



Global Protection Cluster

PRACTICAL GUIDANCE

ROLE OF PROTECTION  
CLUSTERS IN  
DURABLE SOLUTIONS  
FOR INTERNALLY  
DISPLACED PERSONS



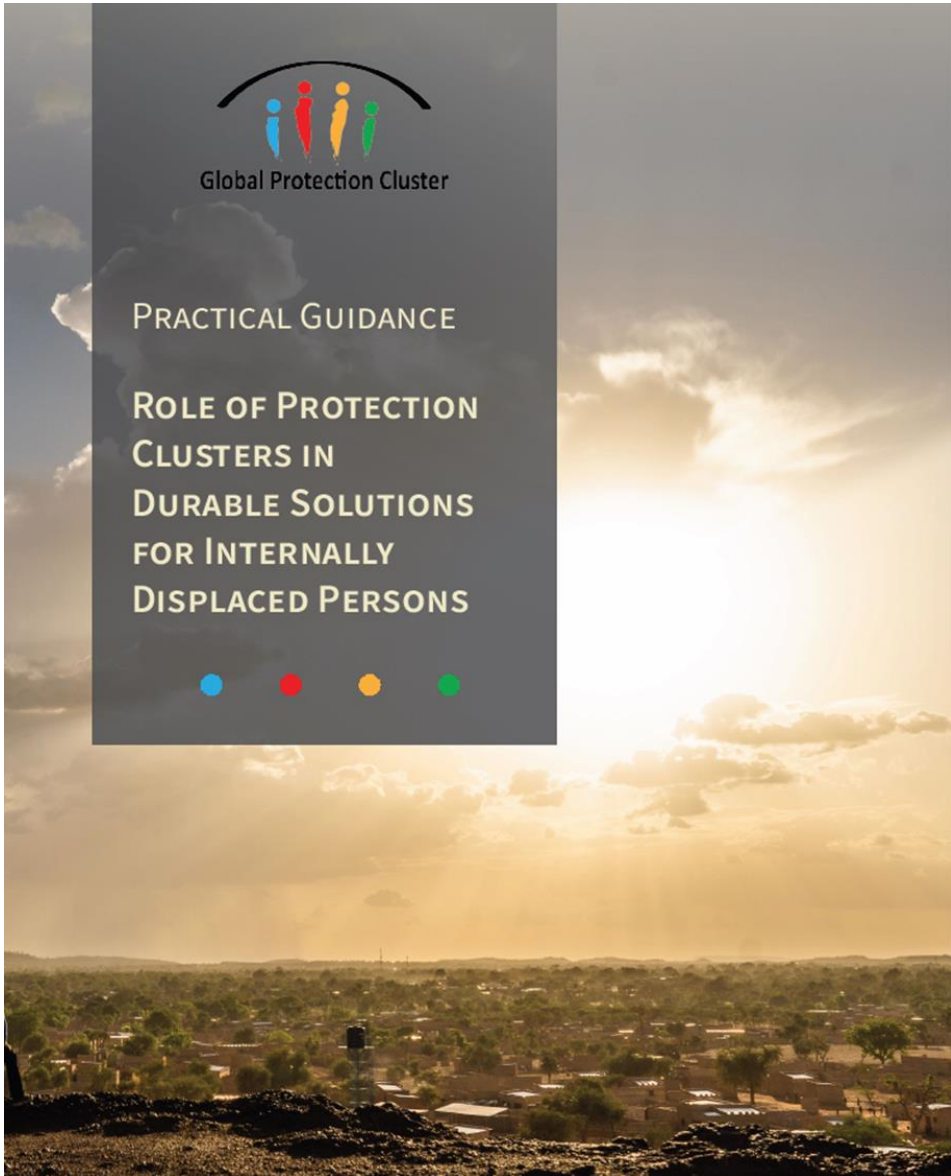
# GPC Webinar - Launch of the Durable Solutions Guidance

20 March 2025








Global Protection Cluster





# Agenda

-  Introduction to the guidance: its goals and objectives
-  How does the guidance work?
-  How to use it?
-  Related tools in annexes
-  Questions and answers



# Guidance

# Goal, target audience and Objectives



## **Goal:**

Define the role of the Protection Cluster and its Areas of Responsibility (AoRs) in durable solutions processes to ensure that protection remains central to solutions planning and programming.

