



GUIDELINES

FOR HRMs/CPAGs

ON PROTECTION REFERRAL PATHWAYS
AND HUMAN RIGHTS BASED APPROACH
FOR PROTECTION OF IDPs,
ASYLUM-SEEKERS, REFUGEES
AND RETURNEES

BY

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (NHRC)

FOR 2025 NHRC/UNHCR PROJECT ON THE
PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN
RIGHTS OF FORCIBLY DISPLACED PERSONS
THROUGH INFORMATION/DATA COLLECTION AND
DOCUMENTATION IN NIGERIA

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OBJECTIVE OF THE GUIDELINES

This Guidelines present to Human Rights Monitor (HRMs) and Community Protection Action Group (CPAG) members the Human Rights Based Approach on the Protection Referral Pathways for IDPs/FDPs, Asylum-Seekers, Refugees and Returnees under the 2025 NHRC/UNHCR Project on Protection of IDPs/FDPs Through Information/Data Collection and Documentation in Nigeria.

INTRODUCTION

This is a Human Rights Based Approach Guidelines for Protection Referral Pathways for FDPs, Asylum-seekers, Refugees and Returnees. It deploys Principles of Human Rights Monitoring to deal with protection referral concerns of FDPs, Asylum-seekers, Refugees and Returnees under the NHRC/UNHCR Project

It further Identifies and maps out human rights protection services to be referred for, and provides reliable and information on referral pathways to FDPs, Asylum-seekers, Refugees and Returnees and protection service providers.

CLARIFICATION OF CONCEPTS

Human Rights

Moral Rights -

Inherent and inalienable rights due to anyone simply because of being a human being.

They are moral rights derived from humanness of every human being. (See, *Olutide v. Hamzat* (2016) LPELR - 26047 CA at 11 Para B - E

Monitoring /Project Protection Referrals

This connotes monitoring to gather information on the needs of IDPs/FDPs, Asylum- Seekers, Refugees and Returnees to inform service providers working in the area.

'Monitoring' is the active collection, verification and immediate use of information to improve human rights protection for IDPs/FDPs, Asylum- Seekers, Refugees and Returnees

PRINCIPLES OF MONITORING

Basic Principles of Monitoring include but not limited to the following –

Do no harm

Respect and understand the mandate of NHRC and UNHRC

Know the standards

Exercise good judgment

Seek consultation

Respect the authorities

Credibility

Confidentiality

Security

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HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS (HRMS)

Human Rights Monitors (HRMs) are NHRC staff specifically engaged for the project to observe, document, investigate, advocate for change and give support to the human rights concerns of IDPs, Refugees, Asylum-Seekers and Returnees in the 11 project states.

The essence of their work is to make sure that State's Duty bearers and everyone comply with the international human rights standards in dealing with the mandated population of the project.

Community Protection Action Group (CPAG)

These are members of host community that identify protection challenges with regards to IDPs, Asylum seekers, Refugees and Returnees by reason of residing in the host communities.

They bring and bring up these challenges for consideration and amelioration.

This is because Protection Monitors visit the host communities or the IDP/Refugees Camps at designated period, hence the need to have members of the host community that identify protection challenges.

The CPAG members will carry out Protection by Presence.

This entails being residents of host communities and working with Protection Monitors to identify and bring up protection challenges to deliver protection services to IDPs, Asylum-Seekers, Refugees and Returnees. This helps to prevent and respond to human rights violations against them.

PROTECTION INCIDENTS/HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION FOR REFERRAL SERVICES

Child/Women/Older Persons at risk (Support to them)

Safety/Security

Freedom of Movement

Documentation (Civil/Legal)

Access to Justice (Legal Support)

Access to Health (WASH)

GBV/SGBV/SEA

Education

Shelter (NFIs)

Food

Nutrition

Livelihood/Vocational Training

Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS)

Family Reunification

Housing, Land and Property (HLP)

Others

REFERRAL PATHWAYS/SERVICE PROVIDERS

Referral Pathway?

This is a safe way for alleged victims of human rights violations to access different types of assistance/help/service e.g. medical care, legal services or help from the police etc.

These are MDAs including and not limited to Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Water Resources, SEMA, NEMA, Nigeria Police, Nigerian Immigration, National Directorate of Employment, Legal Aid Council, National Orientation Agency, State Planning Commissions, NSCDC, DSS, FIDA, NBA, INGOs, CBOs and FBOs and UN agencies.

