



Protection and Accountability Handbook



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October 2021

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About this Handbook

This updated Handbook^[1] supports WFP personnel to mainstream protection in their work. The handbook is conceived as a living document. Additional content will be incorporated over time, according to evolving needs and demand.

HOW TO NAVIGATE THE HANDBOOK

The Handbook has been designed in a modular manner, so as to allow users and readers to determine which section is most relevant. Each section can be read independently but may also be cross-referenced with material shared in another section, or with additional resources published on the protection channel at <https://newgo.wfp.org/collection/accountability-to-affected-populations-aap>.

This Handbook is intended to inform and guide WFP personnel – in particular protection/programme officers – in the following four core objectives of their work:

- To Build a common understanding of protection in WFP and with partner personnel, thereby enhancing WFP's contribution to achieving meaningful protection outcomes. The Manual is a shared resource for WFP and partner personnel on mainstreaming protection in food and nutrition assistance programmes. The overall aim is to translate the common understanding of protection into practical steps.
- To Direct WFP personnel to better engage with communities and respond to community dynamics, at all stages in the programme cycle. The Manual recognises that protection is an ongoing and iterative process, one that cannot and should not be limited to any one single moment in the project management cycle.
- To Guide the implementation of a protection-mainstreaming approach in real-world situations. This should result in women, men, girls and boys both with and without disabilities and from diverse backgrounds being agents of change, developing common goals and action plans for protection, including assistance and solutions.

- To Show the different roles that WFP can play in implementing protection, ranging from direct implementation to advocacy.

The task of mainstreaming protection has no single blueprint, and will take many forms according to context: each situation and context is unique. WFP, partners and communities will always need to conduct an in-depth analysis of each situation to agree on the best strategies. WFP's role is to mainstream protection through its food and nutrition security programmes. However, it can also contribute to broader protection outcomes by providing protection through its presence, by providing logistical support to protection actors, or by referring cases to be managed by others.

Note: providing food assistance does not constitute protection. It is only by mainstreaming protection in our food and nutrition activities that WFP plays a protective role.

[1] Building on the 2016 Manual <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000013164/download/> which complemented WFP's 2012 Humanitarian Protection Policy.

A woman wearing a wide-brimmed hat and a face mask, standing in a field of tall grass. The image is overlaid with a blue tint.

Section 1

Protection and Accountability

1.1 Relevance of Protection

WFP has endorsed the ICRC/IASC definition of protection: IASC defines protection 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. International Human Rights Law (IHRL), International Humanitarian Law (IHL), International Refugee law (IRL).”¹

WFP’s obligation to mainstream protection is grounded in the following normative framework:

- **International human rights law:** a system of international norms designed to protect and promote human rights of all persons; and
- **International humanitarian law:** a branch of public international law specifically designed to limit the effects of armed conflict;
- **International refugee law:** an area of law that ensures protection and assistance for refugees; i.e. people who are outside their country of origin and no longer protected by their own country, and are at risk or victims of persecution or other forms of serious harm in their country of origin;

Domestic or national laws, as well as traditional, social, and cultural norms also provide a framework for protection; and while not internationally recognised or universal, they are often more readily known and understood by affected populations.

WFP’s approach to protection is informed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) statement on the Centrality of Protection in Humanitarian Action and subsequent policy, which includes the following statement:²



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.

¹ Protection of Internally Displaced Persons, Inter-Agency Standing Committee Policy Paper, December 1999, [protection_of_internally_displaced_persons_inter_agency_standing_committee_policy_paper_0.pdf](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/agency_standing_committee_policy_paper_0.pdf) (interagencystandingcommittee.org)

² Inter-Agency Standing Committee. 2013. Statement: The centrality of protection in humanitarian action. https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/the_centrality_of_protection_in_humanitarian_action_english.pdf and Inter-Agency Standing Committee. 2016. Policy on protection in humanitarian action. <https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/protection-priority-global-protection-cluster/documents/iasc-policy-protection-humanitarian-action>.

WFP's approach is further grounded in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development aim of "leaving no one behind" and the Secretary-General's "Call to Action for Human Rights".³

Based on this framework, the updated WFP Protection and Accountability Policy (2020) understands protection as **"activities that aim to prevent, reduce, mitigate and respond to the risks and consequences of violence, coercion, deprivation and abuse for persons, groups and communities"**.⁴

Food insecurity is often a consequence of people's inability to exercise their basic rights. Moreover, food insecurity can exacerbate political instability and violence, which in turn result in human rights abuses. A rights-based approach is a conceptual framework that integrates the norms, standards and principles of internationally recognised human rights standards into the policies, programmes and processes of development and humanitarian actors.

The objective of a human-rights based approach is to promote and protect human rights. It is guided by the principles of universality, indivisibility, equality and non-discrimination, participation and accountability. The principles of equality and freedom from discrimination are central. The participation and empowerment of individuals and communities to enable them to exercise their rights and promote change is key to implementing a human-rights based approach.⁵

Beyond the normative framework and the Protection and Accountability Policy, WFP's approach to integrating protection is in line with the Sphere protection principles, a set of standards for the delivery of quality humanitarian response.⁶

1.2 Mainstreaming Protection

Mainstreaming protection is an imperative for all humanitarian actors engaged in humanitarian response. There are 4 principles for mainstreaming protection:

1. Prioritise safety and dignity and avoid causing harm: Prevent and minimise as much as possible any unintended negative effects of intervention, which can increase people's vulnerability to both physical and psychosocial risks.

2. Meaningful access: Arrange for people's access to assistance and services – in proportion to need and without any barriers, for instance discrimination. Pay special attention to individuals and groups who may be particularly vulnerable or have difficulty accessing assistance and services.

3. Accountability: Set up appropriate mechanisms through which affected populations can measure the adequacy of interventions and address concerns and complaints.

4. Participation and empowerment: Support the development of self-protection capacities and assist people to claim their rights including – though not exclusively – the rights to shelter, food, water and sanitation, health, and education.⁷

Protection mainstreaming differs from protection integration or protection programming. See Table 1 for an explanation of the spectrum of protection activities.

³ A Call to Action for Human Rights, 2020:

https://www.un.org/sg/sites/www.un.org.sg/files/atoms/files/The_Highest_Aspiration_A_Call_To_Action_For_Human_Right_English.pdf

⁴ WFP Protection and accountability policy, November 2020, <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000119393/download/>

⁵ This is not the same as the Human Rights Up Front initiative, however it covers several issues including the human-rights based approach: <https://www.un.org/en/sections/what-we-do/protect-human-rights/index.html>

⁶ See Section 6.A for more details.

⁷ Global Protection Cluster Brief on Protection Mainstreaming, [brief_on_protection_mainstreaming.pdf \(globalprotectioncluster.org\)](https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/brief-on-protection-mainstreaming.pdf)

Table 1. Spectrum of Protection Activities⁸

	MAINSTREAMING PROTECTION	INTEGRATING PROTECTION (PROACTIVE ACTION)	SPECIALIST OR STAND-ALONE PROTECTION PROGRAMMING
DEFINITION	<p>Protection principles and concerns incorporated into humanitarian and development programming across sectors.</p> <p>A risk analysis is undertaken and programmes are designed to minimise risk to the greatest degree possible.</p>	<p>Projects or activities that have both food assistance and protection objectives, or are a means of addressing protection problems through food assistance.</p> <p>This can involve advocacy or assistance activities.</p>	<p>Dedicated protection activities focused on protection objectives as core to the programme.</p> <p>Implemented by protection agencies or those focused on delivering protection outcomes.</p>
EXAMPLE	<p>Protection considerations incorporated into food and nutrition programmes, e.g. considering lighting around latrines, installing family/ noncommunal latrines and monitoring latrine use to ensure safety.</p> <p>Safe collection of food rations by women or spaces for vulnerable groups in food distribution sites.</p>	<p>Interventions enhance protection, such as through presence or targeting assistance to at-risk populations. Provision of fuel-efficient stoves or alternative energy sources.</p> <p>Information campaigns on places of return. Advocacy with local authorities to change relocation policies.</p>	<p>Rule-of-law programmes.</p> <p>Refugee registration and assistance with documentation if more than 5000 people.</p> <p>Monitoring compliance with international humanitarian law and reporting abuses to authorities. Provision of medical and psychosocial care to survivors of gender-based violence.</p>

1.3 Integrating Accountability to Affected Populations

Accountability to affected populations (AAP) is one of the key principles in protection mainstreaming, and can be a practical way to contribute to protection outcomes. As such accountability is embedded in WFP's protection and accountability policy (2020). In 2017, WFP renewed its commitment to AAP by adopting the updated Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) Commitments to Accountability to Affected People (CAAP). These commitments relate to: (i) leadership; (ii) participation and partnership; (iii) information, feedback and action; and (iv) results.

AAP is defined by WFP⁹ as an active commitment to give account to, take account of, and be held to account by people negatively affected by food and nutrition security, or who face barriers to participation or access in food security interventions.

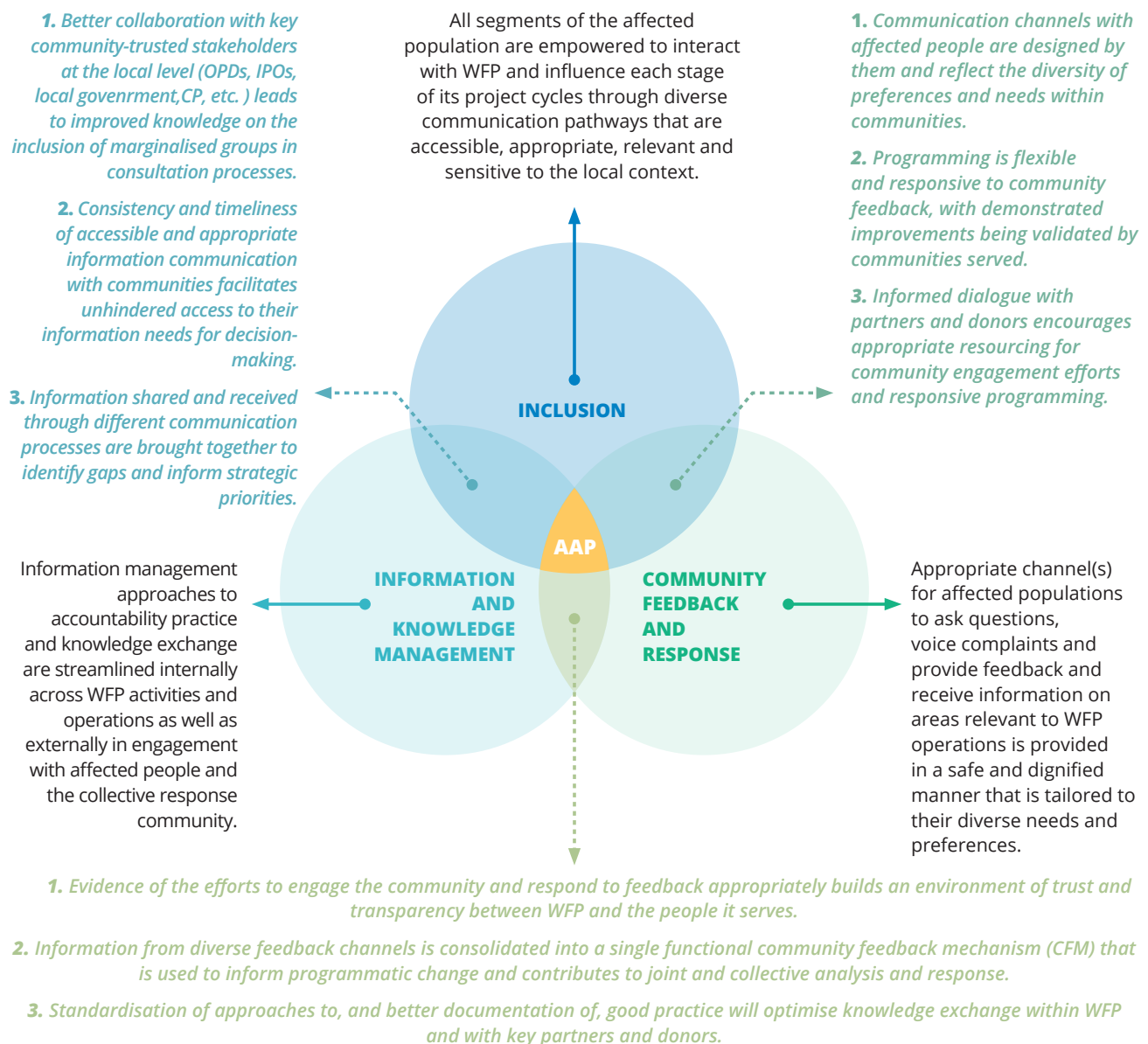


⁸ Table adapted from O'Callaghan, S. & Pantuliano, S. 2007, p.21 & WFP, 2012. Protection in Practice: Food Assistance with Safety and Dignity

⁹ [WFP Community Engagement Strategy for Accountability to Affected Populations \(2021-2026\)](#)



This requires WFP to establish appropriate approaches, processes and mechanisms through which affected populations can claim meaningful participation throughout the programme cycle. The 2021-2026 Community Engagement for AAP Strategy supersedes the 2017-2021 AAP Strategy and updates WFP framework for AAP as follows:



THIS APPROACH TO ACCOUNTABILITY ENABLES WFP AND ITS PARTNERS TO:

- Tailor protection strategies in accordance with the context, thereby avoiding ready-made approaches and generalisations;
- Empower communities, as rights holders rather than as beneficiaries of aid, to exercise their rights to meaningful ownership and leadership roles in the deliberations, decision making, design, implementation and measurement of actions that affect them;
- Recognise and enable marginalised community members to be represented and partake in meaningful participation in programme design, implementation and evaluation; and
- Ensure equitable and meaningful access by girls, boys, women and men of all ages, with or without disability, and with diverse backgrounds, to protection and access to assistance programmes.

HOW TO ACHIEVE ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS?

- Start by sensitising teams and their leads on AAP and the importance of community engagement by holding a brainstorming workshop where everyone can participate in a **building blocks exercise** and begin developing the framework of your context-specific **engagement strategy**;
- Produce a protection action plan for the participation in and contribution to **collective AAP** efforts at the country level;

- Ensure that AAP is mainstreamed, beginning with the inclusion of **AAP-specific questions** into assessments;
- **Identify roles and responsibilities** for ensuring meaningful AAP;
- **Investigate local community structures** to understand dynamics between and within community groups, including the identification of information gatekeepers and pathways, most notably for those groups and individuals with existing barriers to participation within the community;
- Consider pathways for engagement with the affected community that include safe and tailored access to and by different groups that are resistant to shocks such as COVID-19, such as remote and digital engagement methods;
- Establish mechanisms that engage diverse local actors, including (but not limited to) **project-management committees**, to communicate and capture feedback from all diverse groups within the community;
- Establish **functional and appropriate feedback mechanisms** that engage diverse individuals and groups within the community, ensuring the integration of your understanding of community structures and communication preferences, internal roles and responsibilities as well as collective stakeholder mapping in order to feed into the broader **AAP information management strategy**; and
- Ensure the AAP strategies and action plans are well detailed and adequately reflected in your refined community engagement strategy.



1.4 Obligations for WFP Personnel

OUR CORE OBLIGATIONS AS WFP PERSONNEL ARE:

LINKS TO RESOURCES

1

To fully understand what protection means to affected populations within any given context, by:

Identifying the people and groups that are most at risk

Understanding the drivers of exposure to risk

In this Manual:

1.1 Relevance of protection
2.1 Context Analysis
2.2 Food & Nutrition Security Analysis
2.3 Protection Analysis

2

To apply protection understanding in our daily work with the active participation of the people we serve, by:

Working with the right actors and in the right fora to achieve the desired outcome of reduced risk

Mainstreaming protection requirements in operational planning documents and partner agreements, including FLAs

In this Manual:

3.1 Applying Protection in Practice
3.2 Applying Protection Lens Across Activities
3.3 Cross-Functional Approach and Collaboration
4.1 Mainstreaming Child Protection into WFP Operations
4.2 Preventing and Mitigating Gender-Based Violence

3

To demonstrate strong commitment and leadership in identifying protection outcomes, by:

Advocating for the ongoing analysis, management, and monitoring of risk, for example through community feedback mechanisms

Implement flexible and appropriate response (activities) options to safely adapt interventions while consulting and informing communities accordingly

In this Manual:

1.1 Relevance of Protection (revisited)
5.1 Annual Country Report Guidance
5.2 Cross-Cutting Results Under the Current Corporate Results Framework
5.3 Security Council Resolution 2417

4

To uphold the highest standard of due diligence in how we participate and engage in WFP operations and relationships, by:

Ensuring activities are in line with international human rights norms and laws, as well as the WFP code of conduct

Ensure the sustainable and effective contribution of protection outcomes to Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17

Other relevant resources:

WFP Community Engagement for AAP Strategy 2021-2026



Section 2

Implementing Protection

Understanding a context is an ongoing process because situations constantly evolve and are rarely homogenous across any given country. Therefore, it is advised to integrate the following analyses at the outset of a Country Strategic Plan design and to update it throughout the year.

This section provides guidance on how various types of assessments can support the understanding of protection, which can then inform appropriate interventions. A range of assessment and analytical tools are currently available; each provide their own opportunities for integrating protection and better understanding the risk environment. For the purposes of this manual the following assessments will be considered: context analysis; food and nutrition security analysis; and protection analysis.

2.1 Context Analysis

A context analysis underpins how WFP designs and implements activities to respond to the different needs of women, men, girls and boys both with and without disabilities and other groups identified as facing particular barriers and challenges in accessing assistance. A context analysis should include the following:

1. Conflict dynamics: Considers the drivers of conflict as well as future triggers of conflict (e.g. economic and social issues, climate change, elections).

- Who are the actors involved? This may include the security forces and non-state armed groups. Consider their relationship to the community(ies), and where they are located. Consider conflict dynamics, and patterns of defensive and predatory behaviour in the location concerned. What are the incidences of violence / crime (in general and in relation to accessing assistance); is assistance contributing to or exacerbating tensions?

2. Socio-cultural power dynamics: Analyse power and decision-making relationships within the household and larger community.

- What are the gender roles and responsibilities in the community and household? Do men and women have equal access to food assistance, basic services and resources such as land? Education? Employment? Who is responsible for the preparation of food in the household? Who goes to the market? What are the potential protection risks and benefits of market interactions in the community and among traders? Who eats first and who eats last? And what are the food security indicators for female- and male-headed households?

3. Protection risks:¹⁰ A protection risk is the likelihood that a person, group or community will experience a violation of their human rights in the form of violence, coercion, deprivation, or abuse. Risks that people are exposed to should be examined and disaggregated by age, sex, disability and location. Describe the geography, targeting/locations, including information on safety/corridors/access - this can be illustrated in a map. Include joint analysis findings with protection actors.

- How were the locations selected and prioritised? What does this mean for the locations we are not targeting, and how we will communicate that information to the affected populations? Are these patterns long-standing or new? What is the likelihood of them occurring in the current environment, and which mitigation measures exist?
- What are the negative coping strategies adopted by women, men, girls and boys both with and without disabilities to meet food security needs? Are there groups that are particularly discriminated against or stigmatised? Discrimination may occur on the basis of ethnicity, religion, indigeneity, sexual orientation or other status or diversity.
- How are climate and protection linked? The effects of climate change are progressively placing the environment and populations at risk. Climate change is taking its toll on fragile ecosystems and impacting peoples' lives and livelihoods, often displacing them from their lands, homes and impacting their food sources. Are specific groups of people more affected by changes in climate than others? What negative coping mechanisms do people adopt to address the effects? Is there greater tension between households or people due to changes in climate? Consider how certain

¹⁰ For further guidance on how to conduct a protection analysis see section 2.3

communities are affected over others and what coping skills are being applied to adapt. Are intra-community tensions exacerbated over diminishing resources because of climate change? What measures can be taken to protect those that may be particularly affected, for example a woman with a disability who will need to walk farther to collect water.

4. Engagement of affected populations: How do women, men, girls and boys of diverse backgrounds describe their access to, and participation in, basic service delivery (including health, WASH, nutrition, markets, schools etc) and what are their fears/concerns? Identify resources available and required to overcome these barriers/challenges.

- Community-based approaches are one mechanism, but further efforts are required to ensure that affected populations are engaged, including safely facilitating the participation of groups that are marginalised or stigmatised, such as GBV survivors, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV, other groups as identified by protection risk assessments.

5. Demographics: Who is most affected by the crisis? Are there specific groups that face challenges? Are the most affected included in the people WFP is serving, disaggregated by age, gender, disability and other context-specific vulnerabilities?

Note that WFP assessments and reports tend to conflate gender

with women, age with children, and disability with people with physical disabilities only. When conducting assessments, data collection teams should collect disaggregated data at the individual level (age, sex, disability) at a minimum, to better understand the demographics within a context. Enumerators should also speak the required language, and ensure gender and ethnic balance. The tool/questionnaire should include relevant indicators and be translated in a consistent manner that ensures effective data collection preferably at an individual level for all household members.

6. WFP Activities: Consultations are required to understand the needs of the community as well as to understand the social dynamics. Once the activity is selected, then an assessment is required to identify what issues might arise, and how the activity will be delivered.

Note that it is observed that host communities are not always engaged in IDP contexts. Understanding host communities' needs is important to ensuring acceptance and positive perceptions of the provision of WFP assistance by affected populations.

- Was the affected population consulted in the project design? How were particularly marginalised communities engaged? Were there any barriers to affected populations being consulted? How will WFP's support be provided so as to identify how the project could link to conflict and protection concerns, for instance through registrations / distribution modality, number and location of sites?



THERE IS NO TIME FOR A CONTEXT ANALYSIS – THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!

In August 2014 a million Iraqis fled from ISIS into Iraq's Kurdish region, including many Yazidis. WFP retained local partners to provide wet feeding (cooked meals) in the temporary sites while NFIs were mobilised so beneficiaries could cook for themselves. It turned out that the partner personnel held discriminatory attitudes towards the Yazidis, and would speak badly - for example by serving them rudely and insulting them." In the selection of implementing partners, WFP did not consider the historically complex relationship between the Yazidis and Kurdish populations and the underlying tension between the two communities. In practice this oversight translated into perpetuating discrimination through actions including expressing harmful stereotypes, further stigmatising and marginalising the affected population.

A context analysis would have revealed the historical relationship between the different actors affected by the crisis, the factors and variables contributing to the Yazidi population's food insecurity, and provided key information on the Yazidi community's preferences and needs. This would also have allowed WFP to identify potential risks and mitigation measures when working with national partners, such as strengthening awareness raising on humanitarian principles and closely monitoring with feedback from the Yazidis on their treatment. Alternatively, we would need to consider alternative partners. This information would have been essential in meeting the project objectives.

2.2 Food Security and Nutrition

2.2.1. Food Security Assessments

Food is a key factor impacting people's exposure to and ability to cope with protection risks. Food assistance can be a powerful tool to help keep people safe and maintain their dignity. This is most impactful when assistance is implemented taking protection risks into consideration from the outset of programme design, because meeting food security needs of affected populations can help to reduce negative coping mechanisms.

Food security analysis, also known as Vulnerability Analysis and Monitoring (VAM), forms the basis for targeting and selection of individuals eligible to receive food assistance. These analyses also contribute to the design of WFP's programmes with partners. Prior to any intervention, WFP undertakes an analysis of the food security situation and answers some critical questions:

- Who is food-insecure or vulnerable?
- Why are they food-insecure or vulnerable?
- How many are they?
- Where do they live?
- What should be done to save their lives and livelihoods?
- How is the situation likely to evolve, and what are the risks?
- What are their coping mechanisms in times of stress?

Food security exists when all the members of the household have equal access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences. Analysing availability of and access to basic essential needs, in conjunction with food security, provides a more comprehensive overview of the severity and depth of the real food insecurity situation. **This requires understanding drivers of poverty and hunger, and their linkages with other vulnerability factors, including protection-related concerns.**

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR WFP?

1. Requires WFP to consistently gather age, sex and disability disaggregated data at an individual level within the context of food security needs assessments.
2. Expand the way it defines the minimum expenditure basket as a minimum amount of calories per adult/child/ household.
3. Consider other costs that contribute to the household's welfare and capacity to consume nutritious foods, acknowledging that depending on who is in a household, these costs will vary.

Mainstreaming protection relies strongly on community engagement from the initial assessment stage. Simple ways to integrate protection into food security needs assessment include:

1. Consult the existing data sets, identify proxy indicators that are employed in the household profiling exercise that can be supplemented with qualitative information.
2. Improve sampling and the implementation of surveys or questionnaires to ensure an equal representation of the affected population's needs, including:
 - **Demography:** disaggregated by sex, age, disability and other factors (such as language, location and livelihood, and where applicable to some contexts ethnicity and indigeneity) identified as relevant in a given context.
 - **Coping mechanisms:** which could be used to explore the correlation between protection related coping mechanisms (such as child labour, child marriage, withdrawal of children from school);
 - **Safety and access:** to services, markets and assistance, which could be used to explore the correlation between safety risks, access to fuel or energy, and lack of identification. This would include accessibility for persons with disabilities, understanding how age, gender and language intersects with meaningful access to assistance and information. Provide a comprehensive understanding of potential physical, social, digital barriers and capacities to overcome these barriers.

3. Collaborate with the relevant partners for technical expertise to support VAM with alternative easy-to-read questions that meet the requirements of the household/ individual profiling themes and core indicators.

4. Analyse the data and use the outcomes of the assessment to improve programming through a clear understanding of the protection landscape. Consider the following:

- Who could not be represented in the assessment and why? Disaggregate the information.
- Is a specific group discriminated against/marginalised and why?
- What are the barriers that created this exclusion?
- What is the number of vulnerable people who may be incorrectly excluded because of the way the needs assessment was conducted?

- What measures are available to consult individuals/ community that was excluded?

- Do these criteria seem fair to the community? Will they be accepted by the community?

In the absence of technical staff who could support on the qualitative data collection and analysis WFP should partner with protection actors to train field monitors on how to collect quantitative data, conduct focus group discussions, key informant interviews and provide qualitative research.

CASE STUDY: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROTECTION AND FOOD INSECURITY IN MALI

Food and nutritional insecurity in Mali are no longer seasonal. The March 2020 Harmonised Framework (pre-COVID) estimates predicted that needs would reach 5 million people during the lean season 2020 (June-August) including more than 1.3 million in severe food insecurity, i.e. 107% increase compared to the lean season 2019. The intensification of conflicts and community tensions and their impact on communities remains the main driver of food and nutritional insecurity in the northern and central regions of Mali.

The number of security incidents listed in Mali is currently at an extremely high level. This resulted in significant movements of population; the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) now stands at 250,000. Moreover, the degradation of the security situation in neighbouring Niger and Burkina Faso is also a factor worsening the humanitarian context in Mali, with the corollary of mixed movements of populations along the borders with an intensification of protection problems in the Liptako Gourma region.

Source: Food Security Cluster Mali, Note de Plaidoyer June 2020 (unofficial translation)



2.2.2 Nutrition Assessments and Surveys

Nutrition assessments and surveys must consider gender dynamics and inequality because responding to malnutrition requires WFP to tailor its assistance to ensure it can reach individuals and households identified as in the most vulnerable situation. Women, men, girls and boys, with special attention to people living in extreme poverty; people with disabilities; those affected by diseases such as HIV, tuberculosis and malaria; people facing social and economic discrimination and other groups identified as marginalised or stigmatised because of their displacement status (IDP, returnee, refugee), language, livelihood approach, food practices etc.¹¹

Integrating protection into nutrition surveys and assessments requires an analysis of the following elements¹² which are necessary for adequate nutrition:

- who has access to infrastructure, health services (including sexual reproductive health and maternal services), education adequate water and sanitation

facilities, basic rights, decision-making at all levels both in the community and the household;

- who does not have access and what are the barriers and contributing factors;¹³
- age, sex and disability disaggregated data on the affected population;
- an understanding of affected populations preferences and nutritious foods that are part of their traditional diet and can be locally sourced.

Regardless of the type of assessment (food security or nutrition), a protection analyses can support identifying such basic needs of various groups and their challenges in accessing them. This includes recognising the broader issues of personal safety and dignity, integrity and respecting that affected populations have the agency to determine their priority needs.

Section 2.3. Conducting a Protection Analysis

A protection analysis identifies the people and groups most at risk, and the nature of those risks. Analysis must consider the protection threats, vulnerabilities, capacities and coping mechanisms in a given context as well as differing needs according to: men, women, girls and boys with and without disabilities; and of specific groups that may be vulnerable or face marginalisation. It is good practice to conduct a protection analysis during the needs assessment phase. Refer to section 6b (resources) of the Handbook for specific tools and resources.

Protection issues are complex, however, addressing them can be more straightforward. Understanding the protection context requires analysing the different

experiences of people in accessing food and nutrition assistance e.g. age, gender, disability, sex, religion, ethnicity, among other factors. This ensures that humanitarian and development assistance more appropriately targets people experiencing vulnerable circumstances and prioritises inclusion of people that may be marginalised, stigmatised or discriminated against.

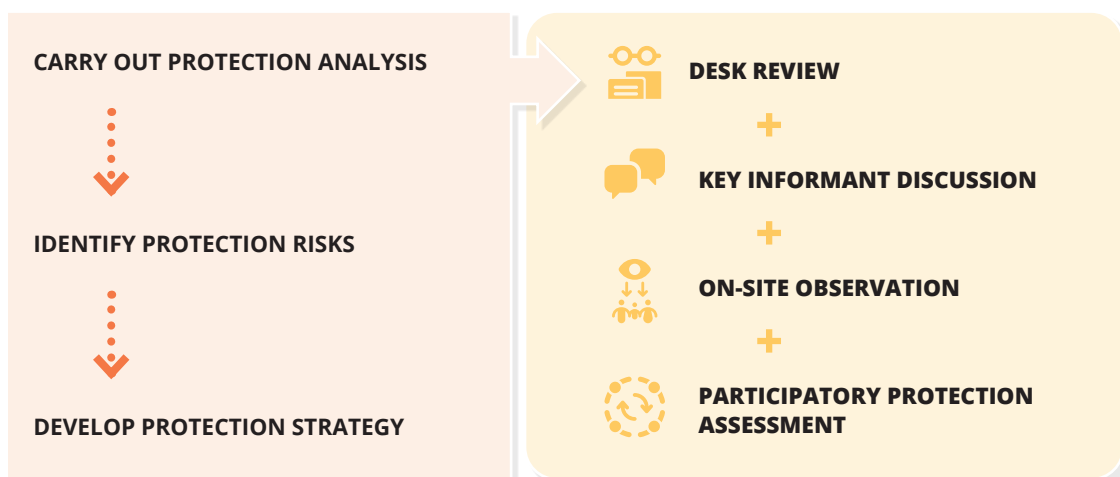
There is no one-size-fits-all solution to these problems. But there may be a better approach to identifying and addressing them. **The protection analysis should combine multiple sources of information**, and be revisited on a regular basis to consistently track progress.

¹¹ WFP, 2016. Nutrition Policy (2017-2021) Informal Consultation. <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000018945/download>

¹² These elements “access to infrastructure, health services, adequate water and sanitation facilities – which are necessary for adequate nutrition” are outlined in the [WFP Nutrition Policy 2017-2021](#)

¹³ There is a strong link between gender equality and the nutrition status of women, girls and their children, important factors are the education status, mobility, financial autonomy, age at marriage, age at first childbirth, patterns of decision-making in households and the care environment.

A protection analysis includes **four key elements**:



STEP 1 - DESK REVIEW

Gather and analyse relevant resources that might include reports from credible UN, ICRC, think-tank, academic institutions and INGO/NGO sources. Other resources such as media, press releases, and public statements might also help to inform preliminary analysis. Mapping of women's groups, organisations of persons with disabilities, and other community-based structures is also recommended.

STEP 2 - KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS

To supplement the desk review and better understand the link between threats to protection and food insecurity, qualitative information can be collected through key informant interviews. Sources may include WFP personnel; Cluster and working group members; Humanitarian Coordinator (HC)/Resident Coordinator's (RC) office; UN agencies; Red Cross/Red Crescent, INGOs, local NGOs focused on protection programming; Project management communities, mother-to-mother support groups and other community-based structures established by WFP; Religious leaders and community leaders; Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs); Civil society and community-based structures in the given community; Police, health services, psycho-social services; Government and/or de facto authorities.

STEP 3 - ON-SITE OBSERVATION

Whenever possible, the information gathered through the desk reviews and key informant interviews should be complemented and verified through on-site observations. Attempt to segregate FGDs by sex, age, disability and group protection concerns. Speak to a representative sample of the affected population in the area where WFP is operating. This should include both recipients and non-recipients of the assistance. It is often helpful to conduct joint assessments with WFP security and access colleagues for more informed analysis. Develop a detailed understanding of the risks people face in this particular context. As far as possible this information must be built from the perspective of affected populations.

STEP 4 - CONDUCTING PARTICIPATORY PROTECTION RISK ASSESSMENTS

Talking to people about the protection risks to which they are exposed to can expose them to further harm. Participatory assessment methodologies should therefore only be undertaken under the leadership of a protection advisor or other suitably qualified person.



TIPS FOR PARTICIPATORY CONSULTATION

- Be clear about the scope of the consultation - some communities suffer from “over consultation” and this can be a barrier in the future
- Clearly explain the goal of the consultation
- Inform the affected population about the purpose of the consultation and obtain consent - do not raise expectations
- Check whether the site for consultations is accessible for all people, including persons with disabilities
- Ensure that it is held at a time that works for parents with children
- Prepare guidance and questions that are accessible to those with low levels of literacy and avoid jargon



2.3.1 Mapping Protection Actors

Protection is a collective responsibility. It is critical to know who is working on protection in a given context, what information they are already collecting, and to what extent priorities and activities may overlap between actors. It is equally important to work with protection actors to harmonise protection data collection so as not to duplicate collection efforts and overburden communities needed to develop an understanding of the contexts we are working in. This ensures all actors are engaging with affected populations in an efficient manner and triangulating information between relevant partners where appropriate.

States: Under international law, the state is the primary actor responsible for guaranteeing the protection of populations within its territory. In international human rights law this is framed as the principle of “respect, protect and fulfil” which means the state must respect human rights by not interfering, it must protect human rights by measures like enacting laws against violations, and it must fulfill human rights through positive actions such as raising community awareness about human rights. If however the state is unable or unwilling to do so, or indeed directly engaged in abuse, then other actors

have an important role to play in protecting civilians or preventing abuses by other actors. This is known as the “international responsibility to protect” and falls primarily on other states, through the United Nations Security Council.

Protection actors: INGOs, NGOs, CBOs, UN agencies and peacekeepers help to protect and assist individuals at risk. Some of these have a specific mandate for protection (such as UNHCR for refugees or UNICEF for children). WFP can collaborate with or implement joint projects with these entities to develop appropriate strategies and protection interventions.

Communities: Communities can be the first line of support for people in vulnerable situations, developing local prevention and response strategies and organising their resources to reduce exposure to harm. Communities can connect with other protection actors to develop collaborative approaches to problems.

WFP & cooperating partners: WFP is responsible for mainstreaming protection across all interventions and programmes, including cooperating partners (CPs).

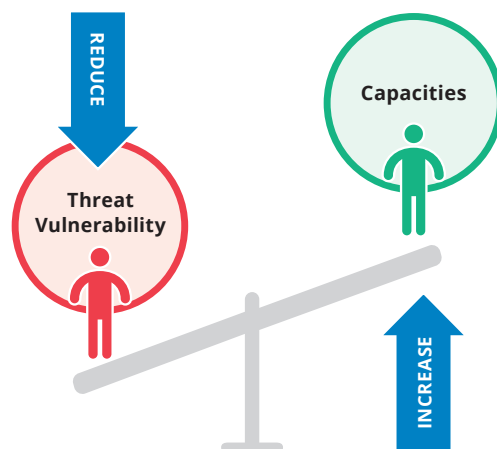
2.3.2 Mapping protection Risks

As we map out risk patterns, paying due attention to heterogeneity within communities, we also need to look at how we implement activities and ensure they are context specific. A protection analysis is a continuing process. This analysis can then help WFP and partners determine how protection can be mainstreamed and integrated throughout food assistance and nutrition programming. It can also help us understand if there is a need to define targeted responses to address inequality and empower those that are marginalised and discriminated against.

- How can WFP avoid exposing beneficiaries to protection risks when implementing its activities?
- Can food assistance reduce negative coping mechanisms that put people at risk?

A protection risk is the likelihood of the occurrence of potential harm that could come to an individual. The harm may negatively impact the physical or mental integrity of a person, her or his material safety, or violate her or his rights, with no or barriers to legal recourse.¹⁴

A protection analysis needs to consider risks, threats, people's vulnerability to threats, and their capacity to reduce threats to themselves.



$$R = (T \times V) / C$$

Protection risk (R) is defined by the presence of a threat (T), exacerbated by vulnerability (V), and mitigated by capacity (C).

When analysing risk, it is important to consider peoples' ability to increase their own capacities and identify enablers to overcoming risks. This helps to consider individuals or groups beyond vulnerabilities by considering their ability to strengthen their own capacities. These include access to information and knowledge, family and community support systems. For WFP, it is useful to divide protection risks into two broad categories:

A. PROTECTION RISKS WITHIN THE OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT	
Physical violence, torture, abduction, arrest and sexual violence (affects livelihoods options, productive capacities and access to livelihood assets).	Disruption to property and land rights (affecting livelihoods options, including farming).
Restrictions on freedom of movement (affects access to land, markets, migration opportunities, employment, networks and social services).	Discrimination on the basis of social status (affecting livelihoods options such as access to employment).
Forced displacement (affects access to livelihoods, services and networks).	Loss or theft of personal documentation (affecting proof of ownership of livelihood assets, freedom of movement, access to employment and services).
Forced displacement (affects access to livelihoods, services and networks).	Loss or theft of personal documentation (affecting proof of ownership of livelihood assets, freedom of movement, access to employment and services).
Attacks on or the theft of assets such as houses, land, hospitals and food, or extortion and exploitative practices.	Landmines (death and injury, affects access to land and other livelihood assets).

¹⁴ The IASC definition is "protection risk is simply the potential of harm befalling an individual. For populations affected by humanitarian crises, protection risks may include threats to life, safety and security, discrimination, and loss of access to basic services. While there are common elements, protection risks - and the action required to address them - will differ depending on the nature of the crisis. The ability of an affected community to identify and protect themselves against such risks may also differ; legal recourse may be difficult or non-existent. Protection risks in conflict or post-conflict situations will not necessarily be the same as in natural disasters and differentiated and context-sensitive approaches are required".

Forced labour and child labour.	Forced recruitment into fighting forces (causing death and injury, reduces productive capacities).
Health emergency that results in movement restrictions, increased militarisation and reduction in access to basic services and livelihood opportunities. Environmental disaster leading to the breakdown of infrastructure, access to basic services and displacement.	Working in a siege, garrison town or heavily militarised environment. Structural inequality: a relationship perpetuated and reinforced by a confluence of unequal relations in roles, functions, decisions, rights, and opportunities.

B. PROTECTION RISKS AS A RESULT OF WFP PROGRAMMING

Activity does not recognise the diverse needs of people with disabilities. Information is not adapted, leaving people with disabilities with no choice but to rely on family members or strangers to access assistance. This puts them at risk of exploitation.	Targeting of female-headed households in a livelihood programme that does not provide childcare facilities leads to eldest female child dropping out of school to care for the remaining siblings.
Information is communicated in two main languages and using written material, disregarding the language needs of the affected population, literacy levels and preferences. By reducing access to assistance and use of services, it can increase risks of exploitation. Food basket is not adapted to local and cultural preferences, and does not consider cooking fuel, putting women and girls at risk of GBV during firewood collection. M&E reveals significant sale of food to compensate.	High dropout rate of a nutrition programmes because it requires women and girls to travel more than one hour and past multiple checkpoints to access the health centre and their entitlement. Increase in community tension because IDPs residing in a host community are benefiting from unconditional food assistance, where there are vulnerable members of the host community equally eligible under targeting criteria, but who have not been included.
Misuse of beneficiary data during SCOPE registration (loss of data, data leak, sharing of data with a third party without consent, failure to request consent when collecting data).	Fraud and malpractice by financial service providers who request a payment from affected populations. This can increase the risk of violence and exploitation.
Forced labour and child labour conducted by WFP retailers/vendors.	Selection of activity does not reflect preferred livelihoods.

2.3.3 Understanding Vulnerabilities

A person is not inherently vulnerable. However, the situation they are in may render them vulnerable because of structural or other barriers to financial, social, physical, administrative or information sources. These barriers will affect their capacity to anticipate, prepare for, cope with, resist or recover from the impact of shocks or intersecting structural, or other, inequalities. Vulnerability should not be viewed in a generalised way as it is too broad to be practical when seeking to reduce risk. However, it is useful to consider how a person's experience of vulnerability factors at a given time may impact their access to assistance and their exposure to risk. For this reason WFP is giving increased attention to persons with disabilities as well as indigenous peoples, older people and children.



2.3.3.1 Disability Inclusion

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) states “Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.”¹⁵

Key Point: *interaction with various barriers may prevent a person from accessing or participating on an equal basis in society.*

The “[Short Set of the Washington Group Questions](#)” (WGQs) are the primary method used by many entities, including the UN. These questions identify the functional limitations of individuals that have the potential to hinder their full and equal participation in society.