## **Specific Objectives :**

- ✓ Provide Protection Clusters with practical entry points to contribute to durable solution processes from the onset of displacement crises, ensuring a smooth transition toward sustainable solutions for and with displacement-affected communities.
- ✓ Strategically use existing protection data, analysis, advocacy and partnerships to anchor solutions processes in protection standards and principles.

## **Target audience :**

Protection Cluster and AoR Coordinators, and Protection Cluster members, where applicable.



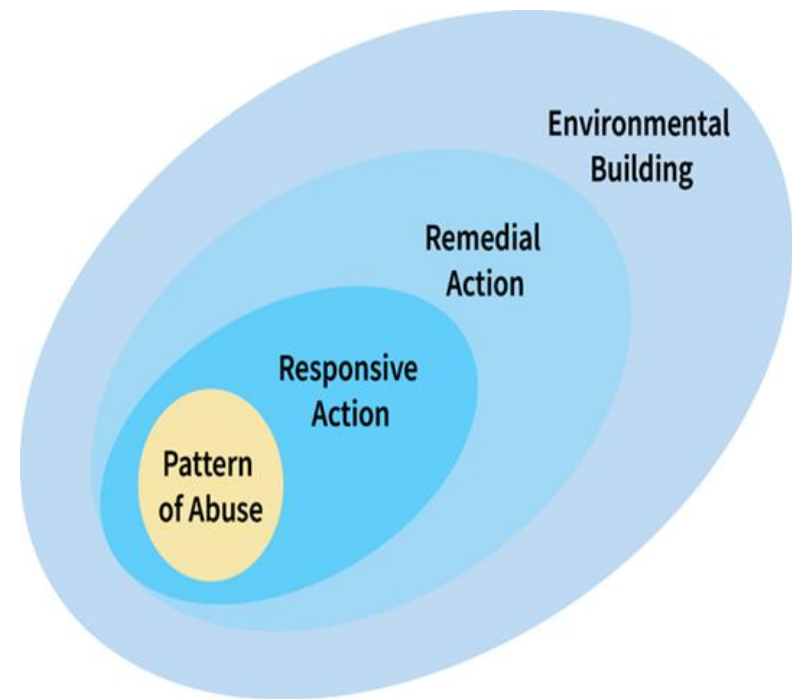
# Key messages

- Durable solutions are about restoring rights and, therefore, the **ultimate protection outcome**. Durable solutions won't be achieved if IDPs are not protected.
- Solutions initiatives **must be inclusive**. They must not leave segments of the population further behind or create new protection risks. Protection interventions can be aligned with progressive solutions-oriented approaches.
- Durable solutions must be embedded **from the onset of displacement** crises, with humanitarian actors, especially protection actors, playing a crucial role in laying the groundwork for solutions.
- Humanitarian actors, including Protection Clusters, should **not create parallel systems**. Instead, they should support national and local authorities in ensuring IDPs have access to national or local services. These systems should be strengthened and improved to benefit both newly arrived displaced persons and host communities.



