

Conflict and violence affect an increasing number of the world's most vulnerable children. Aid organisations must provide assistance without exacerbating existing tensions and enable aid to mitigate tensions present in communities.

World Vision uses three principal context analysis tools to enable conflict-sensitive aid:

MSTC Making Sense of Turbulent Contexts

MSTC provides a macro-level analysis of a national or regional context and generates recommendations for aid actors.

MSTC workshops bring together a diverse range of 25 local participants for a four-day analysis. The participatory exercise creates a shared understanding of the context, including key historical turning points, influential actors, root causes, and a forecast of trends in turbulence. Expert facilitators then write a report that includes recommendations on how aid actors can mitigate the effects of conflict on vulnerable people. MSTC is increasingly being used by international NGOs, and engages national civil society groups.

IPACS Integrating Peacebuilding & Conflict Sensitivity

IPACS provides a community level analysis of a context, with a specific focus on how projects and programmes interact with local tensions. It generates recommendations for how a project can minimise negative and maximise positive impacts.

IPACS analysis takes place over several days through key informant interviews and focus group discussions with community members, as well as with aid staff. Trained IPACS assessors analyse and validate the data, and write a report with applications for the aid project.

A published IPACS variant – “Emergency Response” – allows aid workers to apply IPACS principles in humanitarian contexts.

Conflict sensitivity helps aid organisations:

- (1) understand the context,
- (2) anticipate the interaction between aid and the context, and
- (3) ensure positive impact of aid and actions and minimise negative impact both on identified needs and the community

GECARR Good Enough Context Analysis for Rapid Response

GECARR provides a snapshot macro-level analysis of a country or a specific region during or in anticipation of crisis. GECARR can be used flexibly by multiple aid organisations. GECARR facilitators build an analysis through focus-group discussions and key informant interviews with internal and external stakeholders, including local communities.

The analysis is validated through a 3-hour scenario-planning workshop with recommendations for NGOs involved in humanitarian response. GECARR teams can be deployed quickly, requiring approx 10 days of work.

**Local
Communities**

**Technical Sectors or
Geographic Area
Programming**

Macro-Level

More info

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