HRP 2020: A GENDER AND PROTECTION LENS FOR ALL ACTORS

BACKGROUND

The IASC Guidance on the Centrality of Protection affirms that protection is at the heart of humanitarian response and it has been widely acknowledged that Ukraine is a protection-driven crisis, including by the HC and the HCT. In order to ensure the centrality of protection, a ‘Protection Lens’ is used in the HRP process, so that protection is integrated into all programming. This is in addition to the IASC ‘Gender and Age Marker’, which is required for all programming and mandatory in the Project Module where you have to upload your projects.

PLANNING PHASE: GENDER AND PROTECTION ISSUES TO CONSIDER

- **Gender, protection and vulnerability** concerns should be part of your planning phase – you are not likely to reach everyone at the same time: consider who (by gender, age and disability) are the most vulnerable and what assistance is most appropriate when prioritizing your work.

- **Accountability to affected population** requires humanitarian actors to involve people affected by crisis in key decisions and processes that affect them, and have effective communication and feedback channels that engage all sectors in a community. Have you coordinated with the local community and the local authorities? If you are providing assistance in cooperation with other actors (e.g. national or local authorities, community members, commercial entities), do you have a monitoring mechanism to ensure that assistance was provided?

- **Communication with the community about** (a) their needs and (b) for information sharing about options is crucial for designing appropriate responses. It is important to meet not only with authorities, but also with informal community leaders (activists, volunteers) who may not regularly be a part of the decision making process. It helps minimize the risks that the project may miss its target and ensure greater accountability to affected population.

  **Do no harm:** The way you provide assistance must not expose people to danger. Avoid unintended consequences - for instance, by supporting social cohesion when also assisting the communities (in GCA and NGCA) surrounding your main beneficiaries. Some areas, like the contact line, may have both IDPs and local population in equal need. In small communities where all residents are vulnerable, prioritizing only certain categories of people may lead to divisions and tensions, and create protection risks by disrupting community-support mechanisms. Providing assistance and services only near the contact line may compel people to stay in or return to unsafe areas. Ask if the location for your activity is suitable or if you can find a better site to conduct your work.

- **Non-discrimination**: Ensure that all vulnerable groups of women and girls, men and boys, have access to the assistance. E.g. if Non Food Items (NFIs) are handed out in a place where a person in a wheelchair cannot enter, then in practice this means that the service has not been provided.

- **Prioritization**: Are you supporting those most in need? Are you starting with those it is easier to reach or those who need it the most? Do you have measures to reach people with your services (e.g. through reach out and mobile teams)? For guidance, please refer to the Protection Cluster Guidance Note on Prioritizing People with Specific Needs in the Ukrainian Humanitarian and Development Response.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographical zone of intervention</th>
<th>Strategic Objectives partners should contribute to in priority when planning their response</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-5 km GCA</td>
<td>SO1 – Assistance / SO2 – Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-20 km GCA</td>
<td>SO1 – Assistance / SO2 – Protection / SO3 – Resilience</td>
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<td>20+ km GCA</td>
<td>SO2 – Protection / SO3 – Resilience</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-20 km NGCA</td>
<td>SO1 – Assistance / SO2 – Protection / SO4 – Access</td>
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Protection is central to all humanitarian action. To consider elements regarding risk, needs and vulnerability is a way to ensure that your project supports this.

Needs analysis
- Project goal: Where are the needs the greatest? When submitting projects that respond to needs in NGCA, provide details on the implementation modality.
- Protection analysis is the basis of the project; this means identifying needs of vulnerable groups, prioritization of assistance, risk analysis and ensuring that you do no harm (e.g. have you identified and addressed safety and security risks for women and girls?) Have you reflected protection needs for particular groups of men and women, boys and girls?
- Is sex, age and disability disaggregated data available? If so, analyze and use it.
- Highlight specific protection risks and concerns for different groups by gender, age and disability.
- Are there particular groups at more risk because of their gender, age, geographic location, disability or time they have been displaced (newly displaced have different needs than long term displaced).

Activities
- The activities should be accessible to all.
- The activities should ensure equal opportunities for participation. For people who cannot access services, can you ensure special arrangements?
- Have the activities been designed to mitigate any identified protection risks for vulnerable individuals, particularly those most in need, including addressing age, gender and special risks of women and girls, boys and men? Can you find a way to fast-track vulnerable individuals and families?
- Have you considered how particular groups, including people with disabilities, will have access to your assistance? Will women and men, boys and girls have equal opportunity? Will mobility or geographical location affect access?

Outcomes
- Do the intended outcomes promote protection in an even way for women and girls, as well as men and boys?
- Do the planned outcomes respond to the needs of the people with specific needs? Do you have a mechanism where individuals can raise concerns about the assistance delivered? Can you measure this?
- Discuss with protection colleagues in your organizations how to work together.

Monitoring and reporting
- Do you have a monitoring system in place that allows for better analysis of the evolving situation, measuring it against outcomes?
- Do you have the necessary internal tools in place to monitor and report relevant and disaggregated indicators and data through the 5W process? On collecting data on people with disabilities for the purpose of monitoring and reporting, please refer to the following Guidance Note.

CHECK LIST – MAKE SURE YOU CAN ANSWER ‘YES’ TO THESE FIVE QUESTIONS

1. Have you conducted a protection specific needs analysis, including consulting with the community about what different groups need/want?

2. Are you prioritizing the most vulnerable? E.g if a response has been focused on a geographic area – who are most in need in this area? Is the area you focus on where people are most in need?

3. Is your planned response appropriate to protection concerns; gender needs; age needs; disability needs; climate and people’s preference?

4. Are you addressing the protection issues related to your cluster and the conflict-affected population? [crowded living space; child protection; GBV; access for people with disabilities; lack of legal documentation etc.]

5. Have you addressed the protection aspects identified in the Ukraine Protection Cluster guidance on prioritizing people with specific needs?