Use of Humanitarian Cash Transfers by UNICEF

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UNICEF Executive Board – 2021 second regular session
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Item 8: Oral update on UNICEF humanitarian action
UNICEF approach is:

- Informed by national social protection system capacity
- Integrated across UNICEF humanitarian response
- Beneficiary-centered
- Risk-informed, safe and predictable
- Transferable to national entities
- Inclusive and collaborative
STRATEGIC VISION: SCALED-UP USE OF HUMANITARIAN CASH TRANSFERS TO GET BETTER RESULTS FOR THE CORE COMMITMENTS FOR CHILDREN IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At scale</th>
<th>Timely</th>
<th>H-D NEXUS</th>
<th>Humanitarian – Development NEXUS</th>
<th>Child sensitive</th>
<th>Cash Plus Integrated with UNICEF responses</th>
<th>Use of national social protection systems where possible</th>
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**UNICEF comparative advantage**

- Being cash ready
- Cash by default in emergency responses
- Unrestricted, unconditional as preferred, default option
$245 million
Disbursed through humanitarian cash transfers by 50 UNICEF country offices

2.5 million households
Reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers

71 countries
Used humanitarian cash transfers, a seven-fold increase since 2017
Achievements of humanitarian cash transfers:

- Cover children’s specific basic needs
- Provide access to services
- Mitigate negative coping mechanisms affecting children
- Improve nutrition outcomes
- Improve school attendance
- Prevent relapse to severe malnutrition
- Provide access to water
- Provide access to hygiene kits

74% of the humanitarian cash transfers totaling $245 million delivered by UNICEF were transferred in only 3 countries: Lebanon, Turkey and Yemen.
UNICEF Global Management Information System

Informed by a digital public good approach to enable scale

- Efficiency & effectiveness
- Compliance with financial regulations
- Data protection of child-sensitive data: Predictability and global standards
- Partnerships & accountability to affected populations
- Risk mitigation
- Global database enabling interoperability
Informed by collaborative approaches

Risk-informed, transparent, safe and predictable

Based on recipient needs and practices

Focus on digital and innovative payment solutions

Strategic partnerships with the private sector
Four types of partners to support our field implementation approach:

- Governments
- United Nations agencies
- Non-governmental organizations
- Private sector
UN COMMON CASH STATEMENT

Coming together to serve more beneficiaries:

Joint payment mechanism
Common beneficiary list
Harmonized programming

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Advocacy for a predictable and inclusive coordination mechanism.
Thank you.