

IASC Protection Cluster: Protection Checklist for Early Recovery / durable solutions¹

Vulnerable groups are people who frequently have been shown to be at increased risk of various problems in diverse emergencies, including women, children, elderly people, persons experiencing severe social stigma (e.g. Dalit), detainees, young men at risk of detention, abduction or being targets of violence, extremely poor people, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and migrants in irregular situations, people with pre-existing, severe physical, neurological or mental disabilities or disorders, as well as persons suffering from chronic illness².

General / Information

- Has staff received and signed the Code of Conduct?
- Do IDPs have adequate information on conditions and infrastructure in their places of origin or relocation, including safety, freedom of movement, health, education, housing, land, and property, employment, and the general political and human rights situation?
- Is the information provided in a language which the IDPs understand?
- What mechanisms are in place to verify the voluntariness of IDPs' decisions to return or relocate?

Participation in planning

- Are there adequate mechanisms to ensure the participation of women, children, and marginalized groups in planning and managing durable solutions?
- Are receiving communities involved in decisions on durable solutions?

Return and relocation

- Do IDPs spontaneously return, or move to other parts of the country?
- Do IDPs face risks in establishing themselves in return or relocation areas?
- Is travel safe, particularly for vulnerable groups?
- Do the methods of travel ensure family unity?
- Do IDPs have the necessary means for transport, including for their belongings?
- Does the return process ensure that no coercion is used, including cessation of assistance, or closure of camps without alternatives?
- Is (re-)integration support limited to those who opt for a particular solution?

Sustainability of durable solutions

- Do IDPs have clear information about what, if any, reintegration package will be provided, and how they may obtain it?
- Are reconciliation activities in place, if needed?
- In the case of IDPs having returned or relocated, have any subsequently fled again? If so, for what reasons?

¹ The present document follows the Inter-Agency Standing Committee publication "PROTECTION OF CONFLICT-INDUCED IDPs: ASSESSMENT FOR ACTION", Pilot version for field testing, November 2007

² IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings