stage find that 'cross-cutting issues do not receive the same attention as core relief efforts' (JEU, 2014).

### 4. Tragedy of the Commons

Ultimately, no one agency has the appropriate mandate to enforce environmental considerations in humanitarian response (ibid.). This has created a classic collective action problem in which this becomes everyone's responsibility, but no-one is held accountable for their choices (Berhane et al., 2016).

### 5. Costs

Despite evidence to the contrary, there is a strong belief that carrying out environmental assessments will be too costly and divert funds away from issues of higher priority (Brook and Kelly, 2015). This is exacerbated by a 'chronic lack of funding for environmental initiatives at



Credit: ©UN Photo/Logan Abassi

all stages of the programme cycle' (JEU, 2014), which

<sup>6</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.

<sup>7</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.

pushes the environment further down the list of priorities.

## **8. Mandates**

Most organisational mandates focus on humanitarian assistance without considering environmental issues, making it unlikely to emerge in their operational agendas. In practice, this means organisations continue to fail to comprehensively integrate the environment as a cross-sectoral issue, lacking a clear vision for how the 'environment should be addressed across programmes' (JEU, 2014). As a result, 'it [the environment] is often siloed into particular sectors or initiatives' (ibid.).

## **7. Donor Requirements**

Environmental programmes rarely receive targeted funding, and donors do not regularly require it as a condition for programme funding. Moreover, there is little evidence that implementing partners are held accountable by donors for not considering the environment in humanitarian response (Brook and Kelly, 2015).

## **8. Development Issue**

While many humanitarians recognise a relationship between the environment and emergencies, there remains a belief that environmental issues belong to the domain of development and are not the primary concern of humanitarian responders. This reinforces poor coordination at and between all levels of the humanitarian system, and across the humanitarian-development divide.<sup>9</sup>

## **9. Monitoring and Evaluation Standards**

In part as a function of many of the barriers discussed above, at a practical level, there is a chronic lack of metrics and mechanisms by which to monitor, compare and evaluate environmental impacts across programmes.

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<sup>8</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.

<sup>9</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.



# Chapter 3: Environmental Opportunities and Implications of Cash

## 3.1 Modalities and the Environment

Prioritising environmental considerations in modality selection may play a role in breaking down some of the barriers presented in the previous chapter. However, donor requirements, costs and missing mandates are challenges that transcend the modality debate. Moreover, no modality is inherently environment neutral. As the following case studies exemplify, both CTP and in-kind assistance can bring about detrimental operational impacts on the environment.

### Case Study: Using Coconut Lumber in the Philippines

On 8 November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan made landfall in the Philippines, making initial contact with the province of Eastern Visayas and ultimately affecting a total of 9 provinces (Smith, 2015). It took the lives of approximately 6,300 people, damaging 1,012,790 houses while displacing 4.1 million people (ibid.; Shelter Projects, n.d.).

Cash transfers made up 40% of the total humanitarian response, whereby 20% was geared towards shelter needs (Smith, 2015). Despite a direct impact of the typhoon being the destruction of 90% of all available coconut trees, there were positive operational impacts

as it became the primary building material (Howe and Himburg, 2015; Shelter Projects, n.d.). Not only was coconut timber readily available, averting local communities from procuring other potentially unsustainable materials, but it also allowed for the implementation of cash for work programmes engaged in debris clearing (ibid.). Therefore, providing both recovery shelter to beneficiaries, but also stimulating the local economy.

### Case Study: Repurposing Transitional Shelter in Sri Lanka<sup>10</sup>

Following the South Asia tsunami, the Government and humanitarian organisations in Sri Lanka recognised rebuilding and recovering from the effects would be a long process. As a result, it was agreed to provide tsunami survivors with 'transitional' shelters -- structures which would provide adequate shelter, consistent with Sphere standards -- while they waited for permanent housing.

Early in the development of the response strategy, it became clear these transitional structures held significant value for survivors. In response, with endorsement from Sri Lankan authorities, humanitarians developed and formalised a 'deconstruction-by-design' approach for shelter programming, where beneficiaries could reclaim transitional shelter materials from their transitional shelters and repurpose them in their new settlements to expand their new homes, add rooms or more space for work and storage. As a result, the transitional shelters were designed in a way that the materials used in their construction could be disassembled into easily transportable pieces.

This approach had several valuable benefits. First, the transitional shelter owner kept control of the assets originally invested in the structure, reducing demand for additional construction materials. Second, there was considerable recycling, reusing or repurposing of materials from the transitional shelter, thereby



Credit: ©UN Photo/Albert Gonzalez

<sup>10</sup> Case study from a key informant who served as a reviewer for an earlier draft of the report.

minimising waste. Moreover, transitional shelter owners tended to remove all materials assets possible from the transitional shelter locations, making site restoration much less demanding than would be the case if structures would need to be deconstructed.

**Case Study: Illegal logging in Aceh, Indonesia**

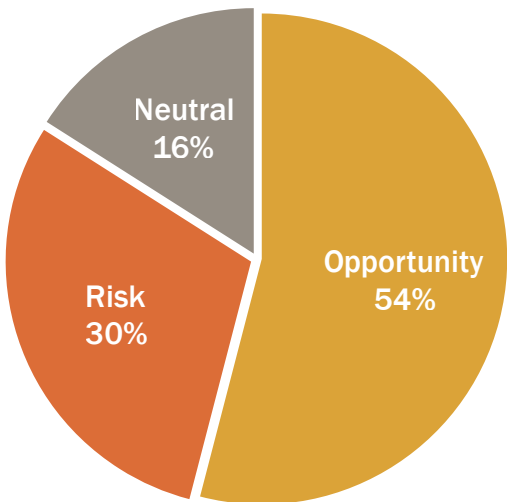
On 26 December 2004, a 9.2 Richter scale seaquake shook the Indian Ocean creating 20- meter-high tsunami waves that severely affected the western coast of Aceh, Indonesia (Steinburg, 2007). In the province, approximately 130,000-167,000 residents were killed with 120,000 surviving families made homeless (UN-Habitat, 2009).

Cash transfers were given to beneficiary households to enable them to buy construction material and contract labour themselves. However, this had negative operational impacts as the rapid increase in timber demand for shelter resulted in unlicensed and illegal logging (Steinburg, 2007), putting additional strain on the government’s already weak monitoring system on forest regulation (Wardojo et al., 2001). The timber collected was unsustainable, causing further environmental damage to areas already deforested from the direct environmental impacts of the tsunami itself (UN-Habitat, 2009).

**3.2 Cash, Sectors and Risk**

The examples from the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Indonesia demonstrate that no modality is environment

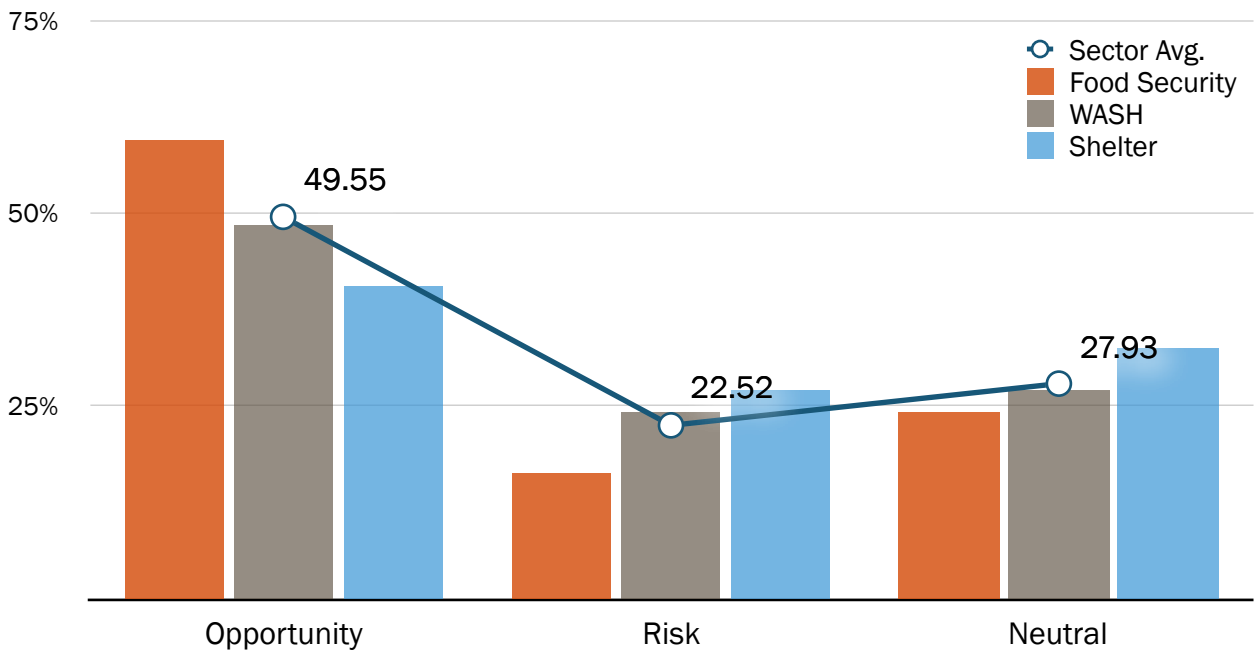
**Figure 2. Cash: Opportunity or Risk?**



neutral. This raises the question of whether CTP and in-kind assistance offer different opportunities and implications for the environment.

Despite known limitations of existing guidance, a lack of data and a missing mandate for environmental considerations in modality selection, survey respondents perceive CTP to create an opportunity to address environmental risk (Figure 2). In aggregate, 54% of participants find that cash presents more opportunities for the environment, 30% believe cash presents greater risk, and the remaining 16% observe no substantial differences across modalities.

**Figure 3. Perceived Opportunity and Risk by Sector**



**Figure 4. Continuum of Perceived Risk**



Asking respondents to disaggregate their views by sector suggests a more nuanced narrative. Of three focal areas, respondents tend to perceive food security to hold higher levels of opportunity and lower levels of risk relative to WASH or Shelter. This differential dissipates moving across to the other two sectors, calling for higher scrutiny of CTP approaches in these areas (Figure 3).<sup>11</sup> While these results are preliminary, notably, best practices for CTP track with survey findings, as each sector programmes CTP with reference to its own unique opportunities and risks. What emerges is a ‘continuum of risk,’ relating CTP preferences by sector to perceptions of environmental vulnerability (Figure 4).

Based on our results, we anticipate food security assistance would often fall at the left end of the risk continuum, demonstrating a strong movement towards unrestricted, unconditional multipurpose cash (Bessant, 2015; European Commission, 2015). Under this model, humanitarian actors relinquish control over CTP spending and decision-making – and the corresponding externalities, positive or negative, that may emerge as a result. On the other hand, in-kind assistance is known to generate negative externalities from material waste and market failures in some cases (Brook and Kelly, 2015; JEU, n.d.). Food security practitioners often leverage these arguments in favour of less restricted forms of CTP, citing beneficiary choice as a key to improving efficiency and impact of humanitarian aid.

