

Research Methodology Note

Damage Impact Analysis

UKR2310

Ukraine

February 2025

Version 1

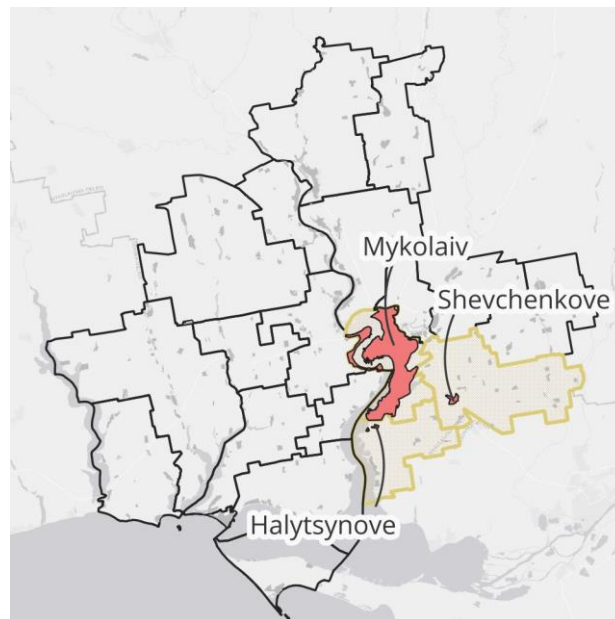
REACH Informing
more effective
humanitarian action

1. Executive Summary

Country of intervention	Ukraine					
Type of Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural disaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Conflict	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (<i>specify</i>)
Type of Crisis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sudden onset	<input type="checkbox"/>	Slow onset	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Protracted
Mandating Body/ Agency	ECHO					
IMPACT Project Code	UKR2310					
Overall Research Timeframe (<i>from research design to final outputs / M&E</i>)	1/2/2025 to 23/5/2025					
Research Timeframe	1. Pilot/ training: 6/3/2025			6. Preliminary presentation: NA		
<i>Add planned deadlines (for first cycle if more than 1)</i>	2. Start collect data: 10/3/2025			7. Outputs sent for validation: 25/4/2025		
	3. Data collected: 21/3/2025			8. Outputs published: 9/5/2025		
	4. Data analysed: 10/4/2025			9. Final presentation: 23/5/2025		
	5. Data sent for validation: 11/4/2025					
Number of assessments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single assessment (one cycle)				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi assessment (more than one cycle)				
Humanitarian milestones	Milestone			Deadline (can be tentative)		
<i>Specify what will the assessment inform and when e.g. The shelter cluster will use this data to draft its Revised Flash Appeal;</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HLP TWG presentation			30/5/2025	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shelter Cluster presentation			28/5/2025	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	NGO platform presentation			May 2025	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify): Feed in to ongoing discussion led by DRC legal analysis team			May 2025	
Audience Type & Dissemination <i>Specify who will the assessment inform and how you will disseminate to inform the audience</i>	Audience type			Dissemination		
	X Strategic			X General Product Mailing (e.g. mail to NGO consortium; HCT participants; Donors)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Programmatic			X Cluster Mailing (Education, Shelter and WASH) and presentation of findings at next cluster meeting		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Operational			X Presentation of findings (e.g. at HCT meeting; Cluster meeting)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify]			X Website Dissemination (Relief Web & REACH Resource Centre)		

Stakeholder mapping <i>Has a detailed stakeholder mapping been conducted during research design to identify all actors that could contribute to and/or benefit from the research?</i>	X	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
General Objective	To develop a clearer understanding of the prevalence, causes and consequences of unresolved shelter repairs and compensation gaps, by:			
Specific Objective(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing the understanding of the prevalence of non-repairs and non-compensation, and the reasons for these outcomes. 2. Analysing how experiences vary for different groups who are navigating the systems and carrying out repairs. 3. Examining the perspectives of humanitarian actors (NGOs), local authorities and construction companies on the barriers to repairs and compensation. 			
Research Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How long do residences remain damaged? 2. What typologies exist regarding building types, household types, and damage types within repair and compensation mechanisms? 3. What actions do individuals take in response to housing damage, and how can these actions be categorized? 4. What are the primary barriers preventing compensation or repair, and how can these barriers be classified into financial, legal, administrative, or other categories? 5. What aspects of national and humanitarian compensation systems create barriers to repairs or compensation? Are these mechanisms perceived as relevant or useful by affected individuals, and to what extent are they understood and accessible? 6. How do the barriers to repair and compensation differ between different groups of occupants with different tenure arrangements (e.g., owners with registered properties, owners without registered properties, renters)? 			
Geographic Coverage	<p>The project takes the Mykolaivskiy raion in the south of Ukraine as the area of study. The Mykolaivskiy raion is at admin level 2, within the Mykolaivska oblast (admin level 1).</p> <p>The raion is comprised of nineteen hromadas (admin level 3). A letter will be sent to all hromada housing departments and compensation commissions, requesting a summary of the number of damaged buildings, applications for compensation, the rejection rate, and reasons. This will give a comparative overview on the situation for the raion as a whole.</p> <p>Focus groups and key informant interviews will be held in Mykolaiv city, and the Shevchenkove and Halytsynove towns (admin level 4). These are the administrative</p>			

