

Read these practical tips to incorporate meaningful participation in stakeholder engagement:

1. Prior to stakeholder engagement, seek advice and input from human and child rights and safeguarding experts (see Table 1). The experts should be credible and able to command the trust of 'Affected or At-Risk groups/individuals' creating meaningful participation at your stakeholder engagement.
2. Engage with 'Affected or At-Risk groups/individuals' - those who will be impacted by the event and surrounding activities (see Table 2). This is set out as a key principle in the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#).
3. Ensure that engagement is accessible and flexible, in order to facilitate meaningful participation. Engagement should be transparent and clearly communicated, share sufficient information for different groups to make informed decisions, and be framed in terms of dialogue around the risks or impacts of the event.
4. Take steps to mitigate barriers to engagement, such as convening dialogues outside of standard working hours and providing materials in a range of formats, e.g. accessible to those with visual impairments.
5. Ensure that engagement is ongoing, listening to stakeholder views prior to, during, and after the event.
6. When engaging with children, ensure that they are given information about their right to participate in a child-friendly and accessible format. Child participation must also be voluntary; respectful; relevant; child-friendly; inclusive; supported by training for adults; safe and sensitive to risk; and accountable. (For further guidance on meaningful participation of children in engagement processes, see [Every Child's Right to be Heard](#).)

Table 1: Human and Child Rights and Safeguarding Experts include:

National Human Rights Institutions, Commissions or Ombudspersons
National Children’s Commissions
International / Regional Human Rights Bodies
Human / Child Rights Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
Child Protection Agencies
Child Protection Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
Trade Unions
Grassroot and Community-based organisations
Academics specialising in human/child rights or safeguarding

Table 2: List of Affected Groups and those at Risk of Safeguarding-related Harm (Note: this list is indicative)

Affected Group	Description	Potential impacts (not exhaustive)
Athletes / participants / performers	People who take part in the content of and/or are the focus of the event.	e.g. media intrusion, lack of privacy.
Adults at risk	People who may be in need of help because they have care and support needs. They may be unable to stop someone else from harming or exploiting them.	e.g. more vulnerable to exploitation such as physical abuse.
Children	Any person under the age of 18.	e.g. vulnerable to abuse, child labour.
Community / local community / local residents	People residing near the location of the event, including adults and children who live on the streets, refugees and undocumented migrants.	e.g. forced evictions due to venue construction.
Employees / workforce / staff / workers	Persons who work in a paid capacity for or on the event, including in the supply chain.	e.g. prevention from joining workers’ unions.
Fans / spectators / visitors / attendees / supporters	People who take part in the event for the purpose of receiving services or contents.	e.g. spectator violence.

Human rights defenders	Persons who, individually or with others, act to promote or protect human rights.	e.g. enforced censorship during event time to prevent individuals from exposing government/ event organiser's poor human rights practices.
Indigenous / Aboriginal / First Nation / Native Peoples	The living descendants of pre-colonial or pre-settler inhabitants, who inherit and practice culturally distinct ways of relating to people, the land and natural resources, and retain social, cultural, economic and political characteristics (including languages and beliefs) distinct from the dominant group in society.	e.g. forced eviction/displacement in order to develop land for event hosting.
LGBTI people	LGBTI stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex. It is commonly used to refer to people who are attracted to people of the same gender, people with gender identities that differ from the sex assigned to them at birth, people with nonbinary identities and people whose sex characteristics do not fit typical definitions of female or male.	e.g. discrimination on basis of sexual orientation.
Local business / vendors	This includes small to medium enterprises.	e.g. forced eviction to make room for event sponsors/venues.
Media / journalists / reporters	This includes individuals working for print, broadcast and digital news or media outlets.	e.g. barriers to reporting around event.
Minorities - ethnic / racial / religious	A group numerically inferior to the rest of the population of a State, in a non-dominant position, whose members possess ethnic, religious or linguistic characteristics differing from those of the rest of the population.	e.g. discrimination on the basis of race.
Migrant worker	A person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which they are not a national. This includes documented and undocumented workers.	e.g. more vulnerable to being exploited through forced labour.

Persons living in poverty or in sheltered accommodation or an equivalent	Individuals struggling to fulfil their most basic needs, such as health, education, and access to water and sanitation.	e.g. reduced access to services due to redirection of resources to event.
Persons with disabilities	This includes those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.	e.g. lack of accessible facilities (for example, bathrooms or changing areas) at venue.
Refugees	Individuals who are unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.	e.g. reduced access to services due to redirection of government funding to hosting event.
Street-connected adults or children	Adults and children who are experiencing homelessness or living on the streets or in shelters.	e.g. arbitrary detention during street clearances.
Women at risk	The definition of being 'at-risk' encompasses an array of situations where women's safety or well-being remains threatened on the basis of gender.	e.g. sexual harassment/exploitation by construction workers or security personnel.
Survivors of domestic abuse	Domestic abuse (or 'domestic violence') can be defined as a pattern of behaviour in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner. Abuse is physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. Anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or class.	e.g. increased likelihood of domestic abuse and violence during sporting event.
Volunteers	People who voluntarily work on the event in an unpaid capacity.	e.g. discrimination on basis of religion.