While multipurpose transfers refocus humanitarian assistance towards beneficiary choice and dignity, concerns around protection may figure more prominently in CTP decision-making in other clusters (Global Shelter Cluster, n.d.). Our survey results

indicate a tendency to push other sectors to the right of food security on the risk spectrum. This follows the trend in humanitarian practice, where WASH and shelter practitioners often push back against efficiency arguments that favour multipurpose transfers, preferring to set conditions or restrictions on CTP (UK Shelter Forum, 2016; Juillard et al., 2013), often in hybrid interventions that include a combination of in-kind and cash-based programming along with technical assistance (UNHCR et al., 2013). Under the broader principles of ‘do no harm’ and ‘building back better,’ WASH and shelter practitioners see unrestricted, unconditioned CTP introducing greater vulnerability to operational risk for beneficiaries.<sup>12</sup> This tracks with empirical evidence, as illustrated by deforestation in Aceh, where there are clear linkages between environmental risk, modality and beneficiary protection in implementation.

### 3.3 Opportunities and Implications

#### Cash as an Opportunity

While the formal evidence base on the relationship between modalities and the environment remains limited, a number of emerging narratives from practitioners point to the untapped potential of CTPs to address and overcome environmental risks associated with humanitarian crises and responses.

#### 1. Cash increases efficiency

Particularly in programmes for shelter, WASH or livelihoods, CTP with a capacity building component increases opportunities to ‘build back better’ and

<sup>11</sup> For the purposes of this report, we will focus more heavily on examples and analysis on shelter programming. Our analysis of other sectors is limited, but does illustrate the importance of cluster-led efforts to interpret and manage environmental opportunities and risks at the sector-level.

<sup>12</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.



improve environmental risk management. While capacity building is not modality-specific, the efficiency gains associated with CTP may create space in budgets and programmes for humanitarian practitioners to increase their engagement in technical assistance and resilience, as cash streamlines responses to household needs (ODI, 2015). This point is particularly vital, as concerns around the cost of additional assessments are often cited as a binding limitation for environmental mainstreaming.

## **2. Cash changes narratives around monitoring and impact**

From the perspective of monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL), CTP moves humanitarians away from volume-based output measures towards impact-based assessments (HNPW, 2017). Currently, known challenges with respect to market disruption, purchasing power and social protection encourage practitioners to consider how CTP affects the target population beyond the immediate objectives of the intervention. Pushing further, considering the impacts of CTP on the broader environment or community resilience could be an optimistic but feasible next step (JEU, 2014).



Credit: ©UN Photo/Logan Abassi

## **3. Cash facilitates behaviour change**

CTP is often used as a platform to shape beneficiary behaviour in both development and humanitarian contexts (ODI, 2015; WFP, 2014). Conditions and restrictions provide opportunities to guide consumption decisions where risks— environmental or otherwise— are identified. This runs counter to the momentum towards unrestricted, multipurpose cash, but offers a

broader range of options to practitioners looking to leverage markets in a constrained, sustainable way.

## **4. ‘Cash for work’ is a tool to address environmental impacts**

These schemes offer opportunities to facilitate market recovery while also targeting the direct and secondary impacts of the crisis. Engaging communities in the process of removing debris and waste from the physical environment, taking existing response networks into account, can provide a platform to mitigate ongoing risks and catalyse community ownership of environmental management (UN, 2010; UK Shelter Forum, 2016).

### **Implications of Cash**

While a majority of survey respondents seem reluctant to cite cash as an outright risk to the environment, past experience suggests there are challenges. Synthesising input from key informants and focus groups, environmental implications of CTP relative to in-kind assistance include:

#### **1. An inherent loss of control**

The provision of CTP gives beneficiaries control over how they spend their allocated funds (Harvey, 2007). Where environmental risks are high and quality standards need to be met, a loss of control may bring harm rather than relief, compromising humanitarian principles in the process. However, it is not clear that this loss of control pertains exclusively to cash; evidence shows beneficiaries often choose to monetise in-kind assistance and restricted CTP, which would be subject to the same risks (Gentilini, 2016).

#### **2. Regulatory environments and government capacity matters**

A loss of control is particularly challenging where the enabling environment is weak. Poor regulation, illicit resource extraction and high levels of corruption reduce oversight of the quality and sustainability of items found in local markets. Strong regulatory policy is particularly key for the sourcing of heavy materials associated with shelter interventions, for example.<sup>13</sup>

#### **3. Sector-driven risk**

As discussed above, opportunities and risks to environmental protection may vary significantly across sectors. There is no ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach to

<sup>13</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.

manage the environmental implications of CTP. For food security, multipurpose cash often improves efficiency with minimal risk (European Commission, 2015; Gentilini, 2016). Whereas, for WASH or shelter, less restricted forms of CTP may present more challenges for both social and environmental protection.

#### **4. Lower quality materials**

Households working to maximise their consumption choices are likely to prefer less expensive materials. Focus group participants noted that cheap solutions are often the least environmentally sustainable (Ashmore et al., 2008). With this in mind, market based solutions may conflict with environmental protection. This is particularly problematic when the amount of CTP is insufficient to cover all necessary materials and goods to support recovery. In such cases, beneficiaries may opt for cheaper options or cut corners in recovery that may compromise their own protection. This is particularly true in shelter programmes where resources may be diverted away from construction to meet more immediate needs (Juillard et al., 2013).

### **3.4 Is it all About Cash?**

While the opportunities and implications discussed in this chapter focus on CTP, there are parallel narratives for in-kind assistance. As discussed previously, no modality is environment neutral; each bears out environmental outcomes that shape recovery in the short and long-term. Irresponsible interventions can generate cascading effects, potentially leading to 'secondary crises' or exacerbate pre-existing environmental degradation. To varying degrees, both modalities present opportunities to shape beneficiary behaviour and mainstream community-based disaster resilience. While specific implications may vary by modality, the relationship between humanitarian response and the environment remains constant.

# Chapter 4: Choosing a Modality in the Humanitarian Programme Cycle

The environmental implications and opportunities presented in the previous chapter raise the question of how modalities should be selected through an environmental lens. To shed light on this issue, it is useful to consider how modality selection fits within the HPC (Box 1). Both key informants and the available literature stress the importance of integrating environmental considerations into existing processes rather than introducing entirely new frameworks (JEU, 2014). Locating environmental criteria for modality

selection within the broader framework of the HPC offers the greatest likelihood of impacting practice in the field (ibid.). Current efforts to integrate standalone environmental assessments into the HPC are not considered in tandem with standards for modality selection. However, integrating environmental considerations in the modality selection process creates an opportunity to address the environment more broadly.<sup>14</sup>

## Box 1. The Humanitarian Programme Cycle

The HPC was introduced in 2011 under the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Transformative Agenda with the purpose of improving the model of humanitarian action (IASC, 2015). The HPC guides the sequencing of humanitarian operations in emergency contexts, linking processes of assessing, planning, implementing, monitoring, and learning phases in an overall framework of emergency response. In addition to these separate stages, preparedness—the efforts that go into being ready to respond to an emergency—feeds into all five components of the cycle (Figure 5). These stages of the HPC are defined below:

Table 2. HPC Stages

Stage	Description
Needs Assessment and Analysis	An assessment of the needs of the affected population must be conducted in order to establish priorities and lay the groundwork for an effective humanitarian response.
Strategic Planning	Humanitarian response plans (HRPs) formalise the priorities laid out in the needs assessment into strategic objectives and set an agenda for achieving those objectives
Resource Mobilisation	Implementing organisations secure the finances needed to carry out their HRPs.
Implementation and Monitoring	Humanitarian programmes go into effect, assistance is disbursed and the delivery of assistance and other outcomes of the HRP are monitored.
Operational Peer Review and Evaluation	A management tool that is used to determine where improvements could be made in response.

(Humanitarian Response 2017; JEU 2014)

<sup>14</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.

## 4.1 Modality Selection: Context, Markets and Protection

Initial modality selection takes place in the earliest stages of the HPC. During the **needs assessment and analysis** and **strategic response planning** phases, practitioners identify the needs of beneficiaries and analyse local markets. This analysis informs the development of a response strategy, which stipulates a modality and implementation plan (Humanitarian Response, 2017).

**Figure 5. HPC Diagram**



While there is some variation, existing documentation and input from key informants consistently ties modality selection to three core criteria: 1) markets, 2) context, and 3) protection (Levine and Bailey, 2015; World Bank 2016). The implications and opportunities introduced in Chapter 3 track onto these criteria, providing an opportunity to address modality-specific environmental linkages in the selection process. These three criteria and their linkages to the environment are discussed below:

### Context

Context features strongly in modality selection, but is the most difficult of the three criteria to define or standardise. As each crisis context is unique, appropriate responses necessarily vary (Levine and Bailey, 2015). Scholars and practitioners widely acknowledge that there are contexts where CTP is

neither optimal, nor appropriate (ICRC and IFRC, 2007). In practice, this creates an inherent challenge for humanitarian institutions creating guidance and policy, environmental or otherwise, as the discretion of practitioners remains key. With an expanding emphasis on localisation and country ownership in humanitarian response, the contextual piece of modality selection becomes increasingly complex (Charter4Change, 2015; Humanitarian Futures Programme, 2014).

#### *Context and the Environment*

The physical environment is itself a vital aspect of the crisis context. The composition of direct and secondary environmental impacts affects the programming possibilities available in an intervention. For example, felled coconut palms provided an unusual surplus of lumber as a direct impact of Typhoon Haiyan, changing where timber was sourced for shelter programme strategies.<sup>15</sup> In practice, the informal aspect of context assessment poses obstacles for integrating environmental considerations in this process. Socialising practitioners to context-specific environmental conditions, and the opportunities or implications associated with them, could shape norms around modality selection.

### Markets

A core element of CTP in both humanitarian and development practice is a market assessment process evaluating access to required goods and services at reasonable costs (Levine and Bailey, 2015). CTP may be deemed unviable due to negative market effects such as inflation, supply chain disruption or economic isolation, leading practitioners to opt for in-kind or hybrid solutions (Idris, 2016; Juillard et al., 2013; Gentilini, 2016). In current modality selection, the market effects of CTP tend to draw higher scrutiny than those of in-kind assistance, despite it also having the potential to disrupt markets (Idris, 2016; ODI, 2015).

#### *Markets and the Environment*

Expanding supply chain analysis to flag sustainability would make market assessments more robust. In some cases, when material sourcing is heavily extractive, as with timber for shelter, practitioners may already consider the environmental burden (World Bank, 2016).

<sup>15</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.

There is some guidance documentation to suggest this may be the case, but current standards leave this issue largely unaddressed (Ashmore and Fowler, 2009). As a result, the relationships between markets and the environment are not consistently captured in these assessments.

## Protection

Both development and humanitarian CTP often frame risks in terms of social protection issues that may limit beneficiary access to assistance (Oxfam, n.d.). Social protection encompasses security, household and community dynamics, mobility, gender and other social indicators that might undermine the effectiveness of transfers or, in worst case scenarios, generate harm rather than relief (Levine and Bailey, 2015). In addition to guiding modality choices between CTP or in-kind assistance, protection also informs decisions around when to set conditions and restrictions on CTP (Oxfam, n.d.).

The emphasis on modality-driven impacts tends to rise with CTP because of its relationship to agency (HNPW, 2017). As referenced in Chapter 3, cash-based responses create an opportunity for greater community ownership and improved accountability to affected populations (Gentilini, 2016; ODI, 2015). An emphasis on beneficiary choice and dignity ties closely with the concept of protection, as target communities may have strong preferences for modality choice and a better sense of how modalities impact their recovery.

### *Protection and the Environment*

Protection aligns with environmental considerations on two fronts. First, environmental impacts often present substantial threats to **beneficiary protection**, though there is currently a tendency to separate life saving efforts from environmental risk. As cited in Chapter 2, direct and secondary environmental impacts can undermine livelihoods, security and safety in the aftermath of crises. Since the most vulnerable populations tend to live in more marginal zones, these impacts have significant implications for social protection (UNEP, n.d.). Second, and relatedly, **environmental protection** is particularly vital to recovery and future resilience. Operational impacts can exacerbate direct and secondary impacts or prevailing vulnerabilities to create new sources of enduring risk. For example, when CTP contributes to deforestation or water supply contamination by increasing demand on local supply chains, the intervention undermines the

physical environment and threatens the lives and livelihoods of beneficiaries both during and after the crisis.

## 4.2 Mainstreaming the Environment

The linkages between environment and existing modality selection criteria demonstrate clear opportunities to mainstream environment in the earliest phases of the HPC. Protection for vulnerable groups, material sourcing and the emergency context itself all connect with the physical environment on some level. Working within existing assessment frameworks creates a much lower barrier to entry to mainstream environment than an entirely new assessment process while highlighting the importance of empowering practitioners to address context-specific challenges of a given intervention.



# Chapter 5: Defining Preconditions for Modality Selection

Using known selection criteria and existing systems as a starting point, formalising linkages between modality and the environment across the domains of context, markets and protection provides a path to mainstream environment.

## 5.1 Defining a Checklist

Key informants stress the value of a simple checklist or diagnostic as a strategy to incorporate environmental preconditions into the assessment and planning phases of the HPC.<sup>16</sup> The questions in Table 3 synthesise broad insights from study contributors into a thematic checklist with sections for context, markets and protection.

This checklist is not exhaustive, but rather serves as an example to guide new efforts to link existing frameworks with environmental mainstreaming in modality selection. As a starting point, the questions are sector neutral and highly generalised. Given the continuum of risk discussed in Chapter 3, clusters need to take ownership over and customise checklists to align them with sector-specific opportunities and implications for the environment. It is also important to note the questions in the checklist (particularly in ‘markets’ and protection’) are set up at the **input-level** for a programme. As individual inputs may present unique environmental problems, each material or good that beneficiaries may need—such as cement, staple foods, seeds or timber—should be analysed individually.

**Context questions** frame the programme design problem. These questions, relating to the scale of the need and the immediate direct and secondary environmental impacts of a crisis, tie in with the needs assessment phase of the HPC. Operational feasibility and beneficiary preferences follow as questions that inform modality selection. **Markets questions** address the viability of a cash-based intervention, with a significant focus on supply chains and sustainable sourcing. **Protection questions** highlight how operational effects of a programme impact both the broader environment and beneficiaries’ lives and livelihoods.

## 5.2 Operationalising a Diagnostic

The checklist above illustrates a sequential logic when applied in practice. For example, if local markets are not functioning, then CTP fails a minimum test of viability and there is no need to progress further to issues of protection. To demonstrate this sequence, the flowchart in Figure 6 operationalises the checklist as a diagnostic process. Each stage of the process represents a set of questions from the checklist for context, markets, and protection.

The diagnostic process begins with consideration of the emergency relief setting and existing environmental preconditions. Contextual questions that address the primary and secondary effects of the crisis, the scale of beneficiary need and local policy frameworks feed into decisions made throughout the diagnostic. Certain elements of local context, including beneficiary preferences and baseline logistics requirements, may indicate CTP is not operationally feasible in a particular area.

If the local context suggests CTP may be appropriate, then the analysis turns to (1) whether markets are functioning, and (2) whether the volume of local supply can meet the anticipated volume of demand. If the answer to either question is ‘no,’ then the programme should include in-kind or hybrid options.

If the answer to both questions is ‘yes,’ then modality selection progresses to a linked set of market and protection questions (visualised as a triangle) encompassing issues of sustainable supply, environmental protection and beneficiary protection. ‘Sustainable supply’ addresses the sourcing of materials; ‘environmental protection’ gauges risk of operational impacts on the environment such as deforestation or pollution; and ‘beneficiary protection’ assesses whether direct, secondary or operational environmental impacts could threaten beneficiary security. A lack of sustainable supply or an inability to address these issues of protection may compromise the effectiveness of CTP, causing harm or introducing

<sup>16</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.



perverse incentives that may undermine resilience and recovery.

Within the framework of the diagnostic, ruling against CTP for a given programme input does not imply that cash is unfeasible for all inputs. The design of the flowchart illuminates when in-kind or a hybrid of cash and in-kind is preferable to CTP on its own. Hybrid and in-kind options can be distinguished by completing the diagnostic for all programme inputs to determine where the path may differ across components. For instance, if the flowchart indicates CTP would be effective for all aspects of a programme, but there is a shortage of sustainable timber, then the best option may be to provide in-kind timber and give cash to beneficiaries for them to source other goods from local markets. On an input-by-input basis, this diagnostic should provide clearer environmental guidance for practitioners to choose between in-kind, hybrid or CTP approaches.

Alternatively, when the sustainability of a given input is in question, restricted or conditional CTP could be used to shape beneficiary choices for that input.

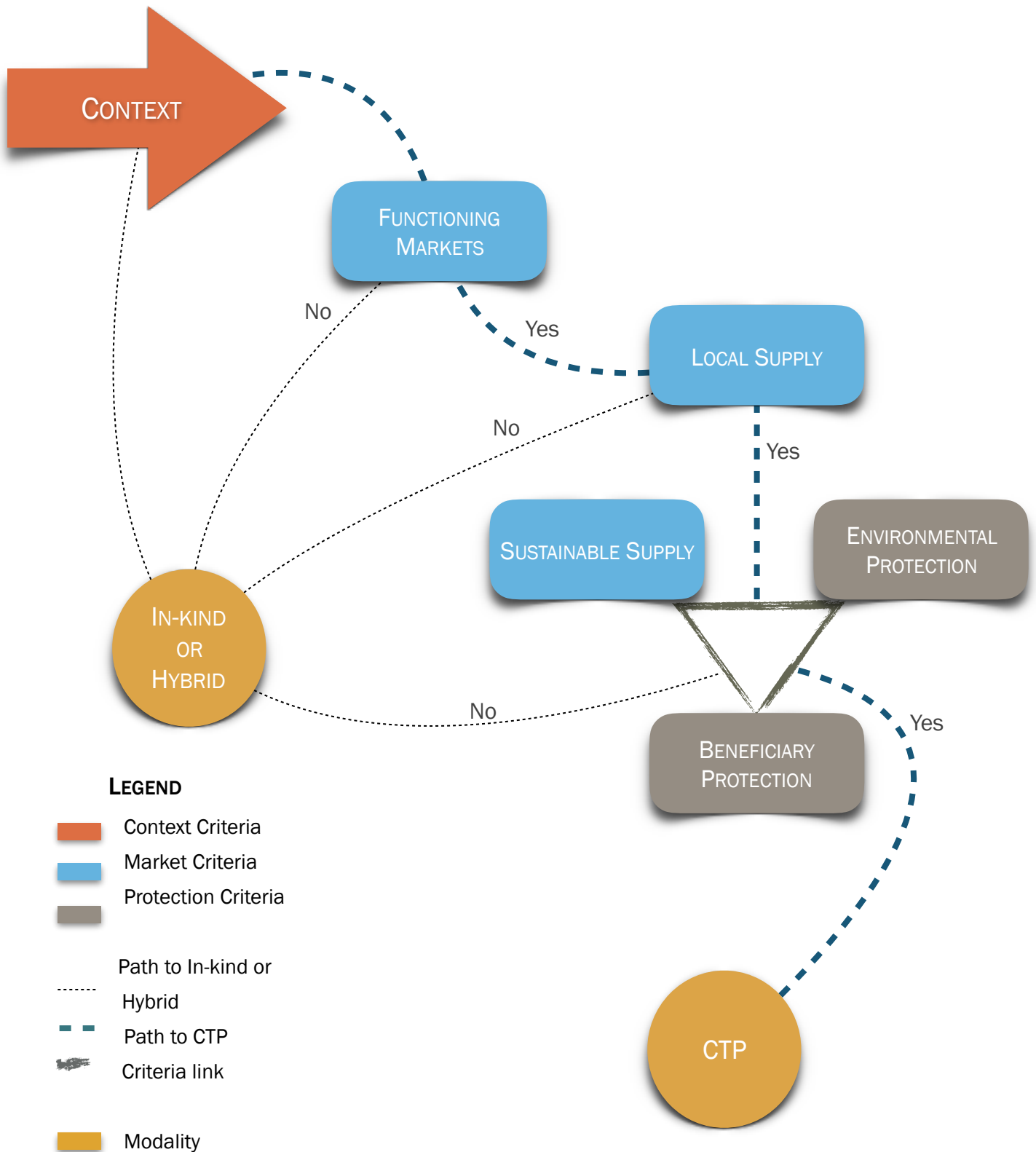
## Caveats

While in-kind assistance remains the dominant modality in practice, the diagnostic flows towards CTP, representing the WHS commitment to set CTP as the ‘default modality’ for humanitarian assistance (ODI, 2015; Agenda for Humanity, 2016a). In this framework, CTP is assumed to be the preferred modality unless it presents unique environmental challenges compared to in-kind assistance. This approach—which centres on risks rather than merits—has limitations, but tracks with the WHS’ prioritisation of cash. Moreover, the checklist is necessarily a simplification of existing assessments that feed into programme design and modality selection, but this streamlining is found in other guidance documents and diagnostics (ECHO, 2013).

**Table 3. Checklist for Determining Modality**

Selection Criteria	Sample Questions
Context	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are there immediate direct or secondary environmental impacts of the crisis?</li> <li>2. What is the scale of the need?</li> <li>3. Do beneficiaries have physical access to markets and/or cash distribution points?</li> <li>4. Do beneficiaries have a strong preference for a specific modality?</li> <li>5. Is the policy context able to govern supply-chain standards and ensure that goods and materials are sustainably sourced?</li> </ol>
Markets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are local markets functioning?</li> <li>2. Will the local supply of the needed goods or materials be able to meet the volume of local demand?</li> <li>3. Will the needed goods or materials be environmentally sustainable?</li> <li>4. Will the local market supply the needed good or material at an appropriate quality and price?</li> </ol>
Protection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are beneficiaries expected to finance some of the relief expenses out of pocket?</li> <li>2. Will beneficiaries turn to low-quality alternatives to source the necessary goods and materials?</li> <li>3. Do opportunities to source goods locally or forage present a risk to how beneficiaries interact with their environment?</li> <li>4. Is appropriate technical support available to ensure CTP meets necessary quality standards to ensure beneficiary protection?</li> <li>5. Do known direct and secondary impacts of the disaster interact with anticipated operational impacts?</li> </ol>

Figure 6. Modality-Environment Diagnostic



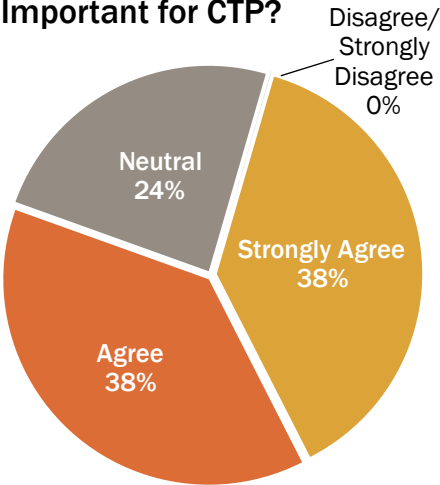
**Box 2. Pushing Back on the Importance of Modality: The Role of Programming in Addressing the Environment**

Two competing narratives regarding the relationship between modality and the environment have emerged from key informant interviews and expert consultations (HNPW, 2017). In the first narrative, programme design shapes environmental outcomes in humanitarian response. As all modalities present varying opportunities and implications for the environment, the distinction between in-kind assistance versus CTP is deemed to have no direct relevance. In the second narrative, programme design is important in mitigating potential environmental risk, but it is not the only variable shaping environmental outcomes. The inherent distinctions between in-kind assistance and CTP need to be considered as they may affect the environment in distinctive ways.