centers of their respective hromadas (highlighted in gold). These were chosen for their exposure to building damage, accessibility, security, and research affordability.



Secondary data sources

- REACH Humanitarian Situation Monitoring
- REACH Multi-Sectoral Needs Analysis
- REACH Joint Market Monitoring Initiative
- REACH studies on Small and Medium Enterprises in the oblast
- REACH Damage Impact Analysis, Mykolaiv City
- REACH Damage Assessment, Mykolaiv City
- ACAPS raion accessibility index
- ACAPS infrastructure damage dataset
- ACLED conflict monitor
- Tenth April – study on compensation mechanism in Mykolaivska oblast
- Danish Refugee Council briefing notes on compensation mechanism
- International Rescue Committee Monitoring snapshots
- Shelter Cluster Analytical materials
- Cherkasy Human Rights Centre Position paper on compensation
- Primary legislation
- News reporting

Population(s)

Select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs in camp	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs in informal sites
<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs in host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs [Other, Specify]
<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in camp	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in informal sites
<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees [Other, Specify]
<input type="checkbox"/>	Host communities	X	Not focussed on displacement

Stratification

Select type(s) and enter number of strata

<input type="checkbox"/>	Geographical #: _ _ _	<input type="checkbox"/>	Group #: _ _ _	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other Specify] #: _ _
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		Population size per strata is known? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Population size per strata is known? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Population size per strata is known? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Data collection tool(s)	X	Structured (Quantitative)	X	Semi-structured (Qualitative)		
	Sampling method			Data collection method		
Structured data collection tool # 1	Purposive			Data request addressed to 19 hromada housing departments and compensation commissions, requesting summary read-outs on damage and compensation case-loads.		
Semi-structured data collection tool (s) # 2 FGDs with residents	X Purposive Focus group discussions with residents affected by building damage. In Mykolaiv, three FGDs with people who have been rejected in their compensation claim, are renters of damaged property, or general population affected by building damage. In Shevchenkove and Halytsynove, with residents in general who have been affected by building damage.			<input type="checkbox"/> Key informant interview (Target #): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Individual interview (Target #): _____ X Focus group discussion (Target #): 5 <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify] (Target #): _____		
Semi-structured data collection tool (s) # 3 KIs with local authorities	X Purposive Semi-structured interviews with representatives from Mykolaiv, Halytsynove or Shevchenkove hromada housing departments or housing commissions.			X Key informant interview (Target #): 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual interview (Target #): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Focus group discussion (Target #): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify] (Target #): _____		
Semi-structured data collection tool (s) # 4 KIs with NGOs	X Purposive Semi-structured interviews with specialists in NGOs working in the raion, responsible for either technical shelter implementation or shelter/HLP legal aid.			X Key informant interview (Target #): 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual interview (Target #): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Focus group discussion (Target #): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify] (Target #): _____		
Semi-structured data collection tool (s) # 5 KIs with construction companies	X Purposive Semi-structured interviews with construction company managers, and with the			X Key informant interview (Target #): 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual interview (Target #): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Focus group discussion (Target #): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify] (Target #): _____		

	management of the DIY store/Builder's Yard "Epicentre". ¹					
Target level of precision if probability sampling	NA					
Disaggregation by gender and age	Gender			Age		
<i>Are you planning to conduct sex/age disaggregated analysis?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes		
	X	No	X	No		
Data management platform(s)	X	IMPACT		X	ReliefWeb	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]				
Expected output type(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Situation overview #:	X	Report #: 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Profile #: __
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation (Preliminary findings) #: __	X	Presentation (Final) #: 1	X	Factsheet #: 1
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Interactive dashboard #:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Webmap #: __	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map #: __
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify] #: __				
Access	X	Public (available on REACH resource center and other humanitarian platforms)				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted (bilateral dissemination only upon agreed dissemination list, no publication on REACH or other platforms)				
Visibility <i>Specify which logos should be on outputs</i>	REACH					
	Donor: ECHO					
	Coordination Framework: NA					
	Partners: NA					

2. Rationale

2.1 Background

The government of Ukraine aims to compensate people whose houses are damaged through the eRecovery programme. The humanitarian system aims to provide humanitarian repairs which address light and medium damage. Aside from these processes, people are carrying out repair work independently.

