



Save the Children

CVA TECHNICAL NOTE

Ukraine

-February 2024-

Targeting in rapid displacement contexts

These technical notes have been developed for each country of the response and focuses on providing more details on key technical approaches used by response countries.

This technical note focuses on using CVA as a rapid response mechanism (to support evacuations or families affected by shelling), and evolving targeting methodologies in a displacement context.

Program overview

Total cash distributed	To	Total beneficiaries	Via	Delivery mechanisms	3 monthly cash transfers \$74/ monthly/ individual
\$48,974,701		93,555 Indiv.		Bank transfers / Over the counter	

March 2022



Child Protection



Shelter

September 2023

Ongoing

Topic 1: Adapting targeting criteria to change in context and geographical disparities

SC used CVA in Ukraine in different settings and for different purposes, including as a mechanism to quickly respond to needs of evacuees and families affected by shelling, but also to support displaced populations in conflict affected and host locations. As the crisis unfolded, SC had to regularly adapt its targeting approaches and tools to ensure they were accurate and reflective of evolving contextual dynamics. The below summarizes some of the key technical phases and changes to targeting strategies.

Phase 1 – March to July 2022

SC developed a contextualized targeting approach, that would be reflective of local needs while not being too operationally burdensome (in order not to slow down the provision of MPCA during the initial months of the response, given ongoing displacement and limited staff) and still being aligned with the CWG recommendations. While some UN and INGO opted for a blanket targeting approach, blanket targeting was not used by SC. Instead, geographical, and administrative targeting were prioritized.

These approaches were meant to be temporary while operational and technical questions in the wider response were resolved:

- SC needed to build its operational capacity and footprint;
- CWG had to develop consensus and guidance on vulnerability patterns, and
- Clearer guidance on Social Protection approaches would be provided by the government.

For each location, SC sat with local authorities to identify and agree the profile of the most vulnerable population groups. The analysis of registration forms indicated that SC beneficiaries' vulnerability profile were in line with the CWG guidance. However, PDMs identified that around 1% of surveyed households were unfairly excluded due to the exclusion of elderly people in some locations.

Operationally, Save the Children has been using various models for the identification, selection and registration of CVA beneficiaries across the country. This is due to varied operational contexts, but also capacity of the team at the time of implementation.

For each operational model, a specific registration form was developed. The different operational models are:

- **Partner led:** SC's partners were identifying and referring beneficiaries to Save the Children within their areas of operation (including NGCA)-typically conducted through field visits and face-to-face interviews.
- **Direct registration:** SC, with the support of local authorities' staff and volunteers, identify and register CVA beneficiaries in pre-agreed locations, such as collective centers and evacuation hubs.
- **Remote registration:** SC worked with local authorities to receive lists of vulnerable households meeting SC targeting criteria. SC contacted each households' individuals to share a registration form via SMS.



Location	Box 1: Extract of targeting criteria during phase 1
Applicable to all	Exclusion criteria: Individuals already enrolled in other CVA programs
	Geographical targeting: Areas highly affected by conflict and areas with high concentrations of IDPs; Location with limited/no CVA provided by other agencies.
West	Geographical targeting: IDPs staying in collective centres.
Central	Administrative targeting: Referral from local authorities of vulnerable households with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Irpin: families with small children who lived under occupation, elderly people alone, families whose homes were destroyed living in Dubki camp, single headed households who lived under occupation ● Bucha: Families with children who lived under occupation and families whose houses were destroyed. ● Borodyanka: Families with children who lived under occupation, families with children whose houses were damaged, children with special education needs ● Chernihiv: families of children who were wounded, children who lost one caregiver, whose houses have been damaged
East	Geographic and administrative targeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evacuees (see above) ● Kramatorsk: all families with children still residing in Kramatorsk are eligible for CVA ● Kharkiv: families with children, PLWs and/or whose homes have been damaged.

Phase 2: July – November 2022

Two new operational models were put in place:

Internal referral from other SC activities: the CVA team received referrals from nutrition, health and child protection teams. This model was progressively put in place as soon as other sectors started implementing and had the capacity to set up this referral system.

External referral from specialized organizations: the CVA team received referrals from local or international organization working with specific groups of populations (such as GBV survivors, people living with disabilities). As for evacuees' hotspots (see topic 2 below), a tailored methodology was developed for each geographical location. While demographic criteria didn't vary much nationally (see Box 1 above), specific exclusion criteria were developed for each context (see box 2 below) and then further refined in Phase 3 (November 2022 onwards). To be selected, households in each location had to meet one of the demographic criteria, and not fall under context specific exclusion criteria.

Context	Box 2: Example of context specific exclusion criteria
IDP host location and Evacuee Hostpots	Households are excluded/not registered IF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● They are not displaced ● They have access to safe shelter (unless they have been displaced in the last 3 days - Evacuee Category - in which case they only need to meet one of the vulnerability criteria listed below)
Formerly occupied locations	They have not lived under occupation unless they are returnees whose homes has been damaged/destroyed
Conflict Affected location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The household earns/generates more than 5,400 UAH per person per month* except for households whose homes have been destroyed/damaged by shelling.