# The Egg model and durable solutions

- The Egg Model strategically frames protection response into three spheres of activities, ensuring a comprehensive and **long-term approach to protection**.
- These activities range from **responsive actions** to **environment-building efforts**, reinforcing the **sustainability** of protection interventions.
- The Model highlights the role of Protection actors in:
  - Creating a conducive environment for durable solutions.
  - Integrating protection efforts with development and peace-building initiatives.
  - Ensuring a holistic approach that addresses immediate protection risks while fostering long-term stability and resilience



# Guidance principles and implementation approach

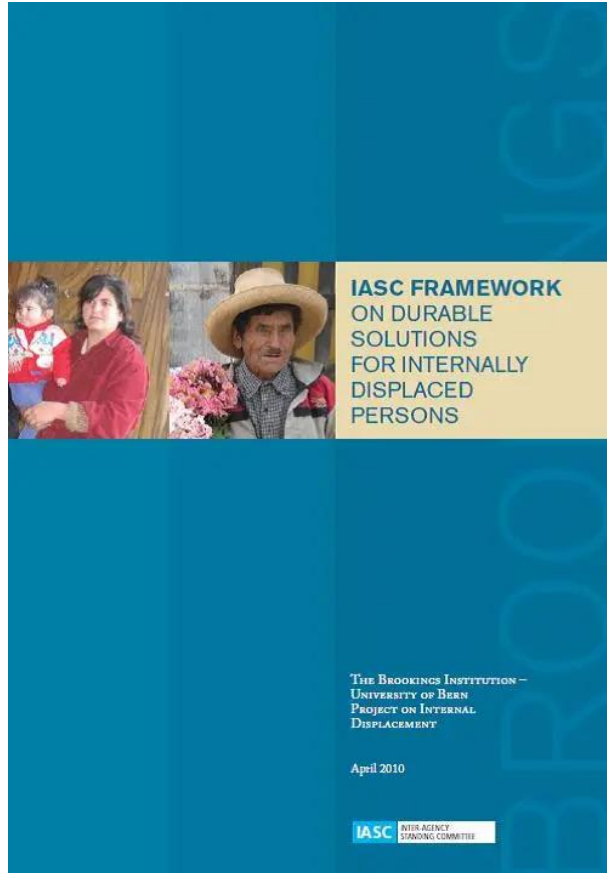


- **Minimising additional workload:**
  - Proposed entry points are fully aligned with the core functions of Protection Clusters and existing protection response effort.
- **A flexible and context-specific approach:**
  - Proposed entry points are structured as a menu of options, providing indicative rather than prescriptive guidance. There should be context-driven, based on feasibility and country-level Protection Cluster priorities.
- **Engagement limitations in challenging contexts:**
  - Protection monitoring and advocacy on protection standards and durable solutions principles in countries where governments are unwilling/unable to uphold the rights of all citizens/residents
- **Bridging humanitarian and development efforts:**
  - This guidance focuses on how Protection Clusters can support both humanitarian and development actors in durable solutions processes.



