



2018-2021 GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PROTECTION

People in Need

Revised: October 2018



PIN considers it essential to ensure that the most vulnerable persons and groups are not marginalised, socially excluded or simply forgotten about. PIN believes in equality and dignity, aims to integrate marginalised people into society, strives for vulnerable groups to be protected from risks and shocks and equitably benefit in both development and humanitarian settings. Drawing on its previous significant work and expertise in this area, PIN recognises the need to invest more strategically to accelerate its impact on the ground. In line with PIN's priorities for 2018-21, this strategy outlines the directions that PIN's programmes intend to take in social inclusion and protection.

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CONTEXT

Despite unprecedented global social and economic progress over the past decades, there are numerous groups in every society that were not able to sufficiently profit from it and serious inequalities within societies persist. Virtually everywhere, there are individuals and groups that face barriers that prevent them from fully participating in society, the economy or politics. Conflicts and disasters made millions of people extremely vulnerable, without means and protection. To get closer to achieving stable, inclusive and just societies, it is necessary to address discrimination and social injustice, assist those currently left behind to become a valued part of society and protect vulnerable groups affected by natural or man-made disasters.

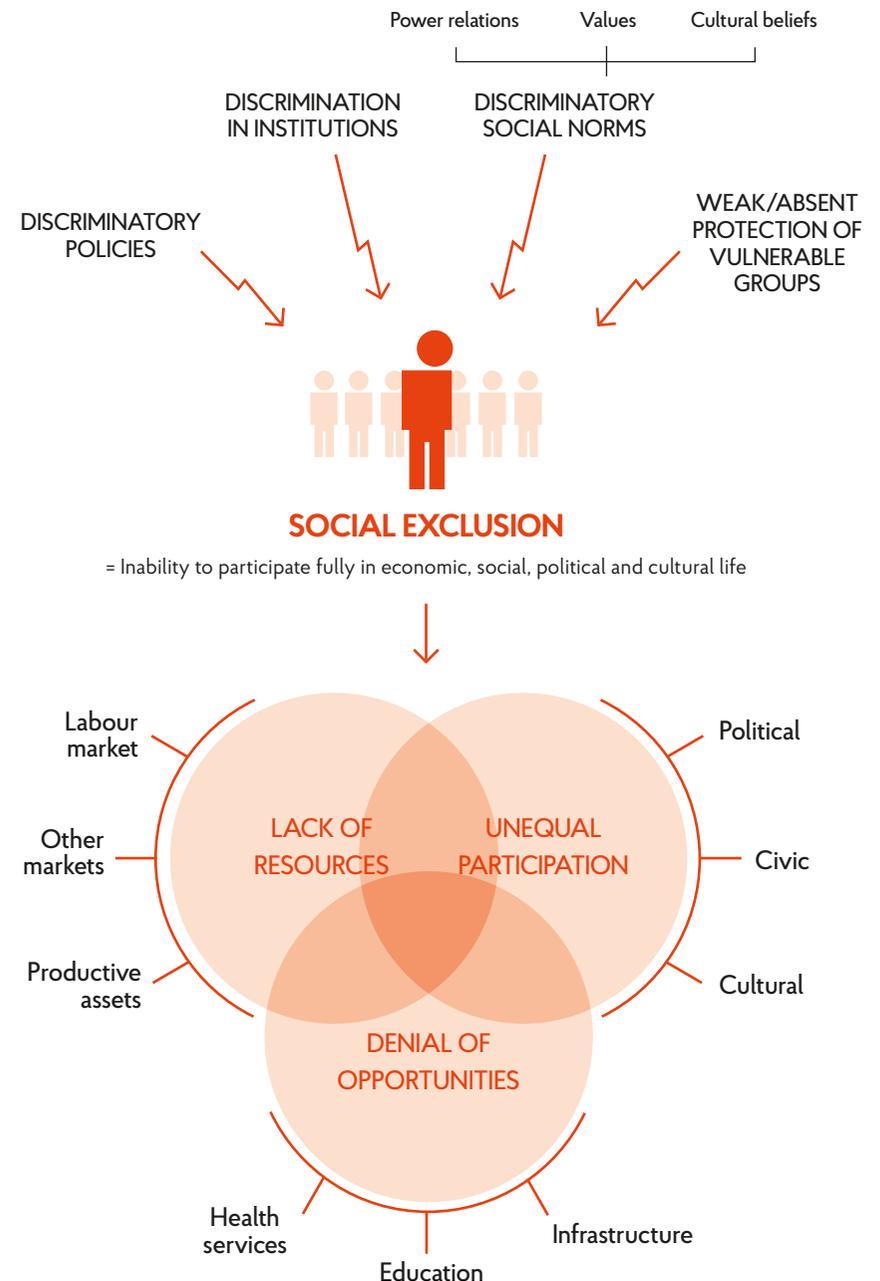
In PIN's understanding, **social exclusion** is a state in which individuals are unable to participate fully in economic, social, political and cultural life, as well as the process leading to and sustaining such a state.ⁱ People are excluded by institutions and behaviour that reflect, enforce and reproduce prevailing social attitudes and values, particularly those of powerful groups in society.ⁱⁱ The opposite concept, **social inclusion**, is a process of improving the terms of participation in society for people who are disadvantaged on the basis of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, economic or other status, through enhanced opportunities, access to resources, voice and respect for rights. Promoting social inclusion requires removing barriers to people's participation (including certain laws, policies and institutions) as well as addressing discriminatory attitudes and behaviours, and taking active steps to make such participation easier.ⁱⁱⁱ

