



PROTECTION SECTOR
COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

Protection Mainstreaming Training Module

Developed in consultation with:
Protection Mainstreaming Focal Points
Mainstreaming Technical Resource Persons
Protection Sector's Task Team



Objectives: By the end of this session participants will



- **Understand the protection principles.**
- **Describe what protection mainstreaming in humanitarian responses means.**
- **Demonstrate understanding of the four key elements of protection mainstreaming and analyze their practical application throughout the program cycle.**
- **How to mainstream protection.**
- **5 IASC Accountability Commitments.**
- **Child Protection, GBV, Age & Disability, and Gender Diverse thematic subjects elaborated.**

**Let's talk about
Sebastian...**



Protection is defined as:

- “All activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of individual in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the relevant bodies of law (i.e., human rights law, international humanitarian law, refugee law).

- *Inter-Agency Standing Committee*



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Protection in Practice

- **To identify persons of concerns with specific needs:**
 - ✓ Risk of exploitation, abuse, violence, neglect
 - ✓ Specific categories of vulnerable persons: persons with disabilities, pregnant woman, single woman, older persons, children.
- **protection from** coercion, violence, and deprivation. Exploitation, violence, neglect and abuse is typical of child protection
- **To prevent** the causes and consequences of violence and abuse
- **To reduce vulnerability** and strengthen the **capacity** of at-risk individuals and populations
- To strengthen the **protective environment**



Protection Principles and standards to consider

- Free and informed consent.
- Ensure respect for diversity, culture and tradition with emphasis on human dignity towards individuals and the community.
- Confidentiality and the application of need-to-know basis principle.
- Managing expectations.
- Four humanitarian principles: humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence



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Why Mainstreaming?

- ...seeks to address a certain problem or contribute to a certain outcome without creating a new program sector for it
- ...integrates protection concepts into other sectors or programs
- By mainstreaming protection, actors can support people to safely access and enjoy their rights and humanitarian services



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Features of Protection Mainstreaming

- Process of incorporating Protection Principles in any program.
- It is the responsibility of all humanitarian actors.
- Protection mainstreaming focuses not on **what** we do (**the product**) but rather on **HOW** we do it (**the process**)
- Protection should be mainstreamed through all responses and all phases of the program/project cycle



Definition of Protection Mainstreaming

“The process of incorporating protection principles and promoting meaningful access, safety and dignity in humanitarian aid.”



**Safety, Dignity,
No Harm**

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**Meaningful
Access**

Key Elements of Protection Mainstreaming

Accountability

**Participation &
Empowerment**



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1 Do No Harm

Prioritise safety and dignity and avoid causing harm:

“Prevent and minimise as much as possible any unintended negative effects of your intervention which can increase people's vulnerability to both physical and psychosocial risks”.



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Possible checklist for “Do No Harm”:

- Ensure that facilities are in a safe, accessible place for everyone (Refugees should not be forced to take risks to receive services)
- Ensure you have a plan for people who will be waiting, so that crowds and lines can be managed fairly and safely for all.
- Ensure that all staffs and volunteers have training on PSEA and applicable Code of Conduct protocol.
- Maintain confidentiality of all cases to avoid stigmatization or unwanted attention – even within families, ensure that confidentiality is respected
- Ensure transparent, understandable information shared with all refugees so they can take informed decisions



2 Meaningful Access & Non- Discrimination

Humanitarian access refers to:

- Ability of humanitarian actor to reach population
- An affected population's ability to access humanitarian assistance.
- Provided on the basis of need and without discrimination
- Within safe and easy reach
- Known of by potential beneficiaries
- Physically and financially accessible
- Culturally appropriate and sensitive to age and gender



