



Optimising Armed Actor Engagement for Protection Outcomes

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WHAT IS THE...

Centrality of Protection?

- ▶ “Protection of all persons affected and at risk must inform humanitarian decision-making and response, including engagement with States and non-State parties to conflict. It must be central to our preparedness efforts, as part of immediate and life-saving activities, and throughout the duration of humanitarian response and beyond.”
—IASC
- ▶ IASC requires all humanitarian actors to work together to understand and seek to prevent, mitigate, or end the risks of violence, coercion, and deliberate deprivation that people affected by conflict or disasters face.

UNDERLYING CoP PRINCIPLES



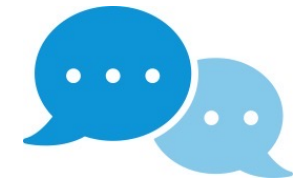
HC/HCTs are responsible for **leading** the collective strategic protection response.



Identifying and reducing protection risks must be understood first and foremost from the perspective of crisis-affected people.



Wide-ranging partnerships are essential to mitigate multifaceted protection risks to affected people.



Regular and consistent **engagement** with duty bearers is critical to reducing protection risks.

MENTIMETER

1. In your context, do you feel that humanitarian civil-military actors are effectively utilized to achieve protection outcomes?
2. How do you work with humanitarian civil-military actors to achieve protection outcomes?

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HOW TO ACHIEVE PROTECTION OUTCOMES

- Protection Risk Analysis
- Strategy Development/ Action Planning
- Implementation & Monitoring

Photo by: Rana Muhammad Sohel



CHALLENGES

ENABLERS

Reluctance to engage with armed actors on protection



Leadership takes responsibility; policies and guidance in place for armed actor engagement.
Undertaking proper stakeholder mapping and analysis as well as a conflict sensitivity analysis.

Fear of legal ramifications of engaging with NSAGs



Regular staff trainings and briefings.

Lack of sustained engagement with armed actors



Proper handovers of relationships.

Expertise leveraged insufficiently



Learn and build on what works in the field and match expertise.

Lack of diverse and collective approach



Develop common protection approaches.

Perception of not being seen as neutral



Consistent and regular engagement with armed actors.
Emphasise humanitarian principles.

Lack of presence and proximity to affected populations



Expand reach by supporting local organization's and affected communities' engagement efforts.

<https://www.interaction.org/training/>

OPTIMIZING ARMED ACTOR ENGAGEMENT FOR PROTECTION OUTCOMES

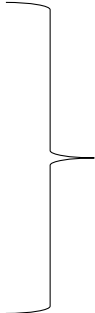
With financial support from USAID, InterAction has developed the Optimizing Armed Actor Engagement for Protection Outcomes training module to help humanitarian actors better leverage existing engagement with armed actors to improve protection outcomes. The module consists of a facilitator's guide, corresponding PowerPoint presentation, and briefing for facilitators.

[GO TO THE TRAINING MODULE →](#)

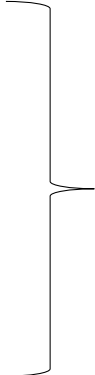


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Relate to the
PowerPoint slides



Exercise material



MENTIMETER #2

Where would this training be most useful?

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THANK YOU

for your participation

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The Optimising Armed Actor Engagement for Protection Outcomes training module is made possible by the generous support of the American people through USAID's Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA). The content of this training module is the responsibility of InterAction and does not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government.