

THE GLOBAL PROTECTION CLUSTER | STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2016-19

CONSULTATIONS WITH THE SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Stockholm, 4 December 2015

1. The Senior Protection Coordinator travelled to Stockholm to meet the Swedish International Development Agency to consult on their priorities for the GPC going forward.
2. It is important for HCTs to develop protection strategies as a frame for action, developing a programmatic approach and setting outcomes for the humanitarian effort as a whole. A comprehensive and coherent approach is also capable of attracting funding. HCT protection strategies can be seen as guiding the work at local level, to make it more strategic and coherent and results-oriented.
3. Protection strategies can be seen as positive, to enable leadership. It may be useful for the GPC to conduct an annual review of the centrality of protection, including the support given by the GPC.
4. It would be useful to have global indicators of protection needs. The Sida budget allocation model is struggling to cope with a lack of indicators at the global level for protection impact. There are indicators to measure impact and progress at the country level but global-level indicators, to compare between countries, would also be useful.
5. The efforts being put into protection coordination at the national level are positive, although there are concerns about the level of appropriate coordination and the multiplicity of coordinators and clusters/sub-clusters. That being said, more attention needs to be paid to sub-national coordination, while recognising the pool of people capable of protection coordination is not expanding according to needs. The lack of available candidates of the necessary seniority and with relevant technical know-how and soft skills is a major impediment to achieving effective coordination in the field.
6. The protection cluster needs to lower expectations of what it can achieve—outcomes are being pitched too high. Within the humanitarian funding cycle how realistic is it to expect behaviour change or meaningful impact in protection?