Barriers to access

Insecurity

Physical

Lack of Information

Social/Cultural

Discrimination*

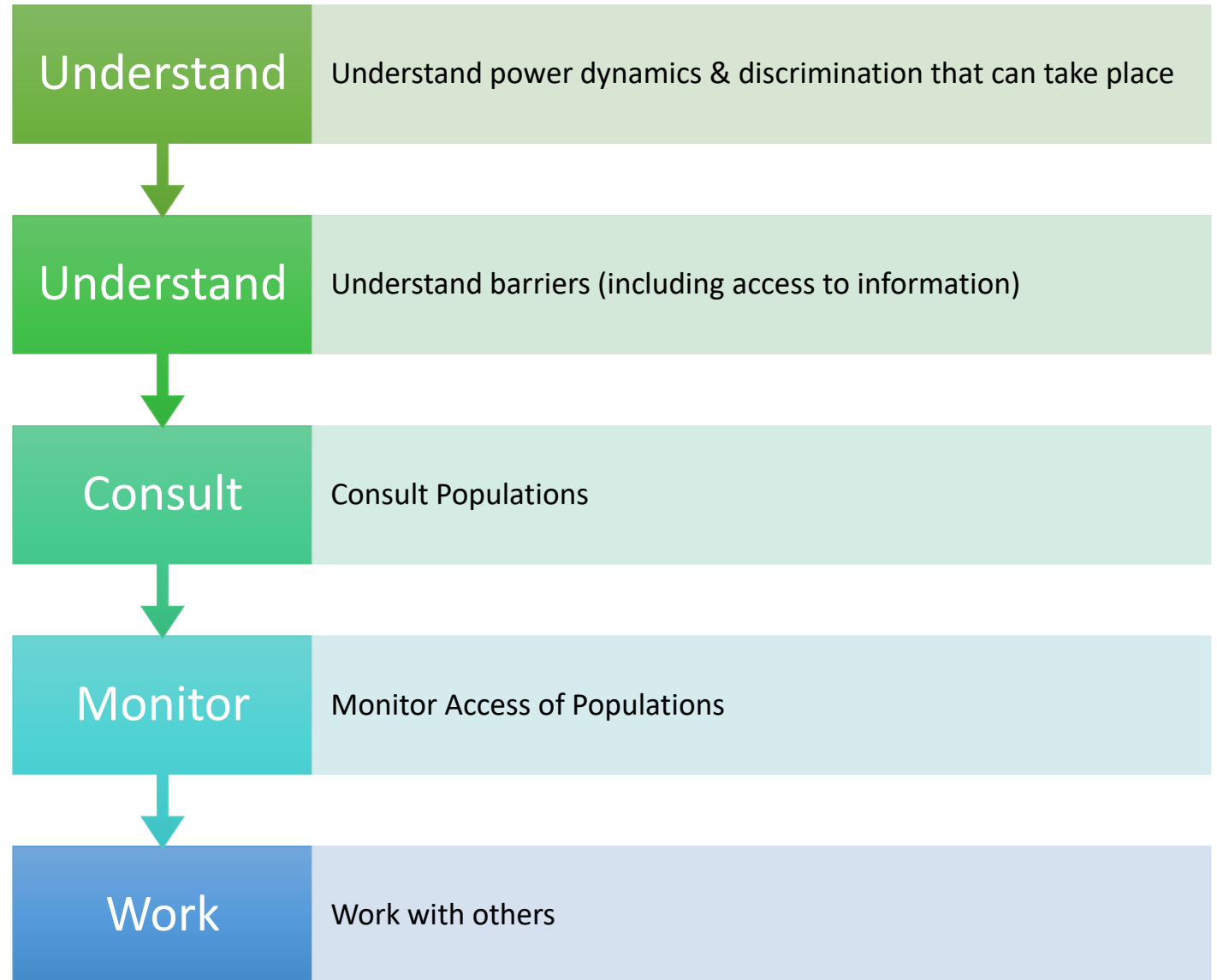
Financial

Age

Gender



How to ensure





3 Accountability

Set-up appropriate mechanisms through which affected populations can measure the adequacy of interventions, and address concerns and complaints



Basic elements of accountability

- Public information to beneficiaries and stakeholders.
- Conduct consultation with assisted. Exchange views and information (needs, plans, entitlements, reactions).
- Establish functional feedback and complain mechanism.
- Respond, adapt and evolve in feedback.
- Explain methodology and limitations honestly, transparently and objectively.
- Use the information to improve.



5 IASC ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITMENTS

- **Leadership/Governance**
- **Transparency**
- **Feedback and complaints**
- **Participation**
- **Design, monitoring and evaluation**



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Leadership

Accountability and feedback mechanism is integrated into:

- Country strategy
- Program proposal
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Recruitment
- Staff induction
- Training and performance management
- Reporting



Transparency

- **Provide accessible and timely information to affected populations on**
 - Organizational procedure and structure
 - Program activities, targets and reports
- **This will help them to**
 - Make informed decision
 - Facilitate dialogue between organization and community



Feedback and Complaints

- Program should have a mechanism.
- Mechanism can contain diverse mood of elements (Complain boxes, hotline, door to door visit, regular meetings, complain desk etc)
- Mechanism should be functional
- Feedback loop should be closed.