IN 2019, 48 (72%) OF COs REPORTED THEIR COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN EXPLICITLY ADDRESSED THE NEEDS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. HOWEVER, MORE INFORMATION IS NEEDED ON HOW THIS TRANSLATES INTO PROJECTS ON THE GROUND.

HOW DOES WFP OPERATIONALISE DISABILITY INCLUSION IN PROGRAMME?

Certain key principles apply to any disability inclusion strategy as well as programming:

- Ensuring WFP programmes disaggregate data by disability, sex and age;
- Ensuring meaningful consultation with and effective participation of people with disabilities and their representative organisations;
- Designing programmes and all forms of consultation so that they are accessible to persons with disabilities;
- Including persons with disabilities as advocates and spokespersons for their own communities;
- Building the technical capacity of persons with disabilities and their representative organisations.

WFP has developed the following question to be included in monitoring tools to be reflected in the Corporate Results Framework (CRF):

Do you have difficulties doing certain activities because of a health problem? Do you have difficulty:

- Seeing, even if wearing glasses?
- Hearing, even if wearing a hearing aid?
- Walking or climbing steps?
- Remembering or concentrating?
- Using your usual language, do you have difficulty communicating or being understood?
- Washing all over or dressing?

Response options: 1. No difficulty 2. Some difficulty 3. A lot of difficulty 4. Cannot do at all

¹⁵ [Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(un.org\)](#)

DISAGGREGATED DATA

The CRPD is a unique human rights treaty in a range of ways, one being the provision of statistics, data collection and data protection. The objective is to identify and address the barriers faced by persons with disabilities in exercising their rights. The 2016 Charter similarly calls on WFP to “adopt policies and processes to improve quantitative and qualitative data collection on persons with disabilities that delivers comparable and reliable evidence and is ethically collected, respectful of confidentiality and privacy.” Data disaggregation also needs to capture the intersectionality of marginalisation.

Lack of data makes it difficult for WFP to assess and monitor whether its services are reaching persons with disabilities in need. The recent [Technical Note on the Mainstreaming of Disability Disaggregation](#) and ongoing learning on disability data within WFP will help to address these difficulties.

Data collection can be challenging. In the absence of primary data collection or if secondary data sources on disability are unavailable, the World Bank/WHO 15 percent estimate of persons with disabilities in the population may serve as the baseline. As with any protection assessment, context must be factored in. For example, in conflict settings the figure is often higher. The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) estimates 16 percent of disability is attributable to armed conflict.

MEANINGFUL CONSULTATION AND EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATIONS

This is a fundamental principle of any work on disability inclusion. It seeks to respond to the structural and systemic exclusion of persons with disabilities from participating in decision-making processes that affect them. Consultations must address the historical power imbalance between persons with disabilities and entities such as the UN, its cooperating partners and governments. There are guidelines available on how to effectively consult with persons with disabilities.¹⁶

Organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) are clearly defined - they can only be those that are led, directed and governed by persons with disabilities.¹⁷ These can be umbrella organisations of persons with disabilities; cross-disability organisations; self-advocacy organisations representing persons with disabilities in different, often loosely and/or locally formed, networks and platforms; organisations including family members

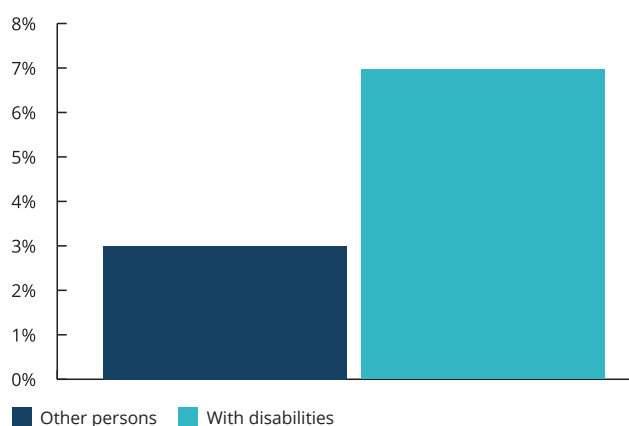
Figure 1: Global population of persons with disabilities (IASC Guidelines, 2019, Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action).



and/or relatives of persons with disabilities; organisations of women and girls with disabilities and organisations and initiatives of children and young persons with disabilities. While there are many organisations that work on disability, these are not OPDs and it is not sufficient or acceptable to consult only with them.

Gender Gap

(Difference in % points between proportion men and women accessing to food). Source: Eurostat Note: the table below doesn't disaggregate by gender, but by disability vs. no disability.



¹⁶ [UNDIS Guidelines on Consulting Persons with Disabilities](#)

¹⁷ For further guidance, see the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities General Comment No.7 on Organisations of Persons with Disabilities.

ACCESSIBILITY

Accessibility of facilities (buildings), goods and services (technology, communications, transport) and information is fundamental to disability-inclusive programming. Lack of accessibility means that persons with disabilities cannot take necessary decisions or live and move independently. When accessibility is factored in at the design stage, additional costs can be minimised.

TWIN-TRACK APPROACH

Both mainstream and disability-specific measures are necessary to ensure systematic inclusion of persons with disabilities. Mainstreaming requires ensuring a disability lens is applied to all programming decisions. To ensure equality, disability-specific programming may be required, which means providing targeted assistance for people with disabilities to ensure that they have equal access to such assistance.

EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICES



ETHIOPIA

In partnership with the Austrian Embassy Development Cooperation, 61 WFP personnel were trained on disability inclusion. Participants are more empowered and shared views on how to improve services. A systematic action plan has been developed in 2020 and aligned with WFP's disability inclusion two-year road map. Training in gender and protection mainstreaming in food assistance was conducted in Assosa and Dollo Ado sub-offices, targeting personnel, partners and regional government representatives. Monthly reports regarding safe and dignified services improved.



COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

WFP collaborated with the Age and Disability Working Group on a Disability Access Checklist and conducted a joint access audit in a WFP-outlet (where beneficiaries spend their food card credit), identifying a number of ways in which the outlet could be more accessible, both physically and informationally.



SOUTH SUDAN COLLABORATION WITH ORGANISATIONS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (OPDS)

WFP collaborated with OPDs and Humanity and Inclusion to enhance the visibility and response to the needs of persons with disabilities. This has resulted in the adoption of disability-friendly and responsive monitoring, collaborative analysis, immediate mitigations, such as adjustments to access support and communication methods, and the start of collaborations on developing activities that support the disability response.



2.3.3.2 Indigenous Peoples

WHO ARE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES?

In some countries, such groups may be referred to as “ethnic minorities”, “ethnic groups”, “aboriginals”, “hill tribes”, “marginalized groups”, “minority nationalities”, “scheduled tribes”, “first nations”, “tribal groups”, “pastoralists”, “hunter-gatherers”, “nomadic groups” or “forest dwellers”.

While there is no official UN definition of indigenous peoples,¹⁸ United Nations human rights bodies, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) instruments and other international law apply the following criteria. Indigenous peoples:

- usually live within (or maintain collective attachments to) geographically distinct habitats and ancestral territories;
- tend to maintain distinct social, economic, and political institutions within their territories;

WHY ENGAGE WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES?

Indigenous peoples are among the most marginalised groups in the world. They confront multiple human rights violations and abuses, including the dispossession of their lands and resources and forced displacements, which often result in their over-representation among the poor and food insecure. The rationale for WFP’s engagement with indigenous peoples is rooted in ensuring that no one is left behind, while also recognising the contributions indigenous peoples can make to fulfil WFP’s mandate given their knowledge of ecological and food systems.

A [WFP baseline study](#) was conducted in December 2020, focusing on indigenous peoples in the Central African Republic.²⁰ The study revealed that 67.4 percent of indigenous households surveyed were food insecure. Findings from a survey conducted among the general population during the same period show that 35 percent of the population in CAR is food insecure, indicating that **indigenous peoples are nearly twice as food insecure**

- typically aspire to remain distinct culturally, geographically and institutionally rather than assimilate fully into national society; and

- self-identify as indigenous or tribal.

Despite many shared characteristics, no single accepted definition of indigenous peoples fully captures their diversity. Self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous social and cultural group and recognition of this identity by others is usually regarded as a fundamental criterion for determining whether groups are indigenous, sometimes in combination with other variables such as language spoken, and geographic location or concentration.

Please refer to the [African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights](#)¹⁹ to view the criteria agreed upon by the African Union in 2005 on the term indigenous peoples in Africa.

(see [WFPGo](#) for baseline studies on indigenous peoples vulnerability to food insecurity).

As referenced in WFP’s Colombia country strategic plan, indigenous and Afro-descendants make up 73 percent of people affected by mass displacement²¹ due to violence. Loss of lands, lack of land tenure and access to resources have contributed to indigenous peoples’ food insecurity and malnutrition.²²

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Sustainable Development Goals SDGs include specific targets related to indigenous peoples such as targets 2.3 and 4.5 and indicators (1.4.2/5.a.1) are of relevance as they address securing tenure rights to land. In addition, parity indices for access to education (4.5.1) and non-discrimination (10.3.1) measure progress for indigenous peoples.

¹⁸ Refer to the [African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights](https://www.achpr.org/specialmechanisms/detailmech?id=10) (<https://www.achpr.org/specialmechanisms/detailmech?id=10>) to view the criteria agreed upon by the African Union in 2005 on the term indigenous peoples in Africa.

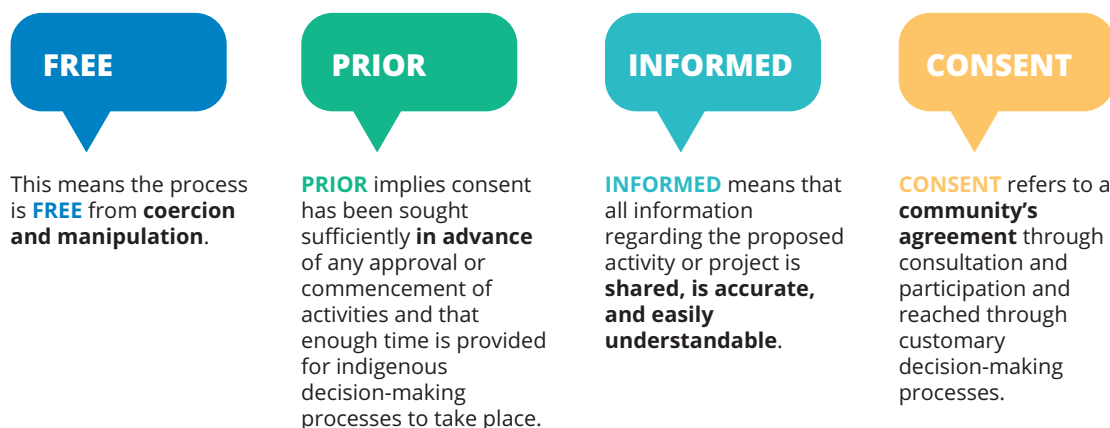
¹⁹ Refer to: [African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights Specialmechanisms](#) ([achpr.org](https://www.achpr.org/specialmechanisms)) for criteria related information regarding indigenous peoples in Africa.

²⁰ Accessible on WFPgo Protection and Accountability page: <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000127965/download/>

²¹ Refer to WFP Colombia Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021). p.3.

²² 80 percent of Guatemala’s fertile land lies in the hands of 5 percent of the population, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Meanwhile 80 percent of the indigenous Mayan rural dwellers remain landless. <https://www.refworld.org/docid/526fb749b.html>

THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF FREE PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT



As indigenous peoples have been largely absent from the planning and implementation of development and government policies and programmes that affect their lives and lands, inclusion of indigenous peoples in programme development from the outset is imperative. For indigenous peoples this means a consultation process that ensures the principle of **free, prior and informed consent** is applied in project development and delivery.

The UN-recognised principle of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) is a standard for consultations with indigenous peoples. It is recognised in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the [UN Convention on Biological Diversity](#) and the ILO Convention 169 on the Rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (1989). FPIC allows indigenous peoples to negotiate the conditions under which the project will

be designed, implemented, monitored and evaluated. Involving indigenous peoples in the decision making of proposed activities increases their ownership and engagement and helps guarantee their right to self-determined development.

WFP's Environmental and Social Standards recognise indigenous peoples' right to FPIC. WFP's experience with FPIC has been on a case-by-case basis - as exhibited by a project funded by the UNFCCC Adaptation Fund in the Republic of Congo. WFP established a process to obtain the FPIC of the relevant indigenous peoples - including the contingency for a community to withdraw its consent - in compliance with the principles of the Adaptation Fund and those set out in national regulations.²³ See [WFP's Guidance note on of Free, Prior and Informed Consent](#).

HOW DOES WFP ENGAGE?

Example 1. Prioritising indigenous peoples

The Republic of Congo is implementing a project funded by the Joint SDG Fund (2020-2022) focusing on social protection and indigenous peoples. It targets the Babongo people in the Lekoumou province, where four out of five people live under the poverty line, face rampant discrimination, and have poor access to public services. A key component of the project is ensuring

indigenous people's access to civil status documents by establishing a digital registry of the indigenous peoples' populations and delivering identity cards and birth certificates. Given the unequal power dynamics with the dominant groups, the project also strives to restore the dignity of communities through sensitisation communication strategies.

²³ In July 2019, six out of nine draft decrees were adopted to implement the 2011 Law on Indigenous Peoples. The decrees provided guidance for the free prior and informed consultation of indigenous peoples in the context of socio-economic projects, and for the protection of indigenous cultural, intellectual, spiritual and religious property and knowledge. Eer nd of mission statement by the former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Victoria Tauli-Corpus on her visit to the Republic of Congo. <https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25196&LangID=E>

The Republic of Congo adopted a law for the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples in 2011 (Law No. 5-2011). This law is the first of its kind in Africa, and its adoption is an historic development for indigenous peoples on the continent. In 2015, the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples were given constitutional recognition in Article 16 of the new constitution. Adoption of such a law enables indigenous peoples to claim and advocate for their rights at the national level.

Example 2. Cultural revitalisation as a component of food security

In Colombia, internal displacements have generated changes in indigenous communities' diets and food practices, reducing their consumption of traditional foods such as non-conventional food plants collected from their lands. This has increased their use of market foods such as rice. The intention of some projects in Colombia has been to recover the communities' collective nutritional memory through the development of recipe books. The preservation of their culture is a factor in protecting the communities from malnutrition. Moreover, the foods

indigenous communities consume have a cultural value in addition to a nutritional one. These initiatives can lead to cultural revitalisation and may bolster behaviour change among younger generations, namely appreciation of their indigeneity.

Interestingly, in Latin America, the concept of *Buen vivir* (good life/good living) rooted in the world view of indigenous peoples enshrining the interconnection between nature and peoples has been recognised in the national constitutions of Ecuador and Bolivia in 2008 and 2009 respectively.

Example 3. Climate change adaptation among the Awá and Afro-descendants

The UNFCCC Adaptation Fund is supporting a large-scale WFP regional project involving the indigenous Awá and Afro-descendants along the border area between Colombia and Ecuador - one of the most climate-sensitive and food-insecure regions in Latin America. The overarching aim of the project is to help build the adaptive capacities of the people in the

binational watersheds. This area was selected because the population groups in these two critical watersheds have been historically marginalised and affected by the prolonged conflict in Colombia. They are also particularly vulnerable to environmental degradation, which is exacerbated by both short-term and longer-term climate threats. The project seeks to strengthen food security and nutrition through climate change adaptation measures in line with Awá and Afro-descendant communities' priorities.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROGRAMMING

- Have geographic areas where indigenous peoples live been assessed or mapped by WFP or others?
- Are there any studies (by WFP or other agencies/institutions) that provide insight into differences in levels of food insecurity between indigenous peoples and non-indigenous peoples?²⁴
- What information is available at the country level regarding indigenous peoples' food security and nutrition? Is there a context analysis specifically for indigenous peoples that outlines their risks and situations of vulnerability?
- Does the country where activities are planned have a supportive normative framework?
- Is the data collected in sampling surveys disaggregated to include indigenous peoples (where applicable) and their socio-economic status and food vulnerability?
- Are indigenous authorities and leaders included in consultation processes?
- Have indigenous peoples' organisations and networks been identified as potential partners?
- Are the consultations implemented to ensure indigenous peoples' participation and free, prior and informed consent prior to WFP programme design?
- Are community feedback mechanisms made available and understood by indigenous peoples?
- Is information available in local languages where necessary and in formats clear to indigenous peoples?
- Are interventions affecting indigenous peoples culturally sensitive and respectful of their rights?

²⁴ See also when available censuses, national surveys, i.e. in India the 2011 Census and National Family Health Survey (2015-16) provides information between tribal and non-tribal groups

2.3.4 Referrals

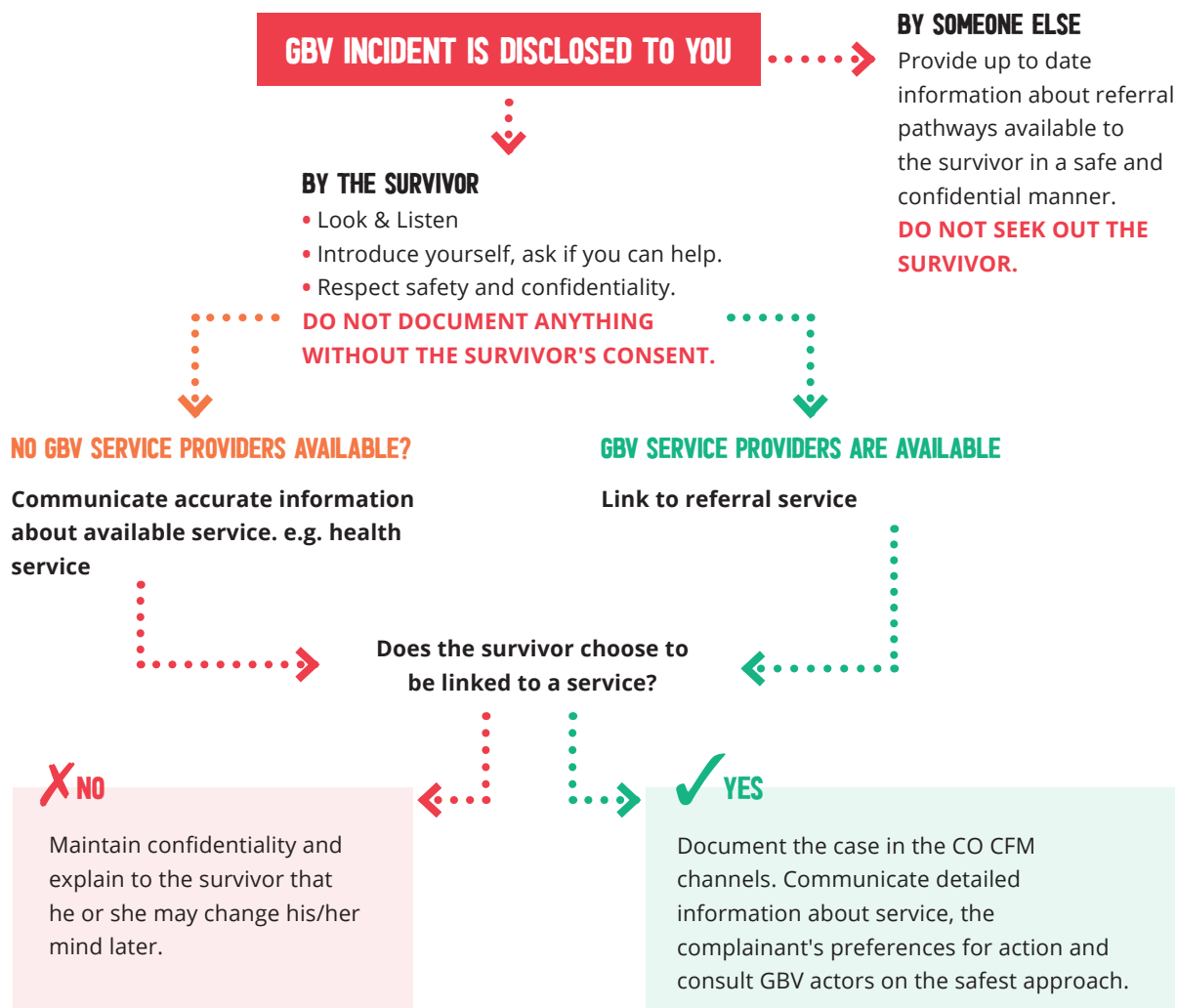
An important component of protection mainstreaming is knowing how to safely and confidentially address protection risks, and refer cases that fall outside the scope of WFP's mandate. WFP and partners might bear witness to protection incidents and human rights violations, and are thereby responsible for safely and confidentially referring cases.