GUIDELINES FOR HRMs/CPAG ON REFERRAL PATHWAYS FOR IDPS, ASYLUM-SEEKERS, REFUGEES AND RETURNEES


1. CPAG to work with State Coordinators/Supervisors and identify/map out the relevant Human Rights Protection Service Providers for the LGAs of concern to the Project in the States.
2. HRMs/CPAG members should always mainstream PROTECTION in all aspects of their intervention by making safety and dignity a priority (Avoid causing harm).
3. Prevent and minimize any unintended negative effects of activities that can make IDPs, Asylum-Seekers, Refugees and Returnees vulnerable to physical and psychosocial risks.
4. Ensure Prompt and Meaningful Access to Assistance/Services.
5. This should be without any discrimination, abuse, violence, neglect and exploitation and pay special attention to vulnerable individuals and groups (Women, Children, Older/Elderly, PLWD)
6. Involve IDPs, Asylum-Seekers, Refugees and Returnees to make informed decision/s in relation to their human rights protection and/or referral services.
7. Monitor/Watch out for potential risks and address them promptly (e.g. Access restraints, manage community dynamics (tension

within community and/or social cohesion issues (land/property etc.)

8. Raise awareness and/or carry out sensitization outreach programmes through Town Hall meetings/Key Informant Interviews (KII)/Focused Group Discussions with individuals/groups and host community members on the promotion and protection of human rights of IDPs/FDPs, Asylum-Seekers, Refugees and Returnees.
9. Attend all strategic meetings on Protection by MDAs with protection mandate, especially meeting called by SEMA.
10. Continuously monitor and report the protection situation/concerns of IDPs/FDPs, Asylum-Seekers, Refugees and Returnees to the relevant Humanitarian Actors (MDAs, NGOs/INGOs, CBOs, FBOs and UNHCR etc.
11. Always make sure that they provide reliable, clear and gender disaggregated information /data on human rights violations and /or referrals.
12. HRMs and CPAG members should outline in their report how the their human rights monitoring activities strengthens Human Rights Protected Environment.
13. HRMs and CPAG members should outline in their report the number of IDPs, Refugees, Asylum-Seekers and Returnees that received human rights protection services.

14. HRMs and CPAG members should outline in their report the number of referrals of human rights protection cases identified during human rights protection monitoring.
15. HRMs and CPAG members should outline in their report the number of individuals reached through detention monitoring.
16. HRMs and CPAG members should outline in their report the number of individual human Rights Cases Recorded.
17. HRMs and CPAG members should outline in their report the number of individual human rights cases managed.
18. HRMs and CPAG members should outline in their report the number of Security Personnel/Law Enforcement Officers reached through human rights training workshop.
19. HRMs and CPAG members shall use the Kobo questionnaire tool administered by way of individual interviews (KIIs, Community Townhall FGDs), minimum of five (5) Household individual interviews per a week.
20. The digitized anonymized collected information/data uploaded to a computer with confidentiality safeguards.
21. Also, Hard Copy Weekly Operational Report to be submitted to the Task team at NHRC Headquarters.

22. All reports to be always ready to feed the general monthly report and dashboard with disaggregated information/data, analysis and trends on IDPs, Refugees, Asylum-Seekers and Returnees to be hosted by the Task team at NHRC Headquarters.

3. DETAILS OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION MONITORING RECORDED					
 ACCESS TO ASYLUM FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS	Response provided	Referrals made /Agencies referred to	Feedback on Referrals	Managed/challenges identified	Recommendations
STATE:					
SOCIAL COHESION WITH HOST COMMUNITIES <i>(Physical Safety, Security, Housing, Land & Property etc.)</i>	Response provided	Referrals made /Agencies referred to	Feedback on Referrals	Managed/challenges identified	Recommendations
STATE:					
ACCESS TO CIVIL STATUS DOCUMENTATION <i>(e.g. Registration for IDPs, Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Returnees)</i>	Response provided	Referrals made /Agencies referred to	Feedback on Referrals	Managed/challenges identified	Recommendations
STATE:					
FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT: <i>(Detention, Arbitrary Arrest and Massive Displacement Movements , etc)</i>	Response provided	Referrals made /Agencies	Feedback on Referrals	Managed/challenges	Recommendations

		referred to		idenied	
STATE:					
ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION (<i>court cases, arrest and detention, documentaion, Housing land and property, etc</i>).	Response provided	Referrals made /Agencies referred to	Feedback on Referrals	Managed/challenges idenied	Recommendaions
STATE:					
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (GBV), SGBV-rape, sexual exploitaion, sexual abuse etc	Response provided	Referrals made /Agencies referred to	Feedback on Referrals	Managed/challenges idenied	Recommendaions
STATE:					
CHILD PROTECTION CASES (<i>right to life, parental care and maintenance sexual abuse related to children etc.</i>)	Response provided	Referrals made /Agencies referred to	Feedback on Referrals	Managed/challenges idenied	Recommendaions
STATE:					