Social protection is a set of policies and programmes designed to reduce poverty and vulnerability by promoting inclusive and efficient labour markets, diminishing people's exposure to risks, and enhancing their capacity to protect themselves against hazards and interruption or loss of income.^{iv}

Humanitarian protection (further on also referred to as "**protection**") are efforts leading to greater safety and dignity of people affected by armed conflict, protracted crisis or disaster which left them vulnerable. It is about helping people be safe from harm or abuse and helping them to recover from harm as well as to secure access to their rights.^v The SIP strategy includes protection when it is the main explicit objective of humanitarian interventions. Protection as a cross-cutting commitment in humanitarian assistance, is further described in PIN's Emergency preparedness and response Strategy.

Vulnerable & marginalised groups are those who are particularly exposed to harm or at higher risk of experiencing harm for various reasons.^{vi} Poverty, missing education, armed conflict, migration, discrimination and other factors may reduce a person's ability to enjoy equal access to rights, services and livelihoods, thus making the person more vulnerable and/or marginalised.

THE MULTIPLE DIMENSIONS AND CAUSES OF EXCLUSION





CHALLENGES

SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND INEQUALITY

The new global development agenda recognises that **development will only be sustainable if it is inclusive**.^{vii} Throughout the international human rights law is applied the principle of non-discrimination and Governments are legally obliged to respect, protect and fulfil human rights.^{viii} Nevertheless, **discrimination** is still widespread and there are groups of people who are systematically disadvantaged because they are discriminated against on various grounds, such as sex, disability, religion, ethnicity, caste, class, sexual orientation, gender identity and more. Discrimination can take various forms ranging from explicitly discriminatory policies to more subtle, unconscious forms like omitting taking into account the special needs of some groups (like barrier-free institutions for people with disabilities). Discrimination often leads to social exclusion. Frequently, the disadvantages vulnerable groups experience reinforce one another; lowers levels of health and education go hand in hand to higher level of poverty and unemployment, as well as less political and civic life.^{ix} Vulnerable groups often do not have equal access to services, resources and opportunities available to other people as they lack the resources, skills or knowledge to do so. Women and girls are in many countries the largest group, which is discriminated and socially excluded. A widespread phenomenon related to **gender inequality**¹ is sexual and gender-based violence². It is estimated that 35 per cent of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual violence at some point in their lives.^x Gender inequality also concerns men and boys as in many contexts they are very vulnerable, face violence or discriminatory gender norms.

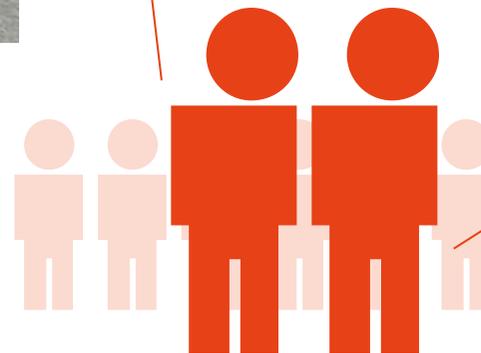
URBANISATION OF POVERTY AND VULNERABILITY

For the first time in the human history, the majority of the world's population lives in urban areas. Despite the fact that cities and towns offer its population a number of opportunities, the urban poor are often not able to benefit from them while at the same time facing significant challenges. It is expected that by 2050 over 67% of the world's population will live in cities or towns, and 32% out of them will live in slums.^{xi} There might be up to 3 billion people living in slums by 2050.^{xii} Urban slums host very varied inhabitants, but in general, they tend to be places with the highest concentration of various forms of poverty and vulnerability. Urban poverty is often characterised by inadequate and unstable income, limited or no safety net, inadequate provision of public infrastructure and services, insecure tenure and overcrowded and inadequate housing in disaster-prone and/or polluted areas.

