

AFRICA REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON LOCALISATION
ADDIS ABABA

ADVANCING THE LOCALISATION AGENDA IN PROTECTION COORDINATION GROUPS

ALICE HAWKES, IRC

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Advancing the Localisation Agenda in Protection Coordination Groups

Sharing learning and practical recommendations

Addis Ababa - July 15, 2019



INTRODUCTORY REMARKS:

**Alice Hawkes, International
Rescue Committee**

Senior Technical Advisor, Risk
Mitigation and Inclusion

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW:

**Advancing the Localisation
Agenda in Protection
Coordination Groups**

Sharing learning and practical
recommendations on advancing the
localization agenda at the
coordination and community level.

National actors can significantly contribute to the relevance of the humanitarian response through their understanding of the context, greater access to affected populations and their sensitivity to political and social dynamics.



GRAND BARGAIN LOCALIZATION WORK STREAM

Aid organizations and donors commit to:

- Increase and support **multi-year investment in the institutional capacities** of local and national responders, including preparedness, response and coordination capacities, especially in fragile contexts and where communities are vulnerable to armed conflicts, disasters, recurrent outbreaks and the effects of climate change. We should achieve this through collaboration with development partners and incorporate capacity strengthening in partnership agreements.
- Understand better and work to **remove or reduce barriers** that prevent organizations and donors from partnering with local and national responders in order to ~~lessen their administrative burden.~~
- Support and complement **national coordination mechanisms** where they exist and include local and national responders in international coordination mechanisms as appropriate and in keeping with humanitarian principles
- Achieve by 2020 a global, aggregated target of **at least 25 per cent of humanitarian funding** to local and national responders as directly as possible to improve outcomes for affected people and reduce transactional costs.
- Develop, with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), and apply a **'localization' marker** to measure direct and indirect funding to local and national responders.
- Make **greater use of funding tools** which increase and improve assistance delivered by local and national responders, such as UN-led country-based pooled funds (CBPF), IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and NGO-led and other pooled funds.

LOCALISATION IN PROTECTION COORDINATION MECHANISMS

LOCALISATION IN PROTECTION COORDINATION

Initiative Overview:

Between 2016-18, the Global Protection Cluster and its four Areas of Responsibility (AoRs) launched a global initiative '**Advancing the Localisation Agenda in Protection Coordination Groups**'.

- ✓ The initiative was a continuation of IRC's work with local protection actors through the 'Protection in Practice' DEPP project.
- ✓ This initiative took concrete steps to develop guidance for protection coordination groups, to document and encourage good practices, and to disseminate lessons learned.
- ✓ Reached **87 local protection actors** from **7 countries** – DRC, Libya, Myanmar, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Pakistan.
- ✓ Supported local actors to **engage in the humanitarian coordination system** through in-country visits, targeted trainings around the global and national level protection coordination mechanisms, and continuous remote support.

LOCALISATION IN PROTECTION COORDINATION

Conceptual Framework:

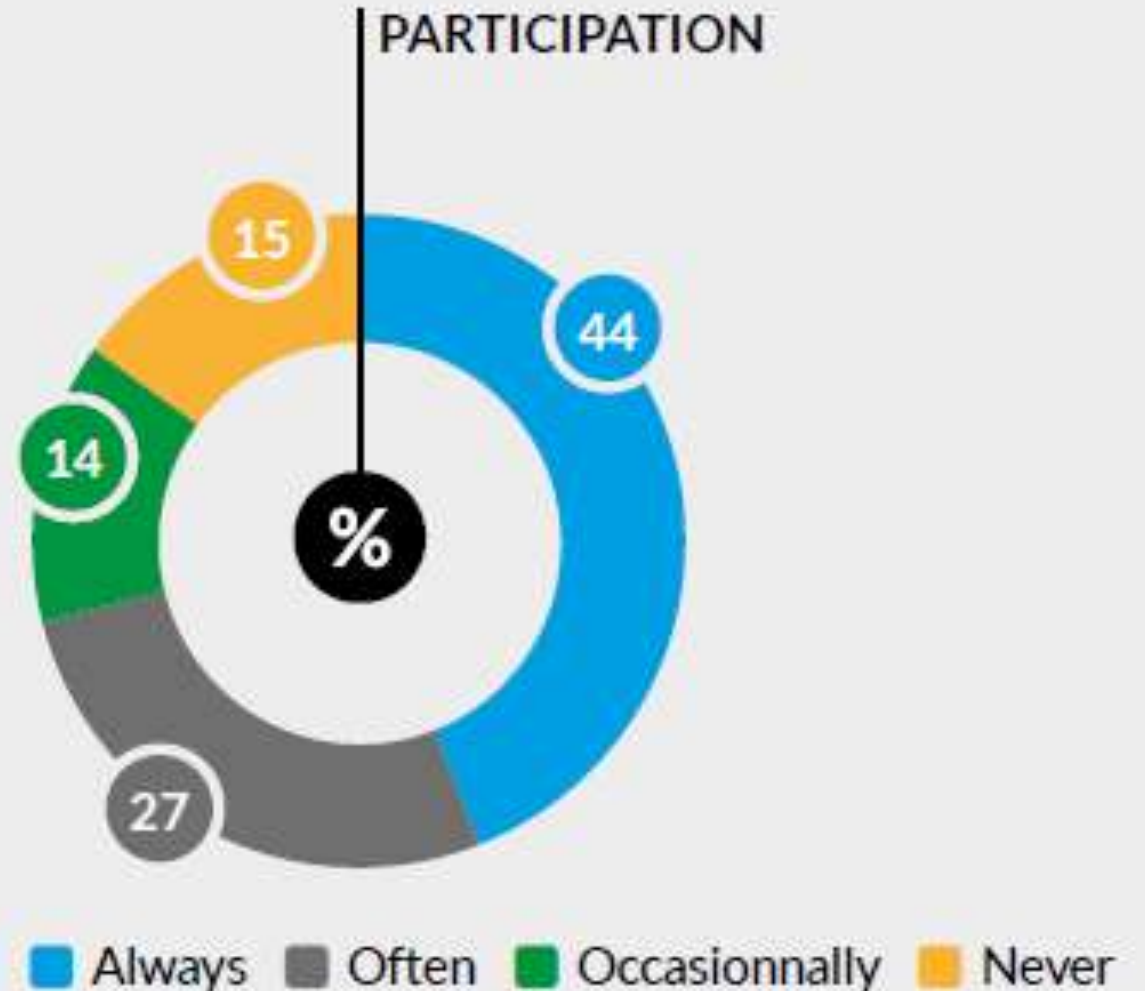
Dimension	What this means for coordination
Governance and Decision-Making	Local actors should have equitable opportunities to play leadership and co-leadership roles at national and sub-national levels; and have a seat at the table when strategic decisions are made (for example, in Strategic Advisory Groups or Steering Committees).
Participation and Influence	Local actors should also have the opportunity to influence the AoR/Sector's decisions. To do this, they need equitable access to information and analysis on coverage, results etc; and the opportunity and skills to effectively and credibly convey their thoughts and ideas.
Partnerships	Coordinators should be promoting a culture of principled partnership both in the way it interacts with its members; and the way in which members interact with each other. In some cases, this requires transitions from sub-contracting to more equitable and transparent partnerships, including recognising the value of non-monetary contributions by local actors (networks, knowledge).
Funding	Where they have the institutional capacity to manage their own funds, local actors should be able to access funds directly. Local actors should receive a greater share of the humanitarian resources, including pooled funds, where applicable.
Institutional Capacity	Whilst technical capacity strengthening is important, coordination groups should also actively encourage more systematic and coordinated opportunities to receive support to strengthen operational functions, as part of the overall sector strategy to scale up services.