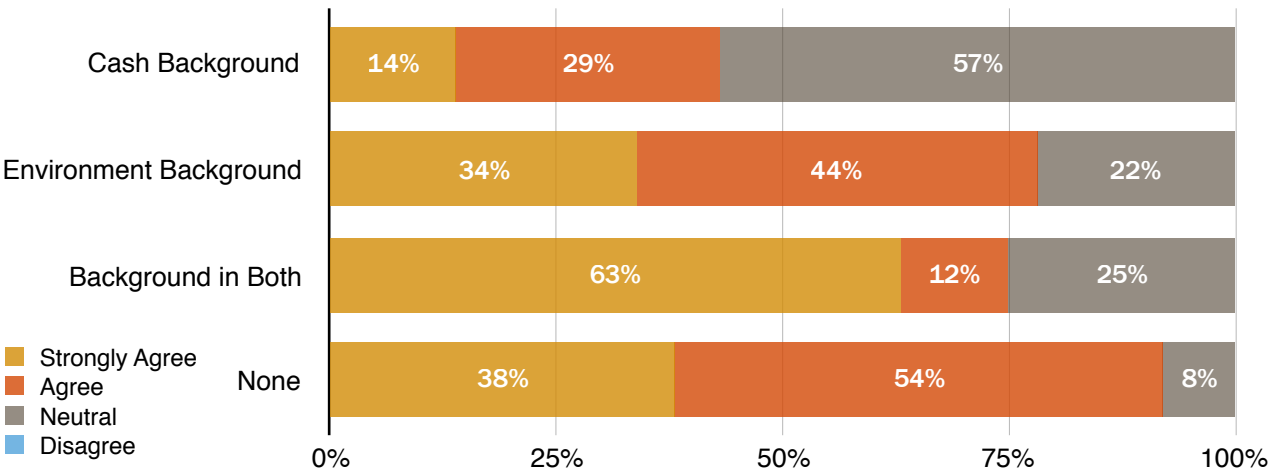
**Observing Narratives in Survey Results**

Results from the survey demonstrate the tension between these two narratives. As seen in Figure 1, all respondents agree that environmental considerations should be taken into account when designing humanitarian programmes, with 38% agreeing and 62% strongly agreeing. However, when the same question was asked with specific reference to environmental considerations being incorporated into the design of CTP, 24% are now neutral, with 38% agreeing or strongly agreeing, respectively (Figure 7). Breaking down these results by respondent’s background, 57% of cash practitioners with no environmental experience are neutral about the incorporation of the environment into CTP design, whereas 63% of individuals with a background in both cash and the environment strongly agree (Figure 8). These results suggest some respondents subscribe to the first narrative and others subscribe to the second. Further evidence for these competing narratives can be seen in Figure 2, which demonstrates that some practitioners believe there is no difference across modalities, while others believe there are differential risks and opportunities between cash and in-kind assistance.

**Figure 7. Is Environment Important for CTP?**



**Figure 8. Is Environment Important for CTP? (By Background)**



## 5.3 Programming a Modality

While a diagnostic to identify preconditions can guide modality selection, conditions on the ground evolve over time, sometimes rapidly. Choices throughout the HPC shape operational impact; direct or secondary effects of the crisis may be mitigated or exacerbated in the process of intervention. As humanitarian response shifts from relief to recovery, modality-driven environmental opportunities and implications shift as well. What is 'good enough' at one stage of response is not necessarily 'good enough' at a future point in time. The tension between programming and modalities (Box 2) highlights the vital role of environmental consideration, regardless of modality, throughout the HPC.

### Implementation

In practice, even with a checklist and diagnostic to analyse environmental impact, the onset of a crisis is fraught with unknowns. Following through the flowchart (Figure 6) may improve the modality selection process, but evolving conditions often provide new insights that could change the outcome of the diagnostic. In Eastern Congo, Haiti and Sri Lanka, for example, intensive local deforestation linked with shelter programming, compromised beneficiary and environmental protection.<sup>17</sup> Weak policy frameworks, illicit extraction or corruption in contexts like Congo present risks that may be difficult to anticipate in earlier phases of the HPC.<sup>18</sup>

### Monitoring

The ability to detect changes or identify critical information hinges on effective monitoring. Where possible, decisions made at each stage of the HPC should respond to evolving conditions after the onset of an emergency in order to move past a 'good enough' approach to humanitarian response. The modality selected in the initial response must be monitored and assessed (ideally with beneficiary input) to identify environmental opportunities and implications for recovery and resilience.

Leveraging current mechanisms within the HPC to recognise such risks as they emerge generates evidence to motivate programme adaptation that aligns with the principles of 'do no harm' and 'building back better.' Incorporating environmental diagnostics into MEL systems via midterm reviews and other

instruments is a crucial step towards environmental mainstreaming. As noted in Chapter 3, some practitioners believe CTP presents unique opportunities for MEL, as it gears focus away from outputs to impacts. Moreover, the higher scrutiny CTP draws may strengthen these dynamics (HNPW, 2017; UK Shelter Forum, 2016). However, as all modalities may impact the environment, integrating indicators to detect these impacts is essential for all programming.

### Impact

In practice, isolating the impact of a single modality is complicated by the realities of humanitarian response. Cash transfers are almost never allocated to the exclusion of other forms of assistance, but are often supplied at the same time as in-kind or hybrid programmes (ODI, 2015). More recently, as donors increase their buy-in to cash-based responses to improve efficiency, there is a clear trend toward multi-purpose cash to overcome the gap between stakeholder knowledge and beneficiary needs. In the case of the environment, this creates challenges for tying long-term environmental outcomes to a single modality or, in the case of multipurpose cash, a single expenditure. These problems point to a broader challenge of differentiating between the implications of the modality itself vis-à-vis programme design or implementation.

Ultimately, building momentum to mainstream environment requires compelling evidence. The present gap in both academic and policy literature on the linkages between environment, modalities and sectors makes concrete guidance elusive. When donors and practitioners integrate environmental questions into their impact evaluations, that evidence provides a foundation to build on existing standards, guidelines and tools, aiding institutional learning and informing best practices for mainstreaming environment in the HPC.

<sup>17</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.

<sup>18</sup> Key informant material. See Annex E.

# Case Study: The Shelter Cluster

## I. Building the Environment into Modality Selection Criteria

The use of CTP raises some environmental concerns specific to the shelter sector that may impact beneficiary and environmental recovery. In fact, results from a small poll conducted for this report suggest that cash-based responses are perceived to present greater risk in the shelter sector than in either the food security or the WASH sectors. While the environment is notionally considered on an ad hoc basis in the field, and noted in some programmatic guidance, there is no systematic process to identify and respond to modality-driven environmental risks or to generate evidence on the environmental impact of shelter programmes. The three linkages between existing modality selection criteria and the environment—local contexts, local markets, and beneficiary protection—serve as a starting point to motivate a shelter-specific checklist to guide modality selection.

## II. Motivating the Checklist: Considerations of CTP

Different modalities of humanitarian assistance present different impacts on the environment. Motivated by these differential impacts and the growing trend towards CTP, the following synthesises some of the opportunities and implications—in terms of environmental resiliency—of cash.

### Opportunities

- CTP provides beneficiaries with greater choice, ownership and dignity over their own recovery and, with appropriate support and information, over the recovery of their local environment.
- Conditional and restricted cash transfers provide practitioners an opportunity to positively shape beneficiary behaviour, orienting shelter towards sustainable, certified and durable materials that ‘do no harm’ to both the local environment as well as their lives and livelihoods.
- When cash is combined with capacity building and technical assistance, as is often the case in shelter, sensitising reconstruction to environmental factors supports efforts to ‘build back better’, linking future preparedness and recovery to environmental management and resilience.
- From an environmental perspective, cash for work programmes such as clearing debris can enable the safe disposal of (potentially life threatening) hazardous materials while at the same time allowing for the collection and reuse of certain shelter materials that were not destroyed by the emergency.
- Close monitoring and support of CTP-based reconstruction projects is essential and can offer a good balance between community decision-making, beneficiary choice and quality control, adhering to the principle to ‘do no harm’.

### Implications

- Unconditional, unrestricted or multipurpose cash grants give beneficiaries control over how they spend transferred funds and build their shelter regardless of environmental implications, such as the sustainable sourcing of materials.
- When environmental risks are high, sourcing local materials for shelter may compromise fragile environmental conditions (e.g. deforestation, soil erosion, etc.), making local conditions worse and creating more risk than relief.
- When sourcing large volumes of construction materials for shelter programming in a market-based response, strong domestic regulatory policies are key to ensure the sustainability and quality of these inputs.
- When the amount of cash transferred is insufficient to cover all shelter reconstruction demands, beneficiaries may opt for cheaper materials that are typically less environmentally sustainable and lower quality or they may source their own materials directly from the local environment.

### III. Motivating the Checklist: Environmental Linkages to Modality Selection

Current criteria for modality selection broadly fall in three themes: context, markets and protection. While there are no standardised metrics tying these criteria to the environment, clear linkages across the themes highlight opportunities for mainstreaming environment in cash programmes for shelter.

**Table 4. Checklist for Determining Modality in Shelter Programming**

*This checklist can be used to guide the determination of whether CTP is operationally feasible for a shelter program with respect to the environment. With its emphasis on the sustainable sourcing of materials in supply chains, the checklist could be implemented alongside existing guidance, including Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis (EMMA). Bolded items specifically address environmental considerations; non-bolded items address CTP feasibility*

Selection Criteria	Sample Questions
Context	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the distribution of cash operationally feasible in the post-disaster context?</li> <li>2. Do beneficiaries have physical access to markets and/or cash distribution points?</li> <li>3. Is the domestic policy context able to govern supply-chain standards and ensure that construction materials are sustainably sourced?</li> </ol>
Markets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are local markets for construction materials functioning?</li> <li>2. Will the local supply of the needed construction materials be able to meet the volume of local demand?</li> <li>3. Will the local market be able to supply the needed shelter materials at an appropriate quality and price?</li> <li>4. Do the construction materials found in local markets come from sustainable sources?</li> <li>5. Will suppliers continue to use sustainable sources while attempting to meet increased demand?</li> </ol>
Protection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If beneficiaries are expected to finance relief expenses out of pocket, will they turn to their immediate environment or low-quality cheap alternatives to source necessary construction materials?</li> <li>2. Do opportunities to source construction materials locally present minimal risk to how beneficiaries interact with their environment?</li> <li>3. Is appropriate technical support available to ensure shelter programmes using CTP meet necessary quality standards to ensure beneficiary protection?</li> <li>4. Are anticipated operational impacts of a shelter programme (such as local timber sourcing) expected to negatively interact with the direct impacts of the disaster (such as deforestation)?</li> </ol>

more broadly.

