



## SUMMARY REPORT

**Assessment Mission to Karinka<sup>1</sup> IDPs Relocation settlement**

***Shebele Zone, Somali Region***

**27-31 October, 2019**

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<sup>1</sup> The relocation / settlement site is wrongly called “Karinka” whereas the actual name of the place is Bayaho. Karinka, which literally means a narrow path between two hills, is the name of a village which is located right after the path, nearly 2 kilometres before one reaches Bayahow – the relocation site,

## **Introduction**

The assessment mission to Beyaho was conducted from 27-31 October with the participation of Somali Regional DRMB, Shebelle Zonal Early Warning and Response Office, Gode woreda Livestock office, Somali Region Women and Child Affairs Bureau as well as UN expert team consisting of UNHABITAT, FAO, UNHCR/Protection Cluster, IOM and NRC. This mission is a follow-up to the mission that DPPB and the Special Advisor on Displacement – prof. Walter Kaelin undertook to Karinka in July 2019.

The purpose of the mission was to support the Regional Government to build the ‘soft architecture’ of Karinka relocation site, by discerning key issues that will need to be addressed, preferably before any relocations is contemplated. The expert members of the team were expected to assess:

- a) Spatial planning,*
- b) Livelihood,*
- c) Housing land and property; and,*
- d) Protection related issues.*

### **Inception Meeting**

Inception meeting was held on October 28<sup>th</sup> of 2019 with the authorities of the Shebelle zonal and Gode Woreda administrations at the at Shebelle Zone Administrator’s Office. The meeting discussed the assessment objective and approaches and informed the assessment team about the general conditions of the land and people living in the area. Locational integration, main economic activities, clan affinity, land administration, housing ownership, security status and governance were among key issues raised. The meeting concluded by sharing of relevant information to the assessment team.

### **Findings (General)**

- Karinka Settlement, placed in a locality well known as Beyaho, has a planned number of 3000 housing unit to build, among which 1400 (47%) are erected; but not finished/completed.
- There are eight villages located within 10 km distance around Karinka Settlement Area. They are home for approximately 1120 households. Bayaho is the closest village, located at 1.5km distance from Karinka Settlement and is inhabited by some 185 households. The rest of the villages, occupied each by similar number of households, are located dispersedly around the Karinka area.

- The coordinates of a geographic point read in the middle of the settlement are X: 377380 and Y: 638348. The GPS that read the coordinates was calibrated on 38<sup>0</sup> WGS UTM coordinate system.

## A) Spatial Planning

**Objective of the Assessment** was to investigate information about the general physical characteristics and urban resettlement issues of Karinka Settlement, locally known as Beyaho, including topography, land related issues (i.e. plot size, associated activities, ownership, etc.), housing (i.e. typology, building materials, size, etc.), available basic amenities (i.e. water, toilet, kitchen, etc.), and social services (i.e. roads, schools, health facilities, market, religious facilities, etc.).

**Methodology of the Survey:**

- Community consultation was made on 29th of October 2019 in Bayahow the village located around 1.5 km before reaching Karinka Settlement. Woreda/Kebele officials and community leaders were mainly involved in the discussion including issues of relevant spatial planning matters (land and its management, housing, services, etc.).
- Field observation was made on the same day (October 29, 2019) guided by the Woreda Officials and community representatives. This visit involved transect walk in Karinka settlement and observed spatial planning elements with brief description by the guides.

**Observation Based on the Assessment Checklist**

The assessment team of the physical site and urbanization issues applied a checklist for assessing physical characteristics, urban activities, social and physical infrastructure and availability of natural resources, which are all pertinent to the sustainability of relocation.

- The main road from Gode to Kelafo passes through Karinka Settlement. The settlement project had established in limited size public facilities such as school that can expand to high school, health facilities for both human and animals, a multi-purpose hall and administrative offices. Unfortunately, the area has no access to potable water, electric power
- Infrastructures are also available in the settlement such as roads (main and local), and drainage system. The main road with approximately 6m width is currently covered with aggregate and passes through the settlement, while the local streets define the blocks of residences but are not yet built properly. It seems that there is a simple natural drainage line beside the roads, but not well designed and built. It is open natural channel accommodating water from the rain. During field survey, there are condiments found in some spots. Coupled with the gentle slope of the area, water can spill off and flood some houses in the neighbourhood.