Whilst there are different types of assistance available, in practice some people remain uncompensated, and some houses remain unrepaired. There are different reasons for this.

Some households are excluded from compensation because they are not registered in the State Register of Real Property; others because of sequencing issues wherein some repairs have been made before application, or [communal parts of buildings are unrepaired](#); and still others due to errors or omissions in the application.

Meanwhile, houses may remain unrepaired due to a lack of funds or know-how on the part of residents. Residents may be discouraged if they perceive there is a risk of further damage later on, not be able to find support which they consider appropriate, or face **prohibitive cost-hurdles**. Some may no longer live locally, and struggle to manage their case remotely.

¹ Epicentre is a national chain of hardware and construction stores in Ukraine. The company is an official participant to the [eRecovery governmental program](#).

The local authority may also face obstacles in reviewing applications or delivering compensation. For example, unmanageable caseloads compared to available staff, diverging expectations for how to complete an application form, or limited budgets to meet need.

In practice, individuals may experience different barriers at different stages, and may be missing out on opportunities for support.

2.2 Intended impact

This project aims to provide qualitative evidence to inform humanitarian efforts addressing barriers to compensation and repairs for damaged housing. It builds on the quantitative and legislative research conducted by the Danish Refugee Council (presented at their November conference in Kyiv on the compensation process) and [10th April](#).

It will capture the experiences and perspectives of affected people, local authorities, NGOs, and construction companies. It will also analyse - to the extent possible - the data which hromada-level local authorities and NGOs have collected on damaged buildings, compensation applications and rejections, at the scale of a raion.

The experiences of affected residents will be central to the project. They will be interviewed in five focus group discussions (FGD). These will reflect some of the key groups of affected people, according to their occupancy, scale of damage, and outcomes.

In each FGD, there will be participants at different stages in the compensation or repair process. Some will be at the start of the process, and others further along. By shining light on respondents' first steps before applying for repairs or compensation, and further steps after interacting with local government or NGOs, their needs can be better understood.

Key informant (KI) interviews with representatives from the local authorities, NGOs and the private construction sector will provide further context. These KIs will be asked to typify their caseloads, and to reflect on the common pathways and challenges that beneficiaries have faced.

3. Methodology

3.1 Methodology overview

There are three components to the project:

1. Focus group discussions with affected residents (x5)
2. Key informant interviews with representatives of local authorities (LA) (x5), NGOs (x4) and construction companies (x3)
3. Analysis of case-load data held by local authorities

There will be four data collection tools (one for the focus group discussions, one each for the LA, NGO and construction company KIs), and a letter specifying requested data. All of the questionnaires are designed to address the five research questions.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

The purpose of the focus group discussions is to understand the user-experience journeys of people whose houses have been damaged and are seeking either compensation, support with repairs, or both. The same questionnaire will be used for all FGDs, in order to make the discussions comparable.

To get a breadth of experience, three focus groups will be held with general affected populations, in Mykolaiv, Shevchenkove and Halytsynove. Additionally, two focus groups in Mykolaiv will look at the experiences of affected people who are renters, and affected people whose applications for compensation have been rejected.

The participants will be asked about their initial situation, the steps they took, the organisations or authorities they reached out to, their experiences with administrative processes, and their own problem solving. They will also be asked for their impressions of the system as a whole, and the message they would pass on to local authorities or NGOs.

Key Informant Interviews (KIs)

The purpose of the key informant interviews is to supplement the information which the FGDs provide. Local authorities, NGOs and construction companies are identified as the key stakeholders which affected residents will interact with when they are seeking compensation or support with building repairs.

The questionnaires for the key informants are differentiated, in order to draw out their specific expertise. They will be asked about the barriers for delivering compensation or repairs that they face professionally, as well as their reflections on the system as a whole and the challenges that residents they interact with tend to face.

Data request – damage and compensation case load

In order to strengthen the empirical basis, and to provide a baseline for other regional assessments in the future, the project will analyse case-load information supplied by the hromadas across the whole raion. The general approach follows on from a study in Mykolaivska oblast, conducted by [10th April](#). The authorities will be asked to provide summaries on the number of damaged buildings, the number of compensation applications, whether the applications are made online or in person, the number of rejected applications, the reasons for these rejections, and the budgeting for compensation. The letter is drafted in reference to resolutions 381 and 600, which describe the process for compensation.

