ANNEX 2: Solutions Support Tool: Protection Risks, Obstacles and Entry Points for Protection Clusters

This tool is designed to help Protection Clusters effectively contribute to durable solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) by providing an example of aligning protection risk analysis with durable solutions frameworks. It accompanies the Practical Guidance on the Role of Protection Clusters in Durable Solutions. Below is a summary of key aspects of the tool:

Purpose:

- Support Protection Clusters in linking protection risk analysis with durable solutions processes.
- Facilitate engagement with durable solutions actors using aligned language and communication approaches.
- Provide examples on how to leverage protection risk analysis to remove obstacles to durable solutions.

Key Components:

- Protection Risks as Obstacles to Durable Solutions:
 - Protection risks are fundamental barriers to durable solutions, often stemming from systemic violations and institutional challenges.
 - Addressing these risks is essential for ensuring the safety, dignity, and long-term reintegration of IDPs.
- Strategic Use of Protection Risk Reduction in Solutions Planning:
 - Demonstrates how mitigating a specific protection risk can shape and inform durable solutions strategies.
 - Offers a practical example of how Protection Clusters can use their expertise to drive solutions-oriented approaches.
- Part 1: Reference Table:
 - Outlines 15 protection risks monitored by Protection Clusters.
 - Identifies how each risk presents an obstacle to durable solutions.
 - Provides entry points for Protection Clusters to use their analysis to inform solutions pathways.
- Part 2: Example from Ukraine
 - Provides an example of an action plan utilising this methodology to address the threat of eviction or destruction of personal property in Ukraine.

How Protection Clusters Can Use This Tool:

- Align Analysis with Solutions Language: Ensure that protection risk discussions resonate with durable solutions actors by framing them in terms of solutionoriented interventions.
- Engage Strategically: Use the reference table as an example to identify where protection risks obstruct solutions and how they can be mitigated.
- Support Policy and Programmatic Actions: Provide evidence-based recommendations to inform durable solutions strategies at national and local levels.

PART 1: 15 Protection Risks, Related Obstacles and Entry Points for Protection Clusters



ABDUCTION & DETENTION

Abduction, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary or unlawful arrest and/or detention

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

- Risks of abduction and detention in their place of origin or relocation creates a considerable obstacle to solutions, especially when local integration is not possible.
- Displaced persons often lose access to their traditional and community protection frameworks. They may also lack personal documentation, face discrimination or suffer persecution based on their origin, race, or ethnicity, making them particularly vulnerable to arbitrary arrest and detention. Fees and procedures for their release and the psychosocial impact of detention can have a serious impact on their progression toward solutions.
- The fear of arrest, detention, abduction, or forced disappearance restricts IDP's freedom of movement, limiting their ability to find livelihood opportunities, reclaim property, or access services necessary for durable solutions.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Communicate specific abduction and detention risks affecting IDPs, including root causes (e.g. discrimination, persecution, lack of documentation)
- Advocating for the **role of national and local authorities**, including law enforcement actors, in ensuring that IDPs receive effective protection without discrimination.
- Ensuring IDPs have access to national and local protection mechanisms, including police, courts and national human rights institutions.
- Advocating against returning IDPs to areas where their life, safety, liberty or health are at risk.

IASC FRAMEWORK ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AND SDGs

- → IASC criteria: Safety and security | Access to justice and remedies
- → SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS

Attacks on civilians and other unlawful killings, and attacks on civilian objects

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

- Lack of safety and security, including attacks on civilians in places of origin, is a major obstacle to return and durable solutions when risks persist without an alternative option.
- Lack of safety and security in the place of displacement prevents access to basic needs and progression toward resilience and solutions, it can lead to multiple displacement that considerably hinders the capacities of IDPs to bounce back and find durable solutions to their displacement.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Ensuring the civilian character of IDP camps and settlements, and protection from attacks
- Ensuring safe relocation of IDP camps and settlements when under threat of attack, which is part of the protection responsibilities of national / local authorities.
- Ensuring IDPs are not the subject of attacks, harassment, intimidation, persecution or any other form of punitive action upon return to their home communities or settlement elsewhere in the country.