- During rainy season, the main road connecting Gode to Kelafo is flooded from natural drainage lines crossing the road, which disturb transportation. Plate 2 is an illustration of this situation.

*Plate 1: Construction Status of Typical Rectangular Housing Units in Karinka Settlement*



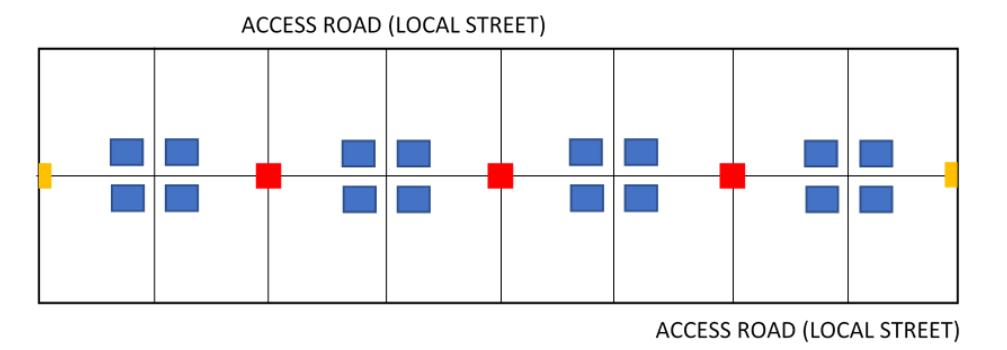
*Plate 2: Flooding of the Main Road Disturbing Transportation*



- According to some technical report from site engineer during the July 2019 mission, average plot size for each residence is 360 square meters.
- Two types of housing unit have been found, those that are rectangular and circular. Rectangular house is 4m by 5m and built on a masonry wall foundation. As Plate 2 indicates, the wall is made of hollow concrete blocks and plastered to finish, while floor is cement screed. The housing units have their roof covered with corrugated iron

sheets with no ceiling materials. Each housing unit has a door and a window made from metal sheets. The housing standards are reasonably acceptable compared to the existing typology in the surrounding area.

- The pattern of Karinka Settlement is linearly grid with road. The schema below shows that a block is created by access roads. Plots are arranged back-to-back; for instance, the green rectangle represents a typical plot of 360 square meters with one residential housing unit and a toilet. In the diagram, blue rectangles represent the residential houses while the reds are for the toilets (dry pit latrines) where a pit is shared by four houses and the oranges for toilets shared by two houses that are placed at both corners of the block. A group of four houses are separated from the other group



sufficiently which is enough for air circulation serving as a cooling system in such hot climate.

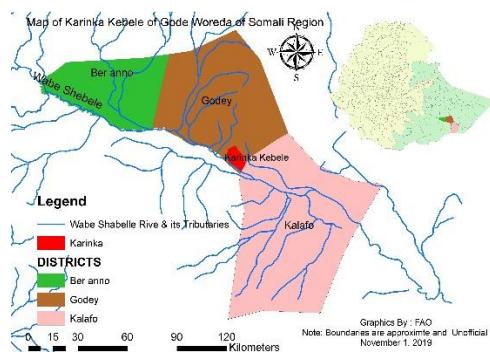
- A red rectangle is a pit serving four households (plots); however, the super structure of the toilet will have four walls, four separate entrances for each family and a common roof.
- The settlement is well placed at equal distance between Gode (at approximately 48 km) and Kelafo (40 km), which are potential markets in the urban system. As a priority development area, there should be investment to develop the settlement and the physical infrastructures aiming to increase livelihood of the villagers. During the discussions with the locals, it is stated that the villagers want to resettle in Karinka Settlement first and distribute the remaining houses for the newcomers.
- In addition, they raised the potential of maximizing the local resources (i.e. the Wabe Shebelle River) to practice horticulture. However, weakness and threat of infrastructure development and flooding of the main road during rainy seasons might affect connectivity to the markets and slow down adaptability and overall development of the area. Therefore, better planning and strategic investment on settlement and infrastructure development are needed to sustain livelihood.
- Karinka Settlement and surrounding villages are in the remote area which make inhabitants depend more on natural conditions including relationships with neighbouring clans and villagers. Any development investment might attract attention

from the neighbouring villages. Hence, further social and environmental impact assessments should be part and parcel with the resettlement program.

