



Disability inclusion in needs assessment and other data collection processes

Kirstin Lange, UNICEF

**Expert Group Meeting on the
protection and security of persons
with disabilities in situations of risk
and the uptake of easy-to-
understand communication**



Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs) and Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs)

- In 2022, only 1 HNO did not disaggregate PiN by disability, and a number of HNOs presented detailed data on needs of persons with disabilities. However, unreliable data continued to be used in 21% of HNOs
- Since the Disability Advisory group was established in 2018, there has been substantial progress in how HNOs include assessment of the needs of persons with disabilities, but there is a need to strengthen how this is reflected in response activities
- In most HNOs and HRPs, disability inclusion is reflected across sectors
- Key areas for strengthening include:
 - disability inclusive monitoring,
 - recognition of capacities (including engagement of local OPDs)
 - reflection of disability inclusion in AAP mechanisms

Data collection tools and resources

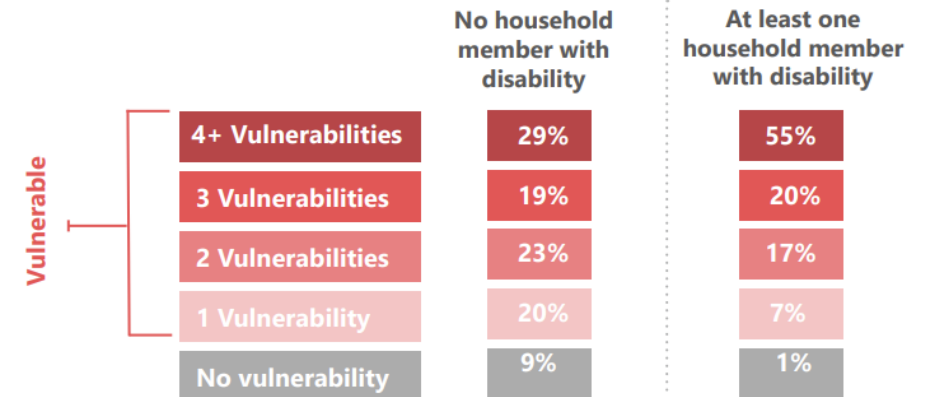
- Substantial progress despite challenges in humanitarian contexts:
 - Access to affected populations
 - Displacement
 - Speed and urgency of emergency response
- Increasing recognition of the need to consider how data will be used—going beyond numbers
- More consistent use of Washington Group Questions for disaggregation
- New tools for barriers assessment

Examples- use of Washington Group Questions for disaggregation

Households with moderate to high-levels of disability are:

OVERALL		FOR IN-CAMP IDPS	FOR OUT-OF-CAMP IDPS	FOR RETURNEES
4x	more likely to have 50% or more of the adults unemployed	2x	3x	4x
2x	more likely to face a risk of eviction		2x	
2x	more likely to rely on negative coping strategies		2x	
2x	more likely to experience moderate or severe hunger		3x	2x
not	more likely to have borderline or poor food consumption		3x	
2x	more likely to have no access to an improved water source			2x
not	more likely to face child protection issues of labour or marriage		3x	

Percentage of households by vulnerability dimension:



Examples- new initiatives

Guidance on disability inclusion in Humanitarian Response Plans

Guidance on use of Washington Group Questions in MSNAs

Decision tree on collection of data on disability inclusion in humanitarian action

DTM Field Companion for Disability Inclusion

An evidence- informed approach to the use of disability- disaggregated data in WFP programming

Strengthening identification of persons with disabilities at refugee registration (UNHCR)

Data for persons with disabilities at UNICEF

- Guidance on data disaggregation
- 34 Strategic Plan disability specific and disability disaggregated indicators, including *'humanitarian programmes and services inclusive of children with disabilities'*
- Disability tag for every activity
- [Centre of Excellence on Data for Children with Disabilities](#)
- ['Seen, Counted, Included'](#) report

- **34 per cent** more likely to be **stunted**
- **25 per cent** more likely to be **wasted**
- **53 per cent** more likely to have **symptoms of acute respiratory infection**
- **25 per cent** less likely to receive **early stimulation and responsive care**
- **25 per cent** less likely to attend **early childhood education**
- **16 per cent** less likely to **read or be read to at home**
- **42 per cent** less likely to have **foundational reading and numeracy skills**
- **49 per cent** more likely to have **never attended school**
- **47 per cent** more likely to be **out of primary school**
- **33 per cent** more likely to be **out of lower-secondary school**
- **27 per cent** more likely to be **out of upper-secondary school**
- **32 per cent** more likely to **experience severe corporal punishment**
- **41 per cent** more likely to **feel discriminated against**
- **51 per cent** more likely to **feel unhappy**
- **20 per cent** less likely to **have expectations of a better life**

Remaining gaps and challenges

- Data on people reached with humanitarian assistance- monitoring access (quantitative and qualitative)
- Reflection of intersectionality- data on children / older persons with disabilities, women and girls with disabilities, refugee and migrant persons with disabilities
- Participation by OPDs in data collection and analysis
- Data quality
- Use of estimates
- Analysis and use of data to inform inclusive humanitarian response



Recommendations

- Prioritize engagement of OPDs in data collection, analysis and use-preparedness as a key entry point
- Invest in technical capacity on collection, use and analysis of data on persons with disabilities
- Ensure that requirements for disability inclusive needs assessment and monitoring remain embedded in humanitarian processes, including Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) guidance and tools and agency-specific planning/ monitoring frameworks
- Focus on developing technical solutions to identified gaps- using data to inform an inclusive response, and monitoring access

Accountability to Affected Populations

- IASC priority- need to ensure that all initiatives fully consider inclusion
- Accessibility of information to communities
- Safe and accessible feedback mechanisms
- Inclusive participation and leadership in decision making



Recommendations

- All global level, policy and guidance on AAP to explicitly reflect inclusion of persons with disabilities
- Requirements for reporting on AAP to reflect inclusiveness of AAP mechanisms
- Investment in developing technical solutions for accessibility of information and feedback mechanisms in humanitarian contexts
- Country and global level mechanisms for coordination on AAP to engage focal points for disability inclusion, including OPDs



Thank you

Kirstin Lange

klange@unicef.org

unicef 
for every child