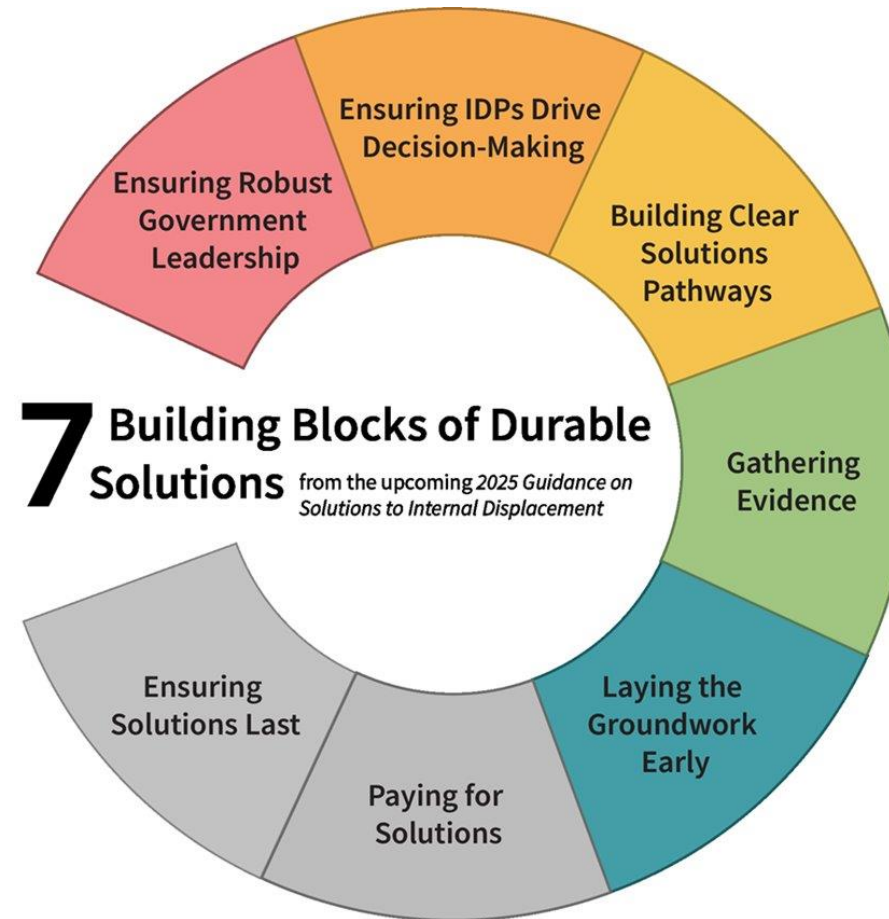


# An approach based on what already exists





# 7 Building Blocks of Durable Solutions



# 1. Entry points for protection-centered durable solutions: a working framework



Building Blocks <i>from the 2025 Guidance on Solutions to Internal Displacement</i>		IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs
<b>ENSURING ROBUST GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP</b>		<b>IASC Principle:</b> The primary responsibility to provide durable solutions for IDPs needs to be assumed by the <b>national authorities</b> .
<b>ENSURING IDPs DRIVE DECISION-MAKING</b>		<p><b>IASC Principle:</b> IDPs have the <b>right to make an informed and voluntary decision</b> on what durable solution to pursue, and to <b>participate in the planning and management</b> of durable solutions.</p> <p><b>IASC Rights-Based Approach:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDPs are in a position to make an <b>informed and voluntary decision</b> on the durable solution they would like to pursue.</li> <li>• They <b>participate in the planning and management</b> of the durable solution so that their needs and rights are considered in recovery and development strategies.</li> <li>• IDPs have access to effective mechanisms that <b>monitor the process and the conditions</b> on the ground.</li> <li>• IDPs are at least indirectly <b>involved in peace processes and peace building efforts</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>IASC Criteria:</b> Participation in public affairs at all levels on an equal basis with the resident population.</p>
<b>BUILDING CLEAR SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS</b>		<p><b>IASC Principle:</b> Under <b>no circumstances</b> should IDPs be <b>encouraged or compelled</b> to return or relocate to areas where their <b>life, safety, liberty or health</b> would be at risk.</p> <p><b>IASC Guidance:</b> IDPs have <b>safe, unimpeded and timely access</b> to all actors supporting the achievement of durable solutions including non-governmental and international humanitarian or development actors.</p>
<b>GATHERING EVIDENCE for Protection-Informed Durable Solutions</b>		<b>IASC Guidance:</b> IDPs have access to <b>effective mechanisms</b> that monitor the <b>process and conditions</b> on the ground; They <b>participate</b> in the <b>planning and management</b> of durable solutions so their rights and needs are considered in recovery and development strategies.
<b>LAYING THE GROUNDWORK EARLY</b>		<p><b>IASC Criteria:</b> Long-term safety, security and freedom of movement.</p> <p><b>HLP Rights and Durable Solutions</b> covering <b>IASC Criteria:</b> Access to adequate standards of living and access to effective mechanisms that restore their housing, land and property or provide compensation.</p> <p><b>IASC Criteria:</b> Access to and replacement of <b>personal and other documentation</b>.</p> <p><b>IASC Criteria:</b> Access to <b>justice and effective remedies</b>.</p>



## ENSURING ROBUST GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP

**IASC Principle:** The primary responsibility to provide durable solutions for IDPs needs to be assumed by the national authorities.