Safety: Where WFP and partners are unable to provide services directly themselves, it is crucial that employees know where and how to refer people who have been exposed to harm so they are able to receive safe and appropriate medical, legal and psychological support from specialist providers.

Dignity: The process by which people are referred should be done in a way that respects the dignity of the person, without exposing them to further harm and stigma.

Access: Lack of knowledge on existing services or what help is required is one of the reasons why so few people access necessary help. Training on referral mechanisms and existing services will therefore increase the speed and ease of access. This is particularly important in cases of child protection and mitigating and responding to GBV.

EXAMPLE OF A REFERRAL PATHWAY



HOW TO ESTABLISH A WFP INTERNAL INCIDENT REFERRAL STRATEGY?

Establishing a process for incident referrals is critical to ensuring consistency across all potential incidents, including those involving WFP personnel.

Some cases may be sensitive concerning misconduct of WFP or partner personnel, fraud and corruption, sexual exploitation and abuse. Others may include protection concerns such as violence, coercion, abuse or other rights violations and mistreatment. • Are interventions affecting indigenous peoples culturally sensitive and respectful of their rights?

1

Identify trusted protection actors (which may include Government services, local actor, national and international organisations) and relevant support services (medical, psychosocial, housing and legal) available in the country and specific area of operation.

2

Establish and endorse protocols on when and how to make referrals to each actor.

3

Ensure appropriate standards for data management and information sharing are in place to safeguard that personal data is kept confidential.

4

Disseminate protocols and information amongst WFP and partners personnel and ensure personnel is trained on appropriate referral and reporting procedures.

All sensitive cases should be flagged as high priority and reported as per the country office's or regional bureau's defined protocols (CFM SOP, Protection SOP or PSEA Strategy) or reporting guidelines. Reports of

sexual exploitation and abuse involving WFP personnel should be reported to the SEA focal point or the Office of Inspections and Investigations (OIGI) in headquarters for formal investigation.

✓ DO

- ✓ Ensure your own safety and that of other staff.
- ✓ Ask if the affected person(s) are safe.
- ✓ Alert medical services if immediate assistance is required.
- ✓ Be supportive and show empathy.
- ✓ Inform your manager and a trusted protection actor (upon consent of the affected person) as soon as possible.
- ✓ Provide accurate information about where to receive assistance: address, phone number
- ✓ Ensure that the general information regarding protection incidents directly related to WFP's programmes or food insecurity is communicated to relevant technical units for evaluation and follow up as needed.

✗ DON'T

- ✗ Investigate the incident or try to verify if the abuse is true.
- ✗ Interview the affected person(s).
- ✗ Interview witnesses or other implicated in the incident.
- ✗ Provide counselling to the affected person(s).
- ✗ Cut off or send away the person(s) seeking to share their experience.
- ✗ Encourage the affected person(s) to report the abuse to the authorities.
- ✗ Encourage the person to return to the source of the abuse e.g. family member.
- ✗ Document, monitor or otherwise record details of the incident beyond what is required for referral and internal reporting purposes.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Ensure complaint and feedback mechanisms are designed based on the feedback provided by women, men, girls and boys both with and without disabilities.
- Identify existing referral pathways either within WFP, protection agencies or the protection cluster or working group.
- Advocate to the protection cluster to develop referral pathways if they are absent.
- Develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) in consultation with WFP programme, protection and accountability employees, or protection agencies.
- Ensure WFP and partner employees are aware of the referral pathways and procedures for making referrals.
- Respect codes of conduct and zero tolerance towards sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). Ensure employees sign WFP's code of conduct and are provided with an awareness-raising session on SEA outlining their obligations, responsibilities and reporting processes.
- Ensure affected populations have the information required to make informed decisions.



2.3.5 Advocacy

In most contexts, there is a requirement for needs beyond food and nutrition security. Working collectively as part of the United Nations system in country and with local and international organisations, government and key actors can help to resolve complex problems.

INTERNALLY TO WFP

- Mainstream protection from the outset of programme design;
- Advocate for disaggregated data by age, sex, disability, location and livelihood to RAM colleagues. Integrate the use of this data to inform targeting to capture individuals or groups most at risk of being left behind;
- Share findings from protection and context analyses to identify how risks to affected populations can be mitigated through food and nutrition assistance;
- Identify gaps in being able to achieve protection outcomes through WFP assistance alone. Collaborate with partners and UN organisations to consider joint programming to address broader essential needs such as WASH, shelter, and legal assistance;
- Consult regularly with cooperating partners and include protection and accountability as a standing item in meetings and workshops;

Advocacy can be a powerful tool in raising awareness and strategically linking multiple objectives to a common cause. To achieve protection outcomes, working with partners is critical.

EXTERNALLY TO WFP

- Identify the value of WFP's programming, capacity for data collection and targeting and field presence in country – and use this to support and strengthen areas to achieve protection outcomes;
- Leverage WFP's strengths in country to complement other actors or agencies without these capacities. For example, livelihood and income-generating opportunities (food security) could be integrated with protection actors specifically working on mitigating gender-based violence;
- Partner with other organisations or government on country-wide advocacy campaigns, such as the relevant ministry of agriculture regarding access to land rights; or the ministry of children's affairs on combating child labour;
- Consult with interagency clusters/working groups such as protection, food security, nutrition or emergency telecommunication – to share information and find collective solutions to protection outcomes;
- Share lessons learned with cooperating partners and strengthen capacity through training.

ADVOCACY ON DISABILITY INCLUSION

Working with United Nations Entities

UNDIS has clear benchmarks for what are described as four “critical areas”: strategic planning and management; inclusiveness; programming; and organisational culture. UNDIS includes an accountability framework with two components: a) implementation tracking of the policy in the four critical areas through certain indicators, and; b), an accountability scorecard, which focuses on delivery at the UNCT level. As such, WFP would contribute as a UNCT member, not separately, and on joint programmes and processes. The accountability framework uses a five-point rating system: exceeds requirements; meets requirements; approaches requirements; missing; and not applicable.

At the country level, working through the HCT, UNCT and the Cluster system, or through Cooperating Partners, WFP should insist on data disaggregation, analysis of that data and communicate basic messaging on disability inclusion. The UNCT must also report against an accountability framework annually.

Working with Governments

There are over 180 parties to the Convention, meaning that most countries where WFP operates have agreed to be bound by the Convention's obligations. This provides an excellent advocacy platform and should also assist in collecting data, information on disability - governments

Working with Donors

Disability Inclusion has evolved somewhat differently from other rights issues, because of the unique content of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Convention requires member states which are donor countries to mainstream disability into their assistance.

Accordingly, donors are obliged to report back to their own constituencies and also to the UN on how well they are doing. The Convention is, to date, the only human rights treaty to provide for "regional integration organisations" to become parties. The European Union immediately signed and, as a party to Convention, is also

are mandated to have disability focal points and monitor and report on implementation - and reaching out to organisations of persons with disabilities. While all the provisions are relevant to WFP's operations, article 11²⁵ has particular significance and has been reinforced by the UN Security Council Resolution 2475 (2019).

required to mainstream disability into its assistance. In addition, the OECD-DAC has introduced a disability policy marker which is measuring financing flows to DI activities – again, an area that donors have to report on.

This obligation means that certain donors require that WFP programmes in a disability-inclusive manner and conversely, provides an opening for WFP to advocate with donors to support disability-inclusive interventions. The guiding question should be whether WFP has reported on how donor funds have supported disability-inclusive or disability-specific programming.



²⁵ [OHCHR | Article 11](#)



Section 3

Programme and Activity Considerations

3.1 Applying Protection in Practice

KEY CONSIDERATIONS – START FROM THE DESIGN PHASE

- Assess the situation – conduct a protection analysis.
- Strengthen capacity of WFP employees and cooperating partners with topics covering humanitarian principles, protection mainstreaming and mechanisms in place to ensure accountability to affected populations.
- Organise and facilitate training sessions in cooperation with WFP HQ, regional teams, or national-level protection actors.
- Integrate protection through programme objectives e.g. expressions of interests, field-level agreements, training plans, staffing.
- Set up community feedback mechanisms tailored to the needs of women, men, girls and boys both with and without disabilities and determine how feedback from communities will be managed.
- Inform colleagues of information obtained about the context from protection clusters/sectors/working groups that impact food and nutrition security programmes e.g. gender-based violence; child protection; prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse; accountability to affected populations; disability inclusion; civil society issues; human rights and gender equality.
- Document and share good practices across WFP country and field offices, and with cooperating partners where relevant. This can help to reduce errors and find solutions to common problems.



3.2 Protection Lens Across Programme Activities

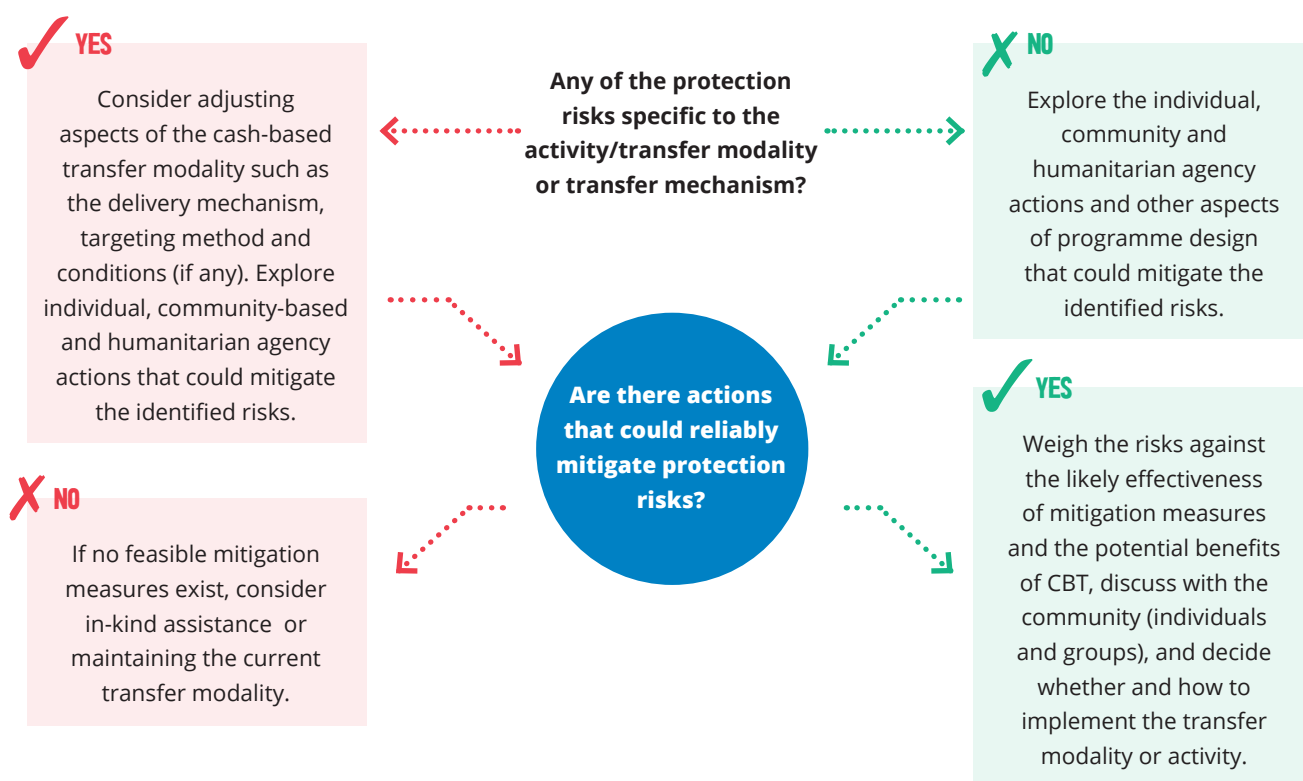
3.2.1 Transfer Modalities

Every context will have different considerations. It is important to identify the appropriate type of transfer modality and delivery mechanism that affected populations feel most comfortable and safest using. WFP has the operational capacity and flexibility to make strategic decisions about the sequence and type of

modalities across different locations. This ensures that affected populations' needs and preferences are met through one or multiple transfer modalities: in-kind, vouchers, cash or a hybrid system.

Regardless of the chosen transfer modality the following elements will be considered:

With communities identify protection risks that could arise or exacerbate as a result of the proposed transfer modality change and identify who is at risk in this context.



PROTECTION MAINSTREAMING

PRINCIPLE 1 - SAFETY AND DIGNITY

Identify and classify the different risks affecting the safety of women, men, girls and boys both with and without disabilities;

- Source of the risk - who within the household or the community is exposed;
- Where and when this risk occurs;
- Assess whether these risks are directly related to certain transfer modalities or, if not whether they become more or less pronounced if different transfer modalities are used, how they affect differently women, men, girls, boys, persons with disability and older people, and whether and how it is possible to overcome them.

Where risks are directly related to certain transfer modalities or mechanisms, consider the different impacts of transfer modalities to women, men, girls, boys, persons with disabilities and older persons; and, if possible, how to overcome them. For example, you might reduce the risks of theft by:

- Selecting a mechanism that has the option to withdraw small amounts multiple times and includes transaction fees, if large amounts are to be provided, or consider smaller food baskets and more frequent distributions;
- Where large lump sum payments are necessary, reassess the impact of restricting the use of the cash or voucher value;
- Introduce the option to collect transfer modality at various times, distribution points and provide more options.

Delivery mechanisms: Consider how delivery mechanisms respect the preference and safety of beneficiaries. These includes open air in-kind distributions, the route to and from a school, nutrition centre or distribution site, or the way cash is delivered (cash envelopes, bankcards, electronic vouchers, distributions through third-party service providers, and mobile banking).

- Enquire to understand knowledge gaps of affected populations;
- Develop messaging that is tailored to affected populations to provide them with information on targeting, entitlement, community feedback mechanism and nutrition;
- Consider the unintentional harm that may be caused if risks are not addressed.

Abuse of power: Identify possible risks of abuse of power, diversion of assistance through corruption, fraud and other means by vendors or financial service providers. Risks might include: exploitation by increasing transaction costs; stigmatising beneficiaries for receiving assistance; offering lower quality goods and demanding bribes or sexual favours.

- Identify the different forms of actual and potential diversion of assistance in targeted localities;
- Enquire who is responsible: community leaders, project management committees, local authorities, retailers, cooperating partners, civil society groups, WFP employees, assisted population;
- Consider the impact on social dynamics, as well as beneficiaries' capacity to access and benefit from food assistance.

Social dynamics: Assess the context, including conflict or tensions, and how this relates to food and nutrition security. These might include economic disparities, political or social discrimination, unequal access to natural resources, land and property entitlements, gender inequality, ethnic tensions, language groups, clans and other groups.

- Identify who are the actors involved and the populations at risk, and if men and women are impacted differently;
- Assess how the transfer modality will impact these tensions - whether it may inadvertently fuel or reduce the risks to affected populations.

PROTECTION MAINSTREAMING

PRINCIPLE 2 - MEANINGFUL ACCESS

Transfer Value/Food Basket: Additional costs may be incurred by certain households. Consider WFP's essential needs approach which takes into account the costs beyond the traditional food basket based on the average consumption score for an adult/child. These needs might include cooking fuel, transport, accessible transport for persons with disabilities, health care, assistive devices.

Standardised data disaggregation: All data should be disaggregated by age, sex, disability and region/location and displacement status, or other factors that contribute to making an individual/community vulnerable, where relevant. Benefits include:

- The disaggregation can help us determine who was overlooked;
- What barriers they face in accessing the assistance e.g. who has the least knowledge of technology or financial literacy and jointly with the community/individual determine mitigation action measures.

Targeting: Consider integrating information from partners, including protection and gender-based violence actors (GBV), government counterparts working on social protection eligibility criteria. Build flexibility into targeting to incorporate ad hoc GBV or protection referrals, such as cases that may meet the eligibility criteria but have been missed during the initial identification.

Gender and power dynamics: Document intra-household dynamics, including decision-making processes, specifically regarding financial and food security-related roles and responsibilities. Consider issues such as the management of resources (food and cash), child feeding and income. Other considerations might include:

- Who is responsible for collecting in-kind assistance?
- Who is responsible for the cash within the household?
- Who cooks?
- Who goes to the market?

Lack of access to technology: Identify which digital technologies or platforms are required for CBTs or the transfer of commodity vouchers or in-kind.

- Consider to what extent transfer mechanisms are already available, accessible, familiar, acceptable and/or utilised by the targeted population, especially by

the most vulnerable (e.g. men/women, those in urban/rural areas, older persons, persons with disabilities, child-headed households, illiterate members of the population).

- Consider which transfer modality or combination is most suited for those lacking access to technology, or the requisite financial and data literacy.

Free movement and mobility: Consider gendered aspects such as freedom of movement and unpaid dependent care work when choosing appropriate timings for distributions or cash transfers. For example, consider the following potential barriers:

- Women may be unable to access distribution points after sunset or during busy daytime hours;
- Certain IDP camps can be closed camps or require gate passes and restrict movement after certain times;
- Seasonal work and weather may also influence access.

Lack of identification documents: Some individuals or groups may experience greater barriers in obtaining identification, including women, child-headed households, older persons, refugees, individuals perceived as affiliated with non-state armed groups, stateless persons and IDPs, depending on the context. This may have a particular impact on access to cash-based transfers.

- Consider who among the targeted population has easy access to IDs, who does not, and why;
- Ask to what extent the lack of such documents may hinder access to assistance (registration and distribution) according to transfer modality;
- Assess how WFP could facilitate the ID acquisition, considering the possible risks of holding IDs and alternatives for identification.

Measures adapted to people with specific needs:

Ask women, men, girls and boys with disabilities and older women and men about their access to delivery mechanisms, particularly in the case of newer technologies such as biometric scans, mobile money or debit cards.

- Identify any additional safeguards that need to be put in place for safe access or identify alternative delivery mechanisms for a subset of the target group. For example, during the COVID-19 scale up response, some countries adopted a door-to-door approach to reduce the risk of exposure of at-risk groups.

PROTECTION MAINSTREAMING PRINCIPLE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY

Lack of access to decision-making spheres: Community and household decision-making structures are shaped by age, gender roles and other socio-cultural factors such as disability. Document who has power in the community and why.

- Ask women, men with and without disabilities how WFP and partners can contribute, ensuring every member of the household has equal access to assistance.

Political influence: Understand the political context to identify if authorities and/or national non-governmental organisations (NGOs) influence the outcomes of humanitarian assistance. For food assistance programmes, this might include influencing geographic

targeting, specific beneficiary groups or appropriation of food allocation for political purposes. Understand to what extent this impacts social dynamics as well as beneficiaries' capacity to access and benefit from food assistance.

- Identify the individuals or groups negatively affected;
- Analyse whether the use of different transfer modalities can reduce the impact of political influence and protect the affected populations at risk.

Access to information and community feedback mechanisms (CFMs): Identify if and how affected communities have access to information channels. Review whether information provided is understandable by all, irrespective of the age, gender or other characteristics of affected people. Review whether the design of the CFM is accessible to all.

PROTECTION MAINSTREAMING PRINCIPLE 4 - PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT

Distribution set-up: consider how the distribution set-up captures affected populations' preferences.

- The site of implementation was selected based on representative community feedback;
- The distance to and from the distribution site (no more than 5 KM), waiting time (no more than an hour);
- There is access to water, shade and latrines at the implementation site. If water infrastructure exists WFP can support its maintenance or refurbishment;
- The activity team is gender balanced, speaks the affected populations language and sufficient to ensure smooth implementation of the activity;
- Material and communication channels are available to provide affected populations with regular information on their rights and entitlements.

Community perceptions: Consider how local communities perceive international assistance, particularly food assistance and assistance provided by WFP. Determine whether perceptions differ from one group to the other, for instance from men to women, or from one ethnic group to another.

- Identify viable ways to build acceptance among the population;
- Analyse the local communities' perceptions over the use of various transfer modalities and identify which one is considered the most acceptable and why;
- Assess local communities' expectations, views and needs in terms of: (i) their participation in the decision-making processes that affect them; (ii) their access to information on procedures and processes that affect them; and (iii) their access to safe CFMs.

For more guidance on protection and accountability [mainstreaming in WFP's cash based transfer feasibility assessments](#), you can access guidance on wfpgo.

Consider data protection concerns in contexts that apply:

- **WFP Guide to Personal Data Protection and Privacy:** Comprehensive guidance on WFP's international and legal responsibilities to safeguard data collected from actual and potential beneficiaries;
- **WFP Toolkit to Operationalise Beneficiaries' Personal Data Protection:** The how-to guide in practically actioning data protection standards for WFP personnel in country offices.