#### Context

Pre-existing environmental conditions and post-crisis environmental impacts hold serious implications for the scale of shelter needs and feasibility of cash-based responses.



- In addition to policies around land ownership and tenure, the physical landscape informs and constrains decisions for shelter siting.
- The scale of beneficiary need dictates the volume of programme inputs, and subsequent demand on markets and natural resources.
- The availability of local natural resources, including timber and sand, shape material use and beneficiary interaction with their physical surroundings. The ability for inputs to be sourced locally may be altered by the crisis context.

## Markets

Markets define the viability of local supply chains to support cash-based responses. The volume of construction and sustainability of inputs holds significant implications for the physical environment and future resilience as the sourcing of construction materials responds to post-crisis demand.

- Where markets function effectively and are appropriately regulated, the environmental burden of local demand for shelter materials may be controlled. However, sustainability of inputs remains a concern, as harvesting may still be done unsustainably and environmental impacts may be displaced to the broader region.
- Any limitations of markets displaces material sourcing to the immediate area, straining available natural resources, particularly if local infrastructure and beneficiary mobility are compromised.

## Protection

In the context of modality selection, protection broadly refers to a mandate to ‘do no harm’. While this challenge already looms large for shelter programming, it should extend to the physical environment as well.

- As shelter CTP is often subject to funding shortfalls, beneficiary interaction with the physical environment, through the self-sourcing of lower quality materials or less sustainable building techniques, may undermine environmental protection and resilience.
- More actively, ‘building back better’ for the environment presents opportunities to improve community environmental management and resilience by mainstreaming environmental considerations in technical assistance and guidance for shelter.

## IV. Recommendations for Incorporating Environment in Shelter Programme Modality Selection

- The Global Shelter Cluster must coordinate efforts to **standardise environmental considerations in the modality selection process**, linking to criteria of context, markets and protection through checklists such as that provided above.
- Implementing organisations should **conduct environmental assessments** regarding the appropriate modality for all inputs in order to choose a modality based on anticipated environmental impact. These may be free-standing, or link explicitly to existing market and/or value-chain analyses.
- Implementing organisations should **strengthen the use of programmatic features of CTP**—including technical guidance, restrictions and conditions—where some but not all local sources of materials present environmental risk to ensure that only materials of appropriate quality and sustainability are used in shelter construction and to strengthen beneficiary ownership and awareness of the recovery process.
- Implementing organisations must **incorporate environmental considerations into monitoring systems** to allow for changes in modality over the course of a programme as contexts and the sourcing of inputs also change.
- Implementing organisations should **include environmental impact content in programme evaluations** in order to build out a better evidence base for the linkages between shelter programming, modality choice and environmental outcomes.

# Chapter 6: Conclusion

The relative importance of modality choice in the landscape of humanitarian intervention is contested. Nevertheless, the anticipated expansion of humanitarian CTP raises the question of which modalities maximise opportunities and minimise environmental risks. Motivated by commitments from the WHS, this report introduces the environment as a key issue in the broader discussion around humanitarian modalities.

Because modalities are not environment neutral, efforts to mitigate direct, secondary and operational impacts require the integration of environmental considerations in each stage of the HPC. Linking the environment to context, markets and protection provides a foundation for modality selection. Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation require a modality-sensitive approach to identify and mitigate environmental challenges. Disaggregating environmental linkages to the programme-input level creates greater room for nuanced responses and programme adaptation, allowing 'good enough' solutions to evolve towards long-term recovery and resilience.

Practitioners from a range of backgrounds observe modality-driven impacts, but these effects do not occur in isolation: they are a product of a wider response strategy. From this perspective, developing environmental preconditions for modality selection is not a panacea, but rather a small reform to address a larger problem. Until the humanitarian community effectively mainstreams environment, environmental risks will remain largely unaddressed. The barriers cited in Chapter 2 of this report indicate the scale of this challenge; modality selection can address some but not all of these concerns.

The tension between modality and programme-driven narratives for environmental mainstreaming is symptomatic of weaknesses in the humanitarian system as a whole. Barriers including diffuse definitions, missing mandates and the tragedy of the commons limit progress towards a 'shared responsibility' to protect the environment. While CTP is not the ultimate solution for addressing environmental impacts in humanitarian response, it may galvanise support for humanitarian reform. The increased visibility and scrutiny often applied to CTP provides an inflection point for humanitarian actors to consider systemic obstacles to

effective response. Strong connections between core principles of 'do no harm' and 'build back better' along with rising pressures to bridge the gap between humanitarian and development efforts draw the environment into these ongoing policy debates. Thus, while the relationship between CTP and environmental risk may be contested, it presents unique opportunities to shape a humanitarian agenda for environment.

# Recommendations

The following recommendations build on those already outlined in the 2014 UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit report, 'Environment and Humanitarian Action,' which highlights the importance of broadly mainstreaming the environment in humanitarian response (JEU, 2014). These recommendations are specifically tailored to the linkages between modality and the environment. Given the weaknesses of existing evidence and the complex system of actors engaged in humanitarian response, the recommendations are designed to target individual user groups in the form of an action plan.

## I. Humanitarian agencies, clusters and working groups must develop strategies to mainstream environment in CTP

### Clusters should:

- Initiate and lead efforts to identify and define sector-specific environmental opportunities and implications for CTP.
- Lead efforts to mainstream environment in modality selection by developing sector- and intervention-specific checklists and diagnostics to inform the initial phases of the HPC.
- Promote environmental mainstreaming in CTP as a strategy to bridge the humanitarian-development nexus, and achieve Core Responsibility 4 of the Agenda for Humanity.

### Cash Working Groups (CWG) should:

- Assume an internal advocacy role within clusters to develop environmental best practices for CTP, linking to existing market assessment frameworks.

### The UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit (JEU) should:

- Facilitate clusters and working groups by disseminating research on the relationship between CTP and the environment, and defining humanitarian environmental impacts.

## II. Implementing partners (IPs) must apply principles of environmental mainstreaming when designing and implementing programmes

### Donors should:

- Include environmental safeguards and evaluation as a contractual requirement for IPs throughout the HPC, from modality selection through implementation.

### Clusters should:

- Provide guidance for IPs to evaluate modality selection diagnostics at the programme-input level, allowing for hybrid assistance when some inputs do not satisfy environmental criteria for a CTP programme.

### IPs should:

- Integrate environmental considerations in existing assessments, including market and supply chain analysis to make them more robust.
- Apply programmatic features of CTP— including restrictions and conditions —as needed to shape beneficiary behaviour and limit environmental impacts. Assessing these opportunities ex ante should also guide modality selection where possible.
- Work to identify and capitalise on modality-specific opportunities to increase beneficiary ownership over environmental management.
- Strengthen technical assistance in cash-based and hybrid programmes to build capacity for environmental management and sustainable recovery.
- Use cash for work schemes to address direct and secondary environmental impacts in a manner that facilitates community-based environmental protection.

### **III. Humanitarian stakeholders must work to mainstream environment in M&E frameworks and learning agendas across modalities**

#### **Donors should:**

- Lead efforts to combat the ‘tragedy of the commons’ by requiring evaluations to include environmental metrics to realign incentives for IPs and improve accountability.

#### **Clusters should:**

- Lead efforts to verify and establish sector-specific learning around environmental implications and opportunities of cash, perceptions of risk, and budgetary implications of modality-driven efficiency gains.

#### **IPs should:**

- Incorporate environmental indicators into monitoring systems to allow for adaptation of modalities based on evolving conditions during the humanitarian response.

#### **All stakeholders should:**

- Evaluate environmental impacts of all modalities to build out an evidence base for each sector and establish the linkages between modalities and environmental outcomes.

### **IV. Donors must reconfigure programme financing to accommodate environmental mainstreaming and encourage adaptation across modalities**

#### **Donors should:**

- Make consideration of the environment in modality selection and programme design a funding requirement.
- Allocate targeted funding for IPs to incorporate environmental assessments into the modality selection process.
- Fund efforts to strengthen environmental field expertise in order to conduct the environmental diagnostics necessary for modality selection.

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## Annex A: Terms of Reference

Project Terms of Reference	
<b>Organization and Department:</b>	<b>Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit, Emergency Services Branch   United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in partnership with the Environment Community of Practice and Cash Working Group of the Global Shelter Cluster</b>
<b>Project Working Title:</b>	Looking through an environmental lens: Implications and opportunities associated with Cash Transfer Programming in humanitarian response
<b>Background:</b>	<p>The Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit (JEU) is located within the Emergency Preparedness and Environment Section of the Emergency Services Branch of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). By pairing the environmental expertise of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the humanitarian response network coordinated by OCHA, the JEU ensures an integrated approach in responding to environmental emergencies and in mainstreaming environmental considerations into humanitarian action.</p> <p>The Global Shelter Cluster (GSC) is an Inter-Agency Standing Committee coordination mechanism that enabled better coordination among all shelter actors. The GSC is a public platform with 35 global partners. As part of the GSC, Working Groups and Communities of Practice have been established to concentrate on specific topics. Of these, the Environment Community of Practice (ECoP) and Cash Working Group (CWG) are partnering with the JEU for this proposal.</p> <p>Traditionally, humanitarian assistance has largely been provided in the form of in-kind contributions (e.g. in the form of food, medicine, tools, and shelter construction materials). However, during the last decade, the importance of direct transfers of money or vouchers to beneficiaries (Cash transfer programming, CTP) has grown significantly in importance: The OCHA vision statement for the coordination of humanitarian cash transfer programming states “Where cash is considered feasible for a humanitarian response, it should be the preferred and default modality”. Importantly, at the World Humanitarian Summit over 100 commitments to scale up cash based assistance were made. CTP comes in different forms of (un/conditional, un/restricted, multi-purpose) and has been found to have many benefits (increased accountability towards affected people, greater choice based on needs, dignity). However, so far, no assessments or reports exist that investigate in what way and to what extent the move towards CTP would affect the environmental accountability of humanitarian assistance (specifically in comparison to the in-kind provision of goods). Given the steady increase in the use of CTP, it is thus crucial to investigate what potential environmental implications, but also opportunities could be linked to the use of CTP in different scenarios and forms.</p>
<b>Question:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what extent have environmental considerations been considered in the past when using CTP as part of humanitarian assistance?</li> <li>2. From an environmental perspective, what implications and what opportunities are associated with CTP? What factors should be considered for humanitarian cash across sectors? (Considered in relation to humanitarian principles such as “Do no harm” and “Building back better” as well as beneficiary choice and accountability)</li> <li>3. Is it possible to identify environmental pre-conditions on the basis of which it can be decided whether CTP, in-kind or a hybrid option should be the preferred modality employed as part of a humanitarian response?</li> </ol>