- Overarching Questions**
- Have **national crisis response systems** and **mainstream services** been reinforced to serve IDPs and host communities over the long term, contributing to their progression to durable solutions?
  - Do IDPs have **equal access** to protection and services on par with other citizens?
  - Have the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and/or the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs in Africa (Kampala Convention) been incorporated into national law as necessary<sup>2</sup>?
  - Are displacement and IDPs included in **national and local development and ministries' sectoral plans**, strategies, and associated budgets?

IDPs are citizens or habitual residents of their countries and, therefore do not have a displacement-specific legal status according to international law. **National authorities** are **responsible for their protection** and for leading solutions to displacement in line with international standards and national laws and policies. While international support may be required, governments must remain in the lead.

Whenever possible, Protection Clusters should **avoid creating parallel systems**. Instead, they should **support national and local authorities** in ensuring IDPs' access to strengthened national and local systems and services. These services should be reinforced and improved to serve both newly displaced persons and host communities.

### MENU OF OPTIONS

- **Support in Strengthening Laws, Policies and Strategies to Better Protect IDPs Over the Long Term**
  - Advocate for and support the development of specific **law and policy frameworks** or strategies on internal displacement and/or durable solutions, as relevant.
  - Advocate for the **creation or capacity strengthening of IDP focal point institutions** at national and local levels to enhance institutional framework for national IDP responses.
  - Consider initiating or supporting a review of national legislation to identify gaps, obstacles, and entry points that affect IDPs' access to rights. This can help Protection Clusters and partners identify strategic interventions.
  - Engage with relevant ministries to advocate for and support the inclusion of displacement and IDPs in development and sectoral plans, and related budgets, particularly in areas such as disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, documentation, housing, social protection, health, agriculture, and electoral processes.
- **Strengthen National and Local Capacities to Respond to Displacement Crisis and Lay the Ground for Solutions**
  - **Assess existing crisis response systems** and capacities at the national, local, and community levels and how they have been impacted by humanitarian and displacement crises:
    - Collaborate with national and local actors and protection and development partners to

# A user-friendly and practical guidance

- Each entry point is accessible as a two-pager file on the GPC website.
- The menu of options for each entry point is presented as bullet points.
- Promising practices from geographically diverse countries illustrate each entry point synthetically with links to key resource documents.



## ENSURING ROBUST GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP

**IASC Principle:** The primary responsibility to provide durable solutions for IDPs needs to be assumed by the national authorities.

**Overarching Questions** Have national crisis response systems and mainstream services been reinforced to serve IDPs and host communities over the long term, contributing to their progression to durable solutions?

Do IDPs have equal access to protection and services on par with other citizens?

Have the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and/or the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs in Africa (Kampala Convention) been incorporated into national law as necessary?

Are displacement and IDPs included in national and local development and ministries' sectoral plans, strategies, and associated budgets?

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Whenever possible, Protection Clusters should avoid creating parallel systems. Instead, they should support national and local authorities in ensuring IDPs' access to strengthened national and local systems and services. These services should be reinforced and improved to serve both newly displaced persons and host communities.

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## GATHERING EVIDENCE

**IASC Guidance:** IDPs must have access to effective mechanisms that monitor the process and the conditions on the ground; They actively participate in the planning and management of the durable solution so that their rights and needs are considered in recovery and development strategies.

**Overarching Questions** Does the Protection Cluster promote a coherent and coordinated primary and secondary data collection system to inform response and durable solutions?

Does protection data and analysis contribute to inform policy-making and solutions planning?

Does protection data contribute to assessing IDPs' access to their rights and the protection obstacles to their durable solutions?

