

Piloting the IPA

Feasibility Study in the Occupied Palestinian Territory



August 2021

THE INDIVIDUAL PROTECTION APPROACH

The *Individual Protection Approach (IPA)* is a system to identify and assess individuals and families whose immediate physiological, dignity and safety needs are not met. It supports, through guidance or mediation, the linking of rights-holders to an appropriate service provider for the purpose of receiving the assistance needed within a reasonable timeframe. It provides real time analysis on gaps and challenges faced to access services.

THE IPA FEASIBILITY STUDY

Background. WeWorld-GVC has been implementing the CPA with communities in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) since 2013. Hence these communities were optimal to pilot the IPA, testing the added value of its approach, as one of the three components of the CPA. 8 communities in the West Bank were chosen for the IPA pilot, from February to May 2021, together with the *West Bank Protection Consortium*. This pilot served as the basis for the IPA feasibility study.

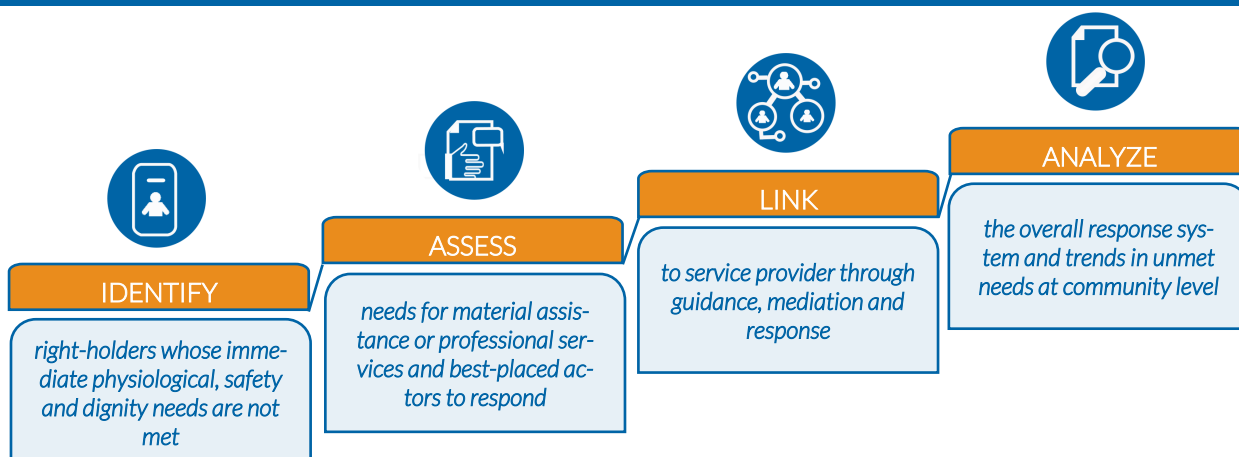
The **purpose** of the study:

- to understand the effectiveness of the response system(s) in place in the area of study against the complexity of the situation and its multi-sectoral implications;
- to assess the feasibility of applying the IPA for the entirety of the communities where the CPA could be implemented;
- to investigate the importance of the IPA IMS for an effective referral case management.

Process. A diverse set of communities with different characteristics was chosen for the pilot. The selected communities were from the South and the North areas of the West Bank exposed to variety of multisectoral risks, threats, and vulnerabilities.

IPA IMS – IPA Information Management System. The platform serves as a coordination mechanism for protection monitoring. It allows to grant a **tailored access to different actors to comply with protection standards** in data and information sharing and entails an automated validation system adaptable to the needs of different organizations. Coordinating referrals through this system increases internal and external accountability through transparent monitoring and proper and timely engagement and response to communities.

THE STEPS OF THE IPA



The IPA is implemented in four steps: 1) identification; 2) assessment; 3) linking; and 4) analysis. Each step has customized and adjusted to the context tools.

When the IPA is implemented as a CPA component, a set of triggers is automatically provided and ready to be downloaded and analysed from the *IPA IMS*, as part of the *CPA Platform*. During the pilot, the most vulnerable cases were identified, assessed, and further referrals were made using the IPA IMS. Right-holders were referred to the best-placed service providers who were mapped beforehand and the response process was monitored.

The IPA can be also implemented independently from the CPA through 1) self-reporting; 2) direct identification; 3) reporting by third parties.

IPA triggers are specific questions within the Multisectorial Questionnaire (MQ) which highlight the presence of girls, boys, women, or men whose characteristics, background or exposure to risk may need immediate assistance.

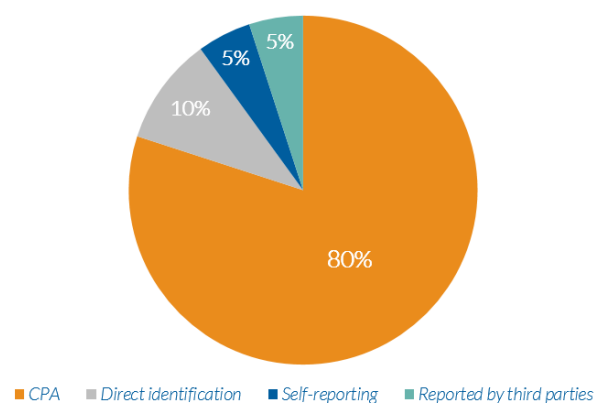
Rights-holders – “Individuals or social groups that have particular entitlements in relation to specific duty-bearers. In general terms, all human beings are rights-holders under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.” (UNICEF, Gender Equality: Glossary of Terms and Concepts, 2017).

THE STUDY FINDINGS

- *IPA can be effectively employed both as part of a larger CPA process and as a stand-alone component*, as 80% of the cases were reported through the triggers mechanism, while the rest were reported outside the CPA component.
- *Needs related to psychosocial support, violence (including settler and Israeli Forces violence) and protection (including People with Disabilities – PWD) are the most recurrent needs*, appearing in almost 70% of the cases.
- *in 85% of the cases an external referral is needed*, since the services agreed with the right-holders are very specific and need specialized providers.
- *There is a need to better communicate with service providers and the creation of service maps* to improve the possibilities of Palestinians in the West Bank to access the services needed and that are already available in their areas.
- *Its essential to continue revising and better contextualizing the IPA tools.*
- *The highest priority should be given to PWDs and in some cases, single caregivers/head of households.*
- *Many right-holders are aware of many service providers operating in their area, but after contacting them they*

MODALITY OF IDENTIFICATION

Modality of Identification



receive no response. Therefore, *the mediation of an organization is needed to support the right-holders in the process of reaching out to the relevant service providers and increase their accountability.*

- *IPA IMS could prove useful in coordinating and providing a unique platform for all actors present in the WBPC communities, to increase accountability and support to the reduction of forcible transfer.*

THE ADDED VALUE OF THE IPA

- *The design of the IPA allows the rapid identification of the most vulnerable community members and in turn, speeds up the linkages with service providers.*
- *The process of the IPA continuously fosters a genuine interactive partnership with rights-holders rather than replicating the conventional model of service provider/client relationship.*
- *The IPA supports data analysis for accountability, programmatic, and advocacy purposes.*

- *The IPA can be tailored to any country to suit the local context, and it can be implemented as a stand-alone or in combination with the other two components of the CPA - the MQ and the NCP - as well as be adapted to fit the organization's needs.*
- *All the data collected within the IPA process are stored and processed in the IPA IMS Platform with high standards of security and with the possibility to follow up not only internal referrals, but also other organization's referrals.*