- Before moving people, the Karinka Settlement needs basic facility like water supply and electric power grid or any other source of energy for establishing permanent economic activity (i.e. pumping water for agriculture and residential uses).
- Land is typically considered as everybody's property, which is an opportunity for conceptualizing common economic development activities, infrastructure development and settlement expansion.

## B) Livelihood

1. Karinka is located 45 km away from Gode town along the Gode-Kelafo road. It is one of the 18 kebeles of Gode woreda. It lies on the flood plain called Beyaho flood plain and is well known as dry season grazing surrounding woredas.



2. Karinka is characterized as hot and arid area. Based on calculated NMA long year data collected at Gode station, the average rainfall of Karinka can be estimated at about 300 mm per annum and the area is deficient in moisture in all the months of the year. However, climatic condition of the Karinka plain is favourable practically throughout the year for growing several types of crops as far as irrigation is used.
3. The total land area of the Study area is estimated 10,472 ha, of which an estimated area of 6000 ha – 7854 ha is arable land. In addition, land is covered with scattered sand dunes with silt soil brought by wind erosion and sparsely populated Prosopis Juliflora species.
4. The soil of Karinka is dominated by alluvial soils. According to the community, most of the soil is easily workable while some part have high clay content and need appropriate land preparation practice. Soil fertility also reported well.
5. The water source for Karinka is Wabishebele River, which flows out of the highlands throughout the year along the southern side of the Karinka plain. The river water is suitable for irrigation, livestock water and domestic purpose including drinking, cooking and washing if appropriate storage, cleaning facilities and distribution system installed.

6. There is no water intake system in Karinka to supply clean and safe water supply from the river for human consumption. According to the community leaders, there was an assessment but nothing has been implemented. Currently, the community fetch water from river for human consumption. However, there is an opportunity to install water intake system from the River.
7. Pump irrigation schemes were observed closer to Wabishebele River. The agricultural practices of the farmers in Karinka are largely based on small diesel pump irrigation supplemented with the seasonal rainfall and occasional floods of the river. Pumps owned by cooperatives. There are 10 cooperatives in Karinka, which spread along 7 km of Wabe Shebelle Riverbank. Each cooperative have 28 members.
8. Generally, each farming household cultivate around 1 ha using their cooperative pump. Crop production is practiced not just as a source of food, but also as a source of cash. Currently farmers cultivate land closer to the river because of lack of big capacity pumps, canals and fuel. Maize and sesame are the principal food crops grown by farmers. In addition farmers cultivate vegetables including onion, pepper and tomato, and fodder crops such as Sudan grass. Each farmer cultivates its plot using family labour. Land preparation normally done by farmers. The farmers use agricultural hand tools including hoe, shovel, sickle and fork. Seeds and urea fertilizer is provided free to farmers by the Woreda.
9. Most farmers practice animal husbandry in conjunction with crop production. Livestock is an important source of income for the farmers. However, they keep relatively small numbers of livestock, mainly cattle and small ruminants. Animal feed is obtained from natural vegetation and crop residues, while watering of animals is from rivers during the dry season.
10. Extensive grazing by animals in the communal grazing area is the main feeding practice in Karinka. Animals are taken to grazing lands tended or alone and left to graze by themselves.
11. Self-employment is the other livelihood pathway in Karinka. This is one of the main source of income for some households. Self-employment in Karinka include collecting and selling construction poles, collecting and selling wild honey, casual employment and petty trade. Petty trade include tea shop, kiosk and milk and ghee retailing. Milk is sold exclusively to local markets, since the means for storing and transporting milk are not in place.
12. Most zonal capitals and woreda towns are important trading centers, particularly Gode is the main market area for Karinka. Karinka transportation infrastructure is still very poor. The existing dirt roads are in bad condition; if bridges exist, they are in poor repair. In the rainy season it is especially difficult to get from one village to another.

#### **Recommendation of the assessments**

- **Improved access road:** the entire 45 km road between Gode and Karinka is very rough road cut by many dry season streams and gullies and has a big impact on marketing and distribution of the produce, transport and access to inputs, public transport. It is highly recommended to improve the standard of the road and bridge.

