**EXERCISE – WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROTECTION?**

**Time:** 15 mins

**Material**: Cards

**Objective**: To understand who is responsible for protection.

**Instructions**

* Distribute the cards to each group of participants.
* Ask them to rank who is responsible for protection.

**Cards**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| STATE | NGOs |
| UN | CIVIL SOCIETY |
| ICRC | INDIVIDUALS |

**Answer**

1. State
2. UN / ICRC
3. NGOs
4. Civil Society
5. Individuals

**Key Messages**

* State has the primary responsibility to ensure the promotion and protection of the rights of its people on its territory. If the State does not control one part of the territory, the armed group is responsible to ensure the respect of rights.
* When States are unwilling or unable to ensure respect for rights, conflict-affected people suffer in a number of ways. During times of conflict, civil unrest or natural disaster, States are often unwilling or unable to ensure respect for the rights of people within their territory.
* When the State is failing (unable or unwilling) to protect rights through its own actions or lack of action, the international community often assumes the responsibility of seeking to ensure that the rights of individuals are respected.