

# Results-Based Protection



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018 UPDATE

Photo courtesy of UN Photo/Tobin Jones



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

13-14 November, 2018: Workshop organized by the Tamarack Institute: [Evaluation + Design: Evaluating Systems Change](#) in Calgary, AB

22-23 November, 2018: Training organized by Evidence Aid: [Evaluating complex humanitarian interventions - utilizing evidence-based approaches](#) in Oxford, UK

Date TBD: Webinar with ALNAP, hosted by InterAction, following publication of ALNAP's new guide [Evaluation of Protection in Humanitarian Action](#)

Photo courtesy of ErWin, Marokko 2017

**Following a request** from the Nigeria INGO Forum, InterAction's Director of Protection and Project Coordinator for Protection carried out a mission to Nigeria with the aim to examine means and methods for information collection, analysis, and use for operational and strategic decision-making on protection, including grounding analysis in the perspective of the affected population, and to examine and make recommendations on the implementation of the recently endorsed *HCT Centrality of Protection Strategy* and complementary *Call to Action Plan*.

Recommendations put forth in the report are consistent with the [key elements](#) of [results-based protection](#):

**#1 Strengthen multi-sectoral data collection and sharing, and continuous context-specific analysis, as a basis for collective problem-solving.** It is recommended that humanitarian actors establish a common framework for camp level protection monitoring, use existing information from a range of sectors for protection analysis, and collectively conduct foresight and scenario development.

**#2 Expand safe freedom of movement of civilians around garrison towns.** It is recommended that humanitarian actors undertake [area-based protection analysis](#), develop the causal logic of strategies to expand freedom of movement and mitigate the effect of ongoing restrictions, and undertake iterative problem-solving.

**#3 Invest in the prevention of gender-based violence.** It is recommended that humanitarian actors disaggregate the specific risk patterns of GBV, specify the desired outcome and causal logic for strategies to address each risk pattern, develop context-specific indicators for each risk pattern to be tracked, and be iterative and seek to learn from experience.

**#4 Invest in a coordinated strategy to ensure that IDPs make free and informed decisions regarding their return, relocation or local integration, and that their return, relocation and/or local integration options are safe, viable, and undertaken voluntarily.** To succeed in this, it is recommended that humanitarian actors invest in two-way dialogue with IDPs to help establish the conditions for free and informed decision-making on their return, relocation, and local integration, and to help ensure that IDP's options are viable ones.

**#5 Put in place competencies and mechanisms to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment by and of humanitarian personnel.** Specifically, the HCT should establish a regular agenda item to discuss measures to prevent and respond to sexual abuse, exploitation, and harassment by and of humanitarian personnel and an experienced and senior level PSEA Advisor position should urgently be created under the Humanitarian Coordinator. NGOs should consider adopting a common pledge and all humanitarian organizations working in northeast Nigeria should audit their Nigeria offices for compliance with existing PSEA Code of Conduct and other internal policies.

**#6 Continue to build strategic engagement with key stakeholders in alignment with desired protection outcomes.** It is recommended that humanitarian actors plan for and build up engagement with the Civilian Joint Task Force, invest in the capacities and planning necessary for securing access to "inaccessible" areas, strengthen civil-military coordination capacity for substantive dialogue on humanitarian concerns, and pro-actively counter disinformation.

**#7 Invest in coordination and collaboration for protection outcomes.** To accomplish this, it is recommended that humanitarian actors invest in the role of the Nigerian INGO Forum for protection outcomes, adopt greater strategic focus for an enhanced role of the Humanitarian Country Team in support of protection outcomes, and clarify PSWG co-leadership and create mechanisms for collaboration.

## *Findings and Recommendations: InterAction Protection Mission - Northeast Nigeria*

Click [here](#) for the full report.



### About InterAction's Protection Missions

*In pursuit of strengthening protection responses, InterAction carries out field missions at the request of members and partners to examine critical protection concerns and how they are being addressed by humanitarian actors, in order to highlight key issues and recommend possible strategies and measures to address them to practitioners, policymakers, donor governments, and humanitarian leaders. In particular, InterAction seeks to support the increased emphasis on the centrality of protection in humanitarian action, more outcome-oriented and results-based approaches to protection, including collective outcomes.*

*Previous protection mission reports are available:*

[Myanmar in 2018](#)

[Myanmar in 2017](#) ([here](#) and [here](#))

[Colombia in 2016](#)

## *Evaluation of Protection in Humanitarian Action*

Click [here](#) to read the guide.



**We often hear** that measuring the impact of protection interventions is too difficult or even impossible. This perception is reflected in the fact that there are very few publications on evaluating protection in humanitarian action. One underlying challenge is that different organizations define protection in various ways, whether as specific activities, an approach or lens, or as a goal or objective of humanitarian action.

“At its core, this reflects a fundamental definitional problem for protection work.” (pg.8)

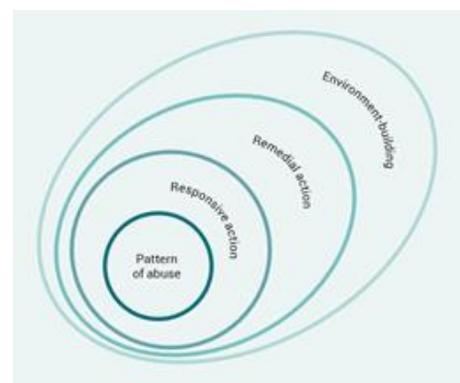
Furthermore, protection evaluators are faced with several other challenges, including variation in protection approaches, understanding cause-effect relationships, and collecting sensitive data. After a nearly [two-year pilot](#), ALNAP’s new guide, [Evaluation of Protection in Humanitarian Action](#) published on October 25, 2018, is intended for evaluators and relevant staff working in protection or more generalist positions, and seeks to address these and other challenges.

The guide is divided into 3 key parts: (1) Initiating the evaluation of protection, (2) Data management, and (3) Analysis. Useful toolkits are included as well. A great deal of critical questions are addressed, including scoping of protection evaluations and questions related to results that are beyond the control of the organization’s intervention; the use of proxy indicators and others for hard-to-measure issues; and questions related to collecting and managing sensitive data.

“Analysis of protection risks and needs in a given context may be driven more by institutional worldviews or prevailing policy narratives than by deep contextual knowledge, thus skewing the assumptions underpinning programming.” (pg.82)

Key elements of Results-Based Protection, particularly an emphasis on [context-specific analyses](#) in both program intervention and evaluation methods, and the evaluation of [outcome-oriented](#) interventions, are evident throughout the guide.

InterAction looks forward to hosting a webinar discussion with ALNAP in the coming weeks. Keep an eye on the [Events page of our website](#) for the date and call-in details.

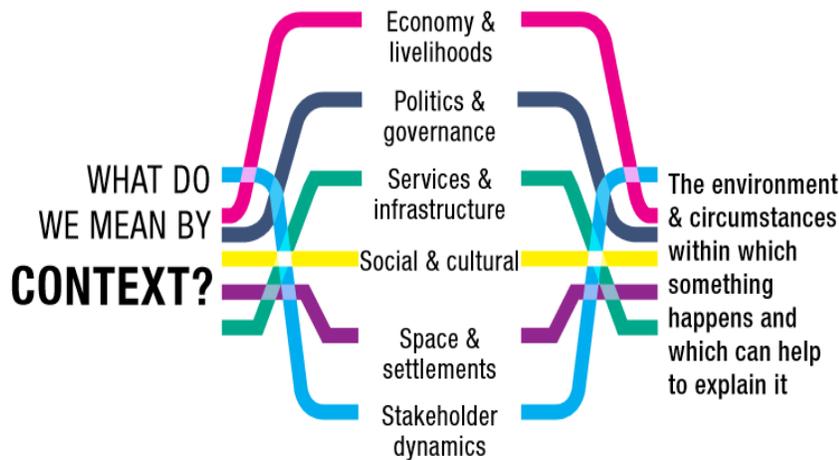


ICRC’s Egg framework on protection, from ALNAP’s Guide, pg.14

### Other related resources

This new guide is intended as a companion to their previous publication, ALNAP’s [Evaluation of Humanitarian Action Guide](#) from 2016.

Click [here](#) to listen to a webinar from June 2018 with ALNAP, moderated by InterAction, on Iterative and Adaptive Humanitarian Action.



**Humanitarians increasingly recognize** the importance of ensuring that responses are context-relevant and context-specific, yet how we define context is not evident. ALNAP's research on how humanitarian response in complex urban contexts can be improved included a literature review, interviews, and revision of 25 existing context tools.

This policy brief summarized key points from the larger research initiative and are consistent with the first of the three key elements of results-based protection, [continuous, context-specific protection analysis](#).

ALNAP defines "context" as:

"the environment and circumstances within which something happens and which can help to explain it. Context is broader than the needs and vulnerabilities of specific individuals and groups, and the situation at the present time, for example, the disaster or the conflict." (pg.1)

Within the humanitarian realm, numerous context tools exist, but they are generally not applied systematically. In addition, for these tools to be effective, an institutional commitment from senior leadership needs to be solid.

"Organizations who foster an environment that allows for flexibility, encourages self-reflection and learning, are open to failure, invest in analytical capacity, and promote listening to diverse perspectives are also important." (pg.2)

Finally, the brief highlights the vital role that donors play in ensuring this sort of analysis becomes standard in humanitarian response in all types of contexts through funding as well as by encouraging organizations to demonstrate their understanding of context.

## *Policy Brief: The Case for Understanding Context*

Click [here](#) to read the brief.



### Other related resources

Three-part video series: What is context? Why does it matter for urban humanitarians? Click [here](#) for the first video.

The policy brief is a summary based on a larger research project undertaken by ALNAP on adding context to the urban response toolbox. Click [here](#) to read the full study.

Click [here](#) for InterAction's Key Element Brief on continuous, context-specific protection analysis.

## *How effective is communication in the Rohingya refugee response? An evaluation of the common service for community engagement and accountability*

Click [here](#) for the evaluation.

**BBC Media Action**, Internews, and Translators without Borders are working to improve access to information for Rohingya communities through their “Common Service for Community Engagement and Accountability” (Common Service) initiative. The project has involved a range of activities, from creating and sharing audio visual content in the Rohingya language, to training interpreters, rumor-tracking in the camps, supporting agencies to set up feedback mechanisms, and ensure community needs and concerns are collated and brought to the attention of responding agencies. As the first phase of the project, funded by DFID and the IOM, comes to an end, the evaluation *How effective is communication in Rohingya refugee response? An evaluation of the common service for community engagement and accountability* shares key findings.

A results-based approach to protection highlights the importance of a continuous, context-specific analysis centered around experiences of the affected population who are best placed to communicate specific threats affecting themselves and their community, who is vulnerable to these threats, and why. A common question we hear is “how can we meaningfully engage with affected populations?” Common Service activities and tools were used to increase the two-way flow of information from affected populations to humanitarian actors.

By using these types of tools and activities, important information came to light regarding the ongoing humanitarian response and what the affected community actually needed.

“...It was clear that the Rohingya community feel they have enough information on health, safety and security, but feel less confident about keeping their family safe in a cyclone.” (pg.5)

Not covered in the evaluation, but of extreme importance, is to examine to what extent the information received thanks to Common Service tools is utilized by humanitarian actors in iterative program implementation.



## Other related resources

Translators without Borders completed a [study in June 2018](#) on the power of communicating in different languages and formats to reach vulnerable women in northeast Nigeria.

Translators without Borders, in collaboration with Oxfam International and CARE International, is launching an app featuring [new language guidance to promote women's rights in Rohingya refugee camps](#).

Other glossaries, including for use in Bangladesh and for broader use in northeast Nigeria are available [here](#).

Results-Based Protection updates are produced regularly to share materials and events related to RBP with InterAction's members and partners. To sign-up to receive future updates, click [here](#) and submit your name and e-mail.



Previous updates are available on the [Resources](#) section of the RBP website.



*Photo courtesy of IHH Humanitarian Relief Fund, Kemal Gumus*