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Protection Concept Note Community-Based Local Initiatives Project

Introduction

This document has been prepared to provide a framework for CLIP 2 implementing partners to outline the key approaches and core principles that should guide and underpin all protection efforts of the project. The content of the document is prepared in line with the CLIP 2 project and its donors' requirements and does not claim to provide guidance on all protection sector specific activities.

Protection

Protection services aim to protect persons of concern from persistent internal or external violence or threats of violence, and their effects, and from coercion and systematic deprivation of basic rights. Protection aims to ensure full and equal respect for the rights of all individuals, regardless of individuals' age, gender, or ethnicity, social, religious, or other background. According to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), protection is defined as all activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the relevant bodies of law (i.e., Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law, refugee law)¹.

Protection mainstreaming is the process of incorporating protection principles and promoting meaningful access, safety, and dignity in humanitarian aid. Protection mainstreaming ensures that protection lenses are incorporated into operations in other sectorial areas, allowing the identification of vulnerabilities, gaps, and trends. It is a way of designing and implementing all programs so that protection risks and potential violations are taken into consideration. To mainstream protection, actors need to understand the nature of the risk (who is at risk, from what or whom as well as the reason), and the consequences their actions or inaction may have on the threats people experience and their vulnerability and capacity vis a vis these threats² considered in all protection activities:

- **Prioritise safety & dignity, and avoid causing harm**
- **Meaningful access**
- **Accountability**
- **Participation and empowerment**

There are three main approaches to protection. Approaches to refugee protection often include a combination of these approaches. Below, the definitions are stated:

- **Needs-based approach** is a way to allow refugees to meet their basic needs and sees protection through a poverty lens by assessing mostly economic vulnerability.
- **A rights-based approach** promotes and protects human rights based on international human rights standards. It aims to empower target groups, encourage participation, and ensure non-discrimination.
- **Community-based protection** identifies protection issues through engaging with local communities, strengthening resources and capacity. It aims to do this at all stages of the intervention: assessment, diagnosis, prioritisation, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation. It aims to empower communities to achieve rights with safety and dignity.

¹IASC IDP Protection Policy 1999. The definition was originally adopted by a 1999 Workshop of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on Protection.

²Risks are understood wider than something that may happen; it also implies what is happening, has happened or might happen repeatedly. By applying this approach, protection needs of a given target population are presented as risks, so that the protection needs may be determined by assessing the threats faced, and the vulnerabilities and capacities possessed in relation to those threats. The protection needs of a given population depend on 1) the level and nature of the threat; 2) the vulnerabilities of affected persons; and 3) their capacities to cope with the threat – all in a given situation at a given point in time. For more information, please see page 3.



Working Definitions

Case Management

Case management is a structured method for providing help to a beneficiary. It is the process of helping individuals through direct social-work type support, and information management. It involves one organisation, usually a psychosocial support or social services actor, taking responsibility for making sure that beneficiaries are informed of all the options available to them and that issues and problems facing an individual and her/his family are identified and followed up in a coordinated way, and providing the beneficiary with emotional support throughout the process⁵. Case management processes under CLIP 2 shall be carried out by qualified personnel only (social service experts, social workers, protection expert, etc.)

Caseworker

The key worker in a case who maintains responsibility for the individual's care from identification to case closure.

Psychosocial Support (PSS)

Care and support which influences both the individual and the social environment. Psychosocial support may also be described as "a process of facilitating resilience within individuals, families and communities." PSS aims to help people recover after a crisis has disrupted their lives and to enhance their ability to return to normal life after experiencing stressful events⁶.

Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)

MHPSS is any type of local or outside support that aims to protect or promote psychosocial well-being and/or prevent or treat mental disorders that require psychiatric support⁷. Please note that mental health services under CLIP 2 cannot be provided.

Threat

Violence, coercion, deprivation, abuse or neglect against the affected population/individual. It is committed by an actor⁸.

Protection Monitoring

The identification of beneficiaries and needs through comprehensive and systematic methods carried out in coordination with humanitarian partners is important for the quality of the humanitarian intervention. Participation, localisation, strengthening inter-institutional relations, contributing to the sectoral policies and tools and planning interventions according to the needs must take into consideration for conducting high-quality and effective protection activities. Protection-sensitive vulnerability targeting is an essential element of needs based humanitarian assistance, and targeting should be dependent on vulnerabilities to specific issues/risks. It is expected that the partners will perform systematic protection monitoring and make interventions for the outputs so that they can closely monitor the protection analysis of the local area where they are located. Protection monitoring is a strongly recommended component to the protection project implementation as it would guide the organisations' actions for the provision of needs-based services in an evidence-based manner.