SCOPING - CHALLENGES AND LEARNING

SCOPING SURVEY

Frequency of Cluster Participation

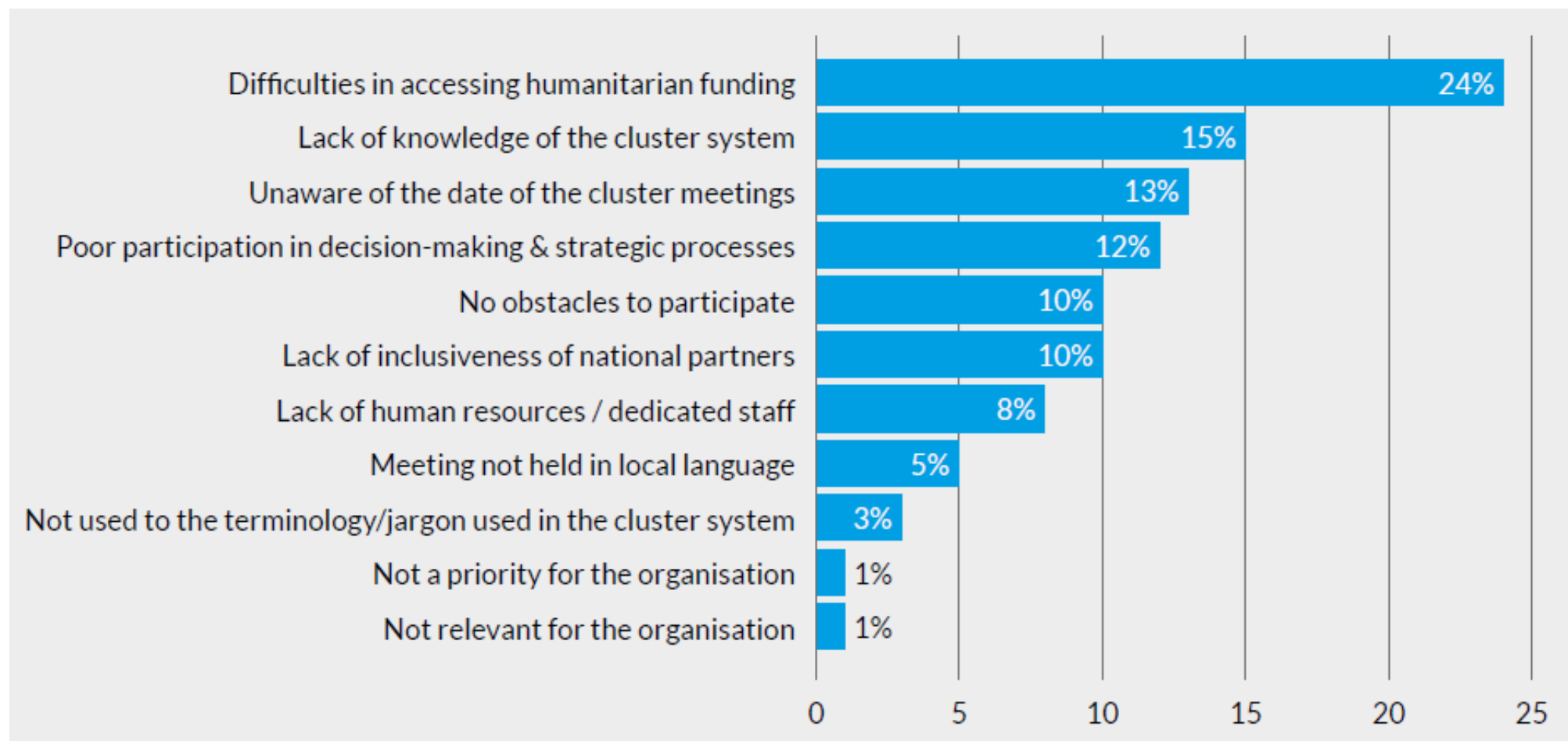
- The **membership of protection coordination groups** is composed of a large number of national actors (government counterparts, national and local NGOs) and they **participate regularly** in cluster meetings.
- Local actors recognized the **benefits that the cluster system can** bring to their organizations:
 - Being informed about practices and standards (22%)
 - Enhancing partnerships between humanitarian actors (19%)
 - Joining a forum for joint-advocacy (17%)
 - Coordinating and planning amore effective humanitarian response (15%)
 - Networking and peer support (14%)
 - Sharing information and good practices (12%)



SCOPING SURVEY

Obstacles to Participation in Cluster Coordination

The meaningful participation of local actors is still constrained by a number of significant barriers.



RECOMMENDATIONS

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For Coordination Groups

- ✓ Strengthen capacity of national actors towards **meaningful engagement with coordination groups**, fostering a better understanding of the benefits and the processes of coordination.
- ✓ Take practical steps to address the barriers to meaningful participation, making coordination meetings more **more accessible** and **more culturally inclusive**.
- ✓ Support national actors to be more engaged in **governance structures and decision-making processes** (e.g. cluster co-lead, SAG, steering committees, HCT) by providing guidance, orientation, training, funding opportunities.
- ✓ Give space for local actors to **be part of decision-making processes** including them in planning of humanitarian strategies;
- ✓ Engage **diaspora in the humanitarian system** and build on their capacities in terms of project design, data analyses and institutional capacity strengthening.

RECOMMENDATIONS

For UN Agencies and INGOs

- ✓ Invest in **sustained capacity and institutional strengthening** for local and national organizations to strengthen their coordination capacities
 - ✓ *Including a section in partnership agreements to identify priority recommendations that the national partner wants to work on over the course of the partnership.*
- ✓ Ensure **evaluation of any localization approach or research** conducted in the sector. **Share and replicate best practices and methodologies** on localization that have worked and ensure those practices are taken to scale through coordination groups and are anchored in the cluster system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

For National Partners

- ✓ Encourage national partners to **complete stakeholder/actor mapping (the 5W)** to increase their visibility and strategic positioning and meaningful participation within the cluster and increase their access to become HRP partners and funding mechanisms.

RECOMMENDATIONS

For Donors

- ✓ Prioritize funding for interventions that demonstrate effective **support to local partners coordination capacities**.
- ✓ Commit to **multi-year flexible funding** to support core organizational costs of local organizations, to strengthen their leadership in protection coordination mechanisms.
- ✓ Support the idea that **country-based pooled funds** should be used to channel funds directly to local and national NGOs.

For more information:

- ✓ Read the GPC Learning Paper

http://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/wp-content/uploads/Learning_Paper-on-localisatoin-screen.pdf

- ✓ Visit the GPC Localisation webpage

<http://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/themes/localisation/>

- ✓ Contact me:

Alice.hawkes@rescue.org