*By systematically collecting, analysing, and disseminating agreed upon and coherent protection information, the cluster can influence policy decisions, guide strategic planning, and highlight the risks and resulting needs of displaced populations.*

### MENU OF OPTIONS

- Ensure protection data is operationally relevant by integrating findings from protection risk assessments, intention, other relevant surveys and research and multi-sector needs assessment (consolidated under the Protection Analytical Framework) to support crucial evidence-based advocacy, identification of critical protection risks, related vulnerabilities, and barriers to durable solutions. (See previous sections on building clear solutions pathways).
- Contribute, when needed or requested, mapping existing data on solutions and identify gaps in the type of data needed to inform solutions planning and processes<sup>1</sup>.
- Advocate for improved displacement data collection, leveraging existing national systems, to include displacement in national statistics using the International Recommendations on IDPs Statistic (IRIS)<sup>2</sup>, in support of the work of the RC/RC, UNCT and HCT.
- Advocate for or support requests for external resources such as JIPS for IDP/durable solutions profiling to push the IDP agenda and/or inform policy and planning for solutions.
- Actively promote the continuous engagement of IDPs in reflection, interpretation and definition of results from protection data collection and analysis, establishing, when possible, common entry points for consultation for multiple data collection mechanisms.
- Assist in ensuring data protection and ethical standards are in place for handling sensitive protection information<sup>3</sup> and promote adherence to:
  - International data protection principles.
  - Do No Harm and informed consent approaches in protection data collection and use.

## BEST PRACTICES

Law and Policy

In Chad, the government committed to domesticating the Kampala Convention at the 2019 Global Refugee Forum. UNHCR, IOM, and ICRC financially and technically supported the government in incorporating the Convention into national legislation. The national Law on the Protection and Assistance to IDPs in the Republic of Chad was adopted<sup>3</sup> in 2023.<sup>4</sup> The Protection Cluster was instrumental in the development and adoption of this law in:

- Identifying and prioritising the need for a legal framework to better protect IDPs in Chad and reviewing the existing laws applicable to IDPs.
- Identifying relevant and key stakeholders and their role in supporting the national authorities in domesticating the Kampala Convention.
- Organising two key workshops to review the draft law and its validation.
- Formal and informal lobbying and advocacy.



# Focuses

- Law and policy on internal displacement
- The role of Protection Cluster in supporting IDP's rights to vote
- The IDP Protection Risk Assessment Tool

## Focus: The Role of the Protection Cluster in Supporting IDPs' Right to Vote

The Protection Cluster can play a critical role in ensuring IDPs can exercise their right to vote by addressing legal, administrative, and practical barriers. Key areas of support can include:

- Identifying legal or administrative barriers that prevent IDPs from voting and advocating for necessary revisions or policy changes.
- Supporting the organisation of election facilities to ensure IDPs have access to polling stations.
- Advocating for and supporting the simplified issuance and/or waiver of fees for IDPs to replace lost voter registration cards or supporting identity documents required for voting.
- Supporting the establishment of temporary centres in displacement areas to replace identity documents needed for voter registration.
- Monitoring IDPs' access to voting and identifying violations of their voting rights, including discriminatory practices or restricted access to election campaigns<sup>8</sup>.





## 2. Coordination mechanisms

### InterCluster Coordination Group

Joint assessments on IDP's protection risks, durable solutions aspirations and obstacles using the IASC framework on durable solutions.

Durable solutions remains a priority by including them as a standing agenda item for IGGC meetings every three/four months.

Localisation and inclusion of IDPs in national system strategy for all sectors when feasible.

Joined up durable solutions guidance and advocacy and operationalisation plan.

Participation in access working group

### Solutions working groups

Attendance of the protection cluster to the SWG at the technical level.

