

“Power walk” (Vulnerability analysis) - Instructions

Define some roles of possible members of displaced and non-displaced communities (including persons potentially affected by displacement) and write them on small cards (5 cm x 5cm). Participants play the roles described on the cards that are distributed to them.

They must keep their role a secret from other participants. Give out the ‘Play the role of..’ cards. Ask participants to spend a couple of minutes imagining the daily life of the person whose role they are playing and to think of a name for their character. Make sure that they understand that they will be answering questions in that role.

You can ask trainers to take part in the exercise and play some roles. Tell participants that they can change their card if they are very uncomfortable with the role they have been given, and keep some ‘neutral’ roles aside for this purpose.

Ask the participants to line up at one end of the room. Read out the list of statements and ask participants whose role can agree with the statement to take a step forward (i.e. if it corresponds to the role they are playing). Eventually participants will be spaced out across the room according to how many steps they have taken forward. Encourage the ones who do not know how to answer to ask you for advice.

Once you have read out all the statements, the participants stay where they are and introduce their role to the group.

- Ask the other participants if they think that role is correctly placed in relation to others (i.e. should the police officer be further forward than the orphaned girl?) In some cases this can create further discussion, so allow plenty of time as the discussion is a very important part of the exercise.
- Following the answer, you can suggest repositioning of the participant. It is a very important and delicate part of the exercise and it might require time. Seek consensus over a choice of repositioning a participant.

Vulnerability is about power

Choose two roles and ask participants to say who is the more powerful of the two and why. This can be used to explain that exploitation and abuse are based on power dynamics. Explain to the group that a protection response aims to reduce vulnerability and to reduce both the level of threat and the time that people are exposed to the threat. Ideally it would do all three, but in reality it may be able to do only one or two.

- Ask participants who have not moved far from the wall what makes them vulnerable. Some of the factors that should be raised are:
 - Discrimination based on age, sex, gender, ethnicity and disability
 - Amount of small arms in circulation
 - Lack of law and order
 - Unsafe or no water resources
 - Events such as camp closure, demobilisation, ex-combatants returning to their homes
 - Poverty
 - What people must do to make a living (e.g. need to work in fields or travel to markets)
- Ask participants if displacement can be considered an indicator of vulnerability and how.

Who is vulnerable ?

1. You have the power to influence people in your community
2. You eat at least two meals a day
3. You receive (received) primary school education
4. You receive (received) secondary school education
5. You receive gifts or new clothes on religious or national holidays
6. You are listened in extended family meetings
7. You and your family live in a secure, well serviced and spacious place
8. You can afford to meet your basic needs
9. You can afford to see a doctor and buy medicine when you are sick
10. You can afford a place to live
11. You are free to choose where you want to live
12. You can talk to community leaders about issues affecting your community
13. You drink clear water every day
14. You can read and write
15. You have people who care about you and protect you
16. You can plan your future life thanks to your family's support
17. You are never short of food
18. Your income exceeds 5 USD a day
19. You are not afraid that people might hurt you
20. You don't have to do dangerous things in order to survive