- → IASC criteria: Safety and security
- \rightarrow SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination, and stigmatization denial of resources, opportunities, services and/or humanitarian access

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

• Discrimination is a major obstacle to IDPs' access to rights and progression towards solutions, especially regarding access to services, livelihood and employment opportunities, HLP rights in the place of displacement, local integration, return or relocation.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Informing durable solutions actors about structural or circumstantial discrimination faced by displaced populations to guide DS planning.
- Reaffirming that IDPs, as citizens of their country, must have equal access
 to rights and related services on par with other citizens, including essential
 services, national and local protection mechanisms, law enforcement, courts,
 national human rights institutions and national disaster management services.
- Advocating that IDPs are able to exercise the right to participate in public affairs at all levels on the same basis as the resident population, without discrimination owing to their displacement.
- Specific attention should be given to displaced minorities in societies with deeply rooted discrimination or hierarchical social structures.

IASC FRAMEWORK ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AND SDGs

- → IASC criteria: DS definition | Safety and security | Participation in public affairs
- → SDG 10 reduced inequality | SDG 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions



DISINFORMATION

Disinformation and denial of access to information

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

- Lack of accurate, up-to-date, and transparent information, or biased information and disinformation, on the safety and security situation in return areas.
- Without trustworthy information on conditions in places of origin or relocation (e.g., protection, access to services, humanitarian and development assistance), IDPs cannot make informed, voluntary decisions about their decision to return or relocate.
- Misinformation can lead to premature returns, secondary or multiple displacement, and increased vulnerability.
- IDPs require clear and accurate details to plan and prepare for their return or relocation and maximize their chance to progress towards DS. Information such as return packages and allowances, access to land, property, repair assistance, education, livelihoods, health services, law enforcement etc. are crucial.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Ensuring national and local authorities, as well as humanitarian and development actors provide IDPs with clear, unbiased and reliable information about durable solutions.
- Protection actors should collaborate with national and local authorities (where possible) to monitor protection conditions, conduct risk analysis in areas of displacement, return and potential relocation and ensure IDPs have access to reliable information.
- Protection clusters should regularly assess IDPs' information needs, identify gaps, and report cases of disinformation or denial of access to information.
- Information should be accessible to all IDPs in a language they understand, ensuring inclusivity across diverse displaced populations.

- → IASC framework principle
- $\,\,{\rightarrow}\,\,$ SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



FAMILY SEPARATION Child and forced family separation

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

- The risk of family separation is acute during displacement crises.
- Protections risks linked to family separation, particularly child separation, can have significant and long-term impacts on resilience and the ability to progress toward solutions.
- Family provides a structured and stable environment for displaced persons and serves as a unique source of protection and solidarity, both during and after displacement. Ensuring family unity is a priority for solutions.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Advocacy and activities for families separated by displacement to be reunited as quickly as possible, particularly when children, older persons or other vulnerable individuals are involved.
- Informing support to national child protection systems to respond to the protection needs of separated and unaccompanied children, including conducting best interest determinations in the context of durable solutions.
- Ensuring factors contributing to the separation of IDP families, especially the separation between parents and children, are assessed and responded to.
- Ensuring return or relocation does not lead to forced family separation.
- Advocating for national and de facto authorities to cooperate pragmatically (e.g. through humanitarian actors or other impartial intermediaries) in divided territories to allow for family reunification despite obstacles such as closed boundary lines.
- Ensuring measures to prevent family separation are included in **disaster prevention and management plans.**

IASC FRAMEWORK ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AND SDGs

→ IASC criteria: Family reunification



FORCED RECRUITMENT

Forced recruitment and association of children in armed forces and groups

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

- Displacement crises increase the risk of forced recruitment into armed forces, particularly among children. There is increased incidence of child abductions and forced recruitment in and around IDP camps and informal settlements.
- Forced recruitment harms victims and their families, hindering their resilience and ability to progress towards solutions.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Ensuring the civilian character of IDP camps and settlements, and protection from forced recruitment and training of or for armed forces.
- Integrating monitoring and reporting of forced recruitment risks in areas of displacement, return and relocation into planning and response efforts.
- Prevention, demobilization and reintegration programs are critical to ensure the safety, security and resilience of IDPs, which are essential for durable solutions.

