# **Annex 7F: Focus group discussion checklist: Initial key informant interview – understanding vulnerability and the context**

*Note – teams should continue to follow the standard guidance for focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs) set out in the guidance document when implementing this tool.*

The first step in the UMVAT is to gain an understanding of the wider context that could influence the selection of households, key informants and focus group participants to interview during the assessment. The purpose of these questions is to enable:

1. A basic understanding of the **population of interest within a wider displacement and host population vulnerability context**, iehow vulnerable is the displaced population of interest, compared to the host community and other displaced populations?
2. Whether or not the situation at the time of the assessment is representative of the whole year. This is especially valid as the assessment collects data at a **fixed moment in time**. The household assessment does not include a seasonal or temporal dimension that enables NRC to understand if the assessment has taken place within a comparatively ‘good’ or ‘bad’ month for households, whether their general ‘situation’ is improving or not.

The following questions should be asked in FGDs and KIIs to get:

* An overview of all the displaced populations in the urban area in terms of their places of origin, demographics, displacement patterns and timeframes. This information can help the assessment team get a sense of relative wealth between the different displaced populations and identify sub-groups within the displaced population of interest, according to arrival date and origin.
* An understanding of differences in vulnerability between the displaced population of interest and the host population. An understanding of relative vulnerability between the host and displaced population of interest can help anticipate or understand any underlying or potential friction between these population groups and, to target specific groups for inclusion in the assessment (household interviews, FGDs and KIIs).
* An understanding of gaps in basic needs within the displaced population of interest. This information will help ensure the right core competencies are included in the assessment, either in the household questionnaire or the FGD/ KII.
* An understanding of how the wider context (for example - security, protection, access to goods and services) today compares to the past 12 months. This will give the assessment team a sense of whether or not the data collected represents a good or bad month.

**Please note: the interviewer has to contextualise the questions** according to the context, potential sensitivities, the participants, and their own knowledge – or gaps in knowledge – of the various population groups.

1. **Overview of the displaced population**
2. How many different displaced population groups are present in the urban area?
3. Are some groups more accepted than others by the government and host populations? Why?
4. For each of the displaced groups:
   1. From where do most of these displaced people come? Is there a specific area/ city/ rural area that they originate from? Did different people arrive at different times depending on where they are from? Has the place of origin of the displaced changed over recently – and likely to change in the future?
   2. Within this population group, what types of people are displaced? What are the main age groups/ ethnicity/ religious backgrounds of the displaced people? What percentage of the urban population do these groups represent?
   3. Is there a link between the origin of the displaced and their time of arrival here? What are the main timeframes (displacement timeframes) that people arrived?
      1. Are there differences between those that arrived earlier and those that arrived more recently? If so, what are they, with respect to: Wealth? Social capital and networks with other displaced communities and the host community? Access to services and assistance?
   4. How long do the displaced tend to stay here?
      1. Are there specific locations they go to first? Does this vary according to origin/ age/ displacement timeframe?
      2. Where do they go next? Does the place they go to next vary according to origin/ age/ displacement timeframe? If so in what way?
      3. Does the time displaced people stay here vary according to origin/ age/ displacement timeframe?
   5. Is there a time when the displaced move – either to come here or to go somewhere else? If so, why is that?
5. Which displaced population group is in a more vulnerable situation than others? Or are there sub-groups (such as the youth, female-headed households) within each group that share similar vulnerabilities?
   1. What factors result in higher levels of vulnerability?
   2. Is this vulnerability increasing or decreasing? Why is that?
6. **Differences in vulnerability between displaced population(s) of interest and the host community**
7. If you were to describe a typical/ representative household from both the poor host community household and displaced population of interest, what would those households look like? Consider for both populations:
   1. How many people in the household, how many and what type of dependants, what would be their income, debt level, level of education etc.?
   2. Is there a specific area of the city where these households live? Or type of housing?
   3. What percentage of the host/ displaced population of interest does this group represent?
8. Considering the host community and the displaced population of interest, how do levels of vulnerability and poverty compare?
   1. What are the main factors driving poverty and vulnerability **in the host population**? Is the number of vulnerable households increasing or decreasing? Why?
   2. What are the main factors driving poverty and vulnerability **in the displaced population of interest**? Is the number of vulnerable households increasing or decreasing? Why?
9. What is the relationship between vulnerable host and displaced populations? Do they support each other? Is there any conflict/ social tension?
10. How do the wider host and displaced community support vulnerable households (within the host and displaced population)?
11. What is the best way to identify the vulnerable households? (Identify measurable criteria):
    1. Of the host population.
    2. Of the displaced population of interest.
12. **Understanding trends in gaps in basic needs for the displaced population of interest**
13. What are the main gaps in basic needs (food, shelter, ICLA, water and sanitation, education) for the displaced population of interest?
14. Thinking over the last 12 months, what has happened to the gap in basic needs for the majority of displaced population of interest?
    1. Have these gaps been the same for some time? What has changed?
    2. What influences this change?
    3. Which groups within the displaced population of interest are not affected by these changes?
15. How are the basic needs required by the displaced population of interest likely to change over the next 12 months?
    1. Are there specific needs that are increasing/ decreasing?
    2. What is likely to influence this change?
    3. Which groups of displaced people are likely to be affected by these changes?
16. **Understanding the wider context**
17. How does the wider context (security, protection, access to goods and services) this month compare to the situation over the last 12 months for the displaced population of interest?
    1. Is this month a good month? Bad month? What influences how good a month is or not?
    2. How can you tell it is a bad/ good month? How does the behaviour of the population of interest change according to whether or not it is a good/ bad month?
18. How do you see the situation evolving over the next 12 months?
    1. For the displaced population of interest as a whole?
    2. For the host population?