3.2.2 Nutrition

For further guidance on protection and accountability considerations in nutrition activities, refer to the previous [protection manual here](#) (pages 46-49). Snapshot of opportunities to integrate protection include:

EXAMPLES OF OPPORTUNITIES TO CONTRIBUTE TO PROTECTION OUTCOMES		
PROTECTION OUTCOMES		POTENTIAL INTERVENTIONS
1	Contribute to medical and psycho-social recovery of survivors of sexual or other violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide nutrition assistance to survivors who are HIV positive and ensure referral to care, treatment and support mechanism
2	Increase community awareness of key rights issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partner with Protection/Health/Gender actors to implement complementary awareness raising programmes at health facilities or other programme sites• Use the nutrition programme as a platform to discuss rights and create an environment of right-based programming• Develop a feedback mechanism to listen to the clients and enhance accountability to affected populations
3	Access of vulnerable population to other types of support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use the nutrition programme as an opportunity to refer vulnerable clients to other services and support available

Consider data protection concerns in contexts that apply:

- **WFP Guide to Personal Data Protection and Privacy:** Comprehensive guidance on WFP's international and legal responsibilities to safeguard data collected from actual and potential beneficiaries;
- **WFP Toolkit to Operationalise Beneficiaries' Personal Data Protection:** The how-to guide in practically actioning data protection standards for WFP personnel in country offices.

3.2.3 Asset Creation and Livelihoods

The unique needs of individuals and groups must be considered in livelihood and asset-creation programmes. This requires an understanding of the cultural and political context and obstacles to participation in these activities. This includes understanding barriers to accessing land, education, skills training opportunities or how a livelihood approach might be threatened by or contributing to climate change or conflict.

WFP's community-based participatory planning (CBPP) provides key information on protection and is good practice on actively engaging and empowering affected populations in the design of livelihood programmes. The process provides a comprehensive approach to consulting different segments of the affected populations to understand their needs and facilitate their active participation in the design of the activity. It allows for the participation of diverse groups including older persons, women, children, persons with disabilities, refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Other benefits include participation by the community to specify indicators of success and related monitoring processes – supporting the design of programmes jointly with affected populations. This encourages dialogue, ownership, tracking of indicators and related adjustments throughout the programme cycle.

Livelihood and asset-creation activities also provide an entry point to work on durable solutions and demonstrate protection outcomes, provided they are designed and implemented to consider the diverse needs of a community. Below are some suggestions:

- ✓ Identify the barriers to individuals and groups of accessing livelihoods. Groups that may be at particular risk of exclusion include: women in pregnancy and childbirth, women and child-headed households; people with chronic illnesses or disabilities; older persons; those who are marginalised on the basis of language, gender, age, or other factors such as political or ethnic status; unemployed young men who are at high risk of recruitment into non-state armed groups; or IDPs without documentation.
- ✓ If applicable, Integrate national and global disability inclusion within the choice of activities and the guidelines on work sites.
- ✓ Understand and engage in advocacy and discussions on housing land and property (HLP). WFP livelihood activities often include the use of land in order to

protect affected populations from abuse or exploitation from landowners. It is important to have the required legal agreements in place and inform affected populations about these agreements.

✓ Tailor activities to reflect context-specific perceived gender roles and responsibilities and support self-empowerment. For example:

- Support the establishment of childcare centres at worksites, so as to reduce the risk of single-headed households removing children (especially girls) from school to take care of younger children in the home, so that the caregiver can participate in the activity.
- Ensure that the participants have the necessary protective gear to safely conduct the activities. Advocate to partners to support the purchase where there are funding constraints.
- Provide vocational training and livelihood opportunities in women- and girl-friendly spaces. Providing gender-based violence (GBV) survivors and those at risk with income and livelihood opportunities can directly contribute to mitigation measures. However, this must be conducted in a safe and non-stigmatising way, as singling out GBV survivors for services can inadvertently put them at additional risk. When women and girls have limited mobility outside the home, providing them an income-generating activity that can be conducted in the home or communal space can facilitate their access to the public sphere.
- Vocational training for adolescent girls and boys in locations where girls face challenges/discrimination in accessing formal education due to armed conflict and high levels of gender inequality. Vocational training incentivised with food assistance can also contribute to mitigating threats of child marriage.
- In areas with significant levels of child labour, consider how targeting can capture at-risk households and contribute to combating child labour. Access [WFP guidance on WFPgo](#).

3.2.4 School Feeding

For guidance on protection considerations in school-based programming, refer to the WFP School Feeding Strategy 2020-2030 and the [previous protection manual here](#) (pages 50-52).

Snapshot from the manual of common protection risks you might encounter in schools:²⁶

EXAMPLES OF COMMON PROTECTION RISKS IN SCHOOL FEEDING AND POTENTIAL MITIGATION MEASURES	
COMMON PROTECTION RISKS	POTENTIAL MITIGATION MEASURES
1 Safety problems in schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Violence and/or exploitation of students by teachers• Violence between children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require that all teacher and other staff in school sign a Code of Conduct establishing minimum standards for acceptable behaviour• Promote a zero tolerance policy
2 Exclusion of particularly vulnerable children: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Street children• Children from extremely poor families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partner with Protection/Health/Gender actors to implement complementary awareness raising programmes at health facilities or other programme sites• Use the nutrition programme as a platform to discuss rights and create an environment of right-based programming• Develop a feedback mechanism to listen to the clients and enhance accountability to affected populations



²⁶ Also consider indigenous peoples, particularly as children tend to be discriminated against. Consider how to ensure they can be included in this process.

3.2.5 Cash-based Transfers

Cash-based transfers (CBT) has become an essential part of WFP's response to food security and nutrition. Mitigating protection risks and promoting protection outcomes must take into account age, gender, disability and diversity into the design, to ensure that individuals and groups are able to equitably access assistance. Gather information on the major protection risks of the affected population, sources of risks, and any community-based or self-protection mitigation mechanisms.

Multisectoral feasibility assessments

How to capture protection?

This information can be collected using the same approach as a protection analysis. Alternatively, mainstream and integrate information into the multisectoral assessments conducted prior to deciding on the transfer modality. Example questionnaires of Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and Key Informant Interviews (KII) are in section 5 – resources and tools. This process is further outlined in the Business Process Model (BPM) and RACI matrix, and the CBT manual.

Refer to further guidance on mainstreaming protection and accountability into CBT feasibility assessments and WFP's CBT manual.

For protection considerations in CBT, consider:

- Triangulating information with baseline assessments, in-depth questioning in FGDs, KII and lessons learned from other implementation efforts to understand potential barrier related to financial literacy, education,

access to technology, essential needs and the registration approach adopted;

- Conduct a protection risk assessment and a gender analysis to understand the household dynamics including around joint decision-making on different transfer mechanisms (cash, e-voucher, bank card etc), to document preferences and potential barriers to accessing the assistance such as lack of identification that allows an individual to open a bank account or gender roles that prevent women and girls from accessing the market alone;
- Complement the roll-out of assistance using CBT with a strong information provision campaign led by WFP, partners and financial service providers on informed consent, the new transfer modality, targeting, entitlements, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and access to the CFM;
- Embed a gender-transformative approach;
- Consider integrating specific protection objectives or outcomes for example “address food insecurity needs of households at risk of child labour to actively contribute to the reduction of child labour/or school attendance and retention.”
- Ensure partners and financial service providers are informed of obligations related to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).



JOINT UNHCR–WFP PROJECT ON MITIGATION OF THE RISK OF ABUSE OF POWER (MRAP)

UNHCR and WFP are implementing a joint project to identify and mitigate risks of abuse by private sector service providers in their delivery of cash assistance to affected populations. The project involves work with financial service providers (FSPs), traders and other private sector stakeholders, as well as awareness raising of cash recipients about their rights and capacity-building on financial literacy. It was rolled out in 24 countries by the end of 2019.

THE PROJECT HAS FIVE MAIN OBJECTIVES:

1. Ensuring appropriate reflection of the FSP responsibility (and that of traders and other service providers) to prevent and follow up abuse cases in the UNHCR/ WFP contracts with FSPs;
2. Promoting appropriate behaviour by FSP agents, traders and service providers through establishing incentives to improve customer services, and possibly sanction mechanisms for any breach of codes of conduct;
3. Building the capacity of cash beneficiaries on their consumer rights vis-à-vis FSP field agents and in basic financial/ digital literacy;
4. Identifying and documenting good practice for beneficiary complaint and feedback mechanisms and referrals;
5. Developing a toolkit and an approach for mitigating risks of abuse of power which will be of use for the broader humanitarian community and FSPs.

Source: Brief on the project can be accessed [here](#)

3.2.6 Social Protection

Social Protection: According to a definition broadly accepted by international agencies, refers to the set of policies and programmes aimed at preventing, and protecting all people against poverty, vulnerability and social exclusion throughout their lives, with a particular emphasis on vulnerable groups.²⁷ WFP provides social protection support to countries in three ways, which are not mutually exclusive:

1. Technical advice
2. Operational Support Role
3. Complimentary Actions

Both social protection and protection are guided by a human-rights based approach to delivering humanitarian and development assistance.

PROTECTION MAINSTREAMING

1. Equitable distribution of basic resources (food, water, shelter, land, health, education) to populations furthest behind. In addition, access to social protection as

a public service (which may set the catalyst for other basic services e.g. health, education).

Example: Social Protection is a human right. WFP's approach to targeting Indigenous Peoples who may be excluded from assistance based on ethnicity.

An example of WFP programming targeting indigenous peoples and social protection can be found in the Republic of Congo. RoC is currently implementing a project funded by the Joint SDG Fund focusing on social protection, which is a human right, for Congo's Batwa people in the Lekoumou province with lagging social indicators. Four out of five people live under the poverty line, face rampant discrimination, and have poor access to public services. A key component of the project is ensuring access to civil status documents via the creation of a digital registry of the indigenous peoples' populations and delivering identity cards and birth certificates. The registry will empower citizens in realising other basic rights. This project advocates for needs beyond food security yet fulfils key protection principles.

²⁷ Social Protection Strategy Draft

2. Non-Exclusionary: Ensure Social Protection programmes or systems do not exclude populations based on gender, disability, age, status, historical or socio-cultural circumstances, such as political or religious beliefs, or ethnicity.

Example: Exclusion of Persons with Disabilities

Embedded cultural norms can influence a community's perception of social structures and their needs. Having a disability can carry shame or stigma to the family, decreasing the chances of the individual's meaningful participation in the community (protection principle 2).

Increasingly, WFP provides technical support to governments establishing national social protection systems. Issues of targeting populations most in need can be difficult to determine impartially without disaggregated data. WFP advocates for the collection and disaggregation of data by age, gender, disability (at minimum), to help governments more accurately identify who is in need – rather than relying on perceptions (or assumptions) which can often perpetuate deeper structural issues that may already exclude participation of persons with disabilities.

HOW DO SOCIAL PROTECTION AND PROTECTION INTERSECT?

As outlined in WFP's protection and accountability policy,²⁸ 'WFP has a shared responsibility with governments to uphold the right to universal access to social services.' It must ensure:

- Disaggregated data (age, sex, disability at minimum)
- Data protection and safeguarding principles
- Strong community feedback mechanisms in place

[WFP's social protection guidance manual](#)²⁹ refers to 3 areas of programming:

- A.** Safety Nets
- B.** Engagement with governments and partners
- C.** Design and implementation

The United Nations human rights based approach to programming is a useful framework to help guide practitioners in integrating protection across WFP's social protection programmes.³⁰

1. PROTECTION CONSIDERATIONS:

- Assess the context continuously to identify protection risks and link mitigation measures through social protection programmes or systems
- Find the balance between principles given the context you are working in
- Advocate for rights beyond food security to address gaps in poverty, vulnerabilities and exclusion through social protection systems and programmes

2. CONSTRAINTS ON DELIVERING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE:

Militarised Context: armed conflict impacts populations' freedom of movement and restricts access to people in need – and affected populations' access to basic services

- Negotiating humanitarian access in complex settings should be guided by humanitarian principles while addressing and mitigating protection risks

Economic context: International sanctions restrict access to development-based funding. The funding would support national governments in establishing social protection systems to address poverty, vulnerability and exclusion.

- Identify complementary partners to meet the basic needs of affected populations (see box below).

Political context: Inertia of donors unwilling to deliver on Grand Bargain Commitments³¹ towards multi-year funding that could support social protection programmes or systems.

- Advocate across agencies for longer-term funding – using clusters, working groups and United Nations Country Team.

²⁸ Among other things, WFP considers that approaches to access, climate, gender, disability inclusion, respect for diversity, data protection and social protection issues are particularly important in reinforcing protection. Refer to Policy: <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000119393/download/>

²⁹ <https://newgo.wfp.org/services/social-protection-programme-guidance-manual>

³⁰ [UNSDG | Human Rights-Based Approach](#)

³¹ <https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/grand-bargain>

PROTECTION LENS – ASSESSING COMPLEMENTARY ACTORS OR PARTNERS

- 1. Identify partners** with complementary services to meet affected populations' needs.
- 2. Determine scope** to assess needs jointly with partners and consult with affected populations.
 - WFP data and analytics (RAM) could be used as a basis for determining food security while integrating other essential needs.
- 3. Internally assess partners'** level of risk to affected populations and institutional risks. The assessment should recommend measures to mitigate risks. This will be different in each context.
- 4. Engage with partners** (with acceptable level of risk) to determine the scope of the project.
- 5. Establish accountability mechanisms** during and beyond the project.
 - i. identify existing national accountability mechanisms and ii. Define how they can be used for SP projects.
 - ii. Recommend that government should play a significant role establishing a framework from the outset.
- 6. Agencies should ensure checks and balances** are in place to continuously monitor changes in government policy and potential risks to affected populations.
- 7. Report findings** through the relevant Humanitarian Country Team to ensure collective advocacy or diplomatic pressure where required.

3.3 Cross-Functional Approaches and Collaboration

To deliver on WFP's commitments to protection and accountability, some institutional shifts are required, expanding beyond programmes and operations.

Unit	INTERSECTION OF PROTECTION AND WFP FUNCTIONS
Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection and security can work closely together. Distinguish the role of protection and security and where the two intersect; • Address how WFP can engage with security actors at the national level, while maintaining and upholding humanitarian principles³²
Finance	How do we monitor and track protection and accountability-specific expenditures at the global, regional and CO level?
Human Resources	<p>Understand how protection is reflected in WFP's internal Human Resources systems. Consider the following when recruiting or developing personnel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacancy announcements to attract diverse personnel that reflect the needs of affected populations – according to ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, language, nationality; • PACE assessments – reflecting the obligations of protection and accountability in our workstreams; • Understand the link between the diversity of a group of personnel and community perceptions of WFP as inclusive – where personnel have the capacity to build strong networks with affected populations; • Ensure recruitment process is non-biased, impartial, and not closely associated with any political group, dominant language or tribes; • Consider the types of contexts that require a dedicated protection team. Guidance for protection focal points and generic terms of reference (TORs) is necessary to ensure protection mainstreaming. Make it clear who is accountable. <p>Refer to WFP People's Strategy 2019.</p>

³² Humanitarian principles that underpin the work of the United Nations and World Food Programme are Humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence

Logistics and Supply Chain	<p>Protection can be mainstreamed through this very important enabler of the organisation. Consider the needs and local context for affected populations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food preferences must be context-specific and reflect the affected population's needs. For example, should the food be distributed or milled; does the community have the capacity to process the grain or commodity? • Consider packaging and how to transport items by thinking about the impact on affected populations. For example, what are the implications for beneficiaries expected to carry a 21kg commodity home safely and without harm? • Diversity and sourcing locally to support Grand Bargain Localisation³² commitments and empower communities; • Communicating shortfalls or pipeline breaks of commodities in a timely manner to affected populations and partners; • Oversight and training of vendors to prevent the abuse of power, including protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). For example, capacity strengthening for the supply chain network: truck drivers, aviation and associate personnel; • Map the risks associated with procurement and transporting food and other in-kind products to contexts with limited resources.
Budgeting and Programming	<p>As country offices have moved to Country Strategic Plans, there are enquiries on how to integrate protection and accountability to affected populations in the country portfolio. Considerations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising for protection and accountability. As mainstreaming is a mandatory obligation by donors and international IASC standards, can WFP participate in fundraising for this cross-cutting issue? • Budget revisions to respond to risk mitigation measures. Is this possible?
Communication, Advocacy and Marketing	<p>Communication officers often liaise directly with affected populations. They have the capacity to ensure protection is integrated through their work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications can support by identifying the human stories in the field – how can they also contribute to advocacy on protection outcomes? For example, document views of group or individual discussions and share field findings with programme colleagues; • How do we ensure affected populations' dignity and integrity when communicating human interest stories. For example, follow referral pathways if a gender-based violence case is disclosed; • Ethical guidance on informed consent for quotes and citations, use of images and photographs of beneficiaries, especially regarding children.
Reporting and Donor Relations	<p>Donors will expect protection and accountability to be mainstreamed through programmes and proposals. Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using proposals to mainstream protection from the outset of programme design and hold WFP accountable to these when reporting back to donors on progress; • Collaborate with programme colleagues to advocate the expectation of donors and the importance of inclusion, participation and accountability.
Partnerships and Field Level Agreements³³	<p>An important way of holding WFP and partners accountable in mainstreaming protection and accountability through implementation of programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide guidance on the update to the field-level agreement as well as activities that can be funded by WFP; • Acknowledge that partners might be perceived as biased. They might have stronger presence in geographical areas dominated by specific groups, perceived as loyal to certain political parties, or affiliated to certain religious or political leaders; • Reputational risks - the partners we choose to work with influence how WFP is perceived and may affect access to communities; • Designing and implementing partnerships with protection stand-alone actors; • Consulting with civil society organisations (disability, indigenous peoples, women's organisations);

³² Grand Bargain Workstream 2: More support and funding tools for national and local responders

³³ Includes national and local actors, in line with Grand Bargain Localisation Workstream

Section 4

Areas of Responsibility



4.1 Mainstreaming Child Protection into WFP Operations

Children's rights are enshrined in international law, including the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#), which states:

'All children have the right to be protected, nurtured and free from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect, maltreatment and exploitation.'³⁴

WFP adheres to the above definition, inclusive of anyone under the age of 18 is considered a child or minor. Child protection is a key component of child safeguarding. The rights and interests of boys and girls both with and without disabilities, including those in vulnerable situations, must be considered in needs assessments, activity design, community feedback mechanisms and throughout the implementation stage. Child protection risks are potential violations and threats to children's rights that will cause harm to children. Prior to the implementation of any activity or programme, WFP must conduct a **child safeguarding risk assessment**. The assessment can be integrated into the broader needs assessment or consolidated on the basis of information collected through protection and other assessments. Guidance on how to conduct a child safeguarding assessment can be accessed upon request or found in the WFP Guidance on Mainstreaming Child Protection (forthcoming). This will help WFP and partners identify the process of direct or indirect contact with children and determine which tools and resources are necessary to safely engage them. Food insecurity exposes children to different risks and negative coping mechanisms. This can be a driver of child protection risks including family

separation, resulting in child-headed, unaccompanied and/or separated minors. Other compounding factors in each context may also encourage negative coping mechanisms such as child labour, family separation, and child marriage.³⁵ To understand a child's risk, consider their situation, level of vulnerability and capacity to respond.

Responding to the risks and also preferences of children is important. Review how food security and nutrition data is collected and how children are consulted. Country offices can approach this either through a secondary desk analysis or direct consultation with children. Additional guidance on how to communicate, consult and engage with children is available in **Section 6: Tools and Resources**, of this Handbook.

It is mandatory for all WFP personnel to:

1. Take all measures to protect children from harm;
2. Ensure that children regardless of their age, gender, disability status, language, livelihood, and other context-specific relevant factors, never experience abuse of any kind perpetuated by WFP and partners;
3. Consider children's best interest at all times and how to keep them safe;
4. Remove discrimination based on age, disability, gender, religion or belief, sexual orientation and other context specific relevant factors.

WFP has a duty of care and an obligation to ensure that any interaction with children is safe and considers their best interests. To support joint identification and mitigation of child protection risks, consider:

- Establishing an informal or formal MoU or partnership with child-protection actors;
- Establishing child-protection focal points within food security teams that are trained by child protection actors; and/or on the advice of child protection actors;
- Collaborating with any existing community/village child protection committees.