- **Improved access to market based domestic water supply:** Access to clean, safe and affordable domestic water supply is precondition for healthy life and sustainable development. Access both in terms of quantity and quality can be improved through the construction of river-intake water schemes. It is important to put in place Infrastructure and management practices immediately before mobilizing large number of people.
- **Land development for irrigation:** It is advisable to improve the existing irrigation schemes to optimize the efficiency of irrigation and produce surplus food as well as reduce long term impact of salinity induced by irrigation. Karinka flood plain is suitable for irrigation development, hence, it is advisable to carry out land development following identification of irrigation system. Surveying, design and identification of irrigation system and design and plan are required to initiate the investment. Following this, it is important to start construction using the labour sourced from the local community.
- **Improved access to energy supply:** Access to clean and affordable energy is a prerequisite for sustainable development of IDPs. Currently there is no any kind of power supply in Karinka and the host community depends on biomass and fossil fuel. To meet the energy requirement, it is highly recommended to connect the camp with national grid, if this is not possible, it is highly advisable to install solar PV.
- **Social and environmental impact assessment:** during the mission, concern was raised from the community on the land use of the entire plain for irrigation development. They raised the impact of the new initiatives on the existing grazing pattern, impact on the soil, irrigation related hazards. Therefore, it is highly recommended to carry out detail social and environmental impact assessments and identify mitigation measures before the implementation of new initiative.
- **Technical skill on crop & livestock production, and water agronomy management:** The current knowledge and skills of farmers and livestock keepers is very low and they used traditional knowledge. During the mission the community reported that they need technical capacity building in order to improve water management, crop production and livestock production. Training and mentoring of farmers on selected technical fields recommended.
- **Improved cropping pattern:** currently the selection crop and variety type based on limited information. It is recommended to consider the basic needs of the community, economic importance, market (demand and supply), cost and options for value chain for selection of crop and optimum use of irrigation water. It is also prerequisite to consider crop rotation and integrated pest management. Hence, it is recommended to design and plan long period cropping pattern with full involvement of the farmers.
- **Improved animal health services:** Livestock remain the economic backbone of this kebele and therefore have to be protected through establishing more rural service provision centres, training and supporting animal health workers, providing a regular supply of essential livestock drugs, combating the entry, distribution and usage of fake livestock drugs, and upgrading the knowledge of existing veterinary technicians and disease surveillance.

- **Environmental protection and rangeland management:** riverbank erosion directly and indirectly affected the size of potential farm/pasture land in the plain. Destructive economic practices, over-grazing, intense demand for charcoal and firewood are the main cause for riverbank erosion. It is recommended to undertake awareness raising, reforestation, avoid tree cutting, reseeding embankment with appropriate plant and stopping cultivation closer to the riverbank.
- **Value addition:** to diversify livelihood and increase income, it is highly important to promote value addition in on products such as milk, tomatoes, ground nut/sesame, maize, hide and skins. Considering this, it is highly recommended to encourage more investment on processing through availing financial support.
- **Agricultural extension:** to improve the traditional farming practice, it paramount important to provide information on new practices and technologies to farmers. As the farmers practice farming as a group or cooperative, it is advisable to introduce farmers' field school group learning approach to tap the knowledge of farmers.
- **Curbing the spread of *Prosopis juliflora*:** It is invasive species. Its seed spreads rapidly through cattle, run-off, floods, and wind and can grow opportunistically in even harsh, dry environments. It is also difficult to clear and control once it grows. During the mission it was observed scattered prosopis trees in the flood plain. A concerted and collective effort on the part of the community and government is required to remove/clear the plant from the plain early.
- **Promoting self-employment:** additional income-generating opportunities and jobs should be created in the camp to trigger development and self-reliance. Women and young people participate in small businesses such as tailors, hairdressers, cinema/theatre, restaurant, café and shops as alternative income source. They also participate in fishing, bee keeping and collecting wild fruits.
- **Financial mechanisms:** Access to financing continues to be a major challenge to scaling up small business, value additions and new income generating activities. It is important to promote financial institution to provide service at village level and government provide start fund.

## C. Protection

This part of the report consists of the general protection assessment and the HLP assessment.

### General Protection

This mission was at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> in a series to Karinka site, in Shebelle.