CIVILIANS IN CRISIS

Millions of civilians continue to be deliberately targeted in armed conflicts and suffer from their extreme consequences as displacement, break-down of health and education services and various forms of discrimination. Millions of others need protection in the many natural disasters or protracted social conflicts. People at risk are usually the main actors in their own protection – making extraordinary efforts to protect themselves and their families. However, humanitarian agencies can play a role in helping people protect themselves, their families, and communities.

1 As opposite to desired state of gender equality, when women and men enjoy the same rights and opportunities, including economic participation and decision-making, and when the different behaviours, aspirations and needs of women and men are equally valued and favoured.
 2 Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) refers to any act that is perpetrated against a person's will and is based on gender norms and unequal power relationships. It encompasses threats of violence and coercion; it can be physical, emotional, psychological, or sexual in nature, and can take the form of a denial of resources or access to services. It inflicts harm on women, girls, men and boys. <http://www.unhcr.org/sexual-and-gender-based-violence.html>
 3 Referring to UN agreed definition that classifies a 'slum household' as one in which the inhabitants suffer one or more of the following 'household deprivations': 1) Lack of access to improved water source, 2) Lack of access to improved sanitation facilities, 3) Lack of sufficient living area, 4) Lack of housing durability and, 5) Lack of security of tenure. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-11-01-01.pdf>



DONORS' STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

The 2030 Agenda for sustainable development contains a clear and shared commitment to "leave no one behind". The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its targets apply to all countries, peoples and segments of societies with the aspiration to make global development efforts truly inclusive. Similarly, many major donors are stressing inclusiveness as a key concern, with DFID taking the lead on this. One of the priority issues for DFID has become people with disabilities as reflected by organising the first ever Global Disability Summit in July 2018 to bring attention to the topic. In general, more attention from all major donors (and most progressively from the EC and Canadian government) is given to gender equality, while gender analysis is becoming a standard part of programme development. Regarding humanitarian work, the focus on integrating protection and inclusiveness is also very high on the agenda of all major actors with the Global Protection Cluster defining the principles of mainstreaming protection in humanitarian action.

PEOPLE IN NEED'S ROLE

In the course of the strategy, PIN will focus on:

- strengthening existing or potential actors of social and humanitarian protection to develop, extend and improve their services for the poor, vulnerable or marginalised groups,
- supporting vulnerable and/or marginalised groups in claiming their rights and striving for their safety and dignity,

PIN does not see its role in direct provision of social services, unless strongly justified and in a humanitarian context.

Through its SIP work, PIN will support the achievement of the **Sustainable Development Goals**, especially:



PROGRAMMING STRATEGY

People in Need's 2018-2021 Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy has two goals:



To ensure that **EFFECTIVE SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION MECHANISMS ARE INCREASINGLY AVAILABLE** and are addressing the needs of the most vulnerable people



To empower marginalised people to **ADDRESS THEIR EXCLUSION AND ITS CAUSES**

PRIORITIES

- 1. Building capacity of governments and civil society to develop sustainable social protection systems and services**, which will ensure inclusion, dignity, human rights and needs of vulnerable people being met, with the focus mainly on:

 - **promotion of inclusion and of related supporting services**, examples include social and economic inclusion of people with disabilities (PWDs), IDPs, youth and other disadvantaged groups through labour market, housing, public budget planning etc.
 - **developing community-based protection mechanisms and social services**, like participatory planning of social services, prevention of and support to victims of domestic violence or human trafficking, community child protection, promoting self-help approach (including saving and income generation) etc.
 - **supporting policy dialogue between responsible authorities and CSOs** providing services to vulnerable groups.
 - **exploring and piloting social enterprise models**, i.e. businesses motivated not solely by profit generation, but by other social goals, such as providing employment or specific support services to vulnerable groups.
- 2. Empowering⁴ marginalised people to have an equal say and equal opportunities throughout their lives** PIN will, with its civil society partners, develop the knowledge, abilities and other resources of marginalised people to become effective self-advocates and agents of change in issues that affect them like:

 - **challenging discrimination and exclusion**
PIN will strive for gender equality through gender mainstreaming and focus on gender transformative approach including women/girls' empowerment and constructive engagement of men/boys; will be stemming sexual and gender-based violence including child marriage; protecting children from child labour and other harmful practices; building tolerance and inclusion, and more.
 - **gaining/retaining access to essential resources and services**
PIN will support disadvantaged groups in voicing their specific needs to duty-bearers and removing barriers for marginalised people to access/retain basic resources and services (including land, housing, piped water, sewage, waste management etc. in urban settings), which are available to other members of society.