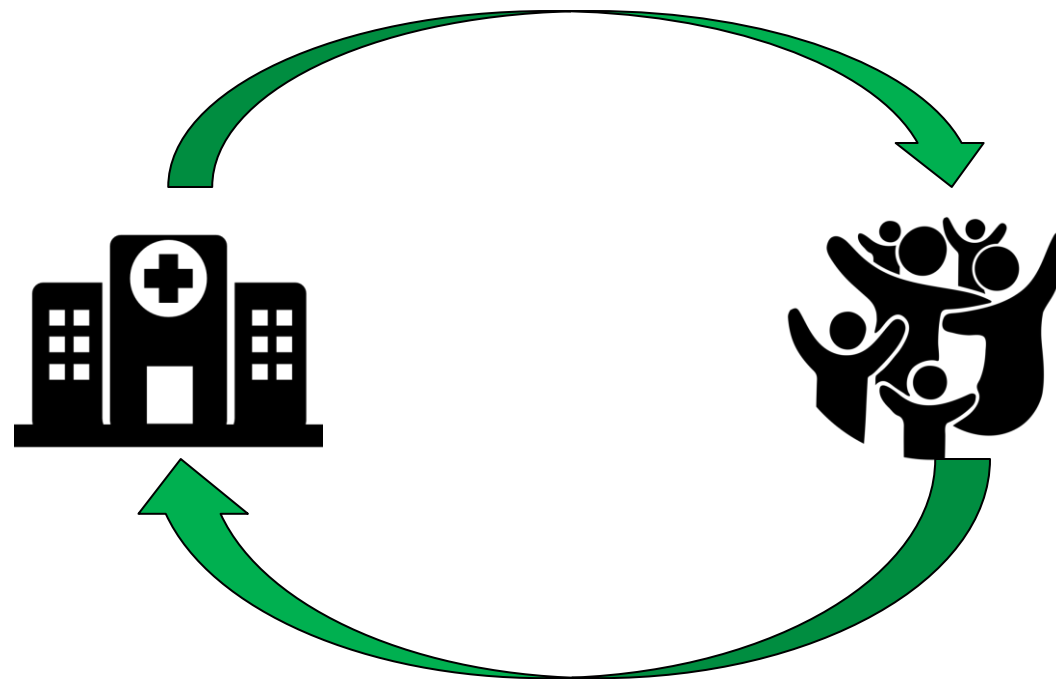


Functionality of FCM

- FCM should be accessible to all layers of the community.
- Information (process to put feedback, reporter's safety, mechanism to process a feedback, response mechanism) etc should be clearly described to the community.
- An active mechanism to process the feedbacks should be in place.
- Feedbacks should be documented in an organized way.
- Mechanism to complete feedback loop should be in place.
- Program should receive feedbacks regularly and adapt community concerns in program.



Feedback loop





Possible checklists for Accountability:

- Ensure relevant information is consistently shared with refugee populations.
- Conduct consultation with refugee (or targeted) populations. Exchange views and information (needs, plans, entitlements, reactions).
- Establish functional feedback and complaint mechanism – be prepared to receive feedback in a way that is relevant and accessible.
- Respond, adapt and evolve in feedback. Complete feedback loop.
- Explain methodology and limitations honestly, transparently and objectively.
- Use the information gathered to improve and refine services.



Participation

- Helps develop self-esteem
- Makes activities more effective and relevant
- Helps individuals develop qualities that will be useful later
- Participation gives back individuals control of their lives

The participation ladder

- ❖ Ownership
- ❖ Interactive
- ❖ Functional
- ❖ Material Motivation
- ❖ Consultation
- ❖ Information Transfer
- ❖ Passive

Empowerment

The process by which individuals gain the knowledge, resources, and capacities to claim their rights and take action.

How to empower the community?

- Introduce your organization, mission, vision, values, source of money, things you do etc. in an accessible way.
- Organize sessions on your organization's policies (e.g. Child safeguarding policy, anti-bribery policy, Humanitarian Code of Conduct)
- Ask them what they are doing for you and your organization?
- Introduce the reporting guidelines of your organization, how reports and complaints are handled, how your organization ensure safety of the reporter etc.
- Organize regular session on PSEA, their rights regarding aid, bribery, money laundering etc.
- Organize meetings with community (FGD and 1:1) regularly to explore the impact of your project and community's thought.
- Complete the feedback loop.
- Look for their thoughts and ideas of community



Key messages:

- A mainstreaming approach seeks to incorporate a concept or principle throughout the program cycle. It aims to **enhance existing work** within sectors, rather than creating new sectors.
- Protection mainstreaming is “The process through which **fundamental human rights principles are recognized and realized** in program design and implementation”.
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- Through adopting ‘Protecting and Promoting Rights’ as a programming principle in the Program Framework, the IRC has made a commitment to mainstreaming protection and **we all have a role to play in this.**



Please remember:

- Keep a continuous review of the program to avoid unintentional harm
- It's never too late to change or adjust any activities to include these principles.
- Participation from the refugee community is always very important. Even if an organization has hundreds of years experience in the humanitarian sector, there's still important input to rom refugees.

Key messages – Protection Mainstreaming

- Protection mainstreaming enables people to access and enjoy their rights within any sector or program.
- Establish coordination and partnership with protection colleagues for a fruitful protection mainstreaming in the camps.
- Protection mainstreaming is not a task left for the protection team to do alone, rather it is everyone's responsibility – no matter what sector.
- We need to mainstream protection to ensure more positive impact and eliminate any negative impact. **Everyone should be able to access and enjoy their rights.**
- Protection should be mainstreamed throughout the project cycle.
- Protection mainstreaming needs to be informed by an analysis of the real and potential protection risks that may arise in a sector program.



Sector Specific Tip Sheet

- ✓ Introduction of the Tip Sheet.
- ✓ Group Discussion.
- ✓ Recommendations from Sector partners on revision of the Tip Sheet.
- ✓ Inputs generated from Technical Resource Persons.
- ✓ Final revision and endorsement by Protection Task Team.





PROTECTION WORKING GROUP
COX'S BAZAR



Thank You