- → IASC criteria: Safety and security | Access to justice and remedies
- → SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

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	OBSTACLES	FOR SOLUTIONS	ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS
 Displacement and related vulnerabilities put IDPs, especially women and girls, at heightened risk of all forms of GBV, including physical and psychosocial harm. This significantly affects their ability that of their families and communities to progress towards solutions. Protracted displacement further increases the risk of gender-based violence. Women face discrimination in accessing their rights critical to their progression towards solutions such as HLP rights, education, health and legal identity. 			 Analyse GBV risks, trends and dynamics in displacement affected areas. Include a GBV component in protection assessments in areas of displacement, return and relocation, ensuring risks are well documented and integrated into durable solutions planning. Assess and document gender discrimination in access to HLP, personal documentation, education, health and other services. Ensure internally displaced women and girls have access to reliable information, legal protection, and decision-making processes related to their rights and durable solutions.
	ASC FRAMEWORK ON INTERNAL → IASC criteria: Safety and security Access to justice and remedies → SDG 10 reduced inequality SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions		



LEGAL IDENTITY

Impediments and/or restrictions to access to legal identity, remedies and justice

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

- IDPs often lose essential documentation (e.g. ID cards, passports, birth and marriage certificates, title deeds, academic records) making it difficult to access rights, social benefits and essential services.
- Without proper documentation, IDPs face barriers in reclaiming property, accessing education, employment, healthcare, and legal remedies, and voting.
- Lack documentation increases IDPs' risk of unlawful/arbitrary arrest and detention, abduction and forced disappearance, forced recruitment, gender-based violence, forced marriage, theft and eviction, trafficking, forced labour and slavery-like practices.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Advocate with authorities to facilitate the issuance or replacement of personal documentation for IDPs.
- Protection actors should assess IDP needs for documentation, analysing and communicating on the related protection risks, and advocate for legal and policy reforms that remove bureaucratic obstacles.
- Protection actors can also work in collaboration with and support Ministries
 of Justice and Interior to ensure conducive laws and policies for issuing
 documentation.
- Legal aid services should be strengthened to assist IDPs in securing documentation without imposing unreasonable conditions (e.g., requiring return to their place of origin).

- → IASC criteria: Access to and replacement of personal documentation
- → SDG 10 reduced inequality | SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



MARRIAGE Child, early or forced marriage

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

Displacement increases the risks of child, early, and forced marriages, which limit

• Failure to progress toward solutions further exacerbates the risk of early marriage, as families adopt it as a harmful coping mechanism.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Document and communicate the risks and root causes of forced marriage as a critical protection concern.
- **Develop a prevention and response strategy** including remedial actions (e.g. alternative livelihood programs) and environment building initiatives to reduce forced marriage risks.

IASC FRAMEWORK ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AND SDGs

education and economic opportunities.

- → IASC criteria: Access to and replacement of personal documentation
- → SDG 4 Quality education | SDG 10 reduced inequality | SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



MOVEMENT & DISPLACEMENT

Unlawful impediments or restrictions to freedom of movement, siege, and forced displacement

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

• Restrictions on freedom of movement hinder livelihood opportunities, employment, access to services, and participation in public affairs, all of which are essential for of

- durable solutions (e.g. encampment policies, administrative restrictions).
 Premature, forced or uninformed return / relocation to areas with movement restrictions increase vulnerability, trigger multiple displacements, and reduced resilience.
- The best durable solution is preventing displacement in the first place

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Advocate for IDPs to be able to freely leave their areas of settlement, as well return or relocate with undue restrictions.
- Protection actors should identify & advocate for the removal of barriers, including encampment policies and administrative restrictions on IDPs freedom of movement.
- Advocate for IDPs' rights to freely choose their place of settlement.
- Ensure that any limited and temporary movement restrictions due to security or disaster scenarios are not arbitrary or discriminatory.

