# Vulnerable groups list

## Purpose

Use this checklist to identify and list any vulnerable groups who are more exposed to human rights risks, and especially child labour, forced labour and gender inequality.

People are considered vulnerable because they are disadvantaged, marginalised, or excluded from society, for example children, women, the elderly, indigenous peoples, ethnic or other minorities, persons with disabilities, seasonal or migrant labour, and households in extreme poverty.

Their vulnerability compared to others means they are less resilient to exploitation, and less likely to have a voice. This is why it is important to make special arrangements to identify and include persons from vulnerable groups in awareness raising and outreach on the grievance mechanism, as well as in risk assessment and mitigation.

Persons from vulnerable groups should be included in:

* Awareness raising
* Risk assessment
* Risk monitoring
* Grievance mechanism
* Mitigation and remediation where relevant

## Checklist

The table includes examples of vulnerable groups, and this list can be adapted to the local situation. Use this list when planning HRDD activities to ensure the inclusion of vulnerable groups.

Below is the template and a worked example.

**Vulnerable groups list**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of vulnerable group** | **Role or presence at the**  **mine or farm** | **Estimated number** | **Human rights risks** |
| Children |  |  |  |
| Women family farmers, miners, workers |  |  |  |
| Persons who are illiterate or less literate |  |  |  |
| Ethnic minority members or workers |  |  |  |
| Persons with disabilities |  |  |  |
| Seasonal or migrant labour |  |  |  |
| Single parent households |  |  |  |
| Households in extreme poverty |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## Example

Below is an example to illustrate how this form can be used.

Users adapt this table and use it in a manner that is relevant to their local situation.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of vulnerable group** | **Role or presence at the**  **mine or farm** | **Estimated number** | **Human rights risks** |
| Children | Children of miner households | Estimated 1200 if each household has minimum of 3 children | Risk of under age work, children missing school to work, hazardous work |
| Women family farmers, miners, workers | Women are the majority of artisanal mining workforce, and family farming | Estimated 400 households | Risks of unequal pay, sexual harassment, workplace violence, unequal treatment, health and safety risks, exclusion from training |
| Persons who are illiterate or less literate | Majority of members and miners have low literacy capacity, and spouses are likely to be illiterate | Estimated 400 households | Higher risk of child labour in households where women are illiterate.  Training and awareness raising more difficult |
| Ethnic minority members or workers | See below on poverty. |  |  |
| Persons with disabilities | Working on farms and mines, disabilities as a result of injury and birth | Not known – estimated around 20 household include a person with disabilities | Individuals affected are more at risk of manipulation and control in forced labour, or children may not be sent to school |
| Seasonal or migrant labour | Seasonal labourers are present for the harvest season and most come from x area | In high season, approximately 50 | Risk of unethical recruitment and forced labour; some risks of child labour affecting workers who move with their family; high illiteracy rates and different language speakers |
| Single parent households | Mostly women who are single heads of household, most working as miners, and minority as members of cooperative | Approx 20 households with single parents | Higher risk of child labour because of economic pressures on the household |
| Households in extreme poverty | There are 2 ethnic groups in the wider community which live in extreme poverty and sometimes provide casual labour in mines, or farms | Approximately 130 households altogether | Higher risk of forced labour and child labour. Higher risk of gender inequality due to cultural and social circumstances. |
| Other |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |