**Integrating human rights in Protection Analysis: Minimum Requirements for Protection Clusters for Humanitarian Response Plan**

**Global Protection Cluster**

**June 2022**

As reiterated in the UN Secretary-General’s [Call to Action for Human Rights](https://www.un.org/en/content/action-for-human-rights/index.shtml), a more robust human rights analysis should inform risk analysis and responses. This note from the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) sets out a list of human rights minimum requirements that National Protection Clusters (NPCs) should include in their protection analysis and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). NPCs should make sure that human rights analysis informs the strategic response priorities and the protection sector’s objectives and response. This note will be accompanied by a guidance to support NPCs in implementing the minimum requirements and will include a list of tools and other materials that can guide NPCs in better integrating human rights in the protection analysis, HNO and HRP.

1. **Human-rights based strategic objectives and/or protection cluster specific objectives:**
2. NPCs should identify protection cluster at least 1 specific objective that prominently reflect the human rights of affected populations.
3. NPCs should use human rights language in phrasing the cluster’s specific objectives[[1]](#footnote-1).
4. NPCs should regularly consult with OHCHR/HRAs to strengthen the advocacy on human rights at the HCT level and influence the adoption of more human-rights based HRP’s strategic objectives.
5. **Support human rights actors and implement human rights activities in the protection cluster’s response:**
6. NPCs should include in the protection cluster’s response plan human rights activities, such as monitoring, documentation, human rights analysis and advocacy as well as legal aid for victims of international human rights law/humanitarian law violations.
7. NPCs should elaborate on the HCT efforts to strengthen local response mechanisms and promote the participation of local and national human rights actors to humanitarian response activities and initiatives.
8. [**Leave no one behind**](https://unsceb.org/sites/default/files/imported_files/CEB%20equality%20framework-A4-web-rev3.pdf) **in humanitarian programming and response:**
9. NPCs should ensure that the protection analysis reflects the needs and priorities of specific groups of affected populations. The intersection of different social, cultural and other factors – such as age, race, gender, ethnicity, minority, disability, religion or gender identity- and context-specific pre-existing vulnerabilities or inequalities can dramatically affect access to assistance and resources.
10. NPCs should also identify the gaps of evidence and data on the identified particularly vulnerable population groups when information is not available, and collaborate with relevant stakeholders including human rights actors, to address this gap.
11. **Engagement with international, regional and national human rights mechanisms and institutions, as appropriate**:
12. NPCs should regularly engage with local human rights actors both in the consultation process and the drafting of the HRP. NPCs should avail themselves of the opportunity to engage with regional and international human rights mechanisms to raise awareness on human rights issues in their AoRs and advocate for a better implementation of human rights law, IHL and refugee law to strengthen the protection of affected populations.[[2]](#footnote-2)

**Resources**: <https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/_assets/files/tools_and_guidance/protection-cluster-coordination-toolbox/gpc-edg-note-checklist-on-incorporating-protection-and-accountability-in-the-hpc.en.pdf>

1. The GPC Human Rights Engagement Task Team can advise on how to reflect the human rights of affected populations in drafting the specific objectives. For more info, contact Roberta Serrentino at [serrenti@unhcr.org](mailto:serrenti@unhcr.org). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The GPC Human Rights Engagement Task Team will advise NPCs on how to strategically use the human rights system and mechanisms to analyze humanitarian needs and address complex protection challenges. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)