



## **Locally Led Responses Community of Practice (LLR CoP) Terms of Reference**

### **Introduction and background**

While CVA programming is undertaken at significant scale across the MENA region there is currently no open forum for issues, lessons learnt and best practices to be raised, shared, and discussed. This lack of a common regional space for discussion has been identified by multiple CVA stakeholders as a missed opportunity, as there is a common recognition that countries across the region are confronting similar CVA issues such as localization/locally led responses. Localization, endorsed via the Grand Bargain 1.0 in 2016, has led to various developments to systemize and promote localization across the humanitarian sector, with varying results due to contextual complexities, funding, access, and other factors. There is now a global CVA and local leadership Working Group co-lead by CALP Network, Women's Right to Education Programme (WREP), Christian Aid, and Global Mentoring Initiative (GMI). This working group operating at a global level is pushing further the localisation agenda within the CVA space, considering both this new GB 2.0 -including its commitments in improving quality programming and a further localised response-, and the emergency to further support a more locally led Cash and Voucher Assistance.

CaLP Network in MENA, following a consultative process, established 4 CVA communities of practice with thematic focus and one being the CVA & Localization Community Of Practice (LCOP) in December 2021. This regional space brings together donors, UN agencies, INGOs, local actors, and other stakeholders to collaborate and join efforts to drive the localization agenda via CVA programming in MENA.

### **What do we mean by Localization?**

As a background, under the Grand Bargain, the signatories have committed to "making principled humanitarian action as local as possible and as international as necessary," Within the CVA space, the State of the World Cash report (CaLP, 2020) discussed how there was a growing consensus on the importance of localisation within CVA. While 57% of surveyed practitioners believed that national and local organisations have been increasingly involved in the implementation of CVA from 2018 to 2020, many also felt that important barriers persist for effective participation and leadership of local stakeholders. Its priority actions highlights,

among other points, the increase of predictable funding to local structures and systems, ensuring meaningful participation and visibility of local actors in CVA discussions and CVA coordination platforms, as well as building true alliances with local stakeholders.

Based on that, the MENA LCOP will be able to discuss tailor main aspects that are relevant to localization in the MENA context, as well as finding a comprehensive definition for Arabic speakers.

### **CVA & Localization Community Of Practice Objective**

Considering this space is the first of its kind, the *aim is to establish and develop regional dialogue based on the exchange of experiences, expertise, and knowledge from different contexts, but also contribute through knowledge production & thought leadership through the CoP and external engagements*. These contributions aim to address country, regional and global dialogue and efforts. Ultimately, to contribute towards locally led-responses and shift in approaches

The overall objective for the Localization Community of Practice is **to actively and inclusively work towards**

- **address language barriers and work towards common terminology in Arabic to foster more inclusive dialogue, common understanding, and capacity development and learning material and resources** – starting with localization as a term and definition
- **understand the practical barriers to CVA & localization** – moving beyond language barriers; impact of limited localization in protracted crises with CVA responses; institutionalization of CVA; policy and advocacy level; social protection systems; nature of current capacity building efforts limited to implementation as opposed to preparedness, response, and recovery in humanitarian settings & improving outcomes for affected populations
- **identify potential solutions or approaches moving forward to contribute towards increasing engagement of local actors systematically in responses through CWGs** – regional vs. context specific; moving beyond implementing partners – response design;

### **LOCALIZATION COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE WAYS OF WORKING**

- **Structure:** 1 chair and 1 co-chair; preferably and at least one of the positions is held by a local actor. The chair and co-chair responsibilities towards the CoP and participants are listed below.
  - Decision making on chair and co-chair – voting process by group following self-nomination of interested participants. Encouragement of local actors to self-nominate and lead. In the event that either chair or co-chair roles are not filled, CALP Network will temporarily support until the role has been filled.

- Task teams focusing on specific tasks may be established under the CoP – for example, the establishment and/or review of the workplan task force, research task force, review task force, etc... as needed. This is comprised of a smaller number of participants from the CoP that focus on the specific task and hold meetings independent from the primary CoP meetings.
- **Number of meetings per year:** between 10 and 12 – monthly meetings (no meetings in January and August)

### **Responsibilities of Localization Community of Practice Participants**

- Participants to proactively engage with other local organizations and ensure their participation in the Humanitarian Country Team, Inter-Cluster Coordination Group, and other forums to contribute and promote the local-led solution to the crises.
- Promote and bring other local organizations to join the Localization CoP, contributing the resources developed, best practices, and knowledge and information sharing.
- The Humanitarian Coordination Operate inclusively and involve other partners to improve the Localization in the Humanitarian Response Planning.
- Conduct the mapping of the local led actors to identify and encourage their participation to the national coordination mechanisms, so their partnerships and experience are brought front to the wider group.

### **Responsibilities of Chair and Co-Chair**

- The Chair and Co-Chair are responsible for convening the meeting and validating the agenda and meeting minutes
- Arrange the meeting, draft the agenda, provide support, and coordinate for the presentation by the participants.
- Review the localization materials and support exchanging experience, sharing knowledge, improving the humanitarian response through localization initiatives
- Coordinate with CaLP Network and Other Community of Practice Technical lead and Chairs to improve integration.
- Rotate the chairing and the Co-chairing leadership between the Community of Practice local or national NGO participants to take the Community of Practice responsibilities.
- Lead on developing the workplan and following up
- Set-up taskforces as needed based on the workplan and objectives on hand.

### **Responsibilities of CaLP Network Technical Support**

- Technical review and provide technical advice regarding the localization surveys and the community of practice

questionnaires.

- Provide support to create meeting rooms/platforms on TEAMS and manage the SharePoint.
- Support in the meeting notetaking, keeping and saving the COP documents to the SharePoint such as meeting minutes, presentations, materials, guidance, etc.
- Support the Chair & Co-Chair on the quality of the contents developed and review materials to ensure quality products.
- To support the Community of Practice with the preparations for the Webinars, Research and other studies at fieldwork, including data collection and presentation.