

Durable Solutions for IDPs

“Planning for durable solutions”

The objective of the last session is to elicit the participants’ inputs on the actions required to support the achievement of durable solutions in X country. The activity, which runs through a series of questions and uses a mix of techniques - buzz groups, pair and share, facilitated discussions - builds consensus around key activities. The categorising or clustering of the different inputs, and the identification of roles and responsibilities for different groups and institutions may result in a basic action plan.

Instructions

Give each participant at least eight A4 cards. Explain that initially they will work on their own and that they should concentrate on one question:

What kind of activities should the government of X country support in order to facilitate a process that leads to the achievement of durable solutions?

Individual reflection

Explain that each participant should jot down activities and practical arrangements that might help to achieve the ultimate goal. Each participant should try to come up with at least five ideas. Encourage them to express their suggestions:

- As actions, using active verbs
- In concise sentences of five or six words maximum
- On separate cards in clearly legible capital letters

Provide examples if necessary, and encourage the participants to be creative, rather than mention the first thing that comes to mind. Ask them to try to come up with ideas that are SMART - specific, measurable, relevant and time-bound.

Possible suggestions to guide them might include:

- Think about activities that could be carried out at the national or local level
- Think of possible partnerships
- Consider the different population groups that need to be targeted in the pursuit of durable solutions
- Remember the concepts covered in the workshop - principles and criteria, indicators, collaboration, HLP and AGD
-

Pair and share, and group work

- Ask the participants to share their ideas with their neighbours and agree on five or six
- Put the pairs into four or five groups and do the same thing again

Collecting ideas

Give the groups time to discuss their ideas and agree how best to formulate them, then collect them and put them up on the wall. Ask each group for:

- Their best idea
- Their most challenging idea
- An idea that involves collaboration between different institutions and agencies
- Any other ideas not previously mentioned

Collect at least 20 to 25 cards and then ask the groups if any important activities are missing and should be added.

Rearranging and clustering

Ask the participants which activities have something in common or seem to share the same objective.

Rearrange the cards on the wall in columns of five or six. There might be some disagreement on where a card should be placed, in which case try to reach a consensus before deciding where to put it. At the end of the exercise, the participants should have agreed on a maximum of six or seven columns of cards. If there are any cards left that do not sit well in the any of the columns, ask the participants to indicate which in which they would fit best.

Naming

Ask them to focus on each of the columns and suggest names/titles for them. You may want to prompt them by asking if they can define the common objective of the activities they have listed.

Optional: Once the participants have named and defined the columns, you may want to put them back into their groups to discuss how they might use their suggestions to evolve a basic action plan. Ask them to consider the following questions:

- Which institution should lead, be the focal point for each set of activities?
- Which other institutions, agencies, organisations might be involved?
- What is the sort of timeframe should each activity have?

Conclusion

Summarise the outputs of the activity and thank the participants for their contributions. Remind them that for this to have been a meaningful planning exercise, they should endorsement seek the endorsement of their respective institutions.