<b>Objective:</b>	<p>The JEU actively works on the integration of environmental considerations into all aspects of humanitarian action. Consequently, and in the light of the anticipated increase in the use of CTP in the future, the students' work will support and advance the work of the unit and its shelter partners by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identifying possible implications and/or opportunities the wider use of CTP could have/offer from an environmental perspective.</li> <li>2. Comparing how these findings relate to existing knowledge concerning environmental considerations in humanitarian assistance which is largely based on the in-kind provision of goods.</li> <li>3. Defining, if possible, any pre-conditions, environmental contexts or factors that would point towards or against the use of CTP from an environmental perspective.</li> </ol> <p>Provisional results of this study will be presented during the Humanitarian Network and Partnership Week. This event will take place from 6 to 10 February 2017 and is organized by OCHA's Emergency Services Branch to which the JEU belongs. In addition, the study conclusions are foreseen to be presented at the 2017 Environment and Emergencies Forum (EEF) taking place from 13 to 15 June 2017, in Nairobi, Kenya. The EEF is jointly organized by UNEP and OCHA and aims to showcase innovations in environmental emergency preparedness and response as well as to highlight current efforts in integrating environmental considerations into humanitarian action. The study results will furthermore be shared widely throughout the shelter and cash communities through assorted Global Shelter Cluster fora, the UK Shelter Forum and the OCHA-chaired Cash Working Group. The final report will be added to the Cash Learning Platform.</p>
<b>Methodology:</b>	<p>The JEU will assist in the establishment of contacts to undertake interviews, case studies, distribute surveys, etc. should this be required. The JEU will also facilitate connections with the Environment Community of Practice and Cash Working Group of the Global Shelter Cluster.</p> <p>The research team anticipates use of 4 primary methodologies in the development of this report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Literature Review: As research on the environmental impact of cash transfers is quite limited, the team will aim to develop a comprehensive literature review of available program documentation, empirical research, and policy reports to triangulate contextual information and marshal evidence. The review covers humanitarian cash transfers, environmental impacts of humanitarian work, environmental impacts of shelter, and shelter cash transfers.</li> <li>2. Key Informant Interviews: To gain deeper insights into the opportunities and constraints associated with humanitarian cash transfers, and clarify perspectives on environmental impacts of humanitarianism, the team will conduct key informant interviews with guidance from the client.</li> <li>3. Focus Groups: The team will augment Key Informant interviews with focus groups at Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week in Geneva (February) and at the UK Shelter Forum (November)</li> <li>4. Survey: The team will field a brief survey to practitioners in areas of cash and environment to complement key informant interviews and gain broader insights on perceptions of the issue of cash and the environment.</li> </ol>
<b>Roles</b>	<p>Kari: Academic PoC (LSE)  Nick: Survey lead  Marissa: Project Coordinator  Lauren: Client PoC (JEU/Shelter Cluster)</p>

## Annex B: WHS Commitments

### **Core responsibility four**

#### **Change people's lives: from delivering aid to ending need**

*Ending need requires the reinforcement of local systems and the anticipation and transcendence of the humanitarian-development divide.*

#### **A. Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems**

##### **Put people at the centre: build community resilience**

- Enable people to be the central drivers in building their resilience and be accountable to them, including by ensuring consistent community engagement, involvement in decision-making and participation by women at all levels.
- Build on positive local coping strategies and capacities in preparedness, response and recovery, and ensure relevant, demand-led support that reduces reliance on international assistance.
- Ensure that financial incentives promote genuine community engagement.
- Use cash-based programming as the preferred and default method of support.
- Enhance national social protection systems that ensure equitable access to social services, and safety nets that are not vulnerable to market shocks.

Source: One humanity: Shared responsibility. Report of the Secretary-General for the World Humanitarian Summit



# Annex C: Survey Questions

## WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT FRAMEWORK ISTANBUL • 23-24 May 2016

7 ROUND TABLES ▶ 32 CORE COMMITMENTS



## Cash, Environment, and Humanitarian Response

This survey is being fielded to gain a sense of how humanitarian practitioners view the relationship between the environment, modality of assistance, and emergency relief. Your submission will be incorporated into a consultancy project conducted by graduate students at the London School of Economics in collaboration with the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit. Your responses will not be identified in any outputs of the project.

We would appreciate your input before 10 February 2017, but the survey will remain open until 15/02/17.

\* Required

**1. 1. Relevant background: \***

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ I am a cash practitioner
- ☐ I have an environmental background
- ☐ I have good understanding of cash programming as well as the environment
- ☐ None of the above

**2. 2. Agree or disagree: the consideration of environmental factors is important in the design of humanitarian response. \***

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

**3. 3. Agree or disagree: environmental issues should be taken into account specifically when designing a cash transfer program. \***

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

4. **4. Generally speaking, does cash present more of a risk or more of an opportunity in addressing environmental issues relative to in-kind assistance? \***

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Cash presents more of a risk
- ☐ Cash presents more of an opportunity
- ☐ There is no difference in risks and opportunities between cash and in-kind assistance

5. **5. In particular, in which sectors does cash present an opportunity or a risk (relative to in-kind assistance) in addressing environmental challenges? Please check all that apply in each column. \***

*Mark only one oval per row.*

	Cash Presents Opportunity	Cash Presents Risk	No difference between cash and in-kind
Food Security	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shelter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Thank you for your participation - your contribution is a valuable addition to our ongoing work. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this survey, feel free to email us at [cash.environment@gmail.com](mailto:cash.environment@gmail.com).**

6. **If you are interested in being informed about follow-up initiatives on this topic, you can be added to the distribution list by leaving your email below:**

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## Cash, Environment, and Humanitarian Response

This survey is being fielded to gain a sense of how humanitarian practitioners view the relationship between the environment, modality of assistance, and emergency relief. Your submission will be incorporated into a consultancy project conducted by graduate students at the London School of Economics in collaboration with the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit. Your responses will not be identified in any outputs of the project.

We would appreciate your input before 8 February 2017, but the survey will remain open until 15/02/17.

\* Required

### 'About me' section:

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1. 1. Organization: \*

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2. 2. Role in organization: \*

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3. 3. Relevant background: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ I am a cash practitioner
- ☐ I have an environmental background
- ☐ I have good understanding of cash programming as well as the environment
- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. 4. In my daily work I use these manuals/guidance materials the most (up to 3): \*

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### Cash and the Environment

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5. **In my opinion, the main challenges involved in cash programming are:**

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6. **Agree or disagree: the consideration of environmental factors is important in the design of humanitarian response. \***

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

7. **Agree or disagree: environmental issues should be taken into account specifically when designing a cash transfer program. \***

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

8. **Generally speaking, does cash present more of a risk or more of an opportunity in addressing environmental issues relative to in-kind assistance? \***

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Cash presents more of a risk
- ☐ Cash presents more of an opportunity
- ☐ There is no difference in risks and opportunities between cash and in-kind assistance

9. **8.a (Optional) If you think cash presents more risk, what specifically are those risks?**

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10. **8.b (Optional)** If you think cash presents more opportunities, what specifically are those opportunities?

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11. **9. In particular, in which sectors does cash present an opportunity or a risk (relative to in-kind assistance) in addressing environmental challenges? Please check all that apply in each column. \***

*Mark only one oval per row.*

	Cash Presents Opportunity	Cash Presents Risk	No difference between cash and in-kind
Food Security	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shelter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. **10. One example of best practice in cash programming with regard to the environment is:**

---

13. **11. When thinking about the environment, what local preconditions would indicate that cash programming should not be used? \***

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**Thank you for your participation - your contribution is a valuable addition to our ongoing work. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this survey, feel free to email us at [cash.environment@gmail.com](mailto:cash.environment@gmail.com).**

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14. **If you are interested in being informed about follow-up initiatives on this topic, you can be added to the distribution list by leaving your email below:**

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## Annex D: Interview Guide

### Key Informant Interview Guide

Hello *(informant name)*! Thank you for taking the time to speak with me. I gave you some background on this project in my email, but just to provide you with some more context, my name is *(insert your name)* and I am an Master's degree student in *(insert your academic program)* at the London School of Economics and Political Science. I'm working with a team of three other students at the LSE in affiliation with the Joint Environment Unit at the U.N. and the Global Shelter Cluster on a project on cash transfer programming and the environment. Specifically, we're looking at some of the potential implications and opportunities for the environment of using cash transfer programming in humanitarian assistance. Your name was mentioned as someone whose work touches on these issues, which is why we've gotten in touch.

Before we begin, as this is an academic study, we want to briefly review guidance for your participation and to confirm your verbal consent to the following conditions:

- Participation in this study is voluntary and you may discontinue your participation and withdraw your consent at any time.
- Allow the following interview to be recorded (this will allow us to come back to it when producing our final report).
- Understand that information generated in this report may be published, but no details will be divulged from which you can be identified, as all personal information will be kept strictly confidential - including your name and organizational affiliation.
- Understand that you will not be quoted directly unless we obtain your permission in advance.
- Anytime prior to submission of the report in March, you may request that the content of your interview be excluded from our analysis.

If you are amenable to these conditions, please clearly state your name, your consent to participate in this study, and today's date for the record.

1. Please tell us a little bit about your role at *[organization X]*
  - a. [if relevant] and your background/expertise in cash transfer programming

### **Environment and Humanitarianism:**

1. From your perspective, to what extent are environmental concerns being incorporated into humanitarian practice?
2. What do you think are some of the barriers preventing environmental concerns from being more broadly addressed in humanitarian work?
  - a. Do you think that barriers vary based on sector? Crisis event? Organization?.
3. When you do see environmental concerns being addressed, what sort of guidance and/or frameworks do organizations use?
  - a. Are these reactive processes? Or anticipatory?

4. How do you think environmental concerns can best be mainstreamed in humanitarian practice?
  - a. What would have to be true in order for humanitarian action to shift? (e.g. more evidence, clearer guidance, stringent policy etc.)
  - b. Who is the appropriate leader for these changes? (e.g. donors, Sphere, etc.)

**Cash and the Environment:**

5. What is the process used by organizations in determining whether to use a cash, in-kind, or hybrid program?
  - a. Do you find that the determination of in-kind versus cash programming depends at all on environmental considerations?
6. What role does the form of assistance, specifically in-kind vs. cash, play in addressing environmental concerns?
7. From the perspective of the environment, what are some of the concerns about using cash instead of in-kind assistance? What are some of the opportunities of using cash? Do you think that these implications and opportunities vary by sector?
8. If an organization were trying to determine whether cash or in-kind assistance would be better from an environmental perspective, what sort of analysis do you think they would need to do?
  - a. Do you believe environmental assessments can be harmonized with existing market assessments?
9. If an organization were trying to incorporate environmental concerns into their humanitarian response, how could in-kind assistance be tailored to address these concerns? How about cash programs?

## Annex E: Contributors and Key Informants

Key informant interviews and anonymous surveys were the primary sources of qualitative research and input for this report. Key informants are not specifically identified or linked to an organisation in order to protect their anonymity (as agreed in the terms of their involvement).

Report contributors are currently involved with the following IOs and NGOs:

Action Against Hunger  
Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS)  
American Red Cross  
Catholic Relief Services  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei - Euro Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change (CMCC)  
Habitat for Humanity International  
HumanSurge  
Infrastructure Development Bank of Zimbabwe  
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)  
International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology  
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)  
Oxfam UK  
Population Services International (PSI)  
Save the Children  
Search and Rescue Assistance in Disasters (SARAID)  
Solidarities  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)  
United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)  
USAID  
Veolia Foundation  
Welthungerhilfe  
World Food Programme (WFP)  
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

Independent consultants as well as consultants from the private sector also contributed to this report.

