Results-Based Protection InterAction

Dear Colleagues,

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

1. RESULTS-BASED PROTECTION PROGRAM
   a. **Report:** Colombia Field Visit
   b. **Webinar**: SAVE THE DATE – Supporting the Field – Results-Based Protection in Colombia

2. Related Resources and Reports with Elements of Results-Based Protection
   a. **Guide:** Evaluating protection in humanitarian action
   b. **Report**: In Their Words: Perceptions of Armed non-State Actors on Humanitarian Action
   c. **Report**: "Motivations and Empty Promises" Voices of Former Boko Haram Combatants and Nigerian Youth

3. Related Events and Upcoming Opportunities
   a. **Panel Discussion**: The Roots of Behaviour in War revisited
   b. **Event:** CPC Learning Network Biennial Meeting
   c. **Webinar:** Planning with Evidence: Cutting edge practices

4. Sign Up for Results-Based Protection Updates

RESULTS-BASED PROTECTION REPORT:

In April 2016, InterAction visited Colombia to identify and document the key elements of results-based protection in practice. The visit led to key recommendations for actors in Colombia to strengthen the prevention and response to the use and recruitment of children by armed groups.

A few key findings:
- Significant effort by multiple actors has helped to shape policy to prevent and stop the use of and recruitment of children by armed groups; however, this progress is not mirrored in efforts to change attitudes and behavior.
- A contributing factor to a lack of change in behavior or practice is the lack of government presence where recruitment continues to take place.
- Communities are using multiple methods to prevent child recruitment.
- Stronger engagement with peacebuilding, conflict resolution, development, and other actors should foster innovation to prevent child recruitment in some areas.
- A causal logic helps to expose assumptions about the proposed solutions and helps all actors recognize opportunities for how to engage and at what level.

The report also includes specific opportunities and recommendations for incorporating a results-based approach to protection.

Read the final report in English or Spanish.

RESULTS-BASED PROTECTION WEBINARS:

SAVE THE DATE

Supporting the Field – Results-Based Protection in Colombia

Wednesday, August 10, 2016
10:00 – 11:30 a.m. (Washington)
9:00 – 10:30 a.m. (Bogota);
3:00-4:30 p.m. (London); 4:00-5:30 p.m. (Geneva); 5:00-6:30 p.m. (Amman)

Register here

In April 2016, InterAction visited Colombia to identify and document the key elements of results-based protection in practice. The visit led to key recommendations for actors in Colombia to strengthen the prevention and response to the use and recruitment of children by armed groups. This is the third country visit by InterAction to support and strengthen results-based approaches to protection in the

field. Additional visits include: Lebanon, to explore outcome-oriented methods for program design, and Myanmar, to strengthen protection analysis.

Jessica Lenz, Senior Program Manager for Protection at InterAction will provide insights on the work of the Results-Based Protection Program in the field, highlighting findings, recommendations, and opportunities across contexts.

David Garcia, Advocacy and Communications Advisor at NRC Colombia and Protection Cluster co-lead, will join us to reflect on InterAction's visit to Colombia and how actors there are now prioritizing and taking forward the recommendations. He will also speak about the current peace process as it relates to protection and how using a results-based approach can support their work going forward.

Participation + Registration
To sign up for the webinar on **August 10th, 10:00-11:30a.m.** (Washington) please register at
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3051566256147913218. Participation is limited so join today!

Related Resources and Reports with Elements of Results-Based Protection

Evaluating protection in humanitarian action
Despite the stated centrality of protection in humanitarian action and a growing attention to protection activities, the evaluation of protection has received relatively little attention. ALNAP's new pilot *Guide on Evaluating Protection in Humanitarian Action: Decision-making processes, common issues and challenges* seeks to fill this gap, providing insights and guidance to those evaluating protection in the context of humanitarian action. The Guide leads evaluators through a decision-making process in evaluation. It offers guidance on selecting approaches and methods and gathering data, and highlights options and trade-offs. Guidance is provided regarding:
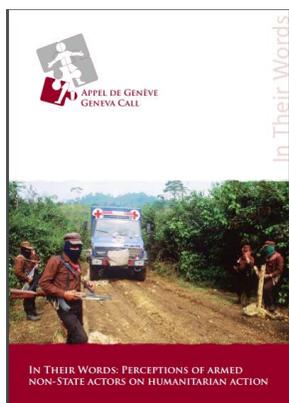
- How to initiate an evaluation of protection
- How to address the practical and ethical issues that arise in evaluating protection
- Particular issues to consider in analyzing and drawing conclusions in evaluations of protection

This guide complements the Evaluation of Humanitarian Action Guide.

The Guide will be piloted through 2016 and into 2017. The aim of the pilot is to make the resource as practical and useful as possible. ALNAP is encouraging active feedback on the pilot Guide and looking for volunteers to test the guide. If you are interested in providing feedback and/or testing the guide, please contact ALNAP directly at eha@alnap.org or reach out to **Neil Dillon**—Research Fellow, Evaluation, Learning and Accountability, at ndillon@alnap.org. You can also find a one-pager here that provides an overview of the pilot process.

Currently, the Results-Based Protection Program is in discussion with ALNAP about the guidance as it relates to results-based approaches to protection including the need to evaluate the protection analysis, the causal logic of the overall strategy to address the protection issue, and offering guidance on how to evaluate adaptability of the response.

The Guide offers good examples of useful tools and methods that can be used for evaluators but may also be relevant to programmers looking at analysis, program design, and monitoring.
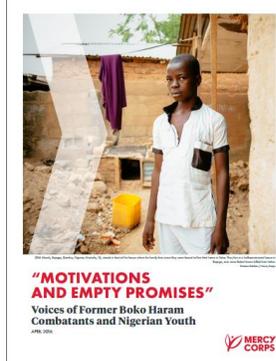
In Their Words: Perceptions of Armed non-State Actors on Humanitarian Action

As humanitarian actors increasingly operate in situations of internal armed conflict, the importance of negotiating with armed non-state actors (ANSAs) to ensure access has come to the forefront. Yet humanitarians on the ground and the broader international humanitarian community often fail to understand ANSAs' perspectives and motives and, as a result, struggle to engage with them effectively.

The report focuses on the ways in which ANSAs understand humanitarian action and their knowledge and acceptance of humanitarian principles and IHL. A comprehensive analysis requires an understanding of how ANSAs and other duty-bearers perceive their role regarding protection and is key to addressing the threat component of risk for populations. Additionally, in breaking down the changes required to reduce a protection risk, it is important to assess where changes need to be made, either in policy, practice, behavior, and/or attitudes.

For the full report visit: http://www.genevacall.org/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2016/05/WHS_Perception-of-armed-non-State-actors-on-humanitarian-action.pdf

"Motivations and Empty Promises" Voices of Former Boko Haram Combatants and Nigerian Youth

This research conducted by Mercy Corps in Nigeria explores the vulnerabilities and protective strategies among youth who were recruited into Boko Haram and those who resisted recruitment efforts. The research is important to inform a comprehensive protection analysis – one that recognizes changing patterns of recruitment and identifies community-based mechanisms for protection.

- For example, the research highlights that while recruitment blurs the distinction between voluntary and forced, prior to 2009, youth indicated joining because they believed in the movement.
- In addition to religious and ideological reasons for engaging with Boko Haram, the research notes the influential role of social and business peers in recruitment, particularly as entrepreneurial activities and small business support were a key tactic of Boko Haram.

- For young women, unique opportunities offered different motivations for joining Boko Haram. Opportunities included furthering their education, in particular to study the Quran, as well as a higher status in the community.
- For those who resisted recruitment, local family-based and community-based messaging played a key role as well as having diverse social connections and networks. Humanitarians should identify opportunities to build on and amplify these community-based mechanisms as part of a strategy to prevent recruitment.

