Results-Based Protection | InterAction

Dear Colleagues,

In this September Results-Based Protection Update:[i]

RESULTS-BASED PROTECTION PROGRAM

Key Elements of Results-Based Protection – UNDER DEVELOPMENT

This draft two-pager describes some of the key elements that support a results-based approach to protection. Through Practitioner Roundtables, field consultations, desk review, webinars, and online discussions, the Results-Based Protection Program has identified several key elements that support a results-based approach to protection. While not all of these elements have been evaluated for relevance and good practice, this paper helps to better explain why these elements matter and what makes them outcome-oriented and measurable.

We are currently working on additional resources that will illustrate how the elements are applied throughout the program cycle.

The draft two-pager on the Key Elements of Results-Based Protection is still under development. We welcome feedback on the content, relevance, and use of this document. Please send all comments to Jessica Lenz at jlenz@interaction.org

Analyzing and Addressing Threats

In order to further develop results-based approaches to analyzing and addressing threats, we are interested in understanding analysis of the behavior, motivations, and practices of different kinds of actors driving various threats (i.e. arising from family, community, national, int'l levels), how organizations perceive their role in addressing a threat, as well as approaches to help organizations make decisions about how to respond to threats to achieve protection outcomes. The Results-Based Protection Program is analyzing existing tools and guidance documents as well as conducting interviews with staff from humanitarian organizations with a view to developing and promoting methods that can yield measurable results in the lives of people during crisis.

Some questions we are exploring include:
- Are there examples that highlight efforts of organizations addressing the threat?
- What examples exist that highlight complementary roles between different actors working to address the threat?
- What methods are used to understand attitudes, behavior, and practice of the actors that have been identified as the source of the threat?

If you have tools, methods, or case studies to share, please contact Kelsey Hampton (khampton@interaction.org).

Trapped in Conflict: Evaluating Scenarios to Assist At-Risk Civilians

In April 2015, the International Committee of the Red Cross and InterAction convened a closed-door roundtable to discuss options for assisting civilians trapped in the midst of hostilities, cut off from essential aid, or facing imminent or ongoing risk of targeted attacks. Roundtable participants included policymakers at the State Department, Department of Defense, senior congressional staff, policy advisors at humanitarian agencies, prominent researchers and human rights advocates, UN personnel, and various elements of the U.S. Armed Services. Without endorsing any one option over another, the outcome report

evaluates a number of scenarios to assist at-risk civilians in zones of conflict – including evacuations, safe havens, and no-fly zones – and includes many points that underscore the key elements of Results-Based Protection:

- Extreme situations of violence, such as the contexts discussed during this roundtable, require **context-specific analysis** and **continuous consultation with at-risk populations to appropriately identify and respond to their protection needs**.
- It is important to assess **the full scope of threats and vulnerabilities which contribute to civilians' exposure to violence during armed conflict and make every effort to comprehensively minimize these risk factors**.
- The **broader context of persistent risks to civilians and non-compliance with IHL cannot be ignored**, otherwise situations will continue to fall into the category of needing "last resort" options.
- **In the case of evacuations, implementers must conduct a risk analysis with a view towards ensuring the evacuation will have a positive impact for civilians. Consent by the relevant warring parties,** and clear security guarantees from the parties, are essential to any humanitarian evacuation.
- Whatever action is pursued, the **desired effects and outcomes should be articulated**. This requires focusing on more than just tasks, but also how different components of an operation might be sequenced to bring about the outcome.
- The affected community **should not be treated as a homogenous group, as some sections of the population experience different risks or are more vulnerable than others**; considerations for these vulnerable groups should inform the evacuation planning and implementation. The affected population should understand the process and potential outcomes of the action. Beyond consultation, **full and informed consent from affected individuals should be a priority before any action is taken.**
- The **relationship between humanitarian actors and the population should be a key consideration in planning an intervention.** The "population" in any given area includes a variety of actors, including armed groups or other weapons bearers, political actors, and ordinary civilians. Considering the **complementarity between disparate actors** in any given geographical area can determine which actor may be best positioned to act in the face of the problem to be solved.
- **Humanitarian action in a situation with fragmented authorities requires a multi-level approach**, whereby humanitarian access should be supported by national and local authorities. This requires that humanitarians strengthen relationships with local actors who can help facilitate access.
- Also important for any action are assertive **leadership**, **flexibility to adapt to evolving dynamics, and an ability to advocate for certain standards to be met** on the part of humanitarian agencies and other actors carrying out operations to assist at-risk civilians.

Related Resources with Elements of Results-Based Protection

When protecting civilians in humanitarian crises, how do we measure success?

This article as part of the openDemocracy blog series on Evaluation and Human Rights highlights Oxfam's protection programme in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), its engagement of Community Protection Committees to identify and address threats and measure milestones of change. This underscores the criticality of **starting with the affected population** in order to inform a robust, context-specific
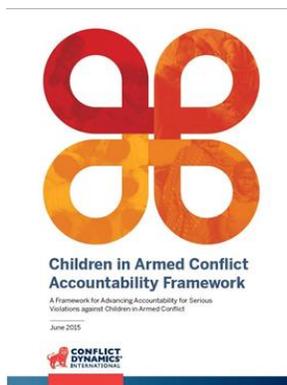

Flickr//Oxfam International (Some rights reserved)
Congolese women attend an Oxfam-led committee meeting on sexual and gender based violence Bweru, DRC.

protection analysis and build on **community solutions**. In addition, the approach of outcome mapping may be one approach used to support a context-specific **theory of change** whereby the process of identifying the series of small but meaningful changes in stakeholders, and subsequently adapting or modifying programming, supports a problem-solving approach.