The meeting in the zonal office was addressed by all levels of government and gave an overview of the situation in the planned area of visit. Issues discussed were why Karinka is not yet completed (insufficient funds, according to DRMB); the existence of a strategic plan for livelihoods for the IDPs (responsibility falls on DRMB); IDPs are to be supported until they are fully self-sufficient (stated by DRMB, agreed by Zonal administrator); there should not be a “gap” between IDPs and others in the surrounding communities (stated by zonal administrator); it should be recognised that people on all sides of the resettlement site benefited from the daily labouring work available from the building of the site (DRMB Early Warning coordinator, Shebelle zone).

The woreda official in the second set of meetings expressed his concerns that there was not yet a strategy available from regional government about how to address the situation of IDPs – both conflict & drought-affected; this would make their lives easier.

### Access to the site

#### *Gode – Karinka village*

The road from Gode to Kelafo which passes through Karinka, is of an altogether different standard from the road from Jijiga to Gode. Jijiga to Gode is an asphalt highway, all the way, fully paved. The Gode to Kelafo road is a gravel road at best, with places where the road peters out to track through grass land. The mission team travelled in the middle of flood season, on this same road which was actually flooded, so much so that there were doubts the night before as to whether they would be able to go. Nevertheless, they had to drive for tens of metres through water at depths of up to car bonnet height, taking 2½ to 3 hours to reach their destination; and the same to return.

#### *Karinka – Beyaho/ Karinka resettlement site.*

Access to the planned relocation site is through a cutting in the mountain, with this geographical feature being known in Somali language as “karing”. Immediately past the cutting there is a checkpoint, and a village which itself is known as Karinka and in the distance the relocation site can be clearly seen. There is a direct road from the village to the resettlement site, with distance less than 5km.

While there are no inhabitants of the resettlement site yet, the protection site observation tool was used to record features of the site, as follows:

The site has police security, and we were escorted around the site by police and zonal Early Warning coordinator (DPPB). It is still a building site, so there was construction material around, and pit latrines in various stages of development. We were taken to the school, and had the opportunity to walk into the tukuls, in particular the rectangular ones. There are also circular ones. The tukuls are built of brick with CGI roofs in groups of 4 with each tukul having one latrine, with the set of 4 latrines built between 2 adjacent sets of tukuls.

### **Discussions in the village**

On return to the village, we spoke mainly to the village chief (although there were some 10 other men around), and were provided with the following information:

Note that it was planned to be a key informant interview (KII) with the chief; however, this was held with others around and became partly a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with other men requesting to hear the discussion and supplementing the chief's replies.

- The believe that Karinka/ Beyaho will have about 1,500 houses, and they expect that the villagers will be given first pick of the houses (~1,100) with the remainder going to other people
- When asked who these “other people” might be, the first response was that they had no idea; but when asked if the government had not talked to them about this they replied that they had been told there would be about 500 households from Qoloji
- They did acknowledge that they thought the people who would be coming would be of the same clan but also stated that as Karinka/ Beyaho will be a big city, all types of people from all over would eventually come there, so it did not matter
- Asked his expectation of the newcomers, he explained that he expected them all to get on well.

Due to time and other constraints as mentioned above, we did not have the opportunity to talk to the women who were observing proceedings.

### **General Protection Summary**

The following are key issues that would have to be addressed prior to any relocation to the site of IDPs:

1. Road would need to be improved, as this is the access to the town services.
2. The agreement on which people, and how many thereof, needs to be settled with the local communities.
3. The government plans to resettle the IDPs in locations based on clan in order to reduce potential for future inter-clan conflict; it is therefore necessary to ensure that the number of people who are moved there is in line with community understanding, in order to achieve the same conflict-mitigating impact.

## D) Housing, Land, Property on Relocation Site near Karinka, 28-30 October, 2019

### Mission Objective

Primary Objective of Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Assessment at the Relocation Site near Karinka was to assess (1) potential tenure system that exist for host communities at the relocation site and (2) planned tenure arrangements for IDPs who choose to relocate with regards to the allocation of land for housing and land for livelihood (agriculture/ business).

