

As emphasized throughout the preceding chapters, this Guide is not a blueprint, but a practical resource to support inclusive, effective and adaptive people-centred justice and security programming.

The three-step process that lies at the heart of the Guide supports a context-specific response that is tailored to the justice and security needs of different communities and settings. It helps teams analyse those needs and understand why systems do or do not meet them. Grounded in co-creation, it enables teams to work with, not for, people, and to adapt and scale interventions based on what works in practice. The Guide is informed throughout by lessons from UNDP’s global experience and supported by practical tools and real-world examples.

Together, these elements form a flexible and strategic foundation for programming that is grounded in people’s rights and needs, that strengthens trust between communities and institutions, and that adapts to complex and changing realities. The Guide is relevant across contexts—from crisis-affected settings to longer-term development—and supports teams working on issues that intersect with justice and security across governance, peacebuilding and development.

The approach enables teams to work with complexity, navigate risk and uncertainty, and support systems that are inclusive, responsive and accountable to the people they serve. The people-centred approach is not simply a way of programming. It is a strategic approach to rebuilding trust and strengthening the social contract by making justice and security systems more responsive and accountable to people’s rights, needs and experience.