⁴ Empowerment, in PIN's understanding, is enabling people to exercise more control over their own development and supporting them to have the power to make and act on their own (DFID's definition).

3. Preventing, reducing and responding to protection risks of vulnerable groups affected by humanitarian crises

In this context, PIN will focus on:

- **prevention of and response to various forms of violence** (preventive measures such as awareness raising, upgrades of infrastructure resulting in decreased protection threats typically in camp/settlement settings, or responsive measures such as psychosocial support, assistance to survivors of gender-based violence; strengthening existing child protection systems, child friendly spaces)
- **supporting community-based protection** (strengthening family, social and community networks such as youth clubs or women groups, promoting self-help, training and cash grants to develop local prevention and response strategies, awareness campaigns, mobilisation of community information networks)
- **assisting people to claim their rights and access services** (like awareness on rights and access to services, lost personal documentation support, monitoring/tracking population movements (DTM))
- **supporting durable solutions** (return, local integration and resettlement) mainly through information on and preparation for durable solutions, legal aid and registration.



PIN's Sustainable Livelihoods and Environment Strategy supports livelihoods related to agriculture and renewable energy.



PIN's Education and Skills Strategy covers inclusive education of children and youth, and vocational education important for getting out from a cycle of poverty and economic and social exclusion.



PIN's Good Governance Strategy covers the ability of civil society to represent marginalised people's needs and advocate for their issues.



PIN's Resilience Strategy covers disaster risk reduction, healthcare and water, hygiene and sanitation in both urban and rural settings.



INTEGRATION WITH OTHER SECTORS



PIN's Emergency Preparedness and Response Strategy covers protection mainstreaming as a cross-cutting issue.

GLOBAL INDICATORS

The following core indicators were defined to enable PIN to measure and report on the global outcomes of PIN's work. They define the main focus of PIN's social protection and inclusion programmes and shall be measured in all relevant projects (alongside other indicators at www.indikit.net).

Wherever relevant, indicators should be **disaggregated by sex and vulnerable groups** (e.g. people with disabilities) and whenever possible should be compared to the baseline, pre-project situation.

USAGE OF SUPPORTED SERVICES:

of vulnerable persons who used the promoted services strengthening their (social) protection and/or inclusion

SELF-HELP GROUPS

- COVERAGE:

of individuals benefiting from supported self-help groups

EMPLOYMENT OF VULNERABLE GROUPS:

of vulnerable persons who gained and retained their new employment

SAFETY AND DIGNITY:

of vulnerable persons reporting feelings of safety and dignity regarding protection risks that were identified

RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE:

of persons experiencing violence who receive an age and gender appropriate response

GENDER EQUALITY:

of targeted persons who believe that girls/women should be treated equally as boys/men



TARGETING

The ultimate beneficiaries of PIN's SIP programmes are people who are socially excluded or at risk of social exclusion, the vulnerable, poor or disadvantaged, or facing violence, coercion, deliberate deprivation and abuse such as:

- **Women and girls (and boys and men in some contexts)**
- **Children**
- **Youth**
- **Elderly**
- **Persons with disabilities** (including intellectual or psycho-social disabilities) **or long-term severe illness**
- **Minorities** (religious, ethnic, class, sexual & gender, etc.)
- **IDPs, refugees and migrants**
- **Low income households** with limited assets at risk of hunger or malnutrition (unemployed, landless, without secure tenure, exploited at work, etc.) incl. single parent households and youth

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PIN's Social Inclusion and Protection interventions will follow **core guiding principles** defined to maximise their impact. The principles will also be used to **review the quality of** newly designed and implemented projects.



GENDER EQUALITY: PIN will strive in its programmes for gender equality. It will systematically include gender as a strong cross-cutting issue into all PIN's interventions in SIP and all other sectors. All programming should be based on gender analysis and be gender-transformative or at least gender-sensitive throughout the implementation.



MAINSTREAMING INCLUSION: PIN will strive for inclusion of vulnerable and marginalised groups and will work against segregation and discrimination in all its projects. Vulnerable and marginalised groups should not be just passive recipients; they are expected to participate during all project phases of actions implemented under any of the above named Priorities. PIN will also strengthen its efforts to be inclusive itself - mainly through its HR policy and creating a supportive environment.