Regular analysis of registration and baseline data was used by the CVA team to monitor the accuracy of the changing targeting methodologies in selecting the most vulnerable families. While these approaches required a lot of data management work, they enabled the CVA team to have a large geographical reach while limiting operational constraints (compared to other targeting approaches commonly used in CVA programming).

Topic 2: using CVA to support families evacuating and affected by shelling

Evacuations: Between May and July 2022, SC provided financial assistance to over 50,000 families evacuating from NGCA in partnership with local authorities from Zaporizhzhia and Mariupol. These families were registered for assistance right after crossing the Russian and Ukrainian checkpoints, along a major evacuation route for individuals fleeing Mariupol, Kherson and Donetsk (for more details on this program please check the [cash on the move report](#)).

During start up, major challenges emerged in this unique and complex context:

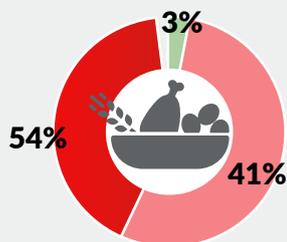
- Flows of evacuees would vary significantly (from zero to thousands) in numbers from one day to another (this would notably depend on checkpoints openings in NGCA, which were unpredictable). This constituted an operational challenge, including for planning staff requirement, crowd management, safety, and budget projections.
- Many evacuees were leaving the location where SC conducted registration immediately, making the rapid registration and near-instant disbursement of assistance essential to ensure beneficiaries received assistance to continue their journey in a safe manner.
- Many goods, phones, documents, or money were reportedly stolen during the first check point, hence creating administrative challenges for cash registration.
- Levels of vulnerability were extremely high, and many families registering for assistance were traumatized, after sometimes having spent months under siege. This presented significant challenges for targeting and communication with evacuees prior to registration.

SC started by collaborating with local authorities in charge of registering evacuees to provide them with IDP status. It was agreed that the most efficient approach would be to train local authorities' staff to register evacuees for humanitarian CVA assistance right after they registered for IDP status, and in the same location. During the first few weeks, only families with children were registered for assistance, except for evacuees having lived the Mariupol siege. While this approach was successful in identifying extremely vulnerable evacuees (in line with the CWG guidelines, based on analysis of profiles of selected beneficiaries (see box 3) and based on discussions with local authorities), the budget required to meet the level of need was too high (4million in May, 8 million in June), forcing SC to narrow selection criteria (listed below).

Box 3: Profile of Evacuees from Mariupol

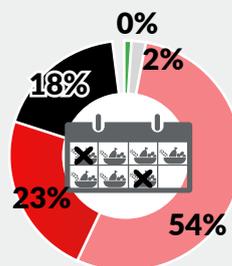
(Extract from Registration from - June 2022)

Food Security Indicators:



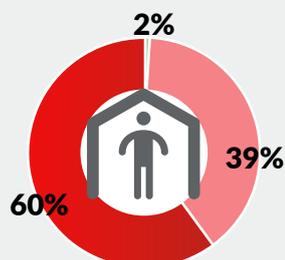
54% facing moderate hunger
41% facing severe hunger
3% facing little hunger

Phase IPC:



0,1% IPC 1 (minimal)
2% IPC 2 (stressed)
54% IPC3 (crisis)
23% IPC4 (emergency)
18% IPC 5 (famine)

Shelter:



60% had their house totally damaged
39% had their house partially damaged
2% did not have their house damaged by the conflict.

Child Protection:

