**Minimum requirements for the HNO**

This is a joint note from the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) including its Areas of Responsibility (AoRs) to highlight the importance of joint analysis and strong collaboration across protection actors for the HNO. This year we should ensure a strong protection narrative in the intersectoral part, other sectors’ narrative and certainly in the protection section. Therefore, the GPC and AoRs are requesting to country operations:

**To foster and ensure a strong collaboration between the Protection Cluster and the AoRs and with other specialized actors on protection of civilians, inclusion, trafficking, mental health, human rights crimes, etc.**

To support country operations to achieve this objective, the GPC and AoRs’ joint operational cell has issued this guidance highlighting the requirements to be considered as a minimum for the HNO. In the case that you face any challenge or need technical support, **please get in touch with your respective country focal point for advice.** The operational cell also comprises global HNO technical advisers.

This guide is complemented by the HPC guidance modules and additional tools.

**HNO Minimum Requirements:**

* **Centrality of Protection in the sectoral and intersectoral sections of the HNO:**

Centrality of Protection should be reflected in the sectoral, intersectoral and other sectors’ analysis. If you need advice on how to include CoP across sections, please get in touch with your Country/Coordination Focal Point and Global CoP Expert.

* **Role of local actors in the sectoral and intersectoral sections of the HNO:**

The HNO process should include the active role and participation of national actors, as they are the main workforce of our protection responses. Such roles should be reflected in the narratives of the sectoral and intersectoral sections. For more information about how to engage with national partners, please go to the HPC module # 7: *How to ensure the participation and inclusion of local actors in the HNO & HRP*.

* **Protection Cluster and AoRs sectoral section[[1]](#footnote-1):**
1. Overarching and AoR-specific Severity Scale: Protection and AoRs should use their own severity scale for geographical prioritization. The Protection severity scale is the overarching one, encompassing all the other protection severities, whereas the AoRs ones are specific to their areas of expertise.
2. Overarching and AoR PiN: As with the severity scale, Protection and AoRs should count with their own PiN estimates disaggregated by **gender, age, and disability.** The Protection PiN is the overarching one, encompassing all the other protection People in Need estimates, whereas the AoRs ones are specific to their areas of expertise.

**The overarching Protection PiN should be one reflected in the protection chapter and intersectoral one.**

1. Joint analysis: Together with the Information management data analysis carried out by the IMOs, a data interpretation exercise should follow for agreeing on the final severity scales prioritization scoring and PiN estimates. Data interpretation and final consensus should be carried out through joint analysis session(s) led by the Protection Cluster, AoR coordinators and IMOs.

The joint analysis sessions should be at national and sub-national level and should ensure the participation of local actors, SAG members and other key protection partners and stakeholders.

1. Minimum space for the AoRs: As with the 2020 HNO template, each active AoR should fill at least ½ page in the document for its analysis.

These minimum requirements are agreed at global level including with OCHA. Contact your HPC Coordination Focal Point in case of need of clarifications. Severity scales, PiN and joint analysis are core parts of the guidance under modules 2,3 and 4 respectively.

* **Inclusion of key protection topics in the HNO sectoral and intersectoral sections:**

In countries where the following topics are identified either as a risk or need, they should be incorporated across the HNO sections. The key protection topics for which there is global technical adviser (beyond CoP and Localisation) are:

**1) Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP); 2) Case Management; 3) Centrality of Protection; 4) Climate Change; 5) Disability; 6) Durable Solutions; 7) Freedom of Movement; 8) Human Rights; 9) Humanitarian Access; 10) MHPSS; 11) Nexus; 12) Older People; 13) Protection of civilians; 14) Protection mainstreaming; 15) PSEA; 16) Referral pathways and 17) Trafficking.**

They will be able to advise you on how best to incorporate these topics into the HNO.

1. *This requirement applies in countries with HRP sectoral sections only. For those using a ‘needs and response summary’ modality or other, this does not apply.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)