BACKGROUND

Can innovation practices enhance GPC’s capacities in guiding, supporting and implementing protection programming? If, so, could an innovation Lab help GPC improve the integration and implementation of protection as an integral part of humanitarian operations?

Building on the momentum of the WHS in May which emphasized the potential of innovation for improving humanitarian response, the Global Protection Cluster has partnered with UNHCR Innovation to explore these questions.
If there are innovation practices suited to addressing the challenges and needs above, we might then consider what functions a Lab would need to serve in order to support those practices; the role a Protection Lab might play, and for whom; and the core services and programs it would need to offer and perform in order to play this role effectively.

By beginning to map out the basic elements of a Protection-oriented Innovation Lab, we hope to assess whether a Lab is a viable and effective way to manage innovation for meeting protection needs.

**FEEDBACK:** We’re interested in hearing from you! Should you have comments, ideas or questions please contact us at GPC@unhcr.org.