For the full report visit: https://www.mercycorps.org/research-resources/motivations-and-empty-promises-voices-former-boko-haram-combatants-and-nigerian

Related Events and Upcoming Opportunities:

The Roots of Behaviour in War revisited
On 28 April 2016, the ICRC hosted a panel discussion at the Humanitarium with some of the leading experts involved in the update of the ICRC study "The Roots of Behaviour in War." As part of the ICRC's Conference Cycle on "Generating respect for the law," the panel accompanied the first meeting of these experts in Geneva, highlighting their specific contributions, hypotheses, and approaches.

The research presented by the panel seeks to answer the question 'What restrains armed actors from committing atrocities?,' looks at how communities respond, and identifies how the ICRC may need to adapt its approaches to engaging non-state armed actors. The learning is important in ensuring that activities go beyond just information dissemination on IHL, but also see that IHL is inserted into doctrine, codes of conduct, training, and compliance mechanisms.

A few key points relevant to results-based protection arose during the discussion:
- A **comprehensive understanding of the structures of armed groups is essential to understanding where change needs to happen** – whether efforts should be focused on changing policy, practice, attitudes, and/or behavior. For example, both the US military and FARC guerrillas have strong vertical organization where strong training and prohibitions have been shown to affect behavior. But in the case of the FARC, the behavior of combatants depended on individual commanders rather than a single code of conduct. In another example, despite high levels of violence cattle herders in South Sudan show a level of order and restraint according to local laws and norms. In this context, local leaders play an important role in influencing these more informal groups.
- In other examples, the **role of the community plays an important role in shaping how combatants adhere to IHL**. For example, research that largely focused on Colombia identified the impact that the conflict had on communities themselves where in areas of high rates of violence, local community structures were strong. It's important for ICRC and other humanitarians to be able to identify and build on these approaches by communities and learn from them.

For more information and a recording of the event visit: https://www.icrc.org/en/event/roots-behaviour-war-revisited

CPC Learning Network Biennial Meeting

The CPC Learning Network held its biennial meeting– **"Evolving Methods for an Expanding Field: Global Research with Children and Families in Adversity"**– on Tuesday, 6/21, and Wednesday, 6/22.

A few sessions were of particular interest for results-based protection:

The Latest Learning About Preventing and Reducing Violence
- The Together for Girls partnership works across three pillars through the national level violence against children survey (VACS) to **catalyze multi-sectoral program and policy response** to violence prevention.
- **Using data to drive change.** Utilize evidence-based coordinated policy and program actions in countries to bolster global advocacy and public awareness.
- **Analysis is essential; identify drivers of violence on a structural, institutional, community, interpersonal and individual level.** The concept of 'drivers' is frequently used in international child protection research rather than the terms 'risk and protective factors' or 'vulnerability and resilience.' Delineated drivers included: migration, gender inequality, socio-economic inequality, poor school governance, weak child protection systems, family dysfunction, and cultural values (such as taboos, acceptance of men's power). **Examine power relations through the age and gender nexus.**
- **Learning is central to advancing the field; knowledge exchange is critical.**
- THRIVE (Transforming Households, Reducing Incidence of Violence in Emergencies). The overarching aim is to enhance the capacity of the humanitarian community to measure and prevent household violence in emergency settings. First, **develop a theory of change (ToC)**, and then **identify interventions** that will ultimately reduce household violence, and lastly, **devise a measurement approach** to set benchmarks of success.

New Learning about Protecting and Caring for Children in Humanitarian and Refugee Settings
- **Are we organizationally geared towards strengthening child protection systems in emergencies?** The nature of agencies/mandates, structures, etc. are compartmentalized. Funding tends to be primarily project-based and humanitarian funding cycles do not facilitate longer-term view.
- **The current 'cut and paste' approach is not sufficient in addressing needs in an evolving complex crisis environment.** Emergency response is very check-list driven with prescribed actions. "People know what they are going to do before they even are in-country."
- **Systems are not perceived to be holistic;** there is a tendency to work on individual components with little view to the wider inter-relations within the system.
- **More investment is needed to learn and understand how to better contextualize interventions**; there needs to be recognition of the complementarity between new and already existing protection systems.
- **The goal is to implement a child protection index in humanitarian settings to demonstrate a 'proof of concept'** that a well-established child protection system can protect refugee children from harm. The aim is to assess the change in safety these children experienced.