³⁴ Available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b38f0.html> [accessed 7 November 2020]

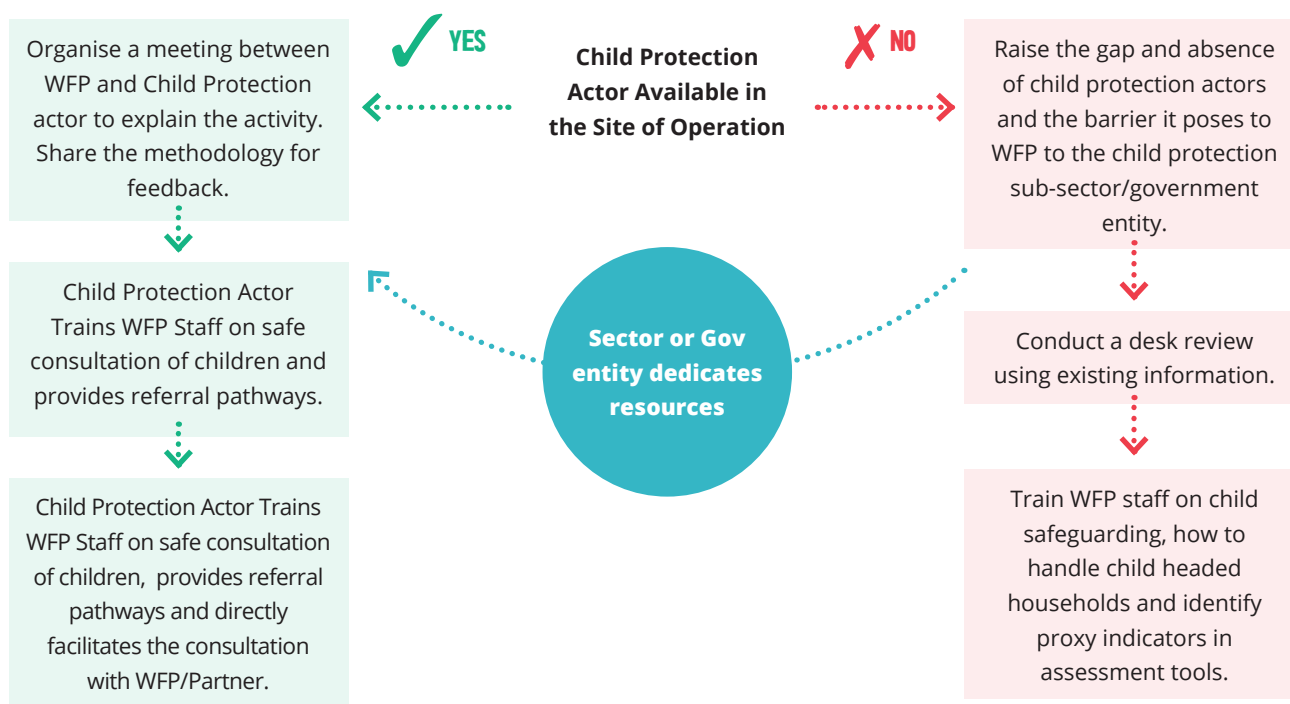
³⁵ <https://plan-international.org/food-crisis-increases-child-marriage-risk>

Examples: Child protection risks/breach of child safeguarding commitments

DIRECT CONTACT	INDIRECT CONTACT
Sexual abuse of a child	Communicating with children or young people through online platforms (for instance, if an employee grooms children through direct messages on a WFP platform).
Engaging children in livelihood and income-generating activities that are not tailored to ILO guidelines (child labour).	
Registration (incl. biometric) of children without the consent of the primary caregiver and the assent of the child.	Having access to sensitive personal data enabling identification of individuals, that is subsequently mishandled and shared with a third party without consent.
Any failure to consider the child's best interest in the design, implementation and monitoring of activities.	
Registration of separated or unaccompanied minors without prior consultation with dedicated child protection actors and the WFP Guide to Personal Data Protection and Privacy.	
Taking photographs of children without the consent of the primary caregiver and the assent of the child.	Receiving a case of child abuse without guidelines on how to safely and confidentially respond.
Interviewing children without the consent of the primary caregiver and the assent of the child	
Interviewing children in the absence of dedicated child protection actors or dedicated staff trained in consulting children.	
Recruiting employees that have a record of committing child abuse.	
Provision of information on services, assistance and community feedback mechanism that is not tailored to gender, age and disability.	Assuming the needs and preference of children when designing an activity targeted towards children.
Abuse (physical, emotional or sexual) occurring on the way to, from or during the child's participation in WFP-led programmes activities (this includes abuse by teachers in a school-based programming activity, use of physical force or lack of response to reports of GBV).	
Discrimination based on gender, religion, disability or other context-specific factors that denies the child access to safe and meaningful assistance.	

WFP programming activities should build on context and protection analysis at the community level that includes consultation with actors working on child protection and the provision of GBV services. Based on the analysis of the potential threats to child protection and violation of child safeguarding WFP can consider a partnership with

child protection actors to design and implement risk prevention and mitigation measures (e.g. home-based learning in periods of particular security volatility). First, WFP needs to map the existence of child protection actors present in the area of operations.



Mitigation measures are context specific but can include:

- Targeted approaches to reflect the needs, capacities and preferences of children. For example, tailor packaging and delivery of commodities so they can be transported by children if necessary;
- Adapt consultation approaches including the WFP CFM based on feedback from child protection actors;
- Engage and advocate with government authorities and armed actors to protect education from attacks by adopting, enforcing, and respecting the Oslo Safe School Declaration;
- Work with the education cluster/sector and government counterparts to agree on safety and inclusion standards for schools with partners and ensure that these are met in supported schools.
- Train WFP and partner employees on child safeguarding and have WFP employees ensure they sign a code of conduct.

- Consolidate and disseminate up-to-date information on child protection referral pathways and carry out an awareness-raising session on how to identify and safely and confidentially refer a child protection case.
- Regularly consult child protection actors, project-management committees and child-headed households and children who are registered as primary beneficiaries, including children with disabilities, to ensure they have safe and meaningful access.
- Develop country-level procedures/guidance/SOP for the registration and provision of assistance to children enrolled in WFP activities with attention to separated minors and child-headed households, or households where the primary caregiver is a child. This guidance should be developed in consultation with child protection actors or the ministry responsible for child welfare.
- Hiring both male and female employees to work with communities.

Targeted approaches for children identified as facing barriers accessing activities, services and information. This may include:

- Childcare for adolescent girls with babies so they can participate in vocational training,
- Prioritisation of child-headed households in unconditional food assistance;
- Working with the ministry of labour to combat child labour through school-based programming activities;
- Designing queuing arrangements that: (a) ensure children remain with their parents and; (b) include a lost-child help zone.
- Coordinating with other actors to including specific items for children and for pregnant and breastfeeding girls and women.

TARGETING AND REGISTERING CHILDREN

*Except for school-based programming and adolescent mothers it is strongly discouraged for a child under the age of 14 years to be identified as the primary recipient of assistance. Instead it is recommended that a suitable caregiver be identified together with the support of child protection actors, the child's participation to ensure the best interest of the child is taken into primary consideration.*³⁶

WFP Beneficiary Identity Management Guidance and the WFP Guide to Personal Data Protection and Privacy align the minimum age for biometric registration of children at 14 years (admission to participate in light work ILO guidance on child labour conventions 138 and 182).

The biometric registration of children under the age of 14 years for any form of assistance including school-based programming must be based on an analysis that determines that the benefits of registering the child as a member of a household or independently outweighs the associated protection risks of doing so. This analysis must be coordinated with child protection actors to develop indicators for identifying and assisting children at risk (to identify children at risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence).

Collaboration will help both sectors for example, in the case of a girl under the age of 14 who has children of her own, is the primary caregiver and is eligible for enrolment in a nutrition or school-based programme it is essential to consult child protection actors and gender-based violence service providers to understand what additional services the child may need to benefit from to ensure they can protect and fully benefit from their entitlement.

If no child protection actor is present in the area of operation despite a significant presence of separated, unaccompanied minors and child headed households WFP should consider the direct implementation of assistance through a child protection actor.

WFP strongly discourages the participation of children below 18 in asset-creation and livelihood programmes, yet it recognises that there could be instances where children aged 14 to 18 may need to participate in or would benefit from asset-creation and livelihood activities (e.g. training on asset management, their use or maintenance).

The eligibility of and the type of work applicable to the 14-18 age group must be discussed and agreed upon during the community-based participatory planning (CBPP) process before proceeding to better understand the risks they may face and tailor the activities to reflect their needs and interests. *Please refer to section 4.1. for information on how to consult children.*

Whenever possible, and wherever children are involved, the approach should be holistic, and complemented by other child-protection and education programmes from other partners. To help facilitate school attendance, it is important to explore ways to reduce income-generation activities of both boys and girls, and the housework / household responsibilities of girls.



³⁶ WFP Beneficiary Identity Management Guidance and the [WFP Guide to Personal Data Protection and Privacy](#) establishes the minimum age for registration as 14 years (admission to participate in regular work). These age categories are aligned with ILO guidance on child labour (conventions 138 and 182).

4.2 Preventing and Mitigating Gender-Based Violence



This section will provide concrete examples of how WFP can contribute to preventing and mitigating gender-based violence (GBV) and guidance on how to safely and confidentially refer cases of GBV. For a detailed explanation of GBV, a good place to start to understand this thematic area for WFP can be found in the current [GBV manual](#).³⁷

WFP recognises that GBV results from gender inequalities and treats it as a life-threatening protection issue.³⁸ WFP's specific commitment to GBV is outlined in both the Policy on Protection and Accountability (2020) and the Gender Policy (2015-2020).

During emergencies such as conflicts, natural disasters, pandemics or other crises, the risk of violence, exploitation and abuse is heightened, particularly for women and girls.³⁹ The risks are further perpetuated as national systems and community and social support networks may weaken through these situations.

Holding perpetrators to account can be increasingly difficult in environments where there is weak rule of law. This places individuals at further risk including:

- women and girls, often at risk of sexual violence, exploitation and abuse, forced marriage (early and child marriage), denial of resources and harmful traditional practices.
- Men and boys may also experience sexual violence and may be even less likely than women and girls to report and seek help because of fear of stigma.

GBV AND FOOD SECURITY

GBV hinders the achievement of food security and nutrition objectives in the following ways:

- Impacts people's physical health and emotional and mental well-being, as well as their ability to work and participate in community life;⁴⁰
- Women who experienced any form of intimate partner violence (IPV) are more likely to bear stunted children, have underweight children, experience low-birth-weight children or undersized babies;⁴¹
- GBV increases the risk of early cessation of exclusive breast feeding or early initiation of mixed feeding;⁴²
- GBV has implications for poor health outcomes, morbidity and mortality for women, girls and boys.⁴³

An intersectional approach is key to effectively mainstreaming GBV prevention into programming. This requires an understanding of how aspects of a person's social and political identity might combine or intersect to heighten GBV risks.

³⁷ <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000115881/download/>

³⁸ WFP, 2016. Gender-based Violence Manual <https://gbvguidelines.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/WFP-GBV-Manual.pdf>

³⁹ IASC. 2015. Guidelines for GBV in Humanitarian Action, p. 3. For a more comprehensive list of the types of GBV, see Annex 3.

⁴⁰ IBID

⁴¹ A Lancet study that tries to establish the links between GBV and malnutrition: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2789268>

⁴² The search was carried out in five databases, including MEDLINE, LILACS, SCOPUS, PsycINFO, and Science Direct. The search strategy was carried out in February 2017. The authors included original studies with observational design, which investigated forms of intimate partner violence (including emotional, physical, and/or sexual) and breastfeeding practices. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0021755717302991>

⁴³ FAO, How can food security interventions contribute to reducing gender-based violence? <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7768e.pdf>

HOW TO INTEGRATE GBV PREVENTION AND MITIGATION IN PROGRAMMES

To ensure programmes and interventions do not create, exacerbate or contribute to perpetuating gender inequalities or discrimination, GBV protection considerations must be integrated throughout the programme cycle. Below are some practical examples of how this can be done.

- ✓ Assume that GBV is taking place and take seriously reports and information shared by GBV actors and women's groups about potential risks;
- ✓ Gather appropriate data: when conducting WFP assessments consult women, men, girls and boys both with and without disabilities, and ensure the findings are disaggregated by age, gender and disability;
- ✓ Triangulate information of data collected (including negative coping mechanisms) with GBV-specific actors and respective ministries;
- ✓ Conduct protection risk assessments and safety audits in collaboration with protection actors to collect further information where required;
- ✓ Identify groups that may be of risk of GBV: consult GBV actors or the respective ministry working on gender equality.
- ✓ Inform programming: conduct a gender analysis by consulting women's groups, associations, LGBTI groups, respective taskforces and ministries to inform programming and ensure WFP activities do not perpetuate inequality;
- ✓ Training and awareness: coordinate with GBV actors and respective WFP protection and gender colleagues for training on gender equality, GBV referrals.
- ✓ Implement global standards on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). Provide training to ensure partners, WFP personnel, suppliers and community-based structures established by WFP are familiar with their obligations and the relevant reporting channels;
- ✓ Ensure all employees and partners are informed and kept up to date about referral mechanisms.
- ✓ Establish accountable community feedback mechanisms and standard operating procedures for safe disclosure and referral of GBV cases.



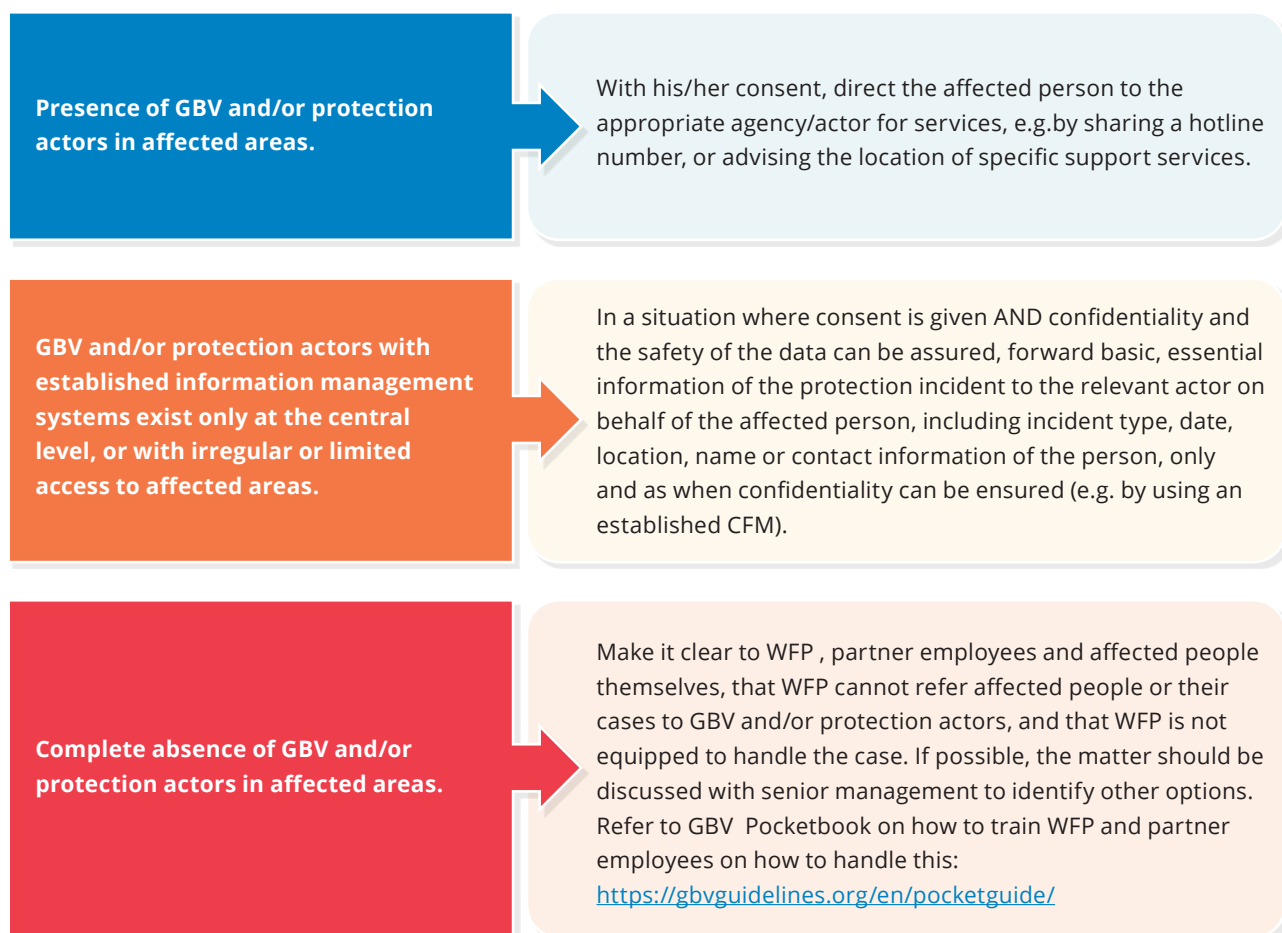
CASE STUDY ON CONDUCTING SAFETY AUDITS AND CAPACITY STRENGTHENING OF FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER, SOUTH SUDAN

WFP, World Vision South Sudan, GBV-SC and the FSLC commenced collaboration in 2019 to strengthen capacity, analysis and responsiveness to GBV across FSLC activities and sites. The first stage of the activity was a collaboration between the noted agencies / clusters to develop a shared understanding of what is GBV and how to best implement collaboration. It was decided that safety audits would be rolled out across FSLC in 2020 with the collaborating agencies due to deliver training on gender and GBV, identifying partners to undertake: 1) observational and light-touch GBV safety audits (multi-skilled); 2) intensive safety audits (FSLC partners with GBV capacity). The collaborating agencies will then (in 2020) undertake analysis of findings with immediate remedies implemented and strategic opportunities identified, advocated and resourced.

In 2019, WFP partnered with UNICEF, ACF and the Nutrition Cluster to adjust existing GBV safety audit tools, develop and deliver training for all Nutrition Cluster partners, roll out GBV safety audits in over 300 nutrition sites (including hard-to-reach locations) and analyse data received with a focus on immediate response where necessary.

HANDLING A GBV DISCLOSURE/REFERRAL

Generally, there are three common scenarios in the WFP operational environment:



For more information refer to GBV Pocketbook:

<https://www.corecommitments.unicef.org/kbdb/gender-based-violence-pocket-guide.url>

The background image is a photograph of a person from behind, wearing a white WFP (World Food Programme) vest and a dark headscarf. They are standing on a balcony or ledge, looking out over a densely populated city with many small buildings. In the distance, a large, rugged mountain rises against a hazy sky. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. The text 'Section 5' is written in white, sans-serif font on the left side of the image.

Section 5

Monitoring and Reporting on Protection

WFP corporately reports on protection and accountability in a multitude of ways. Beyond the monthly monitoring and partner reports, WFP is also accountable for reporting on protection and accountability to affected populations to donors, the annual country report (ACR) and on to respective UN Security Council resolutions. The section below provides guidance on how to do so.

5.1 Annual Country Report (ACR) Guidance

OVERVIEW SECTION

I. WFP is committed to leaving no-one behind (WFP's Strategic Plan). The overview should acknowledge the country offices' accountability to safeguarding affected populations by minimising intentional or unintentional harm as well as exposure to risk through the way it delivers assistance.

II. Introduce how the Country Office has approached the '[Centrality of Protection](#)' through the implementation of programmes. This can be outlined through a focus on protection mainstreaming principles:

- Prioritise safety and dignity and avoid causing harm
- Meaningful Access
- Accountability
- Participation and Empowerment

III. These considerations would best be mentioned in the overview to display a holistic understanding of the context and operational response. The protection cross-cutting and AAP sections can be used to detail the response further.

NOTE: *The 2020 Protection and Accountability Policy defines vulnerability as follows: A person is not inherently vulnerable but the situation they are in may render them vulnerable because of structural and/or other barriers to financial, social, physical, administrative or information accessibility. This will impact their capacity to anticipate, prepare for, cope with, resist or recover from the impact of shocks or intersecting structural or other inequalities. This means that WFP must analyse factors contributing to heightened risk and related needs, including barriers to access to assistance and intersecting structural inequalities. In this regard, vulnerability must not be viewed in a generalised way because that is too broad to be practical when seeking to reduce risk. Similarly, people cannot be seen as one homogenous group. Group needs should not obscure the likelihood of intra-group vulnerabilities.*

Accordingly, please use the term: "at-risk individuals" or "at-risk groups".

CONTEXT AND OPERATIONS SECTION:

1. Understanding the context in which WFP operates is core to protection, and critical to identifying and addressing protection risks – and then jointly designing programmes with affected populations. Placing people at the centre of our decision-making, design and consultation process will support stronger outcomes, none of which is possible in the absence of working collectively with other agencies in-country. Refer to the following country office protection resources for reporting on this section:

- a.** Protection Risk Assessment;
- b.** Protection Analysis;
- c.** Privacy Impact Assessments;
- d.** Assessments conducted by the Protection Cluster/ Sectors;
- e.** Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) Protection Strategy (where available);
- f.** UN resources including Security Council Reports/ UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Reports;
- g.** Regional HR tools - Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights;



ASSESS HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRESS IN EACH COUNTRY:

The [Universal Periodic Review \(UPR\)](#) is a mechanism that exists to support countries in improving human rights standards and addressing violations. View summary of country specific reports [here](#).