NO DIRECT SOCIAL SERVICE PROVISIONS OUTSIDE OF EMERGENCY CONTEXTS:

In development contexts, PIN itself will not be providing social services, it will focus instead on **strengthening existing or potential actors** of social protection to develop, extend and improve their services and efforts. PIN will strive for its social protection efforts to be carried out in cooperation with the host governments and that, to the degree possible, will form part of a national social protection system. In humanitarian settings, service provision is an option, along with focusing on developing capacities of the main actors to take over.



LOCAL OWNERSHIP: Local ownership (in the sense of commitment) of authorities (duty-bearers), civil society and ultimate beneficiaries will be systematically built through thorough participation of beneficiaries in development, implementation and, if possible, in evaluation of SIP interventions.

DO NO HARM AND CONFLICT SENSITIVITY: PIN will, in line with its Do No Harm Policy, strive to ensure that its projects avoid exposing people to harm and do not cause or lead to negative, unintended consequences of its interventions.



ACCOUNTABILITY: PIN is committed to systematically monitor, introduce functioning beneficiary feedback mechanisms and evaluate SIP interventions and openly sharing its findings, conclusions and recommendations.



INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

To ensure that its social inclusion and protection interventions are implemented in a required quality and achieve maximum impact, **PIN will strategically invest in:**



INVESTMENTS – INDICATORS

PIN will use the following indicators to review annually the changes in the **quality of its social inclusion and protection programming:**

- SIP strategy goals and priorities are effectively integrated into country strategies (80%, by 12/2020)
- PIN programmes are based on gender analysis and are effectively integrating gender (80%, by 12/2021)
- Every country strategy analysis specifics of urban contexts and defines targets related to targeting urban population (80%, by 12/2021)
- PIN's SIP projects use Indikit indicators and are producing evidence of their outcomes and impact (75%, by 12/2021)

PARTNERSHIPS

PIN's programming will make the most positive difference if PIN manages to develop partnerships enabling its teams to maximise the quality, sustainability and scale of its interventions. In the 2018 - 2021 period, **PIN's partnership priorities** are:

- to develop productive partnerships with local actors responsible for, or able to have a significant impact upon social inclusion and protection – including national and local governments, civil society organisations, private sector and influential individuals.
- to develop cooperation with international and Czech *subject-matter experts* (universities, specialised agencies, individual consultants) assisting PIN's in-country teams to ensure maximum quality of their work
- to increase the technical know-how sharing and programming cooperation with *Alliance2015 members and other like-minded actors*



ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATION

PIN's SIP advocacy is based on a solid programmatic experience and strong evidence gathered at the grass-root level. PIN systematically builds partnerships for advocacy purposes in order to: ensure community involvement, leverage resources and strengthen our collective voice and credibility. PIN's advocacy will focus on the following priorities:

WITH NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

Developing and allocating funding for national social protection systems, which would protect the most vulnerable groups

Addressing the major shortcomings in social protection mechanisms, in legislation and its enforcement related to human rights, inclusion, equality and non-discrimination.

WITH DONORS:

Political support, financial volume and effectiveness of the donors' development assistance to the social inclusion and protection sector.

WITH GENERAL PUBLIC:

In countries, where PIN works: promoting human rights, gender equality, active involvement in social protection, accountability of duty bearers, inclusion and dialogue.

In donors' countries: raising awareness of and support for effective solutions to tackling social exclusion and poverty of the most vulnerable people.



KEY RESOURCES

In order to retain and use the expertise generated by PIN and other agencies' teams, PIN staff will actively use the following **sources of expertise**:

- PIN's Advisor for Social Inclusion and Protection/Gender Mainstreaming, Protection Advisor and both internal and external experts in the sector and related fields (including gender and MEAL)
- Directory of Resources: regularly updated database of the best available strategy-related manuals, tools, examples, reports and other resources
- Indikit: PIN's database of SMART indicators
- Sharing internal and external useful evaluations, lessons learnt, best practices and evidence

CONTACTS

People in Need welcomes cooperation with implementing agencies, donors, research institutions and other actors working on expanding social protection and tackling social exclusion. Feel free to:

- **contact us at** [resource\(at\)peopleinneed.cz](mailto:resource(at)peopleinneed.cz)
- **learn about our work at** www.peopleinneed.cz
- **check out our publications at** www.peopleinneed.cz/resources

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