

Crisis and Vulnerability



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Crisis affect different social groups differently...

-) Employment and income opportunities shrink
-) Productive assets are destroyed or made idle
-) Access to goods and services is reduced
-) General worsening of working conditions
-) Increased strain on/or breakdown of formal and informal social protection systems
-) Public order deteriorates and insecurity increases

Characteristics of Vulnerability

-) Special groups that are most intensely affected by the crisis
-) Less access to goods and services
-) Victims of social exclusion
-) Less access to employment and employment services
-) Less social security
-) Less opportunities for social dialogue

ILO Working Definition

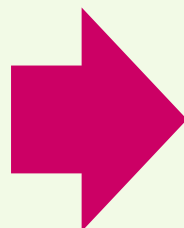
Vulnerable Groups...

-) Those at risk of socio-economic exclusion
-) Groups that had a specific vulnerable position before the crisis
-) Groups that became vulnerable due to the crisis

Vulnerable Groups

Before the crisis:

-) Women
-) Disabled
-) Minorities
-) Unemployed
-) Certain regions



After the crisis:

-) Pre-crisis groups
-) Internally displaced
-) Refugees/returnees
-) Ex-combatants
-) New minority groups

Unemployed

-) Pre-crisis unemployment rates are important to measure the real impact of the crisis
-) Unemployment is, in the context of armed conflict, often one of the root-causes of war
-) Youth can in many countries be categorized as vulnerable due to unemployment
-) Unemployment rates always increase dramatically due to the crisis

Internally Displaced People (IDP)

-) Crises often create a situation in which many people are moved away from their homes and their work places
-) They become therefore very vulnerable as they are strangers in the area they stay
-) Displaced people camps give a good opportunity to collect data, to train people and to prepare them for the work awaiting them upon their return home

Disabled

-) Pre-crisis disabled people often become more vulnerable as a result of the crisis
-) Crises, especially armed conflicts, create large numbers of physically and mentally disabled people
-) Although ILO promotes an inclusive approach, programmes have to ensure that their specific needs are addressed

Minorities

-) Although the ILO hardly ever targets minority groups exclusively, careful attention should be paid that they do not become more marginalized due to ILO interventions
-) Social exclusion of minority groups can lead to armed conflict. The ILO should therefore use its approach of social dialogue as a preventive measure

Ex-Combatants as a “Vulnerable Group”?

A demobilised soldier is
unemployed...

Unemployment is a root
cause of armed conflict

Gender Issues

-) Crises increase feminization of poverty
-) Women are affected differently than men
-) Therefore, their needs may differ and must be taken into account
-) Roles of men and women often change in times of crisis
-) Post-crisis reconstruction can be used to increase equality in gender

Consequences


DURING WAR

-) No access to the fields
-) No access to workplaces
-) No trade possibilities
-) Social exclusion from families

AFTER WAR

-) Social exclusion
-) Extremely high numbers of female-headed households
-) Very high numbers of teenage mothers
-) Strongly reduced professional potential for victims

Targeting 1

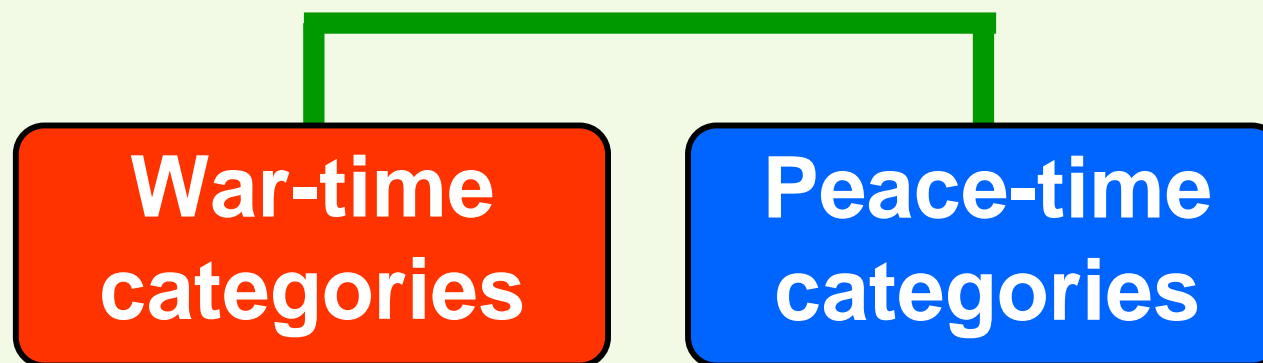


Should the employment promotion projects be only for a vulnerable group (like ex-combatants) or be open to all?

