

Cash and Voucher Evaluation Studies

Funded by the Government of Spain

“Enhancing WFP’s Capacity and Experience to Design, Implement, Monitor and Evaluate **Cash and Vouchers Transfer** Programmes”

Overview

To support the process of transitioning from ‘**food aid**’ to ‘**food assistance**’, WFP has been exploring the use of innovative tools to more efficiently and effectively achieve food and nutrition security thus to reduce hunger.

The partnership with Spain has been a vital part of supporting this transition. The Government of Spain generously provided €10 million to the World Food Programme in 2009 as part of an initiative to enhance WFP’s capacity and experience to design, implement, monitor and evaluate **vouchers and cash transfers** in food assistance.

This contribution has been used to design and implement four small-scale pilot projects with the clear objective to analyse and identify the **comparative effectiveness** of the three transfer modalities on household food security: food, cash and vouchers. Several pilots also examined the impact of different transfer modalities on women, nutrition, early childhood development, informal safety nets and community assets.

Using **state-of-the-art impact evaluation techniques**, robust quantitative and qualitative evidence was generated on the context-specific performance of cash, food and vouchers in achieving food security objectives. This evidence will enhance decision-making and inform future design of programmes.

These studies were conducted in partnership with the **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**, WFP Country Offices and the field partners. Evaluations took place in **Ecuador, Niger, Uganda and Yemen**.

A presentation of the results to the WFP Executive Board members will take place at WFP headquarters in Rome on 22nd May 2013. It will be followed by a one-day technical Seminar on 23rd May where UN agencies, NGO representatives, donors and a broader range of practitioners will attend.