CFW targeting issues

When targeting for a CFW programme, you should follow the same steps as you would for any other cash transfer programme, paying attention to CFW specificities regarding community selection, participation of specific groups and choice of targeting methods.

## Community selection

When selecting communities to take part in a CFW programme, you should make sure that:

* the agency has the capacity needed to address the level of infrastructure damage
* there are enough labourers, both skilled and unskilled, to engage in the projects
* the project area is accessible and allows for continued monitoring
* local government officials are committed to the programme
* there is neither conflict nor overlap with other programmes in the area
* there is potential for long-term engagement through recovery and development activities
* the community is interested in and receptive to CFW activities

Potential responsibilities of community representatives can include:

* defining selection criteria for beneficiaries
* disseminating information on the programme
* selecting beneficiaries
* selecting appropriate CFW projects
* maintaining order on payment days
* providing feedback on activities
* liaising for the provision of government permissions if needed

## Participation of vulnerable groups

If the labour-based activity requires physical work, some groups of the community may be excluded from the project (e.g. elderly and chronically-ill people). This may be critical if the CFW programme is designed to help households meet their minimum needs.

Alternatively, non-physical labour can be organised for these people or unconditional cash grants can be given to them instead of CFW. Most communities accept the idea that certain people deserve help without having to work.

## Participation of youth

Set age limits for individuals to participate in the work project, to prevent child labour but, at the same time, consider economic conditions in areas of CFW implementation as well as local legislation. In any case, make sure that work does not affect school attendance and respect the physical ability of participants.

## Participation of women

Tensions surrounding the role of women as recipients of aid are not unique to CFW. Sensitivity to gender dynamics must be a central component of all relief programmes. CFW programmes can empower women, increasing their status within their households and communities, but can also overburden them with extra-household activities.

## Participation of skilled workers

Depending on the type of activity that is planned in the labour scheme, skilled labour might be needed. Skilled workers should be paid according to their skills and not treated as ‘beneficiaries’ of a CTP. Work should be chosen to maximize the amount of unskilled labour used.

## Choice of targeting methods

* Self-targeting

It is often said that labour-based programmes are self-targeting. If the wage rate is set just below the minimum rate, only people in real need of money will apply. This may not be true, where people cannot find daily labour opportunities easily or are underemployed.

* Ranking and/or rotating participants

When the number of self-selected individuals exceeds the supply of work available, other methods may be used to benefit the larger number of people or the most vulnerable. Individuals can be targeted according to their level of need or vulnerability, using other targeting mechanisms like household, community-based or categorical methods. Also, they can be rotated so a larger number of people can participate but each for a shorter period of time.