The Review can be used by WFP Country Offices to:

1. Understand the current status of human rights implementation in country to support strengthening institutions;
2. Integrate findings of UPR Reports as the basis for context analysis. Identify areas required for strengthening through WFP programmes or technical support;
3. Align strategic priorities of country strategic plans (CSPs) to strengthen capacity of partners – which are often government or local institutions directly responsible for progress.

Consistent reporting through UN Country Team (UNCT)/Resident Coordinator (RC) to ensure information is captured.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS:

Annual Country Review (ACR) Suggested Reporting:

‘Articulating WFP’s positioning and CSP implementation and how strategic partnerships allow for achieving more effective results.’ Protection outcomes can only be achieved in partnership with others.

Protection and AAP Considerations: Advocating beyond food and nutrition security

- Outline joint programming to achieve outcomes beyond food or nutrition security, e.g. cash programmes implemented jointly with UNFPA/local women’s groups to support victims of gender-based violence;
- Address collective protection outcomes with partners (joint advocacy); use of interagency mechanisms; UNCT; UNCT protection strategy; working groups/clusters;
- Highlight collaboration with national government in addressing needs, e.g. social protection schemes, school feeding programmes;
- Identify funding specifically for protection mainstreaming or programmes with protection integration.



EXAMPLE ETHIOPIA ACR 2019 – DISABILITY INCLUSION

‘In partnership with the Austrian Embassy Development Cooperation, 61 WFP personnel were trained on disability inclusion. Participants are more empowered and shared views on how to improve services. A systematic action plan will be developed in 2020 and aligned with WFP’s disability inclusion strategy two-year road map. Training in gender and protection mainstreaming in food assistance was conducted in Assosa and Dollo Ado sub-offices, targeting personnel, partners and regional government representatives. Monthly reports regarding safe and dignified services improved.’

5.2 Cross-cutting Results Under the Corporate Results Framework (CRF)

Both protection and accountability are cross-cutting commitments in the revised Corporate Results Framework (CRF). Country offices are expected to report against the results of each indicator.

PROTECTION

Protection is reported against three indicators in the Corporate Results Framework. Affected populations are able to benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that ensures and promotes their safety, dignity and integrity.

- **C.2.1 Proportion of targeted people receiving assistance without safety challenges;**
- **C.2.2 Proportion of targeted people having unhindered access to WFP programmes;**
- **C.2.3 Proportion of targeted people reporting that WFP programmes are dignified.**

This section should document and analyse data collected against these indicators, as well as efforts to Mainstream Protection.

I. Include disaggregated data (age, disability, gender, diversity) to demonstrate demographic differences of affected populations. If statistics are unavailable internally to WFP, they can be accessed from the protection cluster or other protection standalone actors.

II. Further considerations to show representative sample of data might include:

- a. Clear information on when the data was collected;
- b. In which location/s;
- c. how many people;

Example Reporting: 'In country X, the CBT programme in Y area, Z number of people were consulted. The results showed the following.'

III. Describe how WFP programmes supported mitigating risks identified through its programmes and support services, including those identified by relevant protection analysis or privacy impact assessments;

IV. Provide specific protection and AAP examples through programme performance sections;

V. Consider shifting the perspective from primarily documenting operational challenges to WFP's access to affected populations – and document how access issues prevent affected populations from accessing WFP and humanitarian assistance.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS (AAP)

This section should be structured to clearly articulate the CO's contribution to WFP's AAP commitments to enhancing participation. Examples should be provided to demonstrate successful implementation of the three areas of focus: information provision; consultation; and, community feedback mechanisms (CFMs), from a perspective of women, men, girls and boys, with or without disability.

AAP is reported on through two indicators in the Corporate Results Framework (CRF):

- **C.1.1 Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance);**
- **C.1.2 Proportion of activities for which beneficiary feedback is documented, analysed and integrated into programme improvements;**

Were these CRF targets met?

What are some areas of under- or overachievements and why did this occur?

Any improvements or deterioration of the situation over time, and any difficulties in measuring the indicators?

This section should document and analyse data collected against these indicators, as well as the three AAP focus areas highlighting WFP's commitment to enhancing participation of affected communities.

Information Provision: Detail the extent to which information provision campaigns were:

1. Inclusive and accessible;
2. Received and understood by the most at-risk groups in a timely manner,
 - Reference the needs analysis into communication, information, language and accessibility that informed the design of the engagement campaign;
3. Relevant, responsive and timely to the needs and rights of affected populations.
 - Detail how the sharing of information on entitlements (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance, changes to assistance) and rights (including data rights) enabled affected populations to make informed decisions and report allegations of misconduct;
4. Improved, based on feedback from affected populations;
5. Coordinated with partners as part of an inter-agency initiative.

Consultation: Demonstrate the extent to which consultations with affected populations:

1. Shaped programme design, implementation, adaptation, evaluation, and innovative thinking;
2. Led to the utilisation of local capacities and skillsets in the programme cycle;
3. Were coordinated, including through joint assessments and analysis;
4. Reference coordination with or involvement in joint assessments and analysis.

Community Feedback Mechanism: Linking to the Key Performance Indicator on the percentage of country offices with a functioning CFM, demonstrate the extent to which the CFM:

1. Was designed, implemented, monitored and evaluated with the community;
2. Catered to the communication, information and language needs of the most at-risk groups.
 - Detail how the different communication channels (including non-verbal) and approaches were identified

to best serve the needs of the most-at risk groups;

- Detail how the CFM engages with persons with disability, and other at-risk groups;

3. Influenced programmatic design and adjustments.
 - Provide the number of programmatic adjustments made in response to closed feedback loops of actionable cases;
4. Feeds into an inter-agency CFM initiative or common platform;
5. Produced regular reporting products for CFM data, including contributions to inter-agency initiatives;
6. Was monitored and/or evaluated on its relevance, efficiency and effectiveness through a stakeholder survey;
7. Adheres to the minimum requirements for a functioning CFM.

DISABILITY INCLUSION

Please note, disability inclusion is also captured as an output indicator (A9 in the revised CRF). If data has been collected against the indicator, this section should provide an analysis of the results displayed in the table. Countries without direct distribution are still encouraged to provide narrative where possible.

Highlight attempts to disaggregate data: age, sex, disability, the latter using the Short Set Washington Group Questions.⁴⁴ How was data used to improve targeting or understand needs of affected populations? Document any efforts made to consult with organisations of persons with disabilities through the programme cycle.



⁴⁴ Refer to disability inclusion webpage on WFPgo for further resources: <https://newgo.wfp.org/collection/disability-inclusion>

5.3 Security Council Resolution 2417

Security Council Resolution 2417 (24 May 2018) unequivocally condemns the use of starvation as a method of warfare. Is this Resolution merely symbolic - or can it be leveraged by WFP?

Resolution 2417 requires the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on the risk of famine and food insecurity in countries with armed conflict, as part of his regular reporting on country-specific situations. Reporting on these issues can be done through regular engagement with affected populations (please refer to AAP section). This provides an opportunity to ensure that these regular briefings to the Security Council pay greater attention to food security and nutrition. It also means that WFP can contribute both to prevention of and response to starvation. Where there is DSRSG/RC/HC, WFP will be asked to contribute to Protection of Civilians reports which is a way to report on patterns and trends of food insecurity and recommend mitigating actions, which can take many forms from advocacy to direct interventions. The effort to report has to come from all levels within a country operation. It can be accommodated by inclusion on the situation report format and in WFP's contribution to interagency reports to the Security Council.

Reporting ex-ante/Prevention2

- Paint a clear picture of the potential famine scenario that is unfolding (e.g. underlying/immediate causes, numbers of people that are likely to be affected);
- Summarise the key 'asks' that will help to avert the crises (e.g. humanitarian access to affected populations).

Reporting post-facto/Response

- Incidences whereby warring parties have destroyed objects that are necessary for food production (e.g. farms, livestock, irrigation infrastructure, food bulking/processing/storage facilities) and distribution (e.g. transportation, markets);
- Other examples of conflict disrupting food production and distribution (e.g. farmers unable to access their fields due to safety concerns, private sector transporters cut off from their customary markets);
- Incidences of humanitarian agencies being denied access to populations that are in need of life-saving assistance by warring parties, either directly (e.g. roadblocks) or indirectly (e.g. through bureaucratic impediments);

- Any concerns related to persons in vulnerable situations: women, children, forcibly displaced persons, persons with disabilities and older persons.

Understanding how food insecurity is currently measured by IPC3 breakdown

- Phase 1: Normal;
- Phase 2: Stressed;
- Phase 3: Crisis;
- Phase 4: Emergency ;
- Phase 5: Famine. To reach the stage of famine within the IPC, at least 20 percent of the population have no access to food; at least 30 percent of children under five years are moderately or severely wasted; and two or more people per 10,000 of population are dying per day due to famine-related causes.

The IPC examines three different scales: acute food insecurity which threatens lives or livelihoods; chronic food insecurity, which focuses on quality and quantity of food consumption for an active and healthy life; and acute malnutrition. The IPC was developed to provide an understanding of the severity of food security, against which funding would be sought.

Problems with the IPC:

- The IPC is negotiated with governments, which in many cases are a party to the conflict, thus potentially compromising the principle of neutrality;
- IPC assumes access – yet the reality on the ground is that denial of humanitarian access incidents are not overlaid on IPC maps, thereby distorting the picture. Static IPC metrics are not a substitute for dynamic trends and patterns;
- Ultimately, in a context where the government is party to ongoing conflict, the IPC can provide a skewed perspective on the status of food insecurity, meaning that WFP has to think outside of the box to ensure – at the very least – an awareness (if not necessarily reporting) of the underlying factors and context of the use of starvation as a method of warfare;
- WFP concerns about reporting against the resolution: WFP does not want to compromise the principle of neutrality by documenting patterns and trends. WFP is concerned that if it provides more information, it

will be perceived by parties to the conflict as trying to demonstrate intentionality and/or knowledge of wrongdoing - which would in turn compromise the organisation's ability to deliver humanitarian assistance according to the humanitarian principles of neutrality and impartiality.

Starvation as a Method of Warfare

In the reporting:

- In its reporting, WFP should describe the position of the UN on the country (for instance, is the UN working uncritically or otherwise with the state? Is there a lack of political leverage to address human rights violations, access to key authorities, capacity?);
- WFP should articulate the action recommended and whether it requires HQ political support
- Identify the time-frame where possible.

Scenario and reporting to date: In country X, there has been an ongoing conflict for the past ten years with spikes of violence. Households endure continuously constrained food access because of widespread insecurity, large-scale displacements, high food prices, market disruptions, macroeconomic collapse and the exhaustion of strategies to cope with such adversity after four years of conflict

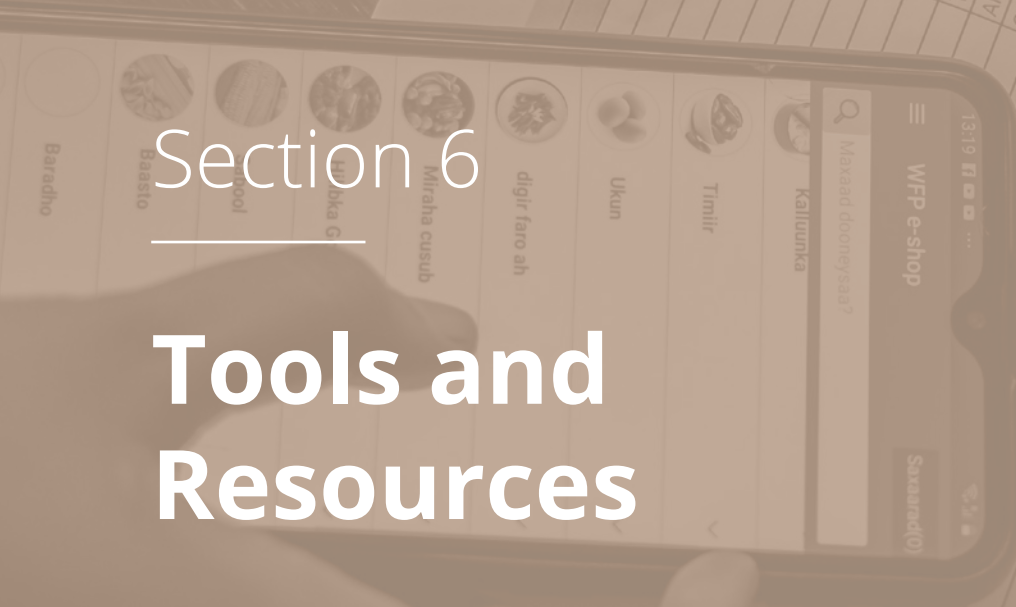
The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance – Crisis (IPC Phase 3), Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Catastrophe/Famine (IPC Phase 5) – has dropped from 6 million in September (56 percent of the population) to 4.8 million (45 percent) between October and December of the same year, following the harvest.

In a worst-case scenario in which current levels of food assistance cannot be scaled up or maintained, and conflict, climatic shocks and macro-economic instability continue, Catastrophe/Famine (IPC Phase 5) conditions are likely to occur in multiple locations across the country.

Consideration	Description	Sources	Recommended Actions
Reputational and operational risk	If WFP is perceived as actively collecting information and reporting on issues related to starvation as a method of warfare, this will affect perceptions of its intentions and role as a neutral service provider.	This will translate into denials of access	Reporting can be done in the context of a protection context analysis and does not need to be made public.
UN-Host Government relations		Political affairs reports from integrated missions, Human Rights Watch reports	Triangulate information with WFP's data.
State of food insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographic Distribution of populations and demographics • Duration • Assumptions and compounding issues • Actual severity with respect to measured score 	<p>IPC, market surveys, FAO reports and good security NGOs</p> <p>The ILO produces monthly unemployment statistics</p>	Triangulate information with entities reporting under Security Council Resolution 1325 and perhaps consider hosting a UNWomen staff to support WFP
Access		Documentation on access	
Additional early warning considerations	Documenting protests, queuing for fuel, censorship in the press	The World Press Freedom Index, human rights reports from the integrated missions, monitoring media outlets	Inform context analysis beyond IPC and FCS

Section 6

Tools and Resources



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A. Sphere Standards

THE FOUR SPHERE PROTECTION PRINCIPLES:

Enhance the safety, dignity and rights of people, and avoid exposing them to harm

- Understand protection risks in context;
- Provide assistance that reduces risks that people may face in meeting their needs with dignity;
- Provide assistance in an environment that does not further expose people to physical hazards, violence or abuse;
- Support the capacity of people to protect themselves.

Ensure people's access to assistance according to need and without discrimination

- Challenge any actions that deliberately deprive people of their basic needs, using humanitarian principles and relevant law;
- Ensure people receive support on the basis of need, and that they are not discriminated against on any other grounds;
- Ensure access to assistance for all parts of the affected population.

Assist people to recover from the physical and psychological effects of threatened or actual violence, coercion or deliberate deprivation

- Refer survivors to relevant support services;
- Take all reasonable steps to ensure that the affected population is not subject to further violence, coercion or deprivation;
- Support people's own efforts to recover their dignity and rights within their communities and be safe.

Help people claim their rights

- Supporting people to assert their rights and to access remedies from government or other sources;
- Assisting people to secure the documentation they need to demonstrate their entitlements;
- Advocating for full respect of people's rights and international law, contributing to a stronger protective environment.

The Sphere Handbook is an internationally recognised tool for the delivery of quality humanitarian response and sets the standards for all humanitarian action. In line with the Centrality of Protection, the Handbook encapsulates the inclusion of protection by basing all action on four protection principles. *All humanitarian actors, including WFP and its partners, must apply these principles in all humanitarian responses.*

B. Mainstreaming Checklist

	Protection Mainstreaming Checklist - Key actions:	Yes / No
Analysis	Do relevant WFP programmes and activities include questions about safety and dignity issues and barriers to accessing assistance in assessments?	
	Do WFP employees use secondary data sources from the protection cluster, or GBV sub-cluster? Also, regularly update information about the context risks through protection or other risk analyses?	
	Is gender, age and disability disaggregated data used to inform programming e.g. who to target, what type of assistance to provide, and how to safely provide it?	
Targeting and diversity of need	Is there documentation showing inclusive, meaning that a wide representation of affected populations was consulted decision-making process for identifying who to target/not target. Has a CFM been established prior to targeting?	
	Have diverse groups been consulted/participated in the selection of criteria for targeting e.g. women and adolescent girls, languages or religious groups, ages, marginalised groups, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities?	
	Has the project been adapted to meet the different needs of different groups to increase their safety, dignity and access to assistance? -----	
	Are Monitoring and Evaluation tools established to capture and appropriately refer/ escalate protection related issues?	
Information sharing	Is accurate information about WFP and the programme received and understood by diverse groups within communities? For example, do beneficiaries understand what WFP is? What is the project? Who is targeted? How long will it last?	
	Do employees and partners understand they should never make false promises about what the organisation can/can't do?	
	Is information shared and understood in a culturally appropriate way, in different communication mediums e.g. visual, print, verbal, adapted for persons with disabilities, and in the local language?	
	Do communities receive and understand information on what is appropriate and inappropriate personnel behaviour? Do they know how to report this behaviour as prevention of Sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)?	
Community engagement	Do employees and partners use a range of techniques e.g. mapping, calendars, problem trees, regular face-to-face consultations or engagement with civil society etc, to capture the views of those with specific needs and at the greatest risk of being excluded?	
	Have employees and partners identified local skills, resources (e.g. physical, financial, environmental) and structures (e.g. women's groups, local government, youth groups, religious groups, disabled persons organisations etc.) in communities and designed programmes?	
Employee and Partner conduct	Have employees received a copy of relevant policies and have they been trained (and refreshers provided) on the practical application of relevant policies?	
	Are there safe and confidential ways to receive and respond to complaints about employee and partner behaviour?	

Mapping & Referral	Is information on protection services written down, regularly updated and shared with employees? These include GBV, mental health and psychosocial support, child protection referral mapping in user-friendly and accessible ways e.g. business card format? Is WFP feeding into these resources?	
	Is WFP able to recognise what cases can be referred, to whom and how, e.g. survivors and those at-risk of sexual and gender-based violence, unaccompanied and separated children, trafficked persons?	
Coordination & Advocacy	Drawing on community and local partner perspectives, and where safe to do so, do employees raise issues such as unsafe service provision, excluded groups, GBV, or forced relocations with responsible actors (e.g. local government, protection cluster, other protection actors or respective government counterparts etc.)?	

C. Protection Tools and Resources

Resource	Description
Protection Analysis Step by Step User Guide	A detailed step by step guide for WFP protection advisors to conduct a protection analysis (WFP internal document)
Quick Start Protection Analysis	One-pager, quick start protection analysis in brochure format (WFP internal document).
Process for Integrating Protection	Infographic detailing the process for integrating protection across programming (WFP internal document).
https://api.godocs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000126774/download/	Mainstreaming Protection and AAP into CBT Feasibility (Multisectoral) Assessments
WFP Protection and Accountability Policy (2020)	WFP policy on protection and accountability approved in November 2020.
Easy-to-read Protection Policy	Easy-to-read version of the protection and accountability policy (2020).
Protection Implementation Plan	WFP protection and accountability implementation plan (2020).
FAQs on protection and accountability	WFP FAQs on the protection and accountability policy.
Protection Theory of Change	WFP protection theory of change.
Updated WFP visuals on protection policy	WFP protection policy visuals.
Protection Guidance Manual 2016	WFP Protection Guidance Manual (previous version, 2016).
GPC Brief on Protection Mainstreaming	Global Protection Cluster brief on protection mainstreaming.
Protection and Accountability Action Plan (PAAP)	Protection and Accountability Action Plan (PAAP)
GPC Training toolkit	GPC Protection Mainstreaming Training Toolkit

Protection Mainstreaming Global Protection Cluster	GPC website with materials available in multiple languages; power point slides; infographics
ALNAP guide	ALNAP guide to humanitarian protection
IASC Protection Policy	IASC Policy on Protection in Humanitarian Action

D. Accountability to Affected Populations

Resource	Description
AAP Building Blocks	A role-playing exercise designed for small (predominantly field-based) teams that illustrates the concept of intersectionality and how this may impact our understanding of accountability as a people-centred organisation.
AAP Baseline Capacity Assessment	This very short capacity assessment questionnaire provides a health-check for accountability practices at the country level. It is encouraged that this is elaborated and used as a baseline against which to measure progress in AAP activities (such as the implementation of a community engagement action plan).
Checklist - Contributors to Collective AAP	A checklist that can be used to identify opportunities for collaboration with other actors and collective fora on the subject of AAP.
Community Engagement Strategy Template	An example strategy template for community engagement at the country level that includes all the basic considerations for planning, implementing and evaluating engagement activities with diverse individuals and groups within the affected population.
Understanding Community Structures-A Social Network Analysis	A network methodology for mapping different kinds of relationships and community structures. Central to this is the analysis of power/hierarchy and the different entry points for two-way communication with both visible and marginalised individuals and groups in affected communities.
Remote and Digital Engagement Methods	A short note on the relevance and options for digital engagement with affected people.
Project Management Committee (PMC) Pocketbook Guide	A brief but concise guide to managing Project Management Committees and ensuring adequate representation for diverse groups in the affected population.
CFM Standardisation Resource Package	A comprehensive resource package that supports country offices in implementing the CFM Standardisation guidance and ensuring CFM functionality.
AAP IM Strategy Template	An example template for the management of information related to activities concerning AAP (for example, community engagement and CFMs).
Information Provision and Standard Messaging	Basic rules for communication of WFP programming and information provision to affected communities. Should be elaborated on to suit specific program activities and country-level context.