Clear information channels and accountability between the protection cluster and personnel involved in the SWG and solutions planning processes.

humanitarian-development-peace coherence, strengthening collaboration between actors in solutions planning

Engage with UN Missions



# 3. Key processes/joint humanitarian and development frameworks

HNRP	Centrality of Protection Analysis under the Leadership of the RC/HC	IDP Protection Risk Assessment Tool
Diagnostic Tool to assess (local) governance capacity to implement a solutions approach to internal displacement	IDP and solutions data	DS strategies and roadmaps
Common Country Assessment	UN Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)	National and Local Development Plans and Sectoral Policies

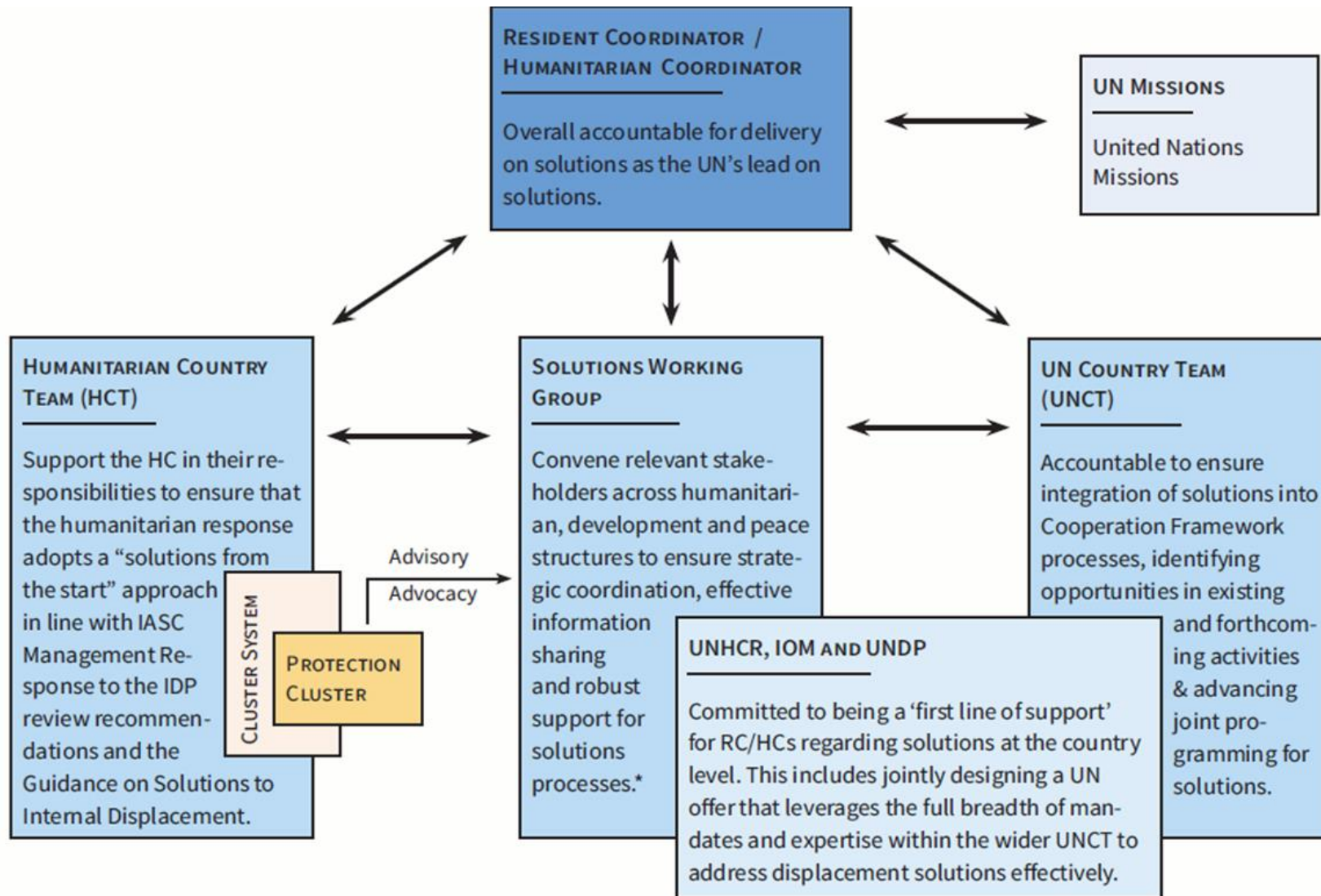







# Annexes

# Annex 1: The Protection Cluster and the Durable Solutions Coordination Mechanisms at country level



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

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

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ABDUCTION &amp; DETENTION</b> Abduction, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary or unlawful arrest and/or detention</p>	
<b>OBSTACLES FOR SOLUTIONS</b>	<b>ENTRY POINTS FOR ANALYSIS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS PATHWAYS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Communicate specific abduction and detention risks affecting IDPs, including root causes (e.g. discrimination, persecution, lack of documentation)</b></li> <li>• <b>Advocating for the role of national and local authorities, including law enforcement actors, in ensuring that IDPs receive effective protection without discrimination.</b></li> <li>• <b>Ensuring IDPs have access to national and local protection mechanisms, including police, courts and national human rights institutions.</b></li> <li>• <b>Advocating against returning IDPs to areas where their life, safety, liberty or health are at risk.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>IASC FRAMEWORK ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AND SDGs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ IASC criteria: Safety and security   Access to justice and remedies</li> <li>→ SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions</li> </ul>	

# Annex 3: IDP Protection Risk Assessment Tool in Government-led Solutions Processes

Template - IDP Protection Risk Assessment Table

Solutions Initiative	Population group(s) of concern	Risk(s)	Causes & Consequences	Relevant National/Local Institutions, Laws & Policies, Initiatives, etc.	Recommended Risk Mitigation Measures: By whom, to whom, & how
