

# Localizing Data Workflows

Localized data is key to humanitarian response. What are some of the examples and tactics to integrate multiple data types, including crowdsourcing or other data collection methods, into your workflow? What are some of the barriers and opportunities to improve this? Breakout groups are used help the conversation flow.

- **People:** 6 to 50 people
- **Time:** 60 to 90 Minutes
- **Difficulty:** Medium
- **Materials:** Flipchart paper, sticky notes, sticky dots, and markers

## Preparation

A guest speaker should be available to help frame and shape this conversation. This person should be from a local community / national society and be familiar with field data from the local community perspective. They will serve as the subject matter expert or the 'key informant.'

Allocate 1 helper for every 6 - 10 people. Brief the helpers in advance of the event.



## THE EXERCISE

### Part 1: Introduction

Introduce the topic and the guest speaker highlighting the following topics. The speaker should encourage people to build plans to 'localize data workflows' and provide concrete examples and impact statements. Some guidance:

- Community engagement data workflows/localization/inclusive
- Crowdsourced data as one data type in the data workflow
- Data sharing - Collaborating locally and globally
- What is localized data and why is it important

Describe a situation in which you need data to implement and monitor a program. You want to have local data (from the community you are going to work with). What kind of data do you need? The group will work with you on setting up a process / checklist how to get this data.

### Part 2: Create a Checklist

Depending on the size of participants, break into 2 groups (maximum 25 per group). In the sub-groups, people will create a 'localize data checklist' for data producers and for data consumers. The goal is 'talking points' and 'things you need to know' to better include local data into your overall data workflows.

Invite participants to document those key points on sticky notes. Your helpers should add these to the two separate flipcharts. Encourage people to not go into the weeds of a particular issue. This exercise is about identifying the next stage discussions. Everyone should have an equal say highlighting their observations. Point to the flip charts and share the format of the dialogue. It is best to host this discussion in plenary rather than in small groups. The reason is that the ‘shared dialogue’ for decision-makers means hearing all the key examples and needs for a ‘big picture’ effect.

Each group is tasked to create a checklist guidance to ‘localize data workflows’. Some questions to consider:

- What are the problems you are addressing with local data?
- How would you implement this? Which types of data are needed? How will you collect and involve the community?
- What were the results/how does this localized data inform /improve the work?

Some further guidance:

- Be interactive
- Consider the steps and workflows
- Ask about the challenges?

### Part 3: Plenary report backs

Ask the groups to briefly present their checklist findings. Open up a conversation about barriers and opportunities for local data flows. What is the difference between the data needs /data flows of data consumers and data producers?

### Extra Credit:

Consider asking one of the groups to include a “Community Role Play” aspect to do an informal needs assessment. This will highlight the opportunity to change the workflows. It may very well come naturally to the teams to plan their data workflows this way.

See the Community Engagement and Accountability Toolkit:

- [Checklist info for Communities](#)
- [CEA Assessment checklist method overview](#)

### CREDIT

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