E. Gender-Based Violence

Resource	Description
World Food Programme, Gender-based Violence Manual (2016) (Available in English, French and Spanish)	Provides the definition of GBV, outlining WFP's approach and commitment to preventing, mitigating and responding to GBV within the framework of WFP's mandate.
GBV Pocket Guide Also available in mobile app form by searching "GBV Pocket Guide" in iOS and google play stores.	Uses a PFA-based approach to provide guidance to non-GBV specialised actors on how to support a survivor of GBV who disclosed to you in a context where there is no gender-based violence actor (including a referral pathway or GBV focal point) available in your area.
IASC Guidelines for Integrating GBV Interventions into Humanitarian settings (2015)	This resource is primarily for non-GBV sectors. It aims to assist humanitarian actors and communities affected by humanitarian crises to coordinate, plan, implement, monitor and evaluate essential actions for the prevention and mitigation of GBV across all sectors of humanitarian response. There is a section on food security and agriculture, nutrition and livelihoods.
UNFPA Minimum Standards for Prevention and Response to Gender-based Violence in Emergencies	The Minimum Standards comprise a set of 18 inter-connected standards that draw upon UNFPA's comparative advantage and global expertise, based on international best practice. The Standards speak to UNFPA's mandate to coordinate GBV prevention and response in emergencies as co-lead with UNICEF of the Area of Responsibility of the Global Protection Cluster.
GBV Accountability Framework (2018)	The Framework was developed by a group of Call to Action partners. It articulates what field-level humanitarian actors, especially leadership, must do to prioritise GBV prevention and response. The Framework has informed the updating of this Road Map and will support more strategic implementation of Call to Action at the leadership level in humanitarian operations.
IASC Revised Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action (2017) IASC Gender Policy and Accountability Framework (2017)	The updated Gender Handbook provides practical guidance for humanitarian workers to mainstream gender equality into humanitarian action across sectors — the third objective of the Call to Action Road Map. Other useful resources on gender in humanitarian action include the revised IASC Gender Policy and accompanying Accountability Framework. Annual reports on the Accountability Framework are produced by UN Women on behalf of the IASC's Gender Reference Group.

Resource	Description
<p>Cash and Voucher GBV Compendium</p> <p>Contributors: CARE, GBV Guidelines Inter-agency Reference Group, International Rescue Committee, Mercy Corps, OXFAM, UNFPA, UNICEF, Women's Refugee Commission.</p>	<p>The purpose of this cash and voucher assistance (CVA) and gender-based violence (GBV) compendium is to assist humanitarian actors and crisis- and conflict-affected communities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integrate GBV risk mitigation into CVA interventions; • integrate GBV prevention into multi-sector programming using CVA when appropriate; and • integrate CVA into GBV prevention and response when appropriate; • The compendium highlights key considerations, essential actions, promising practices; and • Lessons learned, to help humanitarian practitioners work with affected people and communities to identify and monitor GBV risks and mitigation measures throughout the programme cycle. The compendium gives examples of the potentially beneficial outcomes of using CVA alongside other assistance and services to contribute to preventing or responding to GBV.
<p>Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies: Guide to Developing a Field-Level Road Map - HHRI</p>	<p>The Guide draws on learning from Call to Action pilot projects in Northeast Nigeria and Democratic Republic of the Congo. It provides step-by-step guidance for field-based Call to Action colleagues on developing a road map that is informed by the global Road Map but contextualised for their particular setting.</p>
<p>Minimum Operating Standards for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (2016)</p>	<p>The Minimum Operating Standards for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (MOS-PSEA) are commitments made by IASC members to combat SEA within their organisations. It provides specific indicators on how organisations can set up internal structures to do so.</p>
<p>IASC Best Practice Guide Inter-Agency Community-Based Complaints Mechanisms (CBCMs) (2016)</p>	<p>The Minimum Standards comprise a set of 18 inter-connected standards that draw upon UNFPA's comparative advantage and global expertise, based on international best practice. The Standards speak to UNFPA's mandate to coordinate GBV prevention and response in emergencies as co-lead with UNICEF of the Area of Responsibility of the Global Protection Cluster.</p>
<p>GBV Area of Responsibility</p>	<p>For additional resources consult GBV AOR. Also provides capacity-building tools, analysis and trends on GBV risks and guidance on how to connect and engage with national level GBV sub-clusters. Requests can also be made to HQ protection for protection risk assessment and safety audit templates.</p>
<p>WFP Gender Toolkit</p>	<p>The Gender Toolkit is a comprehensive set of resources for integrating gender into the work and activities of WFP to support achievement of gender equality outcomes in food security and nutrition.</p>
<p>GBV Guidelines website</p>	<p>For additional resources, please consult the GBV Guidelines website for tools and resources related to GBV risk mitigation in non-GBV specialised sectors.</p>
<p>GBV Area of Responsibility</p>	<p>GBV area of responsibility also provides capacity-building tools, analysis and trends on GBV and guidance on how to connect/engage with national level GBV sub-clusters. Requests can also be made to HQ protection for protection risk assessment and safety audit templates.</p>

F. Child Protection

Resource	Description
Keys principles and definitions of child protection	Key Principles & Definitions of terms relating to child protection
Communication for Children	Tips on how to adjust communication for child audiences
Consulting and engaging with children	Tips on how to consult and engage with children
Practical Note for WFP and Partners on Preventing use of Child Labour	WFP Guidance Note to Prevent the Use of Child Labour in WFP Operations and Programmes (2017)
Minimum Standards for child protection in humanitarian action	Global Child Protection Working Group's Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (2019)
INEE minimum standards	INEE's Minimum Standards for Education in Emergencies (2010)
Oslo Safe Schools Declaration	Oslo Safe Schools Declaration (2015) and related Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict
Toolkit for consulting with children	Save the Children toolkit
Inter-agency toolkit	Inter-agency toolkit: supporting the protection needs of child labourers in emergencies
IASC Guidelines on working with and for young people	Inter-agency guidelines on how to work with and for young people in emergencies and protracted crises
The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and its Optional Protocol	<p>Rights guaranteed under the Convention include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-Discrimination; • Best interests; • Right to life; • Participation; <p>Additional stipulations under Optional Protocols:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No recruitment or use of children; • Prohibition of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.
Paris Principles on Children and Armed Groups (2007)	<p>Intend to guide international interventions to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent child recruitment; • Facilitate release and reintegration of children; • Ensure most protective environment for children; • Provide definitions and overarching principles for engagement with children associated with armed groups or armed forces; • Address the specific situation of girls.

Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) - [ratifications]	This fundamental convention sets the general minimum age for admission to employment or work at 15 years (13 for light work) and the minimum age for hazardous work at 18 (16 under certain strict conditions). It provides for the possibility of initially setting the general minimum age at 14 (12 for light work) where the economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed.
Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)	This fundamental convention defines as a “child” a person under 18 years of age. It requires ratifying states to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, including all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; child prostitution and pornography; using children for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs; and work which is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children. The convention requires ratifying states to provide the necessary and appropriate direct assistance for the removal of children from the worst forms of child labour and for their rehabilitation and social integration. It also requires states to ensure access to free basic education and, wherever possible and appropriate, vocational training for children removed from the worst forms of child labour.
International Criminal Law	Article 68(3) of the Rome Statute is the central provision related to victims’ participation. It states: “(...) where the personal interests of the victims are affected, the Court shall permit their views and concerns to be presented and considered at stages of the proceedings determined to be appropriate by the Court (...)”. Moreover, pursuant to Article 68(1) of the Statute, “the Court shall take appropriate measures to protect the safety, physical and psychological wellbeing, dignity and privacy of victims and witnesses having regard to all relevant factors, including age, gender (...) health, and the nature of the crime, in particular...where the crime involves sexual or gender violence or violence against children”. ⁴⁵
Secretary General in the Six Grave Violations Against Children During Armed Conflict including Security Council Resolutions 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009), 1998 (2011) 2068 (2012), and 2143	The Guidelines on the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism on Grave Violations against Children in Situations of Armed Conflict. The MRM seeks to monitor the following six grave violations: a) Killing or maiming of children; b) Recruiting or use of children in armed forces and groups; c) Attacks against schools or hospitals; d) Rape and other forms of sexual violence against children; e) Abduction of children; f) Denial of humanitarian access to children.
Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict (SCWG-CAAC)	Reviews reports on violations against children affected by armed conflict committed by parties that are listed in the annexes to the Secretary-General’s report on children and armed conflict.

⁴⁵ The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. The text of the Rome Statute reproduced herein was originally circulated as document A/CONF.183/9 of 17 July 1998 and corrected by procès-verbaux of 10 November 1998, 12 July 1999, 30 November 1999, 8 May 2000, 17 January 2001 and 16 January 2002. Published by the International Criminal Court ISBN No. 92-9227-232-2 ICC-PIOS-LT-03-002/15_Eng

G. Disability Inclusion

Resource	Description
WFP disability inclusion road map (2020-2021)	The two-year road map was officially approved by the Executive Board in November 2020. It supports the implementation of the Secretary-General's 2019 UN Disability Inclusion Strategy and WFP's obligations more broadly regarding disability inclusion.
WFP Information and Knowledge Management Platform on Disability Inclusion	As part of WFP's efforts to ensure that the rights of persons with disabilities are being addressed in WFP's programmes and operations, the Emergencies and Transitions Unit established an Information and Knowledge Management Platform. The Platform seeks to provide useful documentation, guidance and tools to all WFP employees and reflects the work of WFP's Disability Inclusion Steering Committee (DISC) and the Disability Inclusion Working Group (DIWG).
United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS)	<p>The Strategy was developed by the UN Secretary General in June 2019. It enables the UN system to support the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other international human rights instruments, as well as the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Agenda for Humanity and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.</p> <p>The UNDIS accountability framework has two components: the Entity Accountability Framework (technical notes) and a UN Country Team Accountability Scorecard on Disability Inclusion (UNCT).</p>
The Washington Group Short Set of Questions (WGQs)	The WGQs are a simplified set of six questions that can be incorporated into a questionnaire, which is proven to better capture disability status of beneficiaries than a simple binary question or a set of questions focused on impairments. The WGQs have been endorsed by the International Disability Alliance (IDA), the recognised umbrella international organisation of persons with disabilities (OPD). WFP partners (e.g. UNHCR and UNICEF) use the WGQs, thus ensuring a harmonised approach in operations.
IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action (2019)	The guidelines set out essential actions that humanitarian actors must take in order to effectively identify and respond to the needs and rights of persons with disabilities who are most at risk of being left behind in humanitarian settings. These are the first humanitarian guidelines to be developed with and by persons with disabilities and their representative organisations in association with traditional humanitarian stakeholders. The Easy-to-Read version can be found here .
Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, General Comment No. 7 on Organisations of Persons with Disabilities	General Comment No. 7 (2018) gives an overview on 'the participation of persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organisations, in the implementation and monitoring of the Convention'. The Easy-to-Read version can also be found here .
Guidelines for Effective Consultation with People with Disabilities	A checklist on what should be considered in any consultation with persons with disabilities.

H. Indigenous Peoples

Resource	Description
WFP's Environmental and Social Safeguards	At WFP, the rights of indigenous peoples are included under the protection and human rights standard in Environmental and Social Safeguards. The safeguards recognise and foster full respect for indigenous peoples and their human rights, dignity, cultural uniqueness, autonomy, identity, and aspirations, as stipulated in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and other international instruments relating to indigenous peoples.
The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)	Advocacy has led to the recognition of indigenous peoples' rights in several international instruments, mechanisms and policy frameworks. The UNDRIP was adopted by the General Assembly in 2007 and has been signed by 148 countries.
Call to Action Building an Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Future with Indigenous Peoples	In November 2020 a renewed call to action for implementation of the System-wide Action Plan for Indigenous Peoples was endorsed by the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB). The members of the CEB requested the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues (IASG), with the participation of indigenous peoples, to undertake a series of activities.
The UN System Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (SWAP)	SWAP guides much of the UN system's work with indigenous peoples, including the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2000)	A high-level advisory body to the Economic and Social Council, addresses indigenous issues related to economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights.
Inter-agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues	The Inter-Agency Support Group (IASG) on Indigenous Issues was established to support and promote the mandate of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues within the United Nations system.
UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	Reports on the overall human rights situations of indigenous peoples. José Francisco Cali Tzay of Guatemala is the appointed (May 2020) Special Rapporteur.
UN International Labour Organisation's Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ILO No. 169), 1989	The only international treaty open for ratification that deals exclusively with the rights of these peoples. Examples of ratification include: the Central African Republic ratified the ILO Convention 169 in August 2010, the first and only African State to ratify this Convention. Nepal ratified the convention in September 2007 - the only country in South Asia to do so.
UN Framework on the Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Recognises the role of indigenous knowledge and practices in climate change adaptation. The Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) is a platform for the exchange of experiences and best practices on climate change mitigation and adaptation based on traditional knowledge.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global climate financing mechanisms UNFCCC's Adaptation Fund (AF) • Green Climate Fund (GCF) <p>(see below under climate change for additional information)</p> <p>Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security</p>	<p>Finance projects related to IPs and climate. They have IP policies through which they ensure the rights of indigenous peoples are protected and recognise the contributions they can make to climate mitigation and adaptation given their knowledge of ecosystems.</p> <p>Endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012, it serves as a reference and sets out principles and internationally accepted standards for the responsible governance of tenure. The guidelines include a focus on indigenous peoples.</p>
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I. Climate Change

Resource	Description
The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Adaptation Fund (AF)	Established in 2001 to finance concrete adaptation projects and programmes in developing country parties to the Kyoto Protocol that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.
The Green Climate Fund (GCF)	Set up by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010, is the world's largest dedicated fund helping developing countries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and enhance their ability to respond to climate change. WFP is an accredited agency to the GCF as approximately 40% of WFP's operations include activities designed to reduce disaster risk, build resilience and help people adapt to climate change.
Food Insecurity and Climate Change Map	WFP and the UK provide data highlighting the importance of urgent action to scale up climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts for the most food-insecure people.
Global Protection Cluster	Protection in Natural Disasters Essential Guidance and Tools.
WFP Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework (ESSF) WFPgo	A collection of minimum requirements and do-no-harm commitments enshrined in WFP policies, directives and guidelines.
WFP Climate Change Policy (2017)	Articulates WFP's contribution to national and global efforts to reduce climate change impacts on hunger, including strengthening resilience of vulnerable communities to climate-related hazards.
WFP Environmental Policy (2017)	Commits WFP to consistently respond to environmental risks and opportunities in its own activities.

J. Cash Based Transfers

Resource	Description
WFP, UNHCR, GPC, OXFAM, DRC, Save the Children and WRC (2015)	Guide for Protection in Cash-based Interventions.
Women Refugee Council, 2018	Resources for Mainstreaming Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Considerations in Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) and Utilising CVA in GBV Prevention and Response.
CARE, WRC. 2020	Cash and Voucher Assistance and Gender-Based Violence Compendium: Practical Guidance for Humanitarian Practitioners

K. Conflict Sensitivity

Resource	Description
The Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	NGOs in Disaster Relief (1994) are a voluntary code of ten principles to safeguard high standards of behaviour among humanitarian responders.
The Sphere Handbook (2018)	Sphere Standards are important technical resources for all humanitarian workers, setting internationally recognised common principles and universal minimum standards for the delivery of humanitarian action.
The Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability (2014)	Establishes nine verifiable commitments that organisations can use to improve the quality and accountability of their action.
Triple Nexus: WFP's contributions to Peace (2019)	Internal WFP document highlighting WFP's contributions to the international peacebuilding sector, with evidence-based case studies and forward planning.
OECD DAC Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus	Adopted by WFP in June 2020.

L. Security Council Resolution 2417

Resource	Description
ACAPS	Global Emergency Overview: profiles of countries in situations of crisis or humanitarian emergencies with analysis on the historical background, society and communities, economics, politics and security. Useful analysis of the foreign relations of the country and the country's main political actors.
World Databank	Analysis and data by country on different topics. You can create your own queries by country, generate tables, charts, and maps.
The International Crisis Group	Offers independent analysis on conflict or potential conflict situations.
NGO reports Human Rights Watch Amnesty International	International human rights NGOs such as Human Rights Watch's World Report and Amnesty International's Annual Report offer brief and punctual overviews of the main human rights problems by country. A web-based research allows comparison of human rights developments over time.
Atrocity Alert	Atrocity Crime Alert is a weekly publication of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, highlighting and updating situations where populations are at risk of, or are enduring, mass atrocity crimes.
The World Press Freedom Index 2020	The World Press Freedom Index assesses different dimensions of freedom of press and the media that include pluralism, media independence, media environment and self-censorship, legislative framework, transparency, and the quality of the infrastructure that supports the production of news and information.
Gender Inequality Index	Gender Inequality Index (GII) offers information on gender inequalities in reproductive health, empowerment, and economic status.
Food and Agriculture Organisation	FAO Food Price Index is a measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities.
Transparency International	Transparency International offers the annual Corruption Perceptions Index that measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption worldwide, based on expert opinion.
Centre for Economic and Social Rights	The Centre for Economic and Social Rights offers country analysis on inequalities, social discrimination and retrogressions in economic, social and cultural rights.
International Labour Organisation	The ILO produces monthly unemployment statistics, trends on strikes and other labour-related data for some countries. Note that countries at high risk of conflict tend to have the least comprehensive unemployment data.
ACLED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACLED Conflict Trends reports are monthly updates on political violence, political protests and conflict events in African states. They are based on real-time data, and compare current trends and patterns to historical dynamics in key focus countries. • ACLED (Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project) offers a comprehensive public collection of political violence and protest data for African states. This data and analysis project produces information on the specific dates and locations of political violence and protest, the types of event, the groups involved, fatalities, and changes in territorial control. Information is recorded on the battles, killings, riots, and recruitment activities of rebels, governments, militias, armed groups, protesters and civilians.

Acronyms

AAP	Accountability to Affected Populations
ACLED	Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project
ACR	Annual Country Report
AF	Adaptation Fund
AOR	Area of Responsibility
BIM	Beneficiary Identity Management
CAAP	Commitments to Accountability to Affected People
CAR	Central African Republic
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CBPP	Community-Based Participatory Planning
CBT	Cash-Based Transfer
CEB	Chief Executives Board
CFM	Community Feedback Mechanism
CO(s)	Country Office(s)
CP	Child Protection
CRF	Corporate Results Framework
CSP	Country Strategic Plan
DISC	Disability Inclusion Steering Committee
DIWG	Disability Inclusion Working Group
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
(D)SRSG	(Deputy) Special Representative of the Secretary-General
EU	European Union
FAQs	Frequently Asked Questions
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
FSP	Financial Service Provider
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GPC	Global Protection Cluster
GPDP	Guide to Personal Data Protection and Privacy
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HQ	Headquarters
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ID	Identity Document
IDA	International Disability Alliance
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IHL	International Humanitarian Law
IHRL	International Humanitarian Rights Law
ILO	International Labour Organisation
INEE	Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies
(I)NGO	(International) Non-Governmental Organisation

IP	Indigenous People
IPC	Integrated Phase Classification
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
IRL	International Refugee Law
KII	Key Informant Interview
LCIPP	Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOS	Minimum Operating Standards
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRAP	Mitigation of the Risk of Abuse of Power
MRM	Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism
OECD-DAC	The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee
OIGI	Office of Inspections and Investigations
OPD	Organisation of Persons with Disabilities
PACE	Performance and Competency Enhancement
PFA	Psychological First Aid
(P)SEA	(Protection from) Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
RC	Resident Coordinator
RoC	Republic of Congo
SCWG-CAAC	Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict
SGDs	Sustainable Development Goals
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWAP	System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
VAM	Vulnerability Analysis Monitoring
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WGQs	Washington Group Questions
WHO	World Health Organisation

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