



STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY-LED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO PROTRACTED DISPLACEMENT IN MRAUK U DISTRICT

RELIEF INTERNATIONAL

LOCALISATION IN PRACTICE

- Organization Development
- Thematic Knowledge/Skills
- Operationalization of learning
- Strengthening of CSO networks





PREREQUISITES TO LOCALISATION

- Complementarity - Use of context sensitive approaches
- Understand the local networks and the interplay - Reinforce not replace
- Build-up presence and relationships – DNH approach
- Engage, develop and strengthen local actors with sustained attention - develop targeted OCAs/OD

LESSONS LEARNED

- Localisation with CSOs is an important policy objective that requires an incremental, multi-year, do-no-harm approach
- CSOs are not a homogenous group and there are competing interests, different attitudes and varying capacities
- Need for adaptive approach as the context and needs change, and CSOs focus on different sectors/along the nexus (displacement, COVID-19/health, community development, livelihoods etc)

- Significant risks that include:
 - INGOs/UN take a standard one-size-fits-all approach with the aim to professionalise the CSOs, which is not necessarily an appropriate/desired outcome for all CSOs
 - Tendency for INGOs/UN to only work with a small number of specific favoured CSOs (passed due diligence etc), leading to absorption capacity, sustainability and instrumentalization issues, and creating tension between the CSOs
 - CSOs re-orientate towards the international community/grant funds, and lose connection/trust of their constituents