

Durable Solutions for Displacement Affected Communities in Somalia Training

M2. Session 4: Involving DAC through Community-based planning

Summary

People-centered actions and planning is one of the key elements of the area-based approach. It requires the meaningful and efficient involvement and participation of Displacement Affected Communities (DAC) throughout the planning cycle, from planning to monitoring and evaluation. It can be done through the adoption of a community-based approach in which communities have an active role and participate in highlighting and addressing the issues that matter to them. In this session we will try and propose a step by step inclusive methodology to develop a government-led, area-based community action plan ensuring an effective participation of DAC. This methodology is based on the one developed for the Somalia Midnimo project which is in line with the consensus building process of the Wadajir framework for the use of local authorities. We will also explore ways to consolidate and link this plan to local and development planning to ensure its implementation through the engagement of a wide range of actors across sectors.

Objectives

By the end of the session the participants will be able to:

- Apply a community-based approach and a participatory methodology.
- Explain what a Community-Based Planning is.
- Describe a community action plan process up to its incorporation into local or national planning.
- Examine community-based planning projects carried out in Somalia and their impacts on DAC.

Key messages

1. Accountability to affected population is not more than ensuring that people are at the centre of the area-based approach and that partner organisations are not only accountable to donors but first and foremost to the population that they are working with.
2. Community-based approach is an approach in which communities have an active role and participate in highlighting and addressing the issues that matter to them.

3. Community-based approach entails empowering local actors to determine what interventions would be most effective and supporting them to implement and evaluate the interventions. To this end, community-based interventions should also strengthen local coordination and planning capacities.
4. In the Community Action Planning process DAC are the primary resource rather than the objects of solutions planning. This approach motivates them to take an active part in the planning, implementation and monitoring of solutions activities.
5. Developing an inclusive and integrated Community Action Planning requires a step by step process that results in a consolidated plan to be linked to local development and sectoral plans and planning agenda.
6. A comprehensive mapping of community structures should be conducted at the outset of interventions, and interventions should build on existing groups and plans. New groups should not be formed unless they bring significant added value to community planning processes and it is important to be aware of any lack of representation to address it.
7. The CAP planning process should be led and coordinated by local authorities to ensure that there is alignment with existing locally owned area-based plans. In the absence of these, area-based programming should contribute to/support their development

Note that facilitation notes and tips as well as key messages are provided for each slide in the note boxes.

Delivery modalities

Structure

A short energizer to start with.

Graphic facilitation: ask 5 groups to find a good way to draw/find a visual for the following terms, each group is assigned a term:

- Inform
- Consult
- Empower
- Involve
- Collaborate

Give them 5 to 10 minutes, show the different drawings and ask the participants why, in their opinion, they were asked to work on these specific words?
Explain that informing, consulting, empowering, involving and collaborating with DAC are the main ways to ensure their participation to the planning, implementation and monitoring of an Area-based plan. Throughout this session, we will try and find ways to inform, consult, empower, involve and collaborate with DAC to develop area-based plan reflecting their needs, vulnerabilities, capacities and concerns.

Then, this session is divided into four parts:

1. **Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) and community-based planning, what is it?** This is an introductory section aiming at explaining what we mean by Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) and community-based approach as these approaches will guide the whole area-based planning process. This entails strengthening the capacities of both the DAC to take part to it and the local and national authorities to lead, coordinate and support this participatory process.
2. **Community Action Planning** The first slide of the section introduces Community as an effective tool to ensure meaningful involvement of DAC. Then, we will ask ourselves who should take part to the Community Action Plan to ensure inclusiveness and representativity? How can we make sure that the excluded ones are included? Who should lead and coordinate it? This section is structured around a mapping of the community members and structures and relevant partners who could take part, lead, coordinate and support the community-based planning process in the context where the workshop is rolled out. It starts with a video of the Midnimo project (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xajkcqqzurs) that you will decide to show or not based on your objectives, timing and target audience.
3. **Community Action Plan: how do we do it? A step by step metodology:** Carrying out a community planning process that results in a consolidated plan reflecting the needs expressed by the DAC is one of the best ways to ensure that the community's voices are heard and considered. This section proposes a step by step methodology based on the Midnimo guidance to carry out an inclusive process from plan development to implementation and monitoring. You can distribute and refer to the handout entitled "CBP step by step methodology" which is a more detailed description of the methodology used for the Midnimo project.
4. **From CAP to local planning**: In this section and through a case study we will see how one or several well consolidated area-based plan(s) can be consolidated and linked to or inform government led local development planning. The handout entitled "excerpt of the Baidoa plan" is to be distributed and discussed while presenting the last slide.

