# Tool #1: Alignment of Local and Global Stakeholder Priorities

# An exercise to clarify the extent to which an intervention/activity that is a candidate for adaptation and scale is (or is not) aligned with different stakeholders' priorities.

It is difficult to adapt and scale a project that is out-of-step with what stakeholders feel is important. Doing this exercise will not only help in the intervention/activity selection process but can also be useful when writing proposals and reports or advocating and gaining support for the selected intervention/activity.

## How to use this tool

- Brainstorm the priorities of different groups of stakeholders. In the case of Joining Forces, it may be useful to review core Joining Forces documents such as Joining Forces foundational documents and Joining Forces theory of change. Be sure to give some evidence that makes you believe this is one of their priorities.
- 2. Using the Venn diagram tool, put stakeholder priorities in different areas that indicate that they are unique to a single group of stakeholders or whether they are shared by other stakeholders.
- **3.** Looking at the overlap-or the lack of overlap-of each priority. Discuss whether the intervention/ activity you are considering will get needed support from stakeholders in the EVAC community.
- 4. Think about how your local Joining Forces team can use this analysis of priorities to seek funds, advocate for the adaptation and scale of the intervention/activity, or structure evaluations and reports.



### Children's Engagement

Clearly, for Joining Forces, children's views, and those of their families, are critical in every phase of adaptation and scale. When using this tool Joining Forces seeks children's engagement in two distinct ways: 1) integrating information about children's views and perspectives as it relates to the tool's topic and 2) as a source of data for each tool. Locating opportunities for child participation and child safeguarding (as separate and complementary) is a shared responsibilities of all Joining Forces partners. In this tool they are included in the category of local stakeholders along with government and local Joining Forces staff members. Like those other groups, any research on children's preferences in services or service delivery should factor heavily into selection of a project. If no research on the topic exists, then the team should conduct focus group discussions with children who have already experienced the "model" project (that is, the project that is being considered for adaptation and scale). Other ideas for generating ideas from children can be found in the "Tools and Techniques for Children's Engagement" compendium provided at the end of this guide.

#### Reminder

Feel free to adapt this tool in any way that works for your team and your context!



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#### STEP 1

For this exercise, local Joining Forces team members will list priorities that might guide selection of an intervention/activity for scale into four stakeholder "buckets." The first bucket will be those priorities expressed by the Joining Forces "Global" leadership. Reviewing documents such as the Theory of Change produced by Joining Forces, highlight the criteria that "fit" Joining Forces' broad aspirations. The second bucket will contain a list of "local children's priorities" which are identified by whatever research or surveys are available on the views of children and their families. The third bucket highlights priorities the local team thinks are important to advance and position Joining Forces in the country (including priorities that may be expressed in the National Action Plan, if available). The fourth bucket lists potential (or if already funded) actual donor priorities.

For each item in each bucket of priorities <u>there should be some indication of the source of that</u> <u>priority</u>. If a local priority comes from the government's National Action Plan or EVAC policy, the relevant phrase in the Plan or clause in a policy should be noted. Conversely, if the local priority arises from research on children's perspectives conducted in-country, the specific study should be cited. Similarly, when compiling a list of donor priorities, if a particular priority is given, there should be some source that supports that as a donor priority. Again, if already funded, the priorities of the specific donor is all that is needed; if donor has not been identified, a review of several possible donor priorities is warranted. Note that the same priorities may be assigned to multiple buckets.

# STEP 2

Once these lists of priorities have been identified, enter them into a Venn diagram (such as the one provided on the next page) as unique to one bucket or shared by two or more buckets. The grey space in the diagram is reserved for priorities that are shared by all stakeholders. This will assist you in identifying those priorities that most easily work in the local EVAC environment. Doing this exercise will also be useful when writing proposals and reports or advocating and gaining support for the selected intervention/activity.







