



IJM

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION

Assessment of Survivor Outcomes

Guidance Manual

ASSESSMENT OF SURVIVOR OUTCOMES GUIDANCE MANUAL

For questions regarding the manual, please email aftercare@ijm.org.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Core Team

Ann Knapp

Janelle Milazzo Lau

Michele Lee

Meredith Menhennett

Andee Cooper Parks

Christa Hayden Sharpe

Ana Sierra

Lisa Slavovsky

Kathy Stout-LaBauve

Esther Whang

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INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION

PO Box 58147

Washington, DC 20037 USA

IJM.org

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 ASSESSMENT OF SURVIVOR OUTCOMES (ASO)

The Assessment of Survivor Outcomes (ASO) tool assesses the progress that survivors of violence make toward restoration (also referred to as rehabilitation or reintegration). International Justice Mission (IJM) defines restoration to be when a survivor is able to function in society with low vulnerability to revictimization. The assessment serves two key functions: (1) a case management tool to identify areas of survivor strengths and vulnerabilities, enabling a tailored plan of service provision; and (2) an impact measurement tool to provide data on the effectiveness of aftercare programming by assessing survivor progress.

The tool was designed for survivor assessment according to the six forms of violence that IJM addresses: Forced Labor (FL), Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Child Sexual Assault (CSA), Property Grabbing (PG), Online Sexual Exploitation of Children (OSEC), and Police Abuse of Power (PAP), but can also be used for other cases of violence.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE GUIDANCE MANUAL

This manual provides guidance for using the ASO tool and serves as a reference document for individuals implementing the ASO and/or supervising its usage.

1.3 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ASO

In 2012, IJM developed a tool - originally called the Aftercare Successful Outcomes (ASO) form, then renamed the Assessment of Survivor Outcomes tool after the validation process - to fill a gap in holistic assessments that measure survivor outcomes and progress toward restoration. IJM began using case type-specific versions of the tool to measure the progress made by survivors rehabilitating from forced labor, commercial sexual exploitation, child sexual assault, property grabbing, online sexual exploitation of children, and police abuse of power. In 2015, IJM began a two-part validation study to better understand the ASO tool's reliability in providing an accurate picture of survivor progress toward restoration. The process concluded in December 2017, and both the internal and external validation studies determined that the ASO is accurate, reliable, and usable for measuring the progress made by survivors rehabilitating from various forms of violence and exploitation.

1.4 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

When using the ASO tool, the assessor must take global and local ethical standards and laws into consideration:

- Survivors are always treated with dignity and respect throughout the assessment.
- Survivors provide informed consent on how their information will be used and are instructed on how their identity and information will remain confidential.
- Assessor is trained on the ASO prior to conducting assessments.
- Assessor seeks supervision in cases where assessment can be difficult.
- Assessor takes the survivor's socio-cultural context into consideration.
- Assessor maintains a professional relationship with survivors at all times.
- Assessor must not force or adapt responses based on his or her own views or perceptions of the survivor.
- Assessor refers survivor to appropriate emergency services if significant vulnerabilities are identified.

1.5 CULTURAL COMPETENCY

Assessors should be self-aware of potential biases based on cultural factors. They should be culturally understanding and seek to evaluate the survivor and his or her wellbeing and safety within the context of his or her community and cultural worldview. The ADDRESSING Model identifies key cultural factors that shape values, vulnerable minority groups, and biases¹:

CULTURAL FACTOR	MINORITY GROUP	BIASES WITH POWER
Age	Older adults	Ageism
Disability (congenital or developmental)	People with disabilities	Exclusion of access
Disability (acquired)	People with disabilities	Exclusion of access
Religion (spirituality or no affiliation)	Religious minorities	Intolerance
Ethnicity (and race)	Ethnic or racial minorities	Racism
Social Status	Low socio-economic status	Classism
Sexual Orientation	Sexual minorities	Heterosexism
Indigenous Heritage	Native peoples	Racism and colonialism
National Origin	Refugees or immigrants	Racism
Gender	Women	Sexism

¹ Hays, P. 2008 Addressing cultural complexities in practice: Assessment, diagnosis, and therapy. 2nd Ed. American Psychological Association: Washington D.C

2. OVERARCHING FRAMEWORK

2.1 DEFINITION OF SURVIVOR RESTORATION

The ASO is a valid and reliable tool for measuring the progress made by survivors rehabilitating from various forms of violence and exploitation. IJM calls this rehabilitation process “restoration” and defines it to be **when a survivor is able to function in society with low vulnerability to revictimization.**

