Building a conflict-sensitive approach

Together with partners build a shared understanding of the context and different types of violence through the use of context and conflict analysis.

Prioritise key issues of violence, exclusion, injustice and grievances (these may not be VE-related).

Use this to inform the design and objectives of your programme, setting realistic and shared goals for the change you want to see.

Think through how your programme will affect and change the environment in which it takes place. How will the programme be perceived by different stakeholders?

What resources does your project introduce? How might this affect different relationships? Does it touch on pre-existing power dynamics or introduce new ones? What might be the intended and unintended consequences of this?

Think through and plan for mitigating the risks your programme introduces and monitoring unintended consequences.

Update this regularly through formal and informal processes.

Include a context update in regular team meetings, add it to reporting formats, design processes for gathering the types of information you need based on the levels of capacity and resources available to you.

Monitor changes in the context during project implementation by using indicators of conflict and peace identified and selected during the conflict analysis.

Monitor the interaction between the context and the project during implementation, by using 'interaction indicators', as well as assessing the extent to which changes in the context can be attributed to the project.

Plan, implement, monitor and evaluate your intervention. Adapt project in response to monitoring data to minimise negative impacts on context and maximise positive ones.

Evaluate whether the project is conflict sensitive, and if it is not, adjust to make its interaction with the context more positive, contributing to positive impacts and avoiding causing harm.