

Collection of data on disability inclusion in humanitarian action

Decision Tree

In humanitarian action, data on persons with disabilities is important as a basis for inclusive programming. Data can be collected for various purposes, including to design a humanitarian response that addresses the needs and priorities of the affected population; to monitor equitable access to assistance; and to target specific population groups. The types of data that are collected and the way they are analyzed depends on how the data is intended to be used.

This document presents guidance on collection of data on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action. It is intended for humanitarian actors to identify the types of data to be collected for different purposes and key tools and approaches that are recommended to be used.

This document complements other guidance on collecting and using data on disability inclusion in humanitarian action, intended to support the HNO/HRP development process:

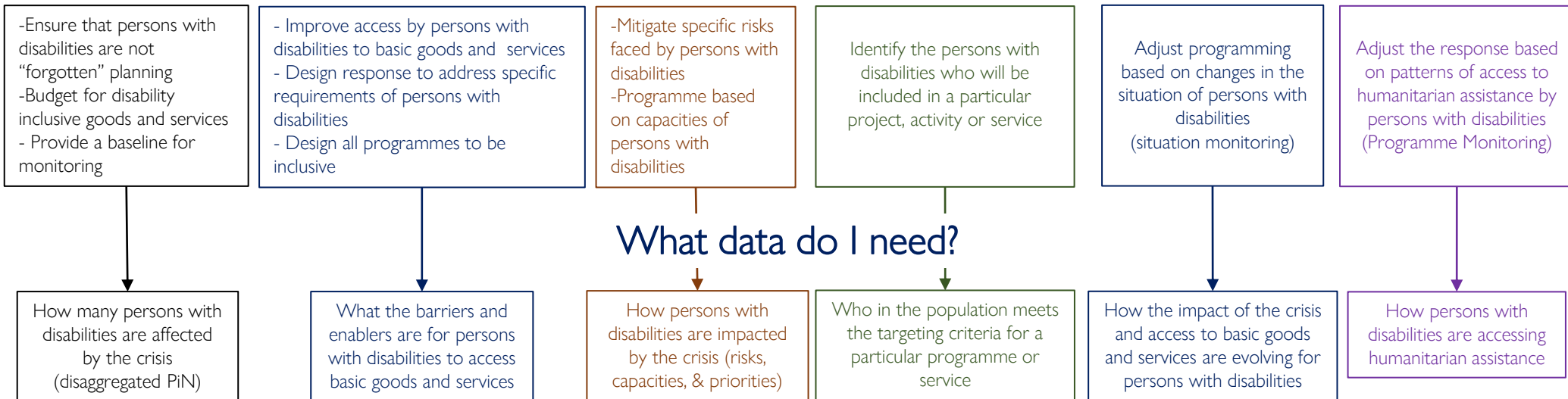
[Use of Washington Group Questions in Multi-Sector Needs Assessments](#)

[Guidance on Strengthening Disability Inclusion in Humanitarian Response Plans](#)

This tool was developed and endorsed by an Advisory Group including OCHA, WFP, UNHCR, IOM, WHO, Humanity & Inclusion and led by UNICEF, as part of the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) Humanitarian Single Business Case. Development of the tool was led by IOM-DTM, with input from Advisory Group members.

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What will I do with the data?



Do these data already exist?

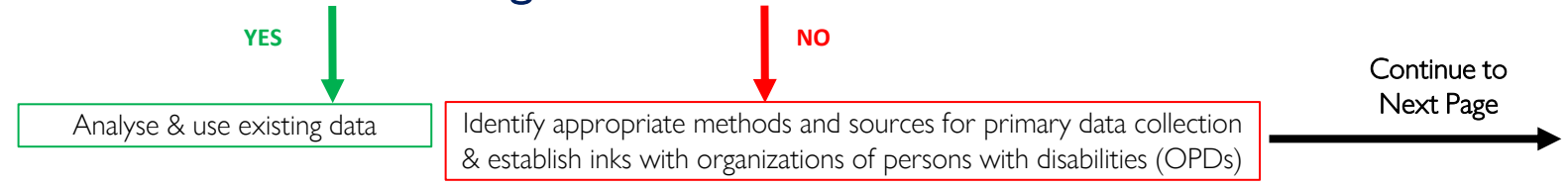
Review secondary data: Examples of sources include Census, disability surveys, registration data, Post-Distribution Monitoring systems, Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms
 .See [Guidance on Strengthening Disability Inclusion in HRP](#)s P.10

Assess reliability of existing data. Reliable data should:

- Address all domains of functioning as per Washington Group Questions
- Not use stigmatizing language in the data collection tool
- In relation to the above points- if data indicate a prevalence significantly below the global estimate of 16% of the population, this is a flag that the data is likely unreliable. Data collection tools should use a recognized tool such as the Washington Group Question set/s
- Include persons with disabilities who may be more marginalized (e.g., people with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities, people living in institutions or isolated in their homes)
- Consider data recency and sampling approach used, where relevant.

See [Guidance on Strengthening Disability Inclusion in HRP](#)s P.15

Are existing data reliable?



What data do I need?

How many persons with disabilities are affected by the crisis (disaggregated PiN)



If reliable data is not available, is it feasible to include questions in a survey (Household or Individual interviews through a representative sample)?

No

Yes

Use 16% global estimates* for adults and 10% for children
*[WHO, 2022- Global report on health equity for persons with disabilities](#)

Use [Washington group set of questions](#) (WGQ) without modification, including them in the demographic section of the survey.
Ensure budget and technical expertise.
See also: <https://humanity-inclusion.org.uk/flowchart/>

What the barriers and enablers are for persons with disabilities to access basic goods and services



Use:

- Key Informants interviews (e.g., DTM MSLA)
- Expert Interviews with OPDs or Individuals with disabilities
- Focus Group Discussions with persons with disabilities

You can adapt the questions developed by IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, HI & others (See [DTM Field Companion for Disability Inclusion](#))

How persons with disabilities are impacted by the crisis (Risks, capacities, & priorities)



Use:

- Focus Group Discussions with persons with disabilities
- Expert Interviews with OPDs or Individuals with disabilities
- When conducting a needs assessment at HH level, integrate the WGQs to allow information on needs of HH to be disaggregated by disability (see, for example: Key Findings - [Household with Disability in Afghanistan: Multi Sectoral Needs Assessments](#))

Who in the population meets the targeting criteria for a particular programme or service



Use:

- Registration data, where it is effectively identifying the target population
- Identification through government services
- Identification through OPDs
- Identification through service providers and community groups
- Integrate the WGQs in the vulnerability screening tool

How the impacts of the crisis and access to basic goods and services are evolving for persons with disabilities



Use:

- Key Informants interviews iterated on a regular basis (e.g., DTM MSLA)
- Expert Interviews with OPDs or Individuals with disabilities iterated on a regular basis
- Focus Group Discussions with Persons with Disabilities iterated on a regular basis

You can adapt the questions developed by IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, HI & others (See [DTM Field Companion for Disability Inclusion](#))

How persons with disabilities are accessing humanitarian assistance



Use:

- Integrate WGQ into beneficiary data collection systems and Post-distribution Monitoring
- Expert interviews with OPDs or individuals with disabilities
- Focus Group Discussions with persons with disabilities

If reliable data is not available