## Key Informants

1. ANONYMOUS 1 (2016), INGO. Interviewed by Harrison, L., Lyon, N. and Nordentoft, M., virtual call, 25 November, 2016.
2. ANONYMOUS 2 (2017), Independent consultant. Interviewed by Lyon, N., virtual call, 13 January, 2017.
3. ANONYMOUS 3 (2017), Independent consultant. Interviewed by Blanco, K. and Nordentoft, M., virtual call, 27 January, 2017.
4. ANONYMOUS 4 (2017), NGO. Interviewed by Lyon, N., virtual call, 30 January, 2017.
5. ANONYMOUS 5 (2017), Independent consultant. Interviewed by Nordentoft, M., virtual call, 31 January, 2017.
6. ANONYMOUS 6 (2017), INGO. Interviewed by Lyon, N., virtual call, 2 February, 2017.
7. ANONYMOUS 7 (2017), NGO. Interviewed by Lyon, N., virtual call, 2 February, 2017.
8. ANONYMOUS 8 (2017), INGO. Interviewed by Nordentoft, M., virtual call, 9 February, 2017.
9. ANONYMOUS 9 (2017), INGO. Interviewed by Blanco, K., Harrison, L., Lyon, N. and Nordentoft, M, in person - Geneva, 9 February, 2017.
10. ANONYMOUS 10 (2017), Government agency. Interviewed by Blanco, K., Harrison, L., Lyon, N. and Nordentoft, M, in person - Geneva, 9 February, 2017.
11. ANONYMOUS 11 (2017), Independent consultant. Interviewed by Harrison, L., virtual call, 14 February, 2017.
12. ANONYMOUS 12 (2017), Private sector consultant. Interviewed by Lyon, N., virtual call, 15 February, 2017.

## Annex F: HNPW Session Summary



*HNPW 2017 – Wednesday 8 February, Room 4*

### **Session: Cash Programming and the environment: How can we be sure to do no harm?**

#### **1. Background information**

In recent years, cash transfer programming (CTP) has increasingly been used in many humanitarian response contexts alongside more traditional 'in kind' modalities. It has many benefits, such as increased accountability towards affected people, greater choice based on needs and the preservation of dignity. As it has begun to be used at scale more recently, there is little research at the moment about potential longer-term implications of CTP on the local environment and so far, no guidance exists to help programmers consider these issues. To address this gap, participants were invited to explore this topic during this interactive session.

To prepare participants for the discussions, the United Nations Environment Programme/ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Joint Unit (JEU) introduced its work on Environment and Humanitarian Action (EHA). Even though environment had been designated as one of the major cross-cutting issues as part of the Humanitarian Reform of 2005, the consideration of environment in humanitarian action is still only minimal today and has been shown to impact the effectiveness of humanitarian operations<sup>1</sup>. To investigate the potential implications, but also opportunities associated with an increased use of CTP on the local environment, the JEU, together with the Shelter Cluster Environment Community of Practice (ECoP) cooperates with a graduate student team from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Juliet Lang, OCHA Cash Adviser gave a short introduction into CTP, stressing that it can be very effective by giving affected people a means to decide and prioritize interventions according to their needs. Cash transfer programming can be provided on different levels (individual, household, community) and in different formats (Conditional/unconditional, restricted/unrestricted, or for multiple purposes). To be successful and effective, the level that CTPs should address as well as the format they should be provided in requires careful consideration. Also, aspects such as monitoring of impacts and outcomes, gender-sensitivity and environmental factors have to be considered to ensure effectiveness and quality of CTPs.

Joseph Ashmore, Global Shelter Cluster, IOM, provided the perspective of the shelter cluster with regard to CTP's. CTP's can be very influential for shelter operations as they make available materials, support rents and provide labour as well as transport. Most commonly, cash is provided in a conditional format in the shelter cluster to ensure quality in construction. However, local participation is key for the effective utilization of cash, ensuring appropriate designs and the use of local and sustainable resources for the construction wherever possible.

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<sup>1</sup>JEU (2014) Environment and Humanitarian Action: Increasing Effectiveness, Sustainability and Accountability: <https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/EHA%20Study%20webfinal.pdf>

JEU (2016) Afghanistan Country Study:

[http://www.eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Afghanistan\\_EHA\\_Study-20160120.pdf](http://www.eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Afghanistan_EHA_Study-20160120.pdf)

JEU (2016) Haiti Country Study: [http://www.eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Haiti\\_EHA\\_Study-20160120.pdf](http://www.eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Haiti_EHA_Study-20160120.pdf)

JEU (2016) Nepal Country Study: [http://eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Nepal\\_EHA\\_Study-20160120.pdf](http://eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Nepal_EHA_Study-20160120.pdf)

## 2. Interactive session findings

Following the introductory presentations, the audience was split into four groups with facilitators moving from group to group to engage in short discussion rounds on four specific topics.

### **Topic 1: Deciding for a modality**

*How is it decided which modality should be used? Who takes the decision and based on which factors?*

First of all, participants noted it was crucial to consider the preferences of the target community. With regard to cash programming, it was pointed out that market assessments are undertaken to understand the local context. These might be a good entry point for the inclusion of environmental concerns and respective data. In addition, participants stressed that it was important to consider how the design of cash programs may impact the way beneficiaries interact with their environment.

### **Topic 2: Status quo: environmental considerations**

*Does the determination of in-kind versus cash-programming currently depend at all on environmental considerations?*

The determination of in-kind versus cash programming does currently not depend at all on environmental considerations. Participants pointed out that it was not part of the 'culture' of humanitarian actors to consider the environment and that a healthy environment was not necessarily associated with the quality of life of affected people. Furthermore, saving lives is the priority of humanitarian actors and environment will, if ever, be considered in long-term response strategies. The limited availability of appropriate guidance was mentioned as a barrier for the better integration of environmental considerations, however, participants also noted that the guidance that is available is not often used. However, neither in-kind nor cash-based interventions are environment-neutral, hence trade-offs between programme costs and efficiency on one side and long-term impacts on the environment on the other should be assessed for both options. Lastly, the current extent of integration of environmental factors into the humanitarian response varies by sector and cluster, with the WASH and Shelter cluster being perceived as the most environmentally concerned.

### **Topic 3: Way forward: Environmental accountability**

*What sort of analysis would an organization need to do if it was trying to determine whether cash or in-kind assistance would be the modality of choice from an environmental perspective?*

In order to consider the environment as part of the process of deciding which modality to choose, environmental aspects should be incorporated into local market analyses. Furthermore, the importance of contextual understanding was stressed adding that local environmental expertise was key and that mere check-box assessments or global guidance would not be sufficient. Participants further engaged in a discussion on whether humanitarian assistance should not rather be driven by purpose and sustainability considerations instead of the question which modality to choose.



#### **Topic 4: Your needs – what and at which state during the Humanitarian Programme Cycle?**

*What kind of guidance/support would be most useful in order to better incorporate environmental considerations?*

Participants noted an overall need for environmental guidance and support which should be available from the beginning of the response throughout the entire programme cycle, also covering in particular the monitoring stage. The provision of baseline information on environmental considerations, irrespective of the subsequent choice of modality, was mentioned as potentially very useful already at the moment of deployment. Participants further stressed that there was no need for separate guidance on environmental considerations in cash programming. Instead, environmental guidance and support should rather be designed in a way that considers different options and modalities, facilitates the choice between these and supports humanitarian actors in achieving better programme design by taking environmental considerations into account. Furthermore, good practices of the respective modality choices should be shared. However, specifically for cash programming it was noted that environmental considerations should be integrated at the stage of the feasibility assessments undertaken prior to the implementation of a cash programme. It was suggested that potential environmental issues could be flagged at each stage of the programme cycle along with the provision of information for follow-up, for example through the use of an environment marker. Lastly, participants advised environmental actors to use the cross-cutting theme of protection as an example of best practice for effective mainstreaming.

### **3. Session outcomes**

Participants agreed that:

- Environmental considerations are not a priority in humanitarian/cash programming underlining the importance of better mainstreaming. The integration of environmental considerations should be part of all good humanitarian programming.
- There is a need for environmental guidance throughout the entire programme cycle. Such guidance should not be limited to cash programming, but should guide decision-makers in their choice between different options and modalities.
- Research on the potential impacts and benefits of cash-programming (and other modalities) on the environment is needed and would have to be broadly disseminated along with good practices.
- Cash feasibility studies and market assessments might be good entry points for the inclusion of environmental concerns and respective data, for example through the use of an environment marker.

#### 4. Next steps to implementing solutions

- Guidance with respect to environmental risks and opportunities of cash programming should be developed, but should focus on how to make the choice between different modalities (e.g. in-kind/cash) and forms (e.g. un/restricted, un/conditional).
- Environmental actors and cash practitioners to advocate for inclusion of environmental considerations in cash feasibility studies and local market analyses, undertaken as part of cash programming. The application of an environment marker should be explored.
- Session results will be incorporated into a study on 'Cash programming and Environment' undertaken by a student team of the LSE in partnership with the JEU and the Shelter ECoP. The study will be widely disseminated and serve as a basis for follow-up action.

**Contact:**

[wenzel@un.org](mailto:wenzel@un.org)

Ms. Kati Wenzel

Humanitarian Affairs Officer

UN Environment / OCHA Joint Unit (JEU)

Emergency Services Branch | Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

## Annex G: UKSF Session Outline



# UK SHELTER FORUM 19

## FRIDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016 AGENDA



### VENUE:

#### Resource for London

356 Holloway Road,  
London, U.K.

N7 6PA

Tel: 020 7697 4005

The UK Shelter Forum will be  
held in the

#### Seminar Rooms 2+3

Closest Tube Station:

**Holloway Road on Piccadilly  
line**

Closest Overground:

**Upper Holloway**

Buses:

Routes 4, 17, 29, 43, 153, 253,  
259, 271, 279 and X43 stop  
within a short walk of R4L.