IASC FRAMEWORK ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AND SDGs

→ IASC criteria: Long-term safety, security and freedom of movement | Access to adequate standards of living | Access to employment and livelihoods | Participation in public affairs at all levels on an equal basis with the resident population
 → SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



PRESENCE OF MINES

Presence of mines and other explosive ordnance

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

• Landmines and other explosive ordnance are major obstacles to return and can endanger IDPs' safety in their places of origin.

- Freedom of movement is severely restricted when access to agricultural land, roads, or other essential infrastructure remains unsafe due to landmines.
- Landmine clearance does not automatically ensure safety- other security risks must be assessed.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- To achieve a DS, IDPs **must receive effective protection** from national and local authorities without discrimination, including protection from explosive hazards.
- There should be no return in areas where their life, safety, liberty or health are at risk.
- Mine clearance alone does not mean that safety and security is ensured in the areas or return or relocation. Post-clearance safety assessments and risk education must be prioritized.

- IASC criteria: Long-term safety, security and freedom of movement | Access to employment and livelihoods
- → SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth | SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



PSYCHOSOCIAL

Psychological/emotional abuse or inflicted distress

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

- Displacement is a deeply traumatic experience impacting the well-being of IDPs. Loss of home, work, land, livelihood, school, family, friends, communities and other support networks creates emotional distress.
- All protections risks associated with displacement compound psychosocial trauma, undermining resilience, coping capacity and progress toward solutions.
- Pressure to return, threat of forced evictions, lack of information, and misinformation further undermine IDPs' mental health and resilience.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Support IDPs in making free and voluntary choices about their future through access to accurate information, participation in decision making processes and agency in choosing solutions.
- Advocate for and support the conducting of surveys to assess the psychosocial needs of IDPs, ensuring their concerns are reflected in policy responses.
- Protection actors can advocate for the **deployment of psychosocial services in areas of return, relocation** and displacement, and support related programmes as part of development priorities.

IASC FRAMEWORK ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AND SDGs

- → IASC criteria: Long-term safety, security and freedom of movement | Access to employment and livelihoods
- → SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth | SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



THEFT & EVICTION

Theft, extortion, forced eviction or destruction of personal property

OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS

• Forced eviction, property destruction, and illegal occupation are major barriers to durable solutions. It not only prevents IDPs from returning home, but also puts them at heightened risk of violence, exploitation and abuse and hampers their ability to access livelihood and employment, services and to participate in public affairs.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS

- Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) rights are central to durable solutions. Protection Clusters and HLP AoRs play a key role in ensuring IDPs' property rights.
- HLP initiatives to support IDPs' self-reliance and help them prepare for durable solutions should include assessments and surveys, analysis of Housing Land a Property Rights, access to documentation, including property deeds and other HLP-related documents, HLP guidelines, due diligence processes and preparing the ground for restitution and compensation mechanisms. See page 23 in the corresponding Guidance for more detailed entry points.
- Specific attention should be given to minority groups who have historical or cultural ties to land as recognized under the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the Kampala Convention.

- → IASC criteria: access to adequate standards of living | access to effective mechanisms that restore or compensate housing, land and property | Access to personal documentation.
- → SDG 1 No poverty! SDG 9 on resilient infrastructures | SDG 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions



TORTURE & CRUELTY

Tà		Torture or cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment or punishment		
OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS			ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS	
		and marginalized groups, canface heightened egrading treatment or punishment.	 Trends of documented and reported incidence of such treatment targeting IDPs included in analysis. 	
• Minorities, women, children and people with political (or attributed) affiliations in specific situations are at particular risk.		• • •	 Advocacy and support for victims to be assisted with health, legal aid and psychosocial support and for specific prevention and protection measures by national authorities, who are accountable for preventing and prosecuting such crimes. 	
	ASC FRAMEWORK ON INTERNAL → IASC criteria: Long-term safety, security and freedom of movement DISPLACEMENT AND SDGs → SDG 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions			



TRAFFICKING & LABOUR

Trafficking in Persons, Forced Labour or Slavery-Like Practices

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	OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS	ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS	
	increased risk of exploitation, trafficking, and forced labour due to lack ces, documentation, and support networks.	 Analysis of trafficking risks among IDP populations and support to local / national actors in preventing and responding to trafficking. 	
• IDP camps and settlements can be particularly vulnerable to trafficking networks.		 Advocacy for Ministries of Justice and Interior to be equipped to address trafficking and strengthen law enforcement. 	
		• Specific attention should be paid to minorities in societies with discriminatory and/or hierarchical social structures.	
		 Advocate for ratification and implementation of the international Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. 	