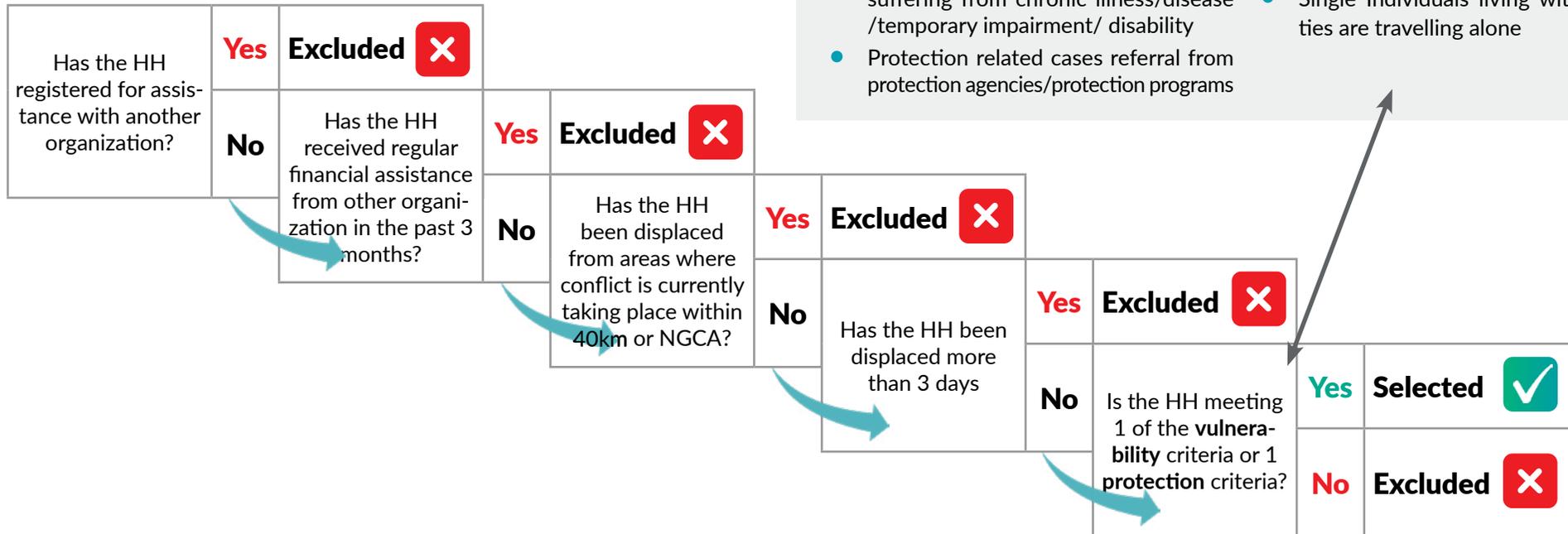


Reported dangers that children experience while travelling:

73% neglect of resources
71% psychological/emotional violence
51% Environmental risks (ex: overcrowding, no privacy, road accidents, unsafe shelters etc)

However, operationally, using a scoring system to further narrow selection at this stage would have been complex: as it would have implied registering all applicants (thousands on some days) and significantly increased the length of the registration survey. Given the risk of shelling and the burden on already traumatized populations, SC and local authorities decided to streamline eligibility during this stage to limited inclusion/exclusion criteria to rapidly register and disburse transfers (as described in box 4 & 5).

Box 4: Selection methodology for Zaporidja



Box 5: Selection criteria for Evacuees Hotspots:

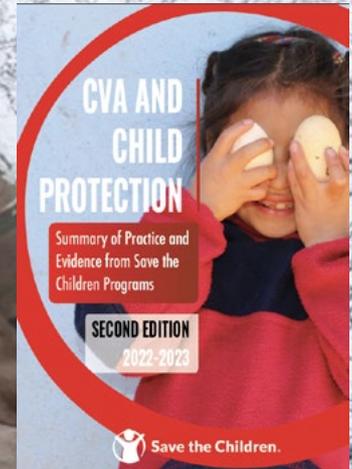
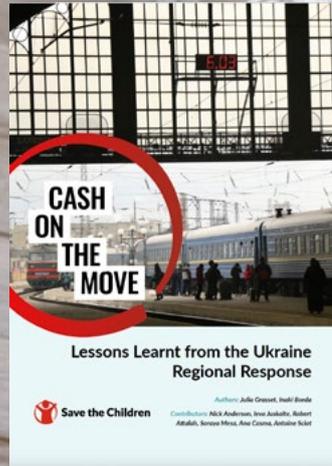
- HH with 2+ children
- HH with 1+ child and at least 1 member with disability/ Child with temporary or permanent disability caused by war injury
- Child headed HH/ UASC
- HHs with PLWs
- HH with 1+ child and 1+ elderly (above 60)
- HH with 1+ child and at least 1 member suffering from chronic illness/disease /temporary impairment/ disability
- Protection related cases referral from protection agencies/protection programs
- Female single headed HH
- People coming from certain locations that highly affected by conflict
- Newly displaced HH (less than 3 day are s) (Exclusion criteria)
- HH who are currently not receiving assistance and haven't received assistance in the past 3 months (Exclusion Criteria)
- HH caring for other children
- Single Individuals living with disabilities are travelling alone

Using CVA to support families affected by sudden shelling

On a near to daily basis, residential areas across Ukraine have been victims of shelling, leaving thousands of survivors without a home, and requiring immediate assistance to find alternative shelter.

In 2023, SC developed a dedicated intervention to address the needs of families affected by shelling by deploying mobile teams in affected areas and registering families as soon as possible for assistance. Shorter registration forms were developed for that purpose, and close coordination was established at local level with local authorities and other INGOs, in order to avoid duplication of assistance.

This technical factsheet needs to be read in complement of three following other documents:



The Save the Children Eastern Europe Capacity Statement ([link](#)) regroups key information, by country, on overall program design, reach and impact.

The 'Cash on the Move' ([link](#)) report provides an overall analysis and lessons learnt on the use of cash to assist populations on the move in the Ukraine response.

Save the Children's cross country research on CVA & CP, including the Ukraine specific case study ([link](#)).



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