CLIP 2's Approach

CLIP 2 follows the key principles 'Leave No One Behind' (LNOB) and 'Do No Harm' with its program activities. LNOB is an overarching principle of the 2030 Agenda and strives to ensure that 'no one will be left behind' and to 'endeavour to reach the furthest behind first'. In the scope of CLIP 2, all actions must identify and target vulnerable persons who have not yet benefited from services and who are at-risk of being 'left behind' in the refugee response.

A community-based approach³ is a way of working for CLIP 2 that: ensures that women, men, girls and boys of all ages and diverse backgrounds are regarded and engaged as active partners in all aspects of our work; recognises their resilience, capacities, and resources; and mobilises and builds on the capacities of communities to enhance their own protection⁴.

Protection-related approach includes case management, psychosocial support, services in the areas of child protection and services to prevent and response to gender-based violence and legal support. Moreover, the services include information and counselling on legal and social rights, housing, awareness raising and advocacy for human rights as well as empowerment of vulnerable persons. It is the main priority that the activities carried out provide a protection output for the beneficiary.

Advocacy

To address protection issues in a comprehensive manner, it is necessary to consider the relevance and feasibility of advocacy interventions aimed at stopping the violations by perpetrators and/or convincing the duty-bearers to fulfil their responsibilities. Implementing partners are encouraged in terms of increasing inter-institutional dialogues and conducting advocacy activities to achieve strengthened protection outcomes.

³ A Community-based Approach in UNHCR Operations | UNHCR. (n.d.). UNHCR.

⁴ Community based approach prioritises establishing or working with existing committees (preference should always be given to working with existing groups or committees rather than establishing new ones), train committees, link committees to authorities and traditional duty bearers.

⁵ UNICEF Communities Care Programme: Transforming Lives and Preventing Violence Programme. (n.d.). Humanitarian UNICEF.

⁶ INEE Minimum Standards for Education: Preparedness, Response, Recovery | INEE (2010, December 3).

⁷ IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings 2007 | IASC (2007, June 1)

⁸ Humanitarian Protection: Improving protection outcomes to reduce risks for people in humanitarian crises (2016)



Protection Actions and Activities

Type of Actions

Responsive action: Aims in the context of an emerging or established pattern of abuse to prevent its recurrence, put a stop to it and/or alleviate its immediate effects. Responsive action is urgent (but can last for many years, as long as the threat remains) and its impact is immediate i.e. immediate attention to GBV survivors.

Remedial action: Focuses on assisting and supporting people while they live with the effects of abuse; such action aims at restoring people's dignity and ensuring adequate living conditions, after violence through rehabilitation, restitution, compensation, reparation, and psychosocial support. Its impact is short-to-medium term i.e. mainstreaming protection in long-term activities.

Environment-building action: Relates to creating and/or consolidating an environment - political, social, cultural, institutional, economic, and legal - conducive to full respect for the rights of the individual i.e. strengthening the judicial system of a country.

Type of Activities

SGBV (Sexual and Gender-Based Violence) Prevention: This service takes steps to raise awareness among persons of concern of the need to prevent SGBV and promote gender equality, and about services available to individual. Where it is relevant, intervention includes information on how survivors can access justice through formal and informal justice mechanisms. Sensitisation and awareness-raising, information dissemination on the health, psychological and social consequences of SGBV and availability of/access to confidential services can be counted as main activities. Male beneficiary involvement in these activities is crucial.

SGBV response activities: An activity qualifies as a GBV response activity if the activity is implemented to address needs of a GBV survivor to cope with the needs arising due to the experiences of a GBV incident. GBV response activities may include medical aid, PSS, legal aid, livelihood support, security, access to justice, shelter support etc. The response might differ according to the specific case.

It is crucial that skilled staff administer the services. For more information Please check the Interagency Gender-Based Violence Guidelines⁹.

Working Definitions

Referral

The process of formally requesting services for an individual from another agency¹⁰ (e.g., cash assistance, health care, legal assistance etc.) through an established procedure or form (i.e., interagency referral form); case workers maintain overall responsibility for the case regardless of referrals. Referrals must be periodically followed up.

Person with vulnerabilities

Means any person who, because of his or her specific situation or circumstances, requires specific care, attention, or assistance.

Risk

Humanitarian outcomes/needs faced by households and communities due to crises or social exclusion. These consist of threats multiplied by vulnerabilities divided by capacities – for a specific population, in a given scenario at a given time.

Vulnerability

Physical, social, economic, and environmental factors that increase the susceptibility of a community of individuals to difficulties and hazards and that put them at risk as a result of loss, damage, insecurity, suffering and death. Vulnerability is not a fixed criterion attached to specific categories of people, and no one is born vulnerable per se. For further details please check the Annex 3 in the CLIP 2 Welcome Package.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

GBV is violence directed at a person based on that person's gender and refers to any act that is perpetrated against a person's will and is based on gender norms and unequal power relationships. This type of violence includes forcing a person to act against their will by using violence, coercion, threats, deception, cultural expectations, or economic power. Although most victims of sexual and gender-based violence are girls and women, boys and men can also be harmed by such violence. CLIP 2 encourages partners for active involvement of men in GBV prevention and response measures.

