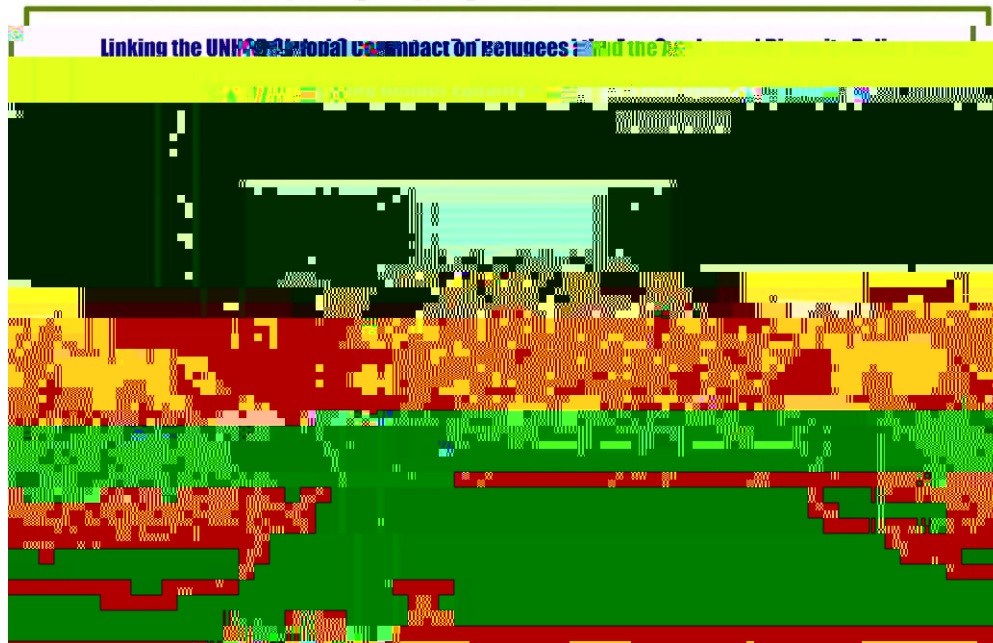




Session 8

Meaningful Participation



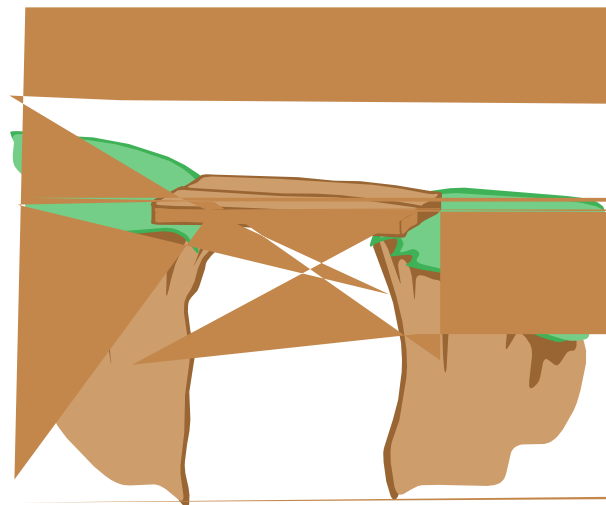
What is refugee participation?

When refugees regardless of location, legal



Social Inclusion

Social inclusion refers to the **active and meaningful participation of refugees** in the social, economic, cultural, and political aspects of the host society. It takes a **human rights approach**, treating refugees with respect, fostering a sense of belonging and empowering them to contribute positively to society at a local, national and international level, through their inclusion and advocacy (Kenny and Connors 2017: 30)



Spaces where people might want to participate in decision making and activities.

Family

Local community

Ethnic group

Refugee groups and organisations

In decision making with NGOs, UNHCR and other key agencies

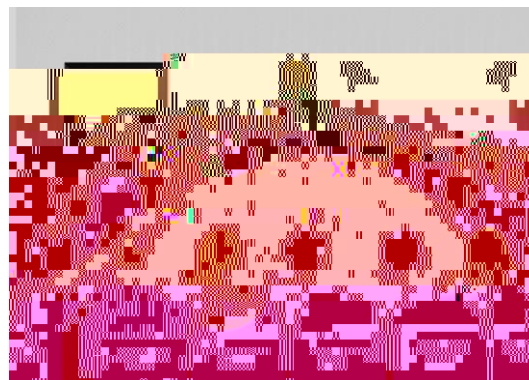
In Government agencies

In Health services

Education

In employment

Other important places we might have missed.



What can we do to make this happen?

