tool 17 Clarifying Goals and Expectations before Engaging in the MRM

Guiding questions

Clarifying objectives and expectations in relation to the MRM and weighing them against risks and your organization's capacity is a critical step to determine how best to engage in the mechanism. Referring to the matrix 'Options for NGO participation in the MRM' and to the factsheet 'Why do NGOs choose to participate in the MRM?' here are some issues for consideration:

	End violations and accountability for perpetrators	Response to the needs of children victims of grave violations
What can you expect from the MRM?	• **Listing** of armed actors, **documentation** of grave violations and reporting to the UN Security Council. • **Security Council pressure** on perpetrator and government. • Platform for high-level **UN dialogue with government at country level.** • **Action Plans** to end and prevent violations.	• MRM data (prevalence/patterns) can help raise the profile of grave violations and **highlight funding gaps and response needs.** • MRM data (prevalence/patterns) can be used in **planning response programs.** • MRM can facilitate coordination **to improve access to referral services** for victims of grave violations.
Timeline	• **Listing, documentation, reporting:** any time. • **Security Council pressure:** every 2-3 years when the country is being reviewed by the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict. • **Dialogue at country level:** possibly continuously once MRM is established. • **Action Plans:** negotiation times vary from a few months to several years.	Any time once a critical mass of information is gathered.
Variables/caveats	• **Listing, documentation, reporting:** the UN may not be able to verify cases in certain areas, which means not all information will be the basis for listing or for reports to the UN Security Council. • **Security Council:** the UN cannot guarantee the outcome of Security Council deliberations. • **Dialogue at country level:** CTFMRs must be willing and able to conduct high-level advocacy with the government. • **Action Plans:** armed actor must be willing to enter into a dialogue; UN must have access to the armed actor.	• Security/access constraints may affect reliability of data collection and may not be sufficient to show prevalence or patterns. • As the entity centralizing all MRM data, CTFMR would need to establish a collaboration with relevant response actors and *fora* in order to facilitate a system of systematic referrals.

(cont'd)

	End violations and accountability for perpetrators	Response to the needs of children victims of grave violations
What can your organization do?	• Provide reliable information (alert, communication, documentation) on grave violations and facilitate UN verifications as much as possible. • Join a CTFMR and contribute to advocacy efforts at country level. • Conduct advocacy with the government or Security Council directly, based on information your organization collected. • Use alternative international avenues for advocacy, based on information your organization gathered.	• Monitor and analyze grave violations and incorporate them in program planning and fundraising efforts of *your* organization. • If your organization does not provide services to victims, link up with service providers in your area of operation to ensure referrals if needed. • If your organization provides services to victims, link up with actors engaged in the MRM to facilitate referrals and improve program planning. • If possible, share analysis of data collected by your organization in coordination *fora* in your area of operations to inform joint planning efforts • Join a CTFMR and help build strong links between monitoring and response (regardless of whether data is UN-verified).
Added value and potential impact according to type of MRM participation	HIGHEST / LOWEST • **CTFMR member:** ability to influence CTFMR role in the country. • **Documentation:** ability to gather evidence-base for own advocacy if needed. • **Communication:** dependence on the UN/CTFMR's ability to verify information and conduct advocacy. • **Alert:** dependence on the UN/CTFMR's ability to verify information and conduct advocacy.	HIGHEST / LOWEST • **CTFMR member:** ability to influence the establishment of strong links between monitoring and response at country level. • **Response/alert/communication:** ability to gather relevant information for program planning and to contribute to referrals at least at local level. • **Documentation:** no further added value compared to response, alert or communication above.

related tools

🔗 tool 15 – Matrix 'Options for NGO participation in the MRM'

🔗 tool 14 – Factsheet 'Why do NGOs choose to participate in the MRM?'

🔗 tool 18 – Guiding questions for self-assessment 'Assessing security risks before engaging in the MRM'

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