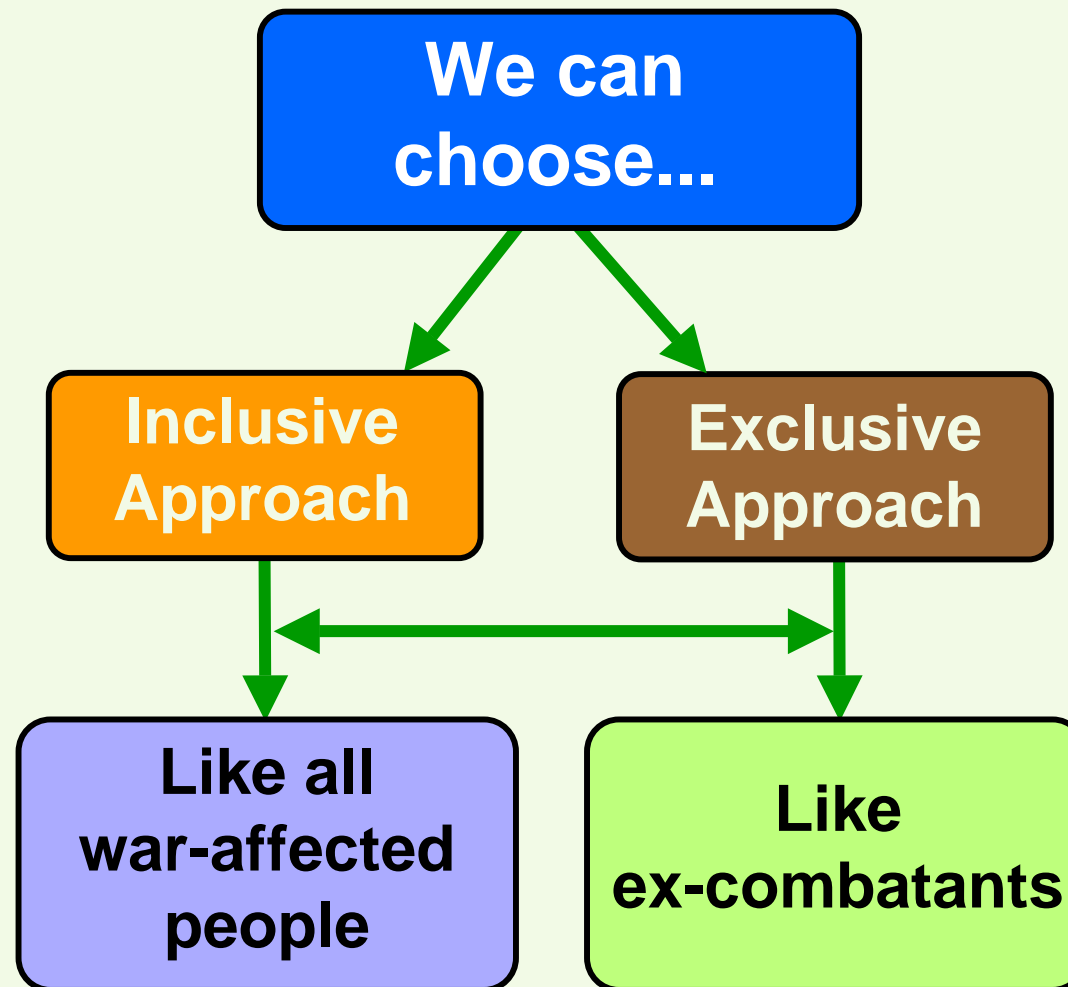
Targeting 2

Targeting principles (example of armed conflict)

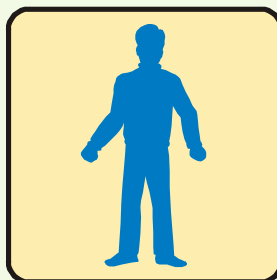
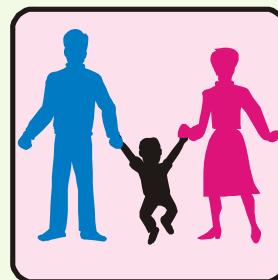
War-time categories should only be used for a short time



Targeting 3



-) Disaggregate data according to age, sex, family status, employment status, etc.
-) Specific needs and capacities must be assessed and addressed

**AGE****GENDER****FAMILY
STATUS****OTHERS**