In the event that authorities are not able to share information, the data from the 10th April report will be used as a baseline for understanding the general tendency in compensation applications. In this case, it will be acknowledged in the report that the contextual understanding is based on third-party analysis.

3.2 Population of interest

The project takes the Mykolaivskiy raion as the area of study. Mykolaivskiy raion was chosen for the following reasons. It has sustained a high level of damage since the start of the war, both during live urban conflict in 2022 and ongoing aerial bombardment. It is also one of the raions with the highest level of shelter repair activity, according to the Shelter Cluster dashboard. There is some existing research on the compensation issue in the oblast. The raion is also relatively accessible, both in terms of security considerations and field-team logistics.

3.3 Secondary data review

Secondary source	Purpose of source
REACH Humanitarian Situation Monitoring REACH Multi-Sectoral Needs Analysis REACH Joint Market Monitoring Initiative REACH studies on Small and Medium Enterprises in the oblast REACH Area based assessments, Mykolaiv City REACH Damage Impact Analysis, Mykolaiv City REACH Damage Assessment, Mykolaiv City	Contextual insight into Ukraine as a whole, as well as regional and local analysis on Mykolaiv oblast, raion, and city, and Shevchenkove and Halytsynove hromadas.
ACAPS raion accessibility index ACAPS infrastructure damage dataset	Insight into the extent of damage locally, and into the factors affecting humanitarian programming
ACLED conflict monitor Live UA Map	Insight into the development of the conflict locally
Tenth April – study on compensation mechanism in Mykolaivska oblast Danish Refugee Council briefing notes on compensation mechanism (from conference in Kyiv, November 2024) International Rescue Committee Monitoring snapshots Shelter Cluster Analytical materials Cherkasy Human Rights Centre Position paper on compensation	Insight into the field, including legal analysis, comparative case studies, and humanitarian strategy
Primary legislation, resolutions 381 and 600	Official mandates for compensation procedures

3.4 Data Processing & Analysis

Qualitative data: The accuracy, consistency, and reliability of the data will be ensured with the use of the data saturation grid. The data will first be systematically organised and coded, with similar themes and concepts grouped together. Next, any irrelevant or will be removed, and any missing or incomplete information will be addressed through careful data triangulation. The research team will additionally critically examine the data for potential biases, inconsistencies, or errors. Finally, the cleaned data is documented and stored in a secure manner, and subsequently analysed to develop a narrative.

Quantitative data: Requested data on compensation case-loads will be analysed quantitatively, to identify patterns in the completion rate, rejection rate, reasons for rejection, mode of application, and budgeting, aggregated at the hromada level. This aggregated data will be supplied by each hromada. In order to ensure that the data is quality, there will be a standard request letter, narrowly specifying which data is needed. Before processing, the reported data will be reviewed for sense, and where necessary REACH will ask follow up questions for clarification.

3.5 Limitations

Qualitative research provides insight into complex human behaviours and motivation. However, the subjective nature of qualitative data collection and analysis can introduce bias, making it challenging to ensure objectivity and reproducibility.

The research is indicative, providing only an indication of what the situation was like at the time of data collection. It might need further investigation and conclusions should be made with caution.

These limitations will be mitigated: with the use of the data saturation grid; by drawing participants from different parts of the raion, and by including a structured data request to triangulate the findings.

The semi-structured responses will be analysed both as a whole, and in terms of the positionality of the respondents, in order to identify areas of consistency or disagreement. The structured tool will allow for further direct comparison, and help to identify patterns in the responses.

The data request is dependent on the willingness of each hromada to participate, and the differing data collection and reporting methods at that local level.

4. Key ethical considerations and related risks

The proposed research design meets / does not meet the following criteria:

<i>The proposed research design...</i>	<i>Yes/ No</i>	<i>Details if no (including mitigation)</i>
... Has been coordinated with relevant stakeholders to avoid unnecessary duplication of data collection efforts?	Yes	
... Respects respondents, their rights and dignity (<i>specifically by: seeking informed consent, designing length of survey/ discussion while being considerate of participants' time, ensuring accurate reporting of information provided</i>)?	Yes	
... Does not expose data collectors to any risks as a direct result of participation in data collection?	Yes	
... Does not expose respondents / their communities to any risks as a direct result of participation in data collection?	Yes	
... Does not involve collecting information on specific topics which may be stressful and/ or re-traumatising for research participants (both respondents and data collectors)?	No	<p>The topic of discussion is damage to one's home, as a result of the conflict. This is inherently stressful and upsetting. In order to reflect this, enumerators will be sensitised to this risk, and will prioritise the individual well-being of participants.</p> <p>It will be made clear at the start of the sessions that FGD and KI participants can choose to withdraw with no questions asked.</p>
... Does not involve data collection with minors i.e. anyone less than 18 years old?	Yes	
... Does not involve data collection with other vulnerable groups e.g. persons with disabilities, victims/ survivors of protection incidents, etc.?	Yes	
... Follows IMPACT SOPs for management of personally identifiable information ?	Yes	