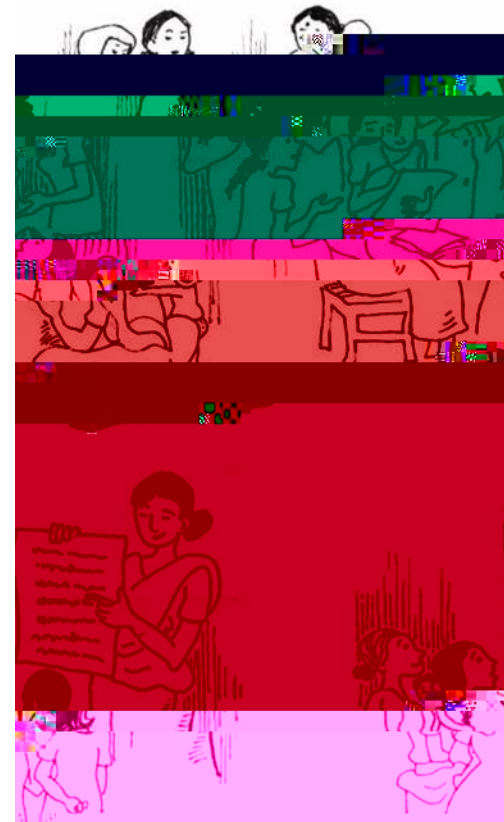
Make sure that everyone has the chance to have their voice heard.

That it is real, not tokenistic

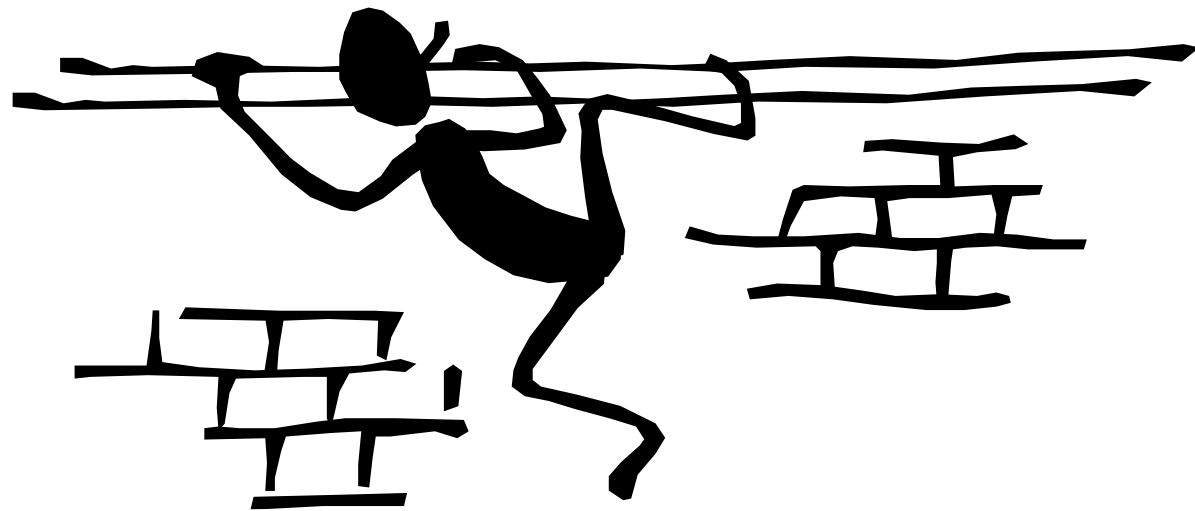
That people know this is their right.

That they know that what they have shared is important and will be included in your planning.

Look at barriers to participation.



We have examined many of the barriers to Participation that must be addressed.





Refugee women:
Key to the

Global Compact
on Refugees

Continued:

What role does ideology and culture, of refugees, hosts and service providers play in particular in sensitive issues such as human rights, including gender equality, and SGBV?

Are international agencies willing to co-operate together and work with local NGOs and refugee led groups as equal partners or does funding competition get in the way?

What is the level of trust between refugee communities, UN agencies and other service providers?

Is there fear that refugee- that they can be both political advocates and rights-based service providers?

What political constraints are faced by local academic partners?

Are Donors willing to provide flexible funding?

Others?

Sites of decision making

Places where groups might want to participate in decision making:

In your family

In your local area

In your Ethnic community

In refugee led groups and organisation

When meeting with Government departments

When meeting with UN agencies



At a personal level.

This checklist is designed to assist in determining what level of meaningful participation is happening or could be viable for individual refugees. You may have already used it when examining gender equality. It can be adapted for mixed groups, men only or any diverse groups you are working with by changing the wording in the top left hand corner **

--	--	--	--