ACCESS TO HEALTH e.g. <i>no medical facilities/ clinic, lack of drugs, lack of documentaion to be registered as card carrying patient, no medical insurance , complicated ailment etc.</i>	# OF CASES IDENTIFIED FOR THE PERIOD	# OF CASES REFERRED	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES MANAGED	Managed/challenges identified	Recommendations
STATE:					
ACCESS TO EDUCATION e.g. <i>no credentials for admission into schools, language barrier, no schools, lack of money to buy learning materials etc.</i>	Response provided	Referrals made /Agencies referred to	Feedback on Referrals	Managed/challenges identified	Recommendations
STATE:					
ACCESS TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC RIGHT (shelter, food, Livelihood- job creaion/inancial services, etc).	Response provided	Referrals made /Agencies referred to	Feedback on Referrals	Managed/challenges identified	Recommendations
STATE:					

4. SUMMARY OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION MONITORING RECORDED

ACCESS TO ASYLUM FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS	# OF CASES IDENTIFIED FOR THE PERIOD	# OF CASES REFERRED	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES MANAGED
TOTAL			
ACCESS TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC RIGHT (shelter, food, Livelihood- job creaion/inancial services, etc).	# OF CASES IDENTIFIED FOR THE PERIOD	# OF CASES REFERRED	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES MANAGED

TOTAL			
SOCIAL COHESION WITH HOST COMMUNITIES (<i>Physical Safety, Security, Housing, Land and Property etc.</i>)	# OF CASES IDENTIFIED FOR THE PERIOD	# OF CASES REFERRED	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES MANAGED
TOTAL			
ACCESS TO CIVIL STATUS DOCUMENTATION (<i>e.g. Registraion for IDPs, Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Returnees</i>)	# OF CASES IDENTIFIED FOR THE PERIOD	# OF CASES REFERRED	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES MANAGED
TOTAL			
FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT: (<i>Detention, Arbitrary Arrest and Massive Displacement Movements , etc</i>)	# OF CASES IDENTIFIED FOR THE PERIOD	# OF CASES REFERRED	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES MANAGED
TOTAL			
ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION (<i>court cases, arrest and detenion, Housing land and property, etc</i>).	# OF CASES IDENTIFIED FOR THE PERIOD	# OF CASES REFERRED	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES MANAGED
TOTAL			
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) SGBV etc.	# OF CASES IDENTIFIED FOR THE PERIOD	# OF CASES REFERRED	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES MANAGED

TOTAL			

5. COMMUNITY BASED INTERVENTION						
ACTIVITIES	# OF SESSIONS CONDUCTED	BOYS REACHED	GIRLS REACHED	MEN REACHED	WOMEN REACHED	TOTAL REACHED
HR AWARENESS RAISING SESSIONS ON RIGHT TO EDUCATION OF CHILDREN.						
LOCATION, DATE						
STATE:						
LGA:						
TOTAL						
COMMUNITY MEETING/ CONSULTATION (KII, FGDs)						
STATE:						
TOTAL						
GRAND TOTAL OF COMMUNITY MEETINGS/CONSULTATIONS IN THE THREE STATES						
TRAINING						
STATE:						

TOTAL						

6 DETENTION CENTER MONITORING VISIT					
Location	Date visited	Human Rights Issues Identified	Response provided	Comments	
STATE:					

6.1 REFERRED CASES				
Type of cases	Location/Persons or Organizations referred to	Response provided/Update	Managed/challenges	Recommendations

7. DEMOGRAPHICS OF DETENTION CENTER MONITORING																			
NAME /LOCATION OF FACILITY AND DATES	<1 year		1-5years		6-17years		18-59 years		>60years		IDPs		REFUGEE S		ASYLUM SEEKERS		RETURNE ES		Total Individuals
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
STATE:																			