- **Exploring family spaces: Place-based research methods with children and families.** The policy and practice implications explore how access to certain places and engagement with different geographical environments/contexts can contribute (or not) to health and well-being.

Community-Based and Community-Driven efforts: Strengths-based approaches to building upon local knowledge

- **Community protection systems are built on local perspectives, local assets, history, and culture.** Programming, advocacy, and research needs to explore new ways for interventions to strengthen the local context.
- **A New Method for Estimating the Prevalence of Attacks on Education:** Informal information networks – embeddable tool in a cluster, education and/or protection. The objectives are to understand the existing avenues for monitoring and reporting of attacks on education, determine what responsibilities the actors in the education and protection sector view as their own, and determine how the MRM is implemented, as well as to understand the success of these efforts in identifying instances of attacks of education.
- **The BIG Picture: Surveilling attacks on education falls between the purview of the education and child protections sectors.** Key informants in all settings reported that monitoring of attacks on education is considered a low priority, and wanted greater investment.
- **Local organizations and educational institutions have great knowledge, but lack coordination and systematized documentation.**
- **To know the quantifiable needs for separated children, practical field-tested tools to use in these situations are needed.** Surveillance refers to the continuous, ongoing, and systematic access to data. The data is collected, analyzed, disseminated and then monitored to note and flag trends of incidence.
- **Distinction between protection and care and the tangible measures of protection:** not leaving children home alone, keeping children inside at night, being non-violent, not beating children, shielding children from bad peer groups, providing mosquito nets, providing proper shelter/bedding, taking children back and forth to school.
- **Community engagement can lead to best practices.** Community feedback sessions facilitate an exchange of information and help form the social ecology of what supports good parenting in an attempt to reduce the overall risks the child faces.

For a full recap on the two-day event visit: http://www.cpcnetwork.org/event/2016-bi-annual-meeting-of-the-child-protection-in-crisis-cpc-learning-network/

Planning with Evidence: Cutting edge practices
Event information here

Evidence is essential for effective, ethical, and accountable humanitarian action. But how should it be used in planning humanitarian programming? ALNAP was joined by practitioners from four organizations to explore groundbreaking work, challenges they've faced, and practical relevance of tools for humanitarian policy and programming staff.

The work featured:

- 3ie to present their work on creating [Evidence Gap Maps](#) to inform development and humanitarian policies and programmes.
- Through their joint [Humanitarian Evidence Programme](#), Oxfam and the Feinstein International Center at Tufts University have commissioned a set of eight evidence syntheses.
- The International Rescue Committee (IRC) has recently launched the [Outcomes and Evidence Framework](#), a set of tools that define high-level outcomes, outline theories of change to achieve those outcomes, and collate the best available research evidence. Christof Kurz and Sheree Bennett will speak about this initiative. This will also serve as a unique opportunity for webinar participants to provide feedback on the beta version of the [interactive Outcomes and Evidence Framework](#) ahead of its official launch.

For results-based protection, International Rescue Committee's Outcomes and Evidence Framework is interesting in helping to facilitate an outcome-oriented approach, to outline theories of change to achieve outcomes, and bring together stakeholders and activities from multiple sectors. What will be interesting to learn from the rollout of this tool is how theories of change are adapted for different contexts – rather than deriving only from a global theory of change. Additionally, how practitioners in the field can use the framework to question their assumptions and reflect on their programs throughout implementation will be important in ensuring it is results-based.

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/).

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[i] The Results-Based Protection Program is funded by USAID/OFDA.