09:00 - 09:20	<b>ARRIVAL &amp; REGISTRATION</b>
09:20 - 09:30	<b>OPENING REMARKS &amp; HOUSEKEEPING (10 MINS)</b> Jake Zairns, HfH & Jamie Richardson, CRS
09:30 - 09:50	<b>UPDATES &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS (20 MINS):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEFIT-funded project 'Measuring recovery - signposts to good practice' - <b>John Twigg</b>, ODI &amp; <b>Laura Howlett</b> (3 mins)</li> <li>Shelter &amp; Gender guidelines trial edition launch &amp; drinks – <b>Amelia Rule</b>, <b>Tom Newby</b>, CARE, IHG (2 mins)</li> <li>Humanitarian Capacity Development in Urban Emergencies: A brief overview of who is doing what in humanitarian capacity development for urban emergencies - <b>Harriette Purchas</b>, RedR (5 mins)</li> <li>Shelter Meetings 2016-2017 - <b>Tom Corsellis</b>, Shelter Centre (5 mins)</li> <li>Infrastructure - a cross cutting or unifying theme? - <b>Steven Crosskey</b>, UNOPS (5 mins)</li> </ul>
09:50 - 10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hardware, software to fluff-ware: Integrating fluff-ware into sheltering programs - <b>Seki Hirano</b>, CRS (10 mins)</li> </ul>
10:00 - 10:55	<b>PANEL DISCUSSIONS</b> (55 MINS: 5 MIN INTRO; 5 MIN PER PANELLIST; Q+A) Topic: <b>Holistic Programming: Who needs sectors anyways</b> Facilitator: <b>Jake Zarins</b> , HfH Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Laura Phelps</b>, NRC (Urban Advisor)</li> <li><b>Rachael Cummings</b>, Save the Children (Head of Health)</li> <li><b>Paula Brennan</b>, Save the Children (Head of Programmes/Technical Department)</li> <li><b>Isabelle Pelly</b>, CaLP (Technical Coordinator)</li> <li><b>Rolando Wallusche Saul</b>, CRS (WASH Technical Advisor)</li> </ul>
10:55 - 11:00	<b>INTRODUCTIONS TO BREAKOUT SESSIONS (5 MINS)</b> Jake Zarins, HfH or Panellists
11:00 - 11:30	<b>COFFEE / TEA (30 MINS)</b>
11:30 - 12:15	<b>BREAKOUT SESSION 1 (45 MINS)</b> Led by panel discussions
12:15 - 12:30	<b>FEEDBACK FROM BREAKOUT GROUPS (15 MINS)</b>
12:30 - 13:00	<b>UPDATES (30 MINS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lessons learned in Shelter and HLP projects – <b>Mike Waugh</b>, NRC (5 mins)</li> <li>Shelter Projects – <b>Joseph Ashmore</b>, IOM (5 mins)</li> <li>Promoting Safer Building - support to self-recovery - <b>Bill Flinn</b>, CARE (5 mins)</li> <li>Address the Gaps in Post-disaster Rental Support Programs in Beirut and Port-au-Prince - <b>Alex Miller</b> (5 mins)</li> <li>Urban planning after humanitarian crises: supporting local governments to take the lead - <b>Victoria Maynard</b>, <b>Elizabeth Parker</b>, <b>David Garcia</b>, <b>Rahayu Yoseph-Paulus</b> (5 mins)</li> <li>Spatial post earthquake reconstruction strategies for Bungamati, Kathmandu Valley, Nepal - <b>Stefanie Dens</b>, et al., KU Leuven (5 mins)</li> </ul>



# UK SHELTER FORUM 19

## FRIDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016 AGENDA

	13:00 - 14:00	<b>LUNCH (60 MINS)</b>
	14:00 - 15:15	<b>TALKS SESSION (75 MINS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integration story from Iraq with the Food cluster to develop a multi-sector mobilisation and response-tracking tool for displacement - <b>Jamie Richardson</b>, CRS (15 mins)</li> <li>Short history of the British Red Cross integrated urban programme in Haiti - Delmas 19 integrated urban recovery programme - <b>Melvin Tebbutt</b> (15 mins)</li> <li>Environment in settlements approaches: from cross cutting issue to programme fundamental Global Shelter Cluster Environment Community of Practice - <b>Charles Parrack</b>, CENDEP (15 mins)</li> <li>The Philippines: 3 years since Haiyan - outline of findings on the theme of sector integration - <b>Bill Flinn</b>, CARE (15 mins)</li> <li>GBV guidelines - <b>Jessica Izquierdo</b>, IOM (15 mins)</li> </ul>
	15:15 - 15:45	<b>TEA / COFFEE (30 MINS)</b>
	15:45 - 16:30	<b>BREAKOUT SESSION 2 (45 MINS)</b> Based on the Talks session
	16:30 - 16:50	<b>FEEDBACK FROM BREAKOUT GROUPS / PLENARY (20 MINS)</b>
	16:50 - 17:20	<b>UPDATES (30 MINS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASPIRE, (Re)settlement Toolkit, <b>ARUP</b> (10 mins)</li> <li>PHASE 2 Shelter - German Red Cross' contribution to a safer and healthier living environment and to an improved resilience of the people affected by Typhoon Haiyan in Leyte Province, Philippines - <b>Daniel Becker</b>, German Red Cross (10 mins)</li> <li>Building safety in self recovery: a review of current knowledge - <b>Charles Parrack</b>, CENDEP (5 mins)</li> <li>Update from <b>UK Built Advisory Group</b> (5 min)</li> </ul>
	17:20 - 17:30	<b>WRAP UP AND CLOSE (10 MINS)</b> CRS, HfH
	17:30 - ONWARDS	<b>LAUNCH &amp; POST EVENT DRINKS</b> <b>Gender &amp; Shelter: Good Programming Guidelines</b> Produced by the <b>CARE International UK Shelter Team</b> with support from the <b>InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG)</b>





## Annex H: Existing Guidelines and Tools

### Environmental Guidelines

DFID Environment Guide: A Guide to Environmental Screening (2003): [http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/methodology-dfid-guide-to-environmental-screening-200306\\_en\\_2.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/methodology-dfid-guide-to-environmental-screening-200306_en_2.pdf)

UNHCR, The Environment & Climate Change (2015): <http://www.unhcr.org/540854f49.pdf>

JEU, Disaster Waste Management Guidelines (2011): <https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/DWM.pdf>

JEU, The Environmental Emergencies Guidelines (2017): [http://www.eecentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/EE\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.eecentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/EE_guidelines.pdf)

Topic Guide: Mainstreaming Environment and Climate Change into Humanitarian Action (2015): [http://eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/EoD\\_TG\\_Humanitarian\\_Environ\\_Conflict\\_June2015.pdf](http://eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/EoD_TG_Humanitarian_Environ_Conflict_June2015.pdf)

JEU, Guidelines for Environmental Emergencies (2009): [http://eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Guidelines\\_for\\_Environmental\\_Emergencies\\_Version\\_1.pdf](http://eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Guidelines_for_Environmental_Emergencies_Version_1.pdf)

IFRC, UNOCHA and CARE International, Humanitarian Timber (2009): <http://www.humanitarian timber.org/files/timber-final-A5-23-03-09.pdf>

### Environmental Tools

UNHCR and CARE International, FRAME Toolkit: Framework for Assessing, Monitoring and Evaluating the environment in refugee-related operations (2009): <http://www.unhcr.org/uk/protection/environment/4a97d1039/frame-toolkit-framework-assessing-monitoring-evaluating-environment-refugee.html>

JEU, Flash Environmental Assessment Tool (FEAT) (2009): [https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/FEAT\\_Version\\_1.1.pdf](https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/FEAT_Version_1.1.pdf)

Environment Marker (2014): [http://eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Environment\\_Marker\\_Guidance\\_Note\\_Global\\_2014-05-09.pdf](http://eecentre.org/Modules/EECResources/UploadFile/Attachment/Environment_Marker_Guidance_Note_Global_2014-05-09.pdf)

Benfield Hazard Research Center and UCL, Rapid Environmental Impact Assessment: A Framework for Best Practice in Emergency Response (2001): <http://www.livestock-emergency.net/userfiles/file/assessment-review/Benfield-Hazard-Research-Centre-CARE-2005.pdf>

JEU, Checklist-Based Guide to Identifying Critical Environmental Considerations in Emergency Shelter Site Selection, Construction, Management and Decommissioning (2005): [http://postconflict.unep.ch/humanitarianaction/documents/02\\_05-01.pdf](http://postconflict.unep.ch/humanitarianaction/documents/02_05-01.pdf)

UNEP, Environmental Needs Assessment in Post-Disaster Situations (2008): <https://www.gdrc.org/uem/disasters/disenvi/pdna.pdf>

### General Market Assessment Guidelines and Tools

Market Analysis Guidance (MAG): <https://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/publications/icrc-002-4200.pdf>

Rapid Assessment of Markets (RAM): <https://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/publications/icrc-002-4199.pdf>

Emergency Mapping Market Analysis (EMMA) Toolkit: <http://www.emma-toolkit.org/toolkit>

Market Information and Food Insecurity Response Analysis (MIFIRA): <http://barrett.dyson.cornell.edu/MIFIRA/>

Pre-Crisis Market Mapping and Analysis (PCMMA): <https://rescue.app.box.com/s/jc003zroe4pjzft5n83s>

48-Hour Assessment Tool: <http://www.ecbproject.org/ecb/efsl-48-hour-assessment-tool>

MARKit - Price Monitoring, Analysis and Response Kit: <http://www.cashlearning.org/resources/library/718-markit-price-monitoring-analysis-and-response-kit>

Minimum Standards for Market Analysis (MISMA): <http://www.cashlearning.org/downloads/calp-misma-en-web.pdf>

Multi-Cluster Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA): [https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/mira\\_2015\\_final.pdf](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/mira_2015_final.pdf)

## Annex I: Glossary

Note: the terms in this glossary are marked with an asterisk (\*) on first mentions in the report.

### **Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief**

The Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief is an international voluntary code that lays down ten points of principle to guide the work of humanitarian actors in their disaster response. It also describes the relationships that agencies working in disasters should seek with donor governments, host governments and the United Nations system. The Code was introduced by eight of the world's largest disaster response agencies in 1994 (IFRC 2017).

For more information, please visit the following website: <https://media.ifrc.org/ifrc/who-we-are/the-movement/code-of-conduct/>

### **Cluster**

The cluster approach responds to need of coordination among humanitarian organisations in order to reduce gaps and overlaps in the provision of humanitarian assistance. This approach was introduced in the Humanitarian Reform Agenda in the year 2005 as an attempt to enhance predictability, accountability and partnership (Humanitarian Response 2017).

For more information, please visit the following website: <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/about-clusters/what-is-the-cluster-approach>

### **Disaster Risk Reduction**

The Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is the concept and practice of reducing the damage caused by natural hazards like earthquakes, floods, droughts and cyclones, through an ethic of prevention. It involves the systematic efforts to analyse and reduce the causal factors of disasters (UNISDR 2017).

For more information, please visit the following website: <https://www.unisdr.org/who-we-are/what-is-drr>

### **Humanitarian-development nexus**

The humanitarian-development nexus refers to the need for better connectivity between humanitarian and development work (OCHA 2017). This need was recognized as a global shared responsibility during the World Humanitarian Summit, where humanitarians committed to transcend humanitarian and development divides by working over multiple years towards collective outcomes, based on the comparative advantages of a diverse range of actors (Agenda for Humanity 2016).

For more information, please visit the following website: <http://www.agendaforhumanity.org/cr/4>

### **In-kind Assistance**

In-kind assistance refers to the provision of humanitarian assistance in the form of physical commodities and services such as food, seeds, medicines, tools, shelter construction materials or expertise. Most of the humanitarian assistance has largely been provided in this modality (ODI 2015).



**Market disruption**

Market disruption refers to a situation in which markets cease to respond effectively to demand.

**Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning**

Modality, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) refers to the combination of formal and informal processes aimed at encouraging evaluative thinking for both learning and accountability purposes (Coe and Majot 2013).

**Resilience**

In the humanitarian field, resilience refers to the ability of communities to manage major shocks or stresses without significant weakening of prospects for long-term development (Humanitarian Coalition n.d.).

For more information, please visit the following website: <http://humanitariancoalition.ca/media-resources/factsheets/building-resilience>

**Sphere Standards**

The Sphere Standards refer to a set of minimum standards adopted by several humanitarian agencies in order to improve both the effectiveness of their assistance as well as their accountability towards their stakeholders, contributing to a practical framework for accountability. Such standards are compiled in the Sphere Handbook, Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response, which is the result of broad inter-agency collaboration (Sphere 2011).

For more information, please visit the following website: <http://www.ifrc.org/PageFiles/95530/The-Sphere-Project-Handbook-20111.pdf>

