



ROLES OF CASH TRANSFERS FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS IN CHAD

BACKGROUND :

WFP REGIONAL BUREAU FOR WEST AFRICA (RBD) FOOD SECURITY ANALYSIS (VAM) TEAM, WITH SUPPORT FROM **USAID**, LAUNCHED AN INITIATIVE TO STRENGTHEN THE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF GENDER-INFORMED DATA ON THE DIFFERENT ROLES OF WOMEN AND MEN IN MARKETS IN THE REGION, THEIR CHALLENGES, AND THEIR EMPOWERMENT: **GENDER AND MARKETS: EMPOWERING WOMEN IN WEST AFRICAN MARKETS**. THE INITIATIVE IS LINKED TO SEVERAL PARALLEL EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE HUMANITARIAN COMMUNITY'S APPROACH TO **GENDER-EQUITABLE PROGRAMMING**, COMBATTING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, AND THE PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT. THE CASE STUDY SERIES PROVIDES A FOUNDATION OF UNDERSTANDING OF THE WAYS GENDER DYNAMICS INTERACT WITH AGRICULTURAL MARKETS IN WEST AFRICA, AND WHAT THIS MEANS FOR WFP AND PARTNER HUMANITARIAN ACTION.

CONTEXT :

Conflicts in northeastern Nigeria (caused by Boko Haram), Sudan and the Central African Republic have resulted in widespread displacement, violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, protection risks and growing humanitarian crisis. According to the World Bank, Chad welcomes nearly 400,000 refugees from South Sudan, the Central African Republic and Nigeria. This figure is equivalent to 4% of the Chadian population, in addition to repatriated Chadians and those internally displaced who also need help. Poverty levels appear to have been exacerbated by many conflicts but also by natural disasters and harsh climatic conditions. This further weakens the livelihoods of the host populations, especially women and young people.

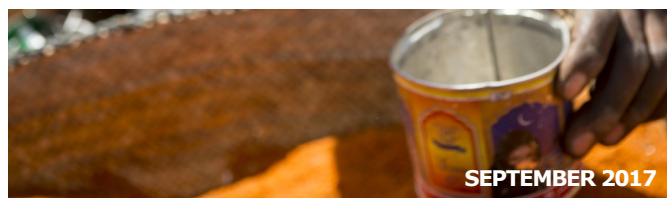
The United Nations World Food Program (WFP) in Chad in partnership with NGOs (IHDL, OXFAM, IRW and SIF) provides food assistance to refugees and returned to the Middle Chari, the two Logones and Mandoul regions. These returnees receive food assistance through the distribution of vouchers exchanged during fairs organized in camps by traders contracted by WFP. The CBT (cash-based transfers) initiative has proved its worth and has proved to be an effective buffer in times of crisis. In particular, CBTs can positively influence the adaptation and resilience of households and local communities, especially in difficult times.

According to a joint study by Concern and OXFAM GB, cash transfers targeted at women help to improve relationships within households as women feel increased self-esteem and confidence in the management of the money received. Overseas Development Institute (ODI) in a literature review of the impacts of cash transfers has shown that the productive effects of cash transfers can be improved by targeting women because cash transfers have led to female-headed households to invest more in economic assets and increase productive investment, thereby contributing to their economic empowerment.



GENERAL RESEARCH QUESTIONS :

- ⇒ What **specific challenges** do women, youth and other vulnerable groups face for economic inclusion in food markets?
- ⇒ What specific challenges do **women, youth and other vulnerable groups** face for achieving economic empowerment?
- ⇒ What are the **current gender gaps** in WFP market-based responses and assessments?
- ⇒ What are potential **programmatic solutions** to address the identified challenges and gaps?



SPECIFIC RESEARCH THEMATICS

In response to preliminary findings from the first phase of the Gender and Markets initiative, several new areas of interest linked to WFP regional intervention areas have been identified for additional investigation and testing. The theme of the study will be the role of cash-based transfers or CBTs for empowering women and marginalized populations. By referring to the questions that guide this research, the proposed study should examine the impact of CBT interventions on :

- ⇒ Food security and livelihoods of beneficiary households by differentiating between male-headed households and those headed by women.
- ⇒ Women's intra-household decision-making, especially in relation to food security, nutrition, health and specifically sexual and reproductive health
- ⇒ Women's cooperatives and the integration and participation of women in these cooperatives
- ⇒ Changes in the burden of women's work in relation to Chad's rural context over time
- ⇒ Reductions in gender-based violence and improved protection, especially for women and girls
- ⇒ The financial situation of women and their saving behavior
- ⇒ The creation of small businesses operated by women and their participation and access to markets in general and more specifically the participation of women traders in CBT programs
- ⇒ Adaptation to crisis and post-crisis situations at the level of households and communities

INFORMATION NEEDS AND DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM

INFORMATION NEEDS	ABOUT THE DATA COLLECTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General context Socio economic profile of the beneficiaries Food security / consumption of households Transfert use and preferences of beneficiaries Gender dynamic within households and empowerment Markets (availability, accessibility, behavior of actors, etc.) Protection aspects Challenges and opportunities to consider 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary data analysis: literature reviews on gender transfer and gender empowerment programs, evaluation reports (PDM, ENSA, markets); Group discussions with women and men Semi-structured interview with identified key informants (markets and trader); Individual interview for potential case studies; <p>Collection support :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey : Market focus group; Survey : Host community focus group ; Community interview guide ; Survey : Women's focus group

LIST OF SUGGESTED COMMUNITIES FOR SAMPLING

Regions	Departments	Site	Community Focus Groups	Women's focus groups	Markets focus groups	Host village* / Youths**	Total
Longone Oriental	Nya-Pendé	Danamadja	1	1	1	1*	4
Longone Oriental	Nya-Pendé	Dossey	1	1	1	1**	4
Longone Occidental	Lac Wey	Djako	1	1	1	1*	4
Chari	Gde Sido	Sido	1	1	1	1**	4
Total			4	4	4	4	16