### Finding on HLP

- The officials on the different administrative hierarchy have indicated **gap in setting direction and strategic guidance from the Regional authority** regarding the planned relocation process including the allocation of agricultural land and housing allocation; this is more apparent as the officials are recent appointees to their respective positions.
- It's also believed that the type of land tenure to be availed to the IDPs to be relocated to the relocation site **will be managed later through discussion with the members of the neighbouring community in Karinka**.
- **Expectation exhibited by the members of the neighbouring community** in Karinka on the primary allocation of housing in Beyaho (the relocation site) do not conform to the overall relocation plan set by the regional government (DRMB). They are expecting members of their community to be given priority in the allocation of the houses in Beyaho and the rest to be allocated to the IDPs to be relocated.
- There is generally a **lack of consistent understanding on the tenure arrangements to be availed by the IDPs** in the relocation process across all hierarchies. There is different understanding whether the houses will be allocated to the IDPs with an ownership or user right to residential housing which commands different respective administration.
- There is **no clear land tenure arrangement regarding the agricultural land to be allocated to the IDPs when relocated**. Even though the plan is to provide 2 Ha. of land to each household, currently members of the community in Karinka Kebele are organized in **cooperatives** whereas it is not clear if the IDPs will be organized in such way or land allocation will be on household basis or individual land holding.
- **No constructions have been observed for small business and markets** that could be availed by IDPs whose preferred means of livelihood could be business.
- There is a pre-existing **gap in the Woreda land administration capacity** lacking technical skills, where it was found that land HLP issues are handled by a committee established at the Woreda level. As such, there is no clear understanding on the actual land allocation for agriculture and housing allocations, the corresponding tenure security to be enjoyed by the IDPs to be relocated and their administration. More support is sought from the regional government to address such gap.
- The **legality and formality of the existing land registration** and documentation process is not established. However, Members of the community in the Karinka Kebele have indicated having land holding documentation for their agricultural land which is organized as cooperative as well as their residential houses which they claimed both holdings to be well demarcated.

- During the short mission to assess HLP issues in the planned relocation site, **Women's access to security of tenure such as access to agricultural land, ownership rights, land or house inheritance rights including access to land registration were not looked into.**
- Even though, the **resolution of disputes** arising from land holdings, both formally and informally is indicated, **the functionality as well as accessibility by all those affected, including women and 'other' members of the community are not established.**

## **Way forward**

- Before proceeding with the planned relocation of IDPs to Beyaho, they should be informed about the housing and agricultural land they will be allocated and the type of tenure security to be enjoyed which should **inform the voluntariness of the IDPs to be relocated.**
- Clear guidelines which are in line with the Guiding Principles and other relevant principles need to be set by the Regional Authority to guide the Zonal and Woreda administration on **land and housing allocation before the start of the relocation process** in a way that will ensure equitable land availability and security of tenure; and mitigate potential dispute over agricultural land and housing allocation to IDPs.
- Steps to ensure **consultation with the communities in Karinka should be prioritised** to address their expectation on the allocation of housing and agricultural land allocation to mitigate potential tensions between these communities and the IDPs to be relocated to the neighbouring Beyaho area.
- **Tenure arrangements need to be outlined and IDPs must be involved and informed** before the relocation process starts on the agricultural, housing and land for business allocation; the type of security of tenure they will enjoy, whether user or ownership right for housing; agricultural land holding allocated on a household basis or in cooperative scheme; which entity will be responsible for developing and issuing documentation, whether it is DRMB, Woreda or Zonal; as well as whether these documents will be accessible to all, including by women.
- **Land tenure system in the region should be further assessed** as there has been a clear overlap between statutory and customary land holding and ownership rights.
- **Capacity of the Woreda to absorb the required work to ensure security of tenure should be supported and strengthened.** It should have the technical capacity to issue tenure security documentation and legalization of tenure security are adequately achieved.
- **Accessibility of security of tenure by women and female HH** should be considered and barriers **should be addressed** in the planned relocation process. Accordingly, women should be consulted to identify such barriers and ensure tenure security for women. As women are not represented in the "leaders" of the community, care must be taken not to only discuss with community representatives.
- Findings of an assessment on the preferred means of **livelihood should guide plans to allocate land for agricultural or business set up. Accordingly, members of neighbouring communities should be involved to discuss any implications and risks to their own livelihoods.**
- Functionality of dispute resolution mechanisms, both formal and informal, should be assessed and their **capacities should be strengthened to ensure dispute resolution**

**mechanisms are accessible by everyone affected by the dispute**, including women and other members of the community and IDPs who may be considered 'outsiders' in such processes.