5. Roles and responsibilities

Task Description	Responsible	Accountable	Consulted	Informed
Research design	Senior Assessment Officer	Research manager	Relevant NGOs	HLP TWG, Shelter Cluster
Supervising data collection	Field team	Senior Assessment officer		
Data processing (checking, cleaning)	Senior assessment officer			
Data analysis	Senior assessment officer			
Output production	Senior assessment officer	Research manager		
Dissemination	Senior assessment officer	Research manager	Relevant NGOs	Shelter, Protection, HLP TWGs, NGO Platform
Monitoring & Evaluation	Senior assessment officer	Research manager		
Lessons learned	Senior assessment officer	Research manager		

Responsible: the person(s) who executes the task

Accountable: the person who validates the completion of the task and is accountable of the final output or milestone

Consulted: the person(s) who must be consulted when the task is implemented

Informed: the person(s) who need to be informed when the task is completed

6. Data Management Plan

Administrative Data			
Research Cycle name	Damage Impact Analysis		
Project Code	UKR2310		
Donor	ECHO		
Project partners	NA		
Research Contacts	Alex McDonald, alexander.mcdonald@impact-initiatives.org		
Data Management Plan Version	Date: 11/02/2025	Version: 1	
Related Policies			
Documentation and Metadata			
What documentation and metadata will accompany the data? <i>Select all that apply</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Data analysis plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Cleaning Log, including: <input type="checkbox"/> Deletion Log <input type="checkbox"/> Value Change Log
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Code book	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Dictionary
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Metadata based on HDX Standards	<input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify]
Ethics and Legal Compliance			
Which ethical and legal measures will be taken?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent of participants to participate	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent of participants to share personal information with other agencies
	<input type="checkbox"/>	No collection of personally identifiable data will take place	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender, child protection and other protection issues are taken into account
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All participants reached age of majority	[Other, Specify]
Who will own the copyright and Intellectual Property Rights for the data that is collected?	REACH		
Storage and Backup			
Where will data be stored and backed up during the research?	<input type="checkbox"/>	IMPACT/REACH Kobo Server	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Kobo Server: <i>[specify]</i>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IMPACT Global Physical / Cloud Server	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Country/Internal Server
	<input type="checkbox"/>	On devices held by REACH staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical location <i>[specify]</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]	
Which data access and security measures have been taken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Password protection on devices/servers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data access is limited to REACH staff
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Form and data encryption on data collection server	<input type="checkbox"/> Partners signed an MoU if accessing raw data
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]	
Kobo Access Rights			
Account Name(s)	Person(s)	Type of Kobo access	
	Alex McDonald	X View X Edit	X Submit Data X Download Data
	Alejandro Nievas	View Edit	Submit Data X Download Data
Raw Data Access Rights			
Raw Data Access	Reason	Person	

Accountable	Accountable	Alex McDonald			
Access	Assistant research manager, oversight of project	Alejandro Nieves			
Preservation					
Where will data be stored for long-term preservation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IMPACT / REACH Global Cloud / Physical Server <input type="checkbox"/> REACH Country Server	<input type="checkbox"/> OCHA HDX <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify]			
Data Sharing					
Will the data be shared publically?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No, only with mandating agency / body			
Will all data be shared?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, [Other, Specify]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, only consolidated data will be shared			
Where will you share the data?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REACH Resource Centre <input type="checkbox"/> HumanitarianResponse	<input type="checkbox"/> OCHA HDX <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify]			
Data protection risk assessment					
Have you completed the Indicators Risk Assessment table below?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No, no information that potentially allows identification of individuals is to be collected.			
[Please complete the first 4 columns in the Indicators Risk Assessment table below]					
Risk indicator (including direct and indirect identifiers)	Type of identification risk	Disclosure implications	Benefits	Class	Required mitigation
<i>Roles and names of Key Informants</i>	<i>Direct identification of key informant</i>	<i>Loss of privacy</i>	<i>Follow up for data cleaning and analysis</i>		
Responsibilities					
Data collection	Roxana Kuranova, Field Officer				
Data cleaning	Alex McDonald, Senior Assessment Officer				
Data analysis	Alex McDonald, Senior Assessment Officer				
Data sharing/uploading	Alex McDonald, Senior Assessment Officer				