<i>Indicate the solutions initiative that has the potential to increase harm if it moves forward without mitigation measures (i.e., 'safeguards') in place.</i>	<i>Indicate the specific group(s) of IDPs of concern (e.g., in certain locations/ from typically marginalized backgrounds); list multiple groups per initiative as relevant.</i>	<i>Explain the risk(s) that the IDP group faces if the initiative moves forward; utilize the analysis by theme to inform explanation of the risk.</i>	<i>Indicate the various causes of the risk and consider the potential consequences if the risk occurs, again utilizing the analysis by theme.</i>	<i>Identify relevant law and policy frameworks, national/local level institutions or initiatives that may be applicable to mitigation measures and/ or that need strengthening.</i>	<i>List the recommended mitigation measures here and identify who is responsible for carrying each one forward – with particular consideration for the role of government/local actors – such as the national ministry or equivalent administrative body responsible for IDPs (if there is one), judiciary, parliament, human rights institutions, etc. -- and applicable national and local laws and policies.</i>  <i>Consider both proactive and reactive measures. Proactive measures are actions implemented based on identified causes of the risk (i.e. addressing the threats). Reactive measures are executed after a risk event occurs, thus addressing the consequences of the risk event occurring (i.e. by reducing vulnerabilities and/ or increasing capacities).</i>

# Guidance, Tools, Best Practices



- Guidance
- Modules/building blocks as individual 2 pagers
- Annexes and Tools
- Training module
- Country best practices
- Recording of this session and past events

GLOBAL PROTECTION CLUSTER

## Durable Solutions

### The Issue

Protection is at the core of the internationally recognised definition of durable solutions. A durable solution is achieved when displaced persons: 1) no longer have protection and assistance needs related to their displacement, 2) have access to their rights without discrimination based on their displacement. The IASC framework and its definition recognise the specific protection and assistance needs of IDPs, ensuring their right to access the full spectrum of human rights without discrimination. These include safety and security, access to livelihoods, education, health care, voting rights, personal documentation, adequate housing, land, and property rights etc.



<https://globalprotectioncluster.org/themes/durable-solutions>







**Questions?**



**Global Protection Cluster**

