



## Tips for Integrating Localization in the COVID-19 HNO and HRP

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Given that travel and movement restrictions have made it difficult for international staff to be in the field, national and local actors are now at the forefront of the COVID-19 preparedness and response. Hence, the importance of articulating localization in both the HNO (where this will apply) and the HRP is paramount for a well-coordinated and effective response.

## Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO)

- 1. Organise pre-HNO/HRP process meetings with the local actors to prepare them for the virtual meeting with international actors (ensure translation as appropriate).**
2. Invite local actors<sup>1</sup> to join the virtual meetings organised to explain the process of the development of the preparedness and response plans.
3. Ensure that local actors participate in the meetings to review the needs analysis and the assessment of both health and non-health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and their caregivers.<sup>2</sup>
4. Ensure that local actors participate in the discussion on the priority geographic areas, communities and specific groups of children to be targeted.
5. Ensure that local actors participate in the revision, re-prioritization and adaptation of current responses in the HRP.
6. Coordinate and collaborate with national and local authorities while identifying key activities, target groups, and locations, ensuring that humanitarian principles are respected.
7. If a task force/review committee is set up for the process, ensure local actors are included and consulted.
8. Explicitly reference the role of local actors and the involvement of community members such as CBO, faith-based networks, women groups, the academia in data collection and analysis. If these groups are not engaged regularly, consider ways to reach these groups.

## Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)

1. Indicate national and sub-national cluster leadership/co-leadership structure and the role of local actors in the cluster leadership, i.e. SAG, co-leadership, review committees etc.
2. Include existing community-based coping and risk prevention mechanisms and support local actors.
3. Prioritize project design and service delivery by local actors, community and faith-based networks and groups.
4. Ensure that local partners including authorities provide their feedback to the planned activities, monitoring indicators, targets, and standards.

5. Disaggregate cluster indicators (or proportion of the Cluster response) that will be delivered by local actors.
6. Articulate the need for translation services to enhance the participation of local actors, who are pivotal to reach directly to local communities through use of local languages.
7. Articulate the need for cross-sectoral collaboration with the health and WASH sectors specifically targeted at local actors.
8. Ensure that Cluster response includes an output on institutional capacity development of local actors in the Response Framework including on monitoring and reporting/information management.
9. Articulate the importance of partnerships and co-implementation with local actors including faith-based networks, community groups such as women groups, youth groups and the academia in the response.
10. Highlight the importance of responsible partnering and duty of care, since local staff working at the forefront are highly likely to be exposed to the hazardous risks accompanied with the pandemic.
11. Ensure that projects include provision of information on the pandemic and mitigation methods for local actors' staff. Where possible, medical insurance or financial coverage should be included, including worst cases of death.
12. Clearly advocate for direct and flexible funding of local partners where possible.
13. Provide orientation to local actors on how they will contribute to the 3Ws in the adapted HRP or the HRP addendum.
14. Articulate the need to strengthen and work through child protection and education systems at national and subnational levels.

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<sup>1</sup> Local actors will include Community Based Organizations, faith based networks, relevant local academia/think tanks, women's networks etc.

<sup>2</sup> When preparing for the virtual meetings consider translation needs and the most accessible mode of communication for the local actors, and ensure that information is shared through other channels for the local actors with no connectivity.