

Risks in protection work

- Protection work, just as many others, has several risks.
- We must identify those risks, assess them and decide whether they will prevent us from achieving our goals, or how do we have to take them into account when planning our work.
- It is specially important to include the main risks in the monitoring process.

(continuation) Risks in protection

Categories of risk:

- Risks to our capacity to contribute to protection.
- Risks to the security and reputation of beneficiaries.
- Risks to the security and reputation of our organization

Risks to our capacity to contribute to protection

No proper knowledge of the context	Mistakes ...
No proper working relation with beneficiaries	Lack of information, of monitoring, etc
No capacity to generate alliances and synergies with other institutions	Lack of convening capacity, lack of “clout”
Unvoluntary complicity with a party in a conflict	Misuse of resources, perception of partiality
No enough resources for the work	No proper coverage, missing activities

Risks to the security and reputation of beneficiaries

Armed actors do not accept our work but react against beneficiaries	Threats, attacks
Beneficiaries overvalue the protection capacity of our organization	They take undue risks
We work on key issues for any side in the conflict	Threats, attacks
Misuse of information	Rumours/gossip, stolen information
Our presence flags undesired attention on beneficiaries	Threats, attacks

Risks to the security and reputation of our organization

Authorities do not receive proper information on our work, or they misunderstand it	No complementary work, legal barriers
Armed actors do not receive proper information on our work, or they misunderstand it	No access, robbery, attacks
Authorities and armed actors do not have a working chain of command, or they have conflicting interests internally	No access, unexpected robbery, unexpected attacks
Authorities and armed actors do not accept our work	No access, robbery, attacks
Misuse of information	Gossips, stolen information

What can we do with our risks?

- Accept them
- Reduce them (plans to manage risks)
- Share them
- Transfer them
- Ignore them...