⁹ Interagency Gender-Based Violence Guidelines

¹⁰ Public institutions, non-governmental organisations, UN organisations and all other service providers.

Type of Activities

Case management: Case management is a more time-consuming and resource intensive intervention and should be used for high risk, complex and sensitive cases (e.g., prevention and response to violence (including SGBV), response to the exclusion and specific needs of LGBTIAQ+, long-term support for psychosocial and medical needs for persons with disabilities). It may also address one or more protection outcomes. Case management may be defined as a provision of services whereby a social/case worker collaboratively assesses the needs of the beneficiary and the family, when appropriate, and arranges, coordinates, monitors, evaluates, and advocates for a package of multiple services to meet the specific complex needs of the beneficiary. Case management follows a specific six steps process. For further details, please refer to the annexed Guideline¹¹.



Case Management Costs: In cases where case management cost expenditures that support beneficiaries' access to services, include protection measures, are not frequently encountered and the spending limit or protection output is not clear, approval must be obtained from CLIP 2 protection specialists before proceeding.

Translation: It is the translation support provided to the beneficiary for the purpose of accessing the service for individual to benefit from the service in a referred organisation (public, private, etc.).

Transportation: It is the transportation service provided to the beneficiary to access the service in a referred organisation (e.g., providing transportation support to access secondary/tertiary level health services).



CLIP 2 partners are eligible to allocate expenses related to transportation and translation activities for the target group under the case management budget.

Referrals: As a protection service, it refers to the number of unique individuals referred to the relevant external service(s). Examples of external services include government organisations, other NGOs or international organisations.



Referrals must include an action to facilitate access. This can be accompaniment to the other service provider (e.g., with translator), or calling the other service provider with the details of the case, following up with the other service provider, etc.

Individual PSS session: A psychosocial support session led by a psychologist or otherwise trained specialist aiming to improve well-being to serve the psychological, social, emotional and practical needs of an individual.

¹¹ IASC Guidelines for Case Management & Child Protection (2014)

Type of Activities

Group PSS activities: Psychosocial support provided by a certified individual, i.e., psychologist or psychological counsellor, in order to increase the wellbeing of the participants. The group PSS activities and individual PSS should be reported separately. Group sessions can be scheduled one-time or long-term. The group PSS sessions shall be targeted, structured and taking place within a curriculum (e.g, group sessions for children with post-traumatic stress disorder). In order to measure the effects of group sessions on people's well-being, a pre and posttest survey prepared by experts is recommended.

Information counselling: A session aiming to orient beneficiaries on their legal, social or cultural issues. A beneficiary may be a person or a family.

Legal assistance/counselling: This service refers to assistance by a legal aid provider, including, for example, assistance in drafting documents and court pleadings, support in mediation and help in navigating the rules and procedures of state administrative agencies. Legal assistance and counseling under CLIP 2 shall be realised by trained professionals such as lawyers, paralegals, etc.

Legal Aid: According to the Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe ¹²“Legal aid” is defined as the provision of legal advice, assistance and/or representation by a legal aid provider at either no cost or subject to a financial contribution. Whether the individual may need to cover the relevant costs for legal assistance depends on their financial situation. If it is determined by the authorities that they do not have the financial capacity to hire a lawyer, they may be able to benefit from legal aid provided by the Legal Aid Bureaus under each Bar Association in Türkiye.

Legal aid is available for cases initiated against administrative decisions including inactivation of health insurance, deportation, administrative detention, rejection of international protection applications, withdrawal decisions or inadmissibility decisions as well as other cases falling under civil law (such as divorce, and custody), rent law, commercial law and labour law.

Under CLIP 2, GIZ do not provide legal aid directly; instead, partners can only refer individuals to legal aid services.

The contact information for all Bar Associations can be found on the Union of Turkish Bar Associations website. For more information, please check the UNHCR link.

Awareness raising activities: Awareness raising encompasses a diversity of activities and often includes efforts to increase knowledge about the causes and consequences of different types of violence, to challenge attitudes, beliefs and norms that condone violence against women and girls, and educate people about relevant laws, policies, services, and rights. Also, awareness raising activities are inclusive activities aimed at increasing the level of knowledge and awareness of the beneficiary on a protection subject. Distributing a one-time information brochure or presenting informative content is not considered an awareness-raising activity. In awareness-raising activities, it is necessary to increase the person's level of knowledge about the subject with a measurable outcome. For that, GIZ requires the partners to define the protection output achieved through each awareness-raising activity.

¹² *Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the efficiency and the effectiveness of legal aid schemes in the areas of civil and administrative law (2021)*

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