You are invited to reflect on how you can adapt more community-driven approaches that uphold the principles of child protection programming. This will require an honest examination of your own attitudes and approaches, the openness to deal with some discomfort, and the flexibility to embrace other ways of working.

**Overview**

This will involve considering some challenging questions:

- a. Who are we as humanitarian actors in relation to community members, and what are appropriate roles for us to promote these approaches (i.e., “being facilitative” vs. “being experts”)?
- b. Are we honestly willing to “trust” communities, to hand over some decision-making, responsibility, funding, leadership, etc.?
- c. Are we willing to let go of pre-determined priorities and expectations, and open ourselves to potentially “inconvenient” answers or priorities that do not align with those of our organizations? Is that even possible given the current organizational and funding structures?
- d. What are the skill sets, attitudes, and behaviors needed to assume those roles effectively?

**Option 1 Exercise (30 minutes):**
1. Form small groups (4–6 participants).
2. Ask everyone to spend a few minutes silently reading each of the questions above and thinking about their own responses.
3. Conduct a group discussion that encourages honesty and respect for differing viewpoints (15–20 minutes).
4. Provide feedback in plenary (call out, key points on Post-it® notes).
5. Debrief.

**Option 2 Exercise (1 hour):**
1. Divide the participants into four groups. Divide each group in half.
2. Assign one of the four modified statements below to each of the four groups, and the position to each half.
3. Each question will be the topic of a short debate between the two halves of each group.
4. Allow each group 5 minutes to brainstorm their debate points and then select debaters.
5. Begin with question a. and move through the others, allowing for up to 10 minutes of debate.
6. Debrief at the end (10–15 minutes):
   - a. Did you agree with the position you were given? If not, was it difficult to justify?
   - b. What did you observe and think about while watching others debate?
   - c. What, if anything, will you take away from this?
Debate Statements

a. As humanitarian actors, in relation to community members, the appropriate role for us is:
   - "Being facilitative"
   - "Being experts"

b. We should be willing to “trust” communities, to hand over some decision-making, responsibility, funding, leadership, etc.
   - Agree
   - Disagree

c. We should be willing to let go of pre-determined priorities and expectations, and open ourselves to potentially “inconvenient” answers or priorities that do not align with those of our organizations.
   - Agree
   - Disagree

d. For effective community-level child protection, soft skills involving attitudes and behaviors are more important than technical knowledge and skills.
   - Agree
   - Disagree