

# Using cash transfers to reduce risk of violence among internally displaced girls in North Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo

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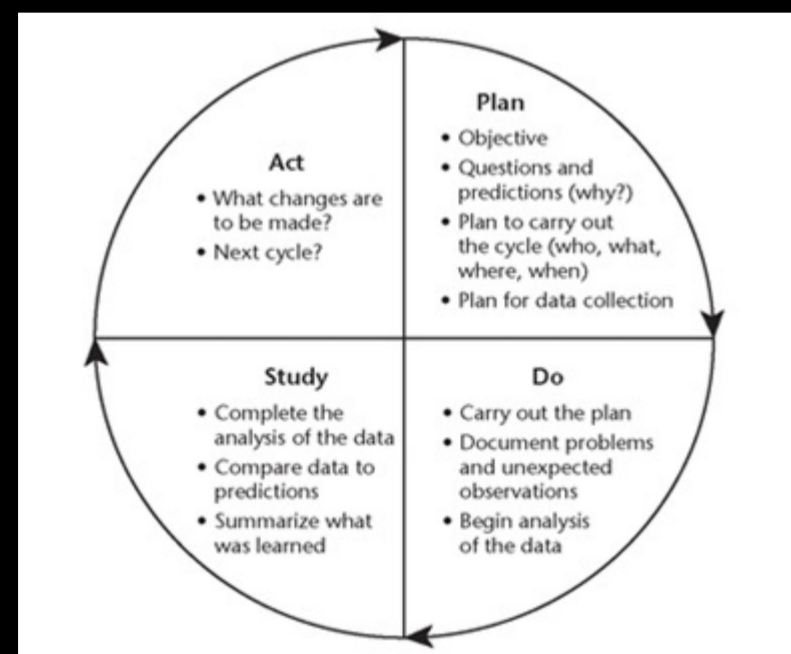
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## CONTEXT

A staggering 40% of girls in conflict-affected areas of eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have experienced some form of violence by the time they are 14 years of age. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) implemented an unconditional cash transfer program with 150 adolescent girls residing in internally displaced (IDP) camps with the goals of promoting the empowerment of girls, reinforcing their resilience and self-esteem, and reducing the risks linked to early marriage, transactional sex and sexual exploitation. Four \$25 tranches of cash were delivered for a total of \$100 across the program cycle. The objective of the research was to understand potential best practices for how cash transfer programming should be delivered to maximize the safety of adolescent girls as well as understand the perceived impacts of cash transfers on girls' wellbeing and safety.

## METHODS

- Participatory research tools including: body mapping, timeline histories, stories in a bag and open-ended narratives
- Continuous quality improvement research model informed program implementation



## RESULTS (IN HER OWN WORDS)

“Before, we used to go and get firewood and it could happen that the guards in the park would beat you and take all your wood that you cut, and we didn’t have enough to eat, but now we are starting to eat well and to have good clothes to wear.”

“I used to do labour work for other people, but today I don’t work for anybody and I have started to do my own trading.”

“My little brother who lives with me, I paid for his hospital bill and I bought him sandals too.”

## THEORY OF CHANGE

