Centrality of Protection Implementation & Monitoring Framework

19 June 2023 – HCT endorsed (HCT meeting, 6 June 2023)

The HRP's Strategic Objective 3 on the Centrality of Protection is formulated in line with global policy recommendations and aims at a system-wide approach toward reducing risks for crisis affected populations and reaching those most in need. Its aim is to contribute to the implementation of the HCT Centrality of Protection Strategy (2022-2023), the HCT Accountability Compact as well as other frameworks and benchmarks referencing the centrality of protection.

HRP 2023 Strategic Objective 3 on the Centrality of Protection:

Uphold commitments to collective action to address critical protection risks by reducing the risks of exclusion, the risks associated with displacement, and indiscriminate attacks on civilians and their objects.

Specific Objective 1 – Exclusion & Denial of Assistance

Mitigate and address the risks of exclusion and denial of assistance and services to those displaced or at risk of displacement by conflict, environmental and other shocks.

Specific Objective 2 – Displacement

Mitigate the risks of persistent and multiple displacements by increasing access and humanitarian assistance in areas of origin, en route, and in areas of settlement.

Specific Objective 3 – Protection of Civilians

Prevent and mitigate the risk of indiscriminate attacks on civilians and their objects.

- **Operationalization focus:** This note sets forth proposed steps toward operationalizing strategic objective 3 of the HRP through defined implementation commitments.
- **System-wide change:** These implementation commitments with allocated responsibilities aim at contributing toward system-wide change in line with the purpose of the centrality of protection statement and ensuing IASC Protection Policy. They are building on good practices in the ongoing response, as well as lessons learned from other contexts on system-wide risk reduction.
- **Simplified progress reporting:** To simplify monitoring of the proposed implementation framework, quarterly milestones for quarters 3 and 4 of 2023 are identified to help determine progress, while reducing monitoring and reporting burdens.
- Implementation support: The Protection Cluster team and the ProCap will provide overall support to implementing bodies and will compile quarterly progress reports based on the agreed upon milestones. The ICCG will be the main coordinating body on the implementation of this framework; if needed, it will form a time-bound task force to drive the implementation ahead.
- **Leadership & Accountability:** Upon endorsement, the HC and HCT are accountable to contribute to and oversee the implementation of this framework. The HC will brief the HCT on a quarterly basis on progress and bottlenecks with proposed course correctors.
- **Multi-year investment envisaged:** Strategic objective 3, and its specific objectives, require a multi-year and incremental investment toward its realization in practice. This implementation framework is focused on the second half of 2023 only, and it is recommended to conduct an HCT-ICCG stocktaking exercise in the last quarter of 2023 to inform build-on measures for 2024.

Implementation Framework: Summary Overview

SO3	Specific Objective	SO 3 Elements	Implementation Commitments 2023	Responsibility	Milestone Q3	Milestone Q4
Uphold commitments to collective action to address critical protection risks by reducing the risks of exclusion, the risks associated with displacement, and indiscriminate attacks on civilians and their objects.	1. Mitigate and address the risks of exclusion and denial of assistance and services to those displaced or at risk of displacement by conflict, environmental and other shocks.	Assistance is delivered without discrimination on the basis of gender, age, disability, minority clan affiliation or ethnicity. All clusters have developed vulnerability-based targeting criteria. Disaggregated data informs programming across all clusters.	1.1. All Cluster developed and rolled out guidance for vulnerability-based prioritization and targeting using and ICCG-agreed minimum common floor. 1.2. CEA Task Force provides monthly trend analysis of community feedback with actionable recommendations implemented by ICCG and HCT. 1.3. Data on disabilities is included in all ICCG and individual Cluster-led quantitative and qualitative assessments, improving the overall availability and quality of disability-related data in the response.	1.1 CCs & CLAs, ICCG, all partners 1.2 CEA TF, ICCG and HCT 1.3 DIWG, CCs, ICCG	1.1. All Clusters developed and rolled out their guidance. 1.2. CEA is providing monthly briefings with ICCG and quarterly briefings to the HCT follow up on actionable recommendations. 1.3. DIWG mapped data disaggregation opportunities and developed guidance on integration and quality management of disability data in quantitative and qualitative assessments, based on an analysis why the WGQ-SS has not produced desired results.	1.1. % of partners in each Cluster apply guidance. 1.2. 100% of actionable recommendations tracked and followed up by ICCG and HCT. 1.3. Clusters/ICCG rolled out guidance, supported by the DIWG.
	2. Mitigate the risks of persistent and multiple displacements by increasing access and humanitarian assistance in areas of origin, en route, and in areas of settlement.	Crisis-affected people are assisted in or as close as possible to their area of origin, including underserved rural areas. [addition, June 2023] Assistance is designed and delivered in a manner that reduces the risk of individual harm. All areas of origin of IDPs and displacement routes are accessible to maintain humanitarian assistance and protection.	 2.1 Protection mainstreaming capacity building provided through S-ICCGs tailored to local organizations. 2.2 All Clusters developed and rolled out a sector-specific protection risk reduction strategy (based on the sectoral protection tip sheets) with community feedback mechanism. 2.3 AWG identified opportunities for and implemented humanitarian access negotiations, supported by HC and HCT. 2.4 AWG identified main bureaucratic access impediments for follow up by HC and OCHA with Government counterparts. 	2.1 ProCap & PC 2.2 CCs & CLA 2.3 AWG, HC, HCT 2.4 AWG, HC, OCHA	2.1 Quarterly trainings provided 2.2 Clusters developed and rolled out their sectoral protection risk reduction strategy with feedback mechanism. 2.3 AWG completed analysis for prioritized areas for access negotiation. 2.4 AWG identified main bureaucratic access impediments for advocacy by HC and OCHA.	2.1 Quarterly trainings provided 2.2 Community feedback on protection risk reduction across Clusters obtained and analyzed. 2.3 Prioritized access negotiations completed by AWG, HC, OCHA. 2.4 All bureaucratic impediments identified by AWG have been addressed by HC/OCHA and feedback is provided to AWG on outcome.
	3. Prevent and mitigate the risk of indiscriminate attacks on civilians and their objects.	Emerging threats to the safety of civilians are systematically addressed though appropriate coordination mechanisms.	3.1 POC WG identified main anticipated risks to the protection of civilians and implemented related prevention action. 3.2 CMCoord WGs established and functional in priority locations with POC as a standing agenda item. 3.3 Armed conflict as cause of displacement and other humanitarian consequences is adequately reflected in humanitarian analysis, planning and decision-making, including funding and prioritization decisions.	3.1 POC WG 3.2 OCHA, PC 3.3 AWG, POC WG, HC, OCHA	3.1 POC risks identified, and prevention actions implemented. 3.2 CMCoord WG is at a minimum established and functional at national level, SWS and JLS with POC as standing agenda item. 3.3 HCT receives quarterly conflict, access and POC impact updates by AWG/POC WG with actionable recommendations.	3.1 Prevention actions implemented. (progress report) 3.2 CMCoord trainings implemented for partners in Galmudug, Hirshabelle, SWS and JLS. 3.3 All actionable recommendations tracked and followed up by HC and HCT.