

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project is about the use of cash aid as a humanitarian measure to fight hunger. Many approaches have been used to fight hunger. Over the years it has been observed that the approaches used have their deficiencies, and the researcher resolved to examine cash aid with the objective of ascertaining its strengths and weaknesses as an intervention measure to fight hunger. The researcher is aware that there is an ongoing debate on the usefulness and effectiveness of various forms of aid. Food aid has been criticized, mainly because it creates a dependency syndrome and tends to benefit the donor countries rather than the recipient nations. In light of these deficiencies aid now comes in two forms, which are food aid and cash aid. However, the researcher felt that there was the need to examine and evaluate cash aid in terms of the objective of alleviating hunger in areas affected by humanitarian catastrophes. The key argument of this project is that other forms of aid used hitherto have shortfalls. The researcher attempts, not only to look at cash aid, but engages in a critical analysis of cash aid in the process comparing it with other forms of aid. A combination of qualitative and quantitative methods was used to arrive at the data. Questionnaires became our major tools of collecting information. The questionnaires were administered to beneficiaries of food aid as well as those responsible for distributing of food aid. In the final analysis an effort was made to evaluate cash aid, particularly in comparison with other forms of aid. The appropriateness and usefulness of cash aid was established.