PART 2: Example from Ukraine: Protection Action Plan to Address Eviction or Destruction of Personal Property in Ukraine

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) has provided a monthly allowance to many IDPs. Since 2023, the Cabinet of Ministers has progressively shifted from a blanket approach to a more targeted system by restricting the eligibility criteria for IDP allowances.



THEFT & EVICTION

Theft, extortion, forced eviction or destruction of personal property

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TYPE OF ACTION	ACTIVITIES	SYNERGIES WITH DEVELOPMENT / OTHER ACTORS		
RESPONSIVE (Preventing, mitigating or alleviating immediate effects of protection risks, including resulting needs)	 Dissemination of information on the new law and related procedures Strengthening of legal aid services Advocacy with humanitarian actors and MoSP Development of a monitoring tool to assess impact of the targeted approach. 	Protection Cluster (at national and local levels) and sectoral partners in support to MoSP.		
REMEDIAL (Restoring people ´s dignity and living conditions)	 Rental subsidies Advocacy with authorities to strengthen employment schemes and referrals to social protection mechanisms 	MoSP with the support of the Protection Cluster and its national members.		
ENVIRONMENTAL BUILDING (Fostering an environment that enables or encourages full respect for individual rights)	 Advocacy to expedite the implementation of long-term programmes offering a holistic package for rental and employment support, to prevent IDPs from falling back into the humanitarian caseload" Development of social housing schemes, including for IDPs Strengthening of restitution and compensation mechanisms 	Development actors such as UNDP and the World Bank, as well as national actors at the sectoral level and donors		

Considering the significance of these legislative changes and their potential impact on IDPs, including the increased risk of negative coping mechanisms or forced return to unsafe areas, the Protection Cluster, in collaboration with Inter-Cluster Coordination Group, has taken several measures to mitigate these risks and contribute to evidence-based advocacy:

- 1. The PC, along with MoSP and national NGOs, developed and disseminated information materials for IDPs and social protection entities.
- 2. The PC launched a call to its partners to monitor the situation of IDPs following the legal amendments, enhance awareness-raising efforts among IDPs regarding the changes and their eligibility, and provide protection counselling and legal aid for IDPs whose applications were rejected.
- 3. The PC raised awareness about the implications of the amendments for wider humanitarian programming and engaged at the operational level to support local actors in addressing issues related to the IDP allowance at the regional level.
- 4. To ensure inclusion of vulnerable IDPs into the eligibility criteria for payment of the IDP allowance, the PC and national NGOs engaged in successful advocacy efforts with MoSP. As a result, five additional vulnerable groups of IDPs were added to the eligibility criteria by the Cabinet of Ministers.
- 5. Finally, to support and systematize protection partners' data collection efforts on the impact of the legal amendments, the PC launched a thematic Kobo monitoring tool.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS GUIDANCE FOR PROTECTION CLUSTERS

One of the main protection risks reported in surveys was eviction from rented accommodation¹. IDPs who were deemed ineligible for continued IDP allowance payments anticipated that they would no longer have sufficient financial means to pay rent. In response, the PC, along with national NGOs (including PC partners), actively participated in drafting the rental subsidy programme managed by MoSP. As a result, in October 2024, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted a resolution establishing an experimental rental subsidy program for IDPs.

The next step, led by development actors, is to develop the social housing offer in displacement affected areas to meet the needs of both host communities and displaced persons. Additionally, efforts will focus on ensuring effective and efficient property restitution and compensation mechanisms for displaced persons.

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^{1.} https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/update-changes-payment-idp-allowance-cmu-resolution-332-enuk