GROUP CASH TRANSFERS (GCTs) IN UKRAINE

DCA actalliance

Volunteer initiative *Charitable Foundation - Our Ukrainian Future* supported with GCT to distribute packages with the support of a chat bot through which people can customise their package and refer specific population in need of support.

MODALITIES FOR GCTs IN UKRAINE

1) Direct implemented:
Disbursement of GCTs as pipeline for funnelling flexible, financial support to first responders. Facilitated by mobile teams conducting community research to inform priorities, map existing initiatives, and identify community groups. This process is followed by disbursements of grants as part of a rapid emergency response.

2) With local facilitating agency (Partner):
Identification and capacity strengthening of national actor on sclr approach and GCT process. This includes development and contextualization of own tools, development of SOPs and internal compliance policies. Training in protection mainstreaming best practices.

RESOURCES, TOOLS & GUIDANCE:

- **GCT guidance, tools and report** were designed and authored by CaLP and KeyAid Consulting, with funding from DCA and Danida.
- GCTs are a component of the of survivor and community led crisis response (sclr) approach which is the product of the Local2Global platform; guidance, reports on best practices, and online trainings are available on **www.local2global.info**

WHAT?
Group Cash Transfers (GCTs) is a modality that seeks to transfer power to crisis-affected populations by providing essentially unrestricted, unconditional cash transfers to groups to implement community-led initiatives. Grants are between $200 - $10.000, distributed based on simple project proposals, allowing communities to respond to crisis based on their capacities and priorities.

HOW AND WHY?
In DanChurchAid (DCA), we believe people affected by crisis should be at the centre of any response. To this end, DCA utilizes Group Cash Transfers (GCTs) - unrestricted and unconditional cash transfers - as a means of resourcing locally-led responses and transferring power back to those affected by conflict.

Within this modality (a part of the sclr approach), GCTs are provided to self-mobilizing community groups who utilize existing markets to leverage community capacities to respond to or prepare for crisis. Unlike conventional Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA), the primary purpose of GCTs is not to respond to household or individual needs; instead, the goal is to work, in complement of broader humanitarian response activities, to resource and empower community members to identify and implement their own initiatives.

LOCALISATION
GCTs can be used as a rapid pipeline for funnelling flexible financial support to first responders and can be used alongside and synergistically with individual or household interventions.

GRANTS ARE...
- Between $200-$10.000;
- Distributed to groups based on simple project proposals;
- Can be one-off payment, or provided in multiple instalments;
- Provided to one or several groups within the target area(s);
- Used for responding to priorities that members of affected populations identify – either through formalised assessment processes or more.

GCTs IN UKRAINE
In response to the full-scale Russian invasion, hundreds of community-led responses quickly mobilised to support displaced or otherwise conflict-affected people. These groups often represented "repurposed" civil society groups, such as professional associations, sports clubs and churches, who quickly transitioned to humanitarian response, registered as Charitable Foundations, allowing them to receive funding through private donors and other actors.

While local volunteer groups, faith actors, and civil society organizations continue to be the backbone of the response they often lack the resources that would allow them to expand or maintain their response capacities, as they face barriers to, and knowledge of, traditional funding structures and language.

WITH GCTs, DCA IS ABLE TO:
- Directly fund first line responders;
- Resource communities at the centre of conflict to prioritise and manage their own response to crisis;
- Transfer power back to the communities in crisis, restoring dignity and a sense of autonomy where possible.

LESSONS LEARNED:
- Develop and roll out standardized internal tools and processes to allow rapid roll out at the local level;
- Promote a 'safe-to-fail' approach that manages risks, allows mistakes and prioritises real-time action learning;
- Pay specific attention to highlighting inclusion and engagement of marginalised groups at the beginning of process;
- Allow for facilitating agency to own process, while continuing to push for community leadership.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK
Danida

DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

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