The full article can be found here.

Children in Armed Conflict Accountability Framework

This Framework is a practical resource that promotes accountability for serious violations of international law committed against children in armed conflict. It responds to the significant gap that exists in preventing and remedying these serious violations - and is designed to assist policymakers and practitioners working at all levels to bridge this gap.

The *Children in Armed Conflict (CAC) Accountability Framework* provides:

1) a **comprehensive definition and structure** for understanding CAC accountability;

2) **practical guidance** in the form of a step-by-step methodology for developing well-informed, context-specific, and feasible options for advancing CAC accountability.

The Framework supports a results-based approach by emphasizing the importance of developing innovative approaches to advance CAC accountability based on a **comprehensive analysis** of the context, existing and potential mechanisms, and opportunities for linkages between accountability mechanisms for child protection and beyond. In addition, Framework underscores the **cooperation necessary among actors working at various levels and fields of work**, for example to facilitate joint analysis or planning.

Accountability mechanisms may be one aspect of a results-based child protection response and an opportunity to engage with actors beyond traditional humanitarian actors. The Framework highlights the roles of local communities and civil society in holding States accountable for their obligations and engaging other actors including traditional, religious, and other community leaders.

Local to Global Protection: Protection in the occupied Palestinian territories

The L2GP studies explore how people living in areas affected by natural disasters and complex emergencies understand 'protection' – what do people value, and how do they go about protecting themselves, their families and communities?

In particular, although it is not a new report, this study on Protection in the occupied Palestinian territories underscores many of the elements of results-based protection:

- **Threats** identified by communities – including the importance of a context-specific and participatory protection analysis that builds on local coping strategies and resilience.
- **Disaggregated data** to understand protection threats, vulnerabilities, and capacities for populations where protection needs may vary significantly by location, age, ethnic group, gender, etc.
- **Flexible program approaches** that allow for context- and target group- specific program design and can be adapted to changing dynamics of threats, vulnerabilities, and capacities
- **M&E systems that emphasize results** rather than merely how activities are executed
- **Engagement from complementary/contributory efforts beyond traditional humanitarian actors** to build upon and complement initiatives from relief, development, and advocacy initiatives

Related Events:

Global Protection Cluster Strategy - Your input requested
The purpose of the survey, which should take 10-20 minutes to complete, is to support the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) in its efforts to develop a revised Strategic Framework for 2016-2019.

The GPC is seeking input from individuals in the larger humanitarian community, at all levels of seniority, including staff and volunteers with UN agencies, other international organizations, and NGOs; states; civil society organizations; coordination mechanisms; and other stakeholders.

Considering that humanitarian protection and its operationalization is central to the work of PHAP members and others in the association's extensive global network, PHAP and the Global Protection Cluster are collaborating on the preparation and distribution of this survey and analysis of the results.

Survey responses will be kept anonymous. However, we do request your email address at the end of the survey, so that we may control against duplicate responses. We will also use your email address to send you a special preview copy of the survey results, once these are prepared.

In addition to completing it yourself, we very much appreciate your assistance in forwarding the survey to others working in the humanitarian sector. The survey is available in both English and French.

Take the survey in English

Complétez l'enquête en français

The deadline for responses is 15 September 2015. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

June 29, 2015: Measuring the Strength of Child Protection Systems in Humanitarian Settings: a Study in Uganda and Rwanda

On June 29, 2015 at 10am EDT, the CPC Learning Network hosted a webinar featuring Dr. Sarah Meyer, Associate Director of Research at the Centre of Excellence for the Study of the African Child (the Africhild Centre). This webinar focused on the experience of the CPC Learning Network and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in developing, piloting and refining a Child Protection Index (CPI), designed to assess child protection system strength in humanitarian settings. This presentation situated the CPI within discussions, frameworks and research on the strengths of child protection systems in the child protection field. Sarah presented findings from studies conducted in 2013 and 2014 in refugee settings in Uganda and Rwanda, identify strengths of the CPI, and shared challenges in conceptualizing and measuring system strength in refugee settings. She additionally explored areas for future improvement to frameworks and tools for measurement of child protection system strength. You can read the report here.

A full description and recording of the webinar are now available here.

Although only in its pilot phase, the study is focused on measuring protection outcomes of child protection systems within humanitarian settings. Efforts are underway to assess how this tool can complement existing assessment and analysis tools, like the CPiE Rapid Assessment tool. Information collected from the CPI may provide additional data to support stronger analysis and protection strategies.

Sign Up for Results-Based Protection Updates

This update letter will be published regularly to bring to your attention new materials available and upcoming events for the Results-Based Protection Program. To sign up, visit the Results-Based Protection platform (http://protection.interaction.org) and submit your name and email.

Each update letter will also be posted to the Resources section of the Results-Based Platform (http://protection.interaction.org/all-resources/).