

# Module 8. Meaningful Participation

Tools to identify barriers, and foster meaningful participation

## A Checklist of Local Politics

Key things addressed when developing participatory approaches with refugee communities:

Questions to be addressed	Answers	What if anything can be done to address this
<b>Is the host government supportive or hostile?</b>		
<b>Local politics – is the host community supportive or hostile?</b>		
<b>Are authorities supportive or hostile?</b>		
<b>What is the level of commitment to participation by the most powerful stakeholders?</b>		
<b>Do the values, attitudes, capacity and resources of the local staff support participatory approaches?</b>		
<b>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.</b>		
<b>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?</b>		
<b>What is the level of trust between refugee communities, UN agencies and other service providers.</b>		
<b>Is there fear that refugee-led groups are ‘too political’ and/or failure to accept that they can be both political advocates and rights-based service providers?</b>		
<b>What political constraints are faced by local academic partners?</b>		
<b>Are Donors willing to provide flexible funding?</b>		
<b>Others?</b>		