Timing

This session is planned to last two hours if you opt for all the slides (some are optional and marked as such in the slides note box) and all the proposed activities:

- About 15 minutes for the initial icebreaker(s).
- About 10 minutes for the first part on AAAP and community-based approach
- About 50 minutes for the second part including the mapping of CAPs participants and the video.

- About 20 minutes for the third part on the CAP methodology.
- About 20 minutes for the last part on "from CAP to local planning" including the case study and activity 2 in plenary.

Activities

I. Who is in the CAP?

Activity 1: mapping of CAPs participants

Group activity aiming at listing potential CAP in the context where the workshop takes place.
Assign each group a category of actors (depending on the context) and ask them to list from 5 to 7 existing structures (community group, organisation, agency) that should take part to an area-based Community Action Plan. Note that the total number of participants should not exceed 30.
Here are the main criteria that will guide the selection: You can write them down on a flip chart paper.

- Representativity
- Popularity
- Proximity with the community they represent
- Gender and age balance
- Potential capacity to take part to a simple planning development process

The list should ensure that excluded, vulnerable and "invisible" persons are represented!
If there is no existing community structure or organisation meeting this requirement, ask the participants to think about ways to include relevant participants into the CAP.
Here are examples of categories of populations to be represented (you can use coloured papers for the debriefing):

- IDPs
- returnees
- Refugees
- Host community
- Marginalized clans
- Persons with disabilities
- Inhabitant of a specific zone in the delimitated area: informal settlement, persons at risk of evictions, etc.
- Local NGOs and CSOs
- Partner organisations
- Local authorities

IV. From CAP to local planning

Activity 2 (optional). CAPs opportunities. Only run this activity if relevant in the context.
In plenary: map local development and sectoral planning agenda and opportunities for a CAP or several CAPs to be linked to local planning processes.
First step:

- Are there local development and sectoral planning processes and agenda in the area where the ABA will be applied? Who leads and coordinates them?

- Are there other CAPs processes or CAPs already developed/implemented?

Second step:

- What would be the opportunities to link the area-based solutions CAP to local development or sectoral planning processes or to consolidate this CAP and potential others into an integrated local plan?
- Would this CAP be compiled with others?
- What are the existing programmes that could be linked to the consolidated plan? Potential actors who could engage in such a plan?

Preparation

- Discuss with the organizers and your partners which slides (some are optional and marked as such in the slides notes) and activities you think will be relevant to carry out in the context of the workshop
- You can prepare the flip chart papers for activity 1 ahead of the session.
- Print the handout "CBP step by step methodology".
- Print the handout entitled "Excerpt of the Baidoa plan". One per participant.

Useful resources

- Advancing multi stakeholder engagement to sustain solutions, ReDSS briefing paper, Dec. 2019, accessible there: https://regionaldss.org/index.php/research-and-knowledge-management/redss-publications/
- Lessons learned from three EU RE-INTEG Consortia (EIDACS, JSC, SDSC), ReDSS, Oct 2019
- Multi stakeholder approach to address urban displacement in Somalia, Mohamed Taruri, Laura Bennison, Shezane Kirubi and Aude Galli, FMR 63, Cities and Towns, Feb. 2020.
- IOM Community-Based Planning Approach Facilitation Guideline