

STRENGTHENING ENGAGEMENT WITH HPC LEARNING SERIES

CORE SESSION 2: Protection Cluster response framework and 4/5W 2024-2025 | 15TH of March, 2024

INTRODUCTION

In 2023, the GPC has been looking at the 4/5W and mapped around 624 activities across 13 operations in all areas of protection work to harmonize what protection actions are and allow for a more predictable approach to identification and response monitoring.

As a result, in 2024, the GPC is proposing a **general harmonization of the broad programming modalities preserving the context specific definition of activities**. While each operation should maintain the independency to define specific activities according to the context, a broader categorization against which organize each identified activity, would be used as a starting point to discuss how to organize around 4/5W and propose a broad common approach to organize activities for HPCs.

The harmonization recognizes that the Protection Cluster response is intended to proactively address the impact of protection risks on affected population in humanitarian crises, through a coordinated and joined-up strategy. **Systematic protection analysis of the situation**, aimed at identifying drivers and factors exposing individuals and communities to harm, is foundational to the Protection Cluster response.

Based on this analysis, the **protection cluster response** brings together **core programming modalities** to address **priority protection risks**, and can involve assessing, preventing and responding to immediate harm and abuse, restoring people's dignity and living conditions and fostering an environment conducive to the full respect of individual rights, considering the operating environment, capacities, and context.

Types of protection programming modalities include direct services and assistance, community-based and community-led protection activities, advocacy and engagement, among others, designed to achieve outcomes that can be related to **prevention, mitigation and response, remedial or environment-building**.

The table in the following page provides a framework of core programming modalities and indicative protection activities and interventions that can be used for reference in designing (or updating) a **context-specific, localized and prioritized** protection cluster response.

The list of activities is flexible and can be added, expanded, or revised as needed to facilitate course corrections, adapt to changing policies and operational environments, and address other critical considerations.

PROVISION OF PEOPLE-CENTERED SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE	IDENTIFICATION, MONITORING AND ANALYSIS OF PROTECTION RISKS AND NEEDS	ADVOCACY AND EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT TO IMPROVE PROTECTION
<p>Promptly address the most pressing humanitarian needs, and actively contribute to prevent, mitigate and respond to the immediate effects of threats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual protection assistance • Response services to survivors • Legal services (information, counseling, assistance) • Assistance and support to ensure safe spaces and environments • Referral to respond to protection risks and needs • Coordination and support for intersectional safeguards in preparedness, contingency planning and response 	<p>Identify, monitor and analyze protection risks and resulting needs to tailor response to the actual harm and needs of affected population and continually adjust based on changing circumstances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection monitoring • Protection assessments and consultations, including risks identification • Protection desks • Post distribution monitoring 	<p>Empower and equip local communities to proactively reduce protection risks and strengthen their self-protection capacities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted private or public advocacy actions and strategies • Specific advocacy to reinforce law and policy • Advocacy and engagement to integrate and mainstream protection into humanitarian planning and response. • Mediation, negotiation and conflict resolution • Strengthening of advocacy and lobby efforts on protection • Advocacy campaigns
COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION AND SUPPORT TO REINFORCE LOCAL AGENCY AND SOCIAL COHESION	COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION PROVISION TO REINFORCE PEOPLE CAPACITIES AND STRATEGIES	CAPACITY STRENGTHENING AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT TO REINFORCE PROTECTION ENVIRONMENT
<p>Address critical capacity, skill and capability gaps exacerbating or enabling harm to affected population stemming from protection threats and their consequences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-based activities for risk reduction • Community-based protection planning and activities • Conflict resolution and social cohesion • Socio-economic and economic reintegration • Establishment or strengthening of community mechanisms and AAP. 	<p>Guarantee critical information to individuals to exercise their fundamental rights and entitlements and make informed decisions to cope with existing threats and their consequences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection risks education and awareness • Rights awareness • Awareness, information and education campaigns on services 	<p>Change drivers of protection risks (including behaviors, policies, practices and laws) that cannot be fully addressed or mitigated through humanitarian protection response alone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity strengthening for local authorities and protection service providers • Institutional and technical support on laws and policies • Training of frontline responders and protection service providers • Training of other humanitarian actors and non-protection service providers