2.2 DOMAINS OF RESTORATION

A domain is an area of functioning critical to a survivor’s restoration. The ASO tool has identified six domains and corresponding subdomains, each of which contributes to a survivor’s ability to function in society with low vulnerability to revictimization:

- **Safety:** Survivor is free from either threat or experience of victimization and is motivated and able to remain safe.
- **Legal Protection:** Survivor is knowledgeable about rights and protections under the law and able to pursue justice and legal protections for violations of these rights.
- **Mental Wellbeing:** Survivor demonstrates stability, positive coping skills, and reduced harmful behaviors that affect long-term recovery.
- **Economic Empowerment and Education:** Survivor’s household is able to maintain adequate income from a non-exploitative source to meet needs, and survivor positively engages in school, training, and/or work.
- **Social Support:** Survivor is supported by positive relationships, is socially included in his or her community, and is free from discrimination and negative social pressure.
- **Physical Wellbeing:** Survivor takes care of health needs and can access basic needs, medical services, and safe, stable housing.

2.3 ASO DATA ANALYSIS

Monitoring and evaluation of ASO data enables the assessor to better understand a survivor’s progress through the restoration process, and to prioritize and identify individual areas of strength and vulnerability within each subdomain. ASO data also helps to verify a program’s effectiveness, to provide feedback for continued improvement, and to inform programming to care for survivors.

The ASO should be used to...

- *Evaluate* the survivor’s progress toward restoration.
- *Inform and prioritize* individual areas of strength and vulnerability.
- *Assess* the survivor’s level of functioning and vulnerability to revictimization.
- *Direct* case management planning and program evaluation.
- *Measure* the survivor’s restoration from initial assessment to case closure.
- *Inform* programming to care for survivors.

The ASO should NOT be used as...

- *A tool* to assess mental health conditions. The ASO may highlight risks for the survivor, but does not diagnose disorders.
- *A targeting tool* to identify children and households to include in programs, as it is intended for survivors who are already receiving services.
- *A performance evaluation* to measure success for a case manager.

3. TRAINING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

- **Training** | Assessors must complete ASO training delivered by IJM prior to the assessor's initial implementation of the ASO, with refresher trainings as needed.
- **Supervision** | It is recommended that assessors receive supervision by a managing supervisor for the first three months of implementation, which should include the review and provision of feedback on ASO scoring. Following the initial 3-month period, supervisory review should be provided as needed.
- **Consultation** | IJM Global Aftercare is available for ongoing consultation (aftercare@ijm.org).
- **Group Practice** | When possible, organizations should conduct a peer group practice twice per year to increase alignment in scoring and cultural and context-related adaptations. This peer group practice can be implemented through the presentation of a case study, individual scoring of the ASO tool, and group discussion on scoring selections.

4. IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES

4.1 GATHERING INFORMATION FOR THE ASO

- Informed consent must be obtained from a survivor (and caregiver, if the survivor is a child) before conducting the assessment. *Reference Appendix A.*
- Conduct the assessment through in-person discussions with the survivor (as well as the caregiver, if the child is 12 years or younger). Do not consult the paperwork during the assessment, as that will disrupt the flow of the conversation. *Reference Appendix A.*
- Do not discuss the ASO score with the survivor; rather, use the information gathered from the ASO to inform the development of a care plan that is individualized to a survivor's expressed goals, strengths, and vulnerabilities, and collaboratively developed with the survivor. *Reference Appendix A.*
- If a self-assessment tool is available, the survivor can concurrently complete the self-assessment to help inform the ASO scoring. Note that the ASO is not currently designed for self-assessment purposes.
- Additional information for the ASO can be gathered from secondary sources (e.g., survivor's caregiver or family members, and through direct observation).

4.2 RECOMMENDED ASO DATA COLLECTION POINTS

- **Intake:** Provides a baseline understanding of the survivor's strengths and vulnerabilities, and should assess the survivor pre-intervention.
- **Case Closure:** Assesses if the survivor is restored or needs additional services.
- **Follow-up:** Assesses if the survivor's restoration is sustained (i.e., one year after case closure for survivors who were restored).

4.3 CREATING CARE PLANS USING THE ASO

A care plan outlines the services and support that a care provider offers to empower the survivor's restoration, and is designed and agreed upon by the care provider and the survivor. Following the completion of an intake ASO, the assessor should work with the care provider and the survivor to determine the services that will be prioritized to address vulnerabilities and to identify goals and strengths.

5. SCORING GUIDANCE

5.1 ASO SCORE CALCULATION

- **Subdomain Scoring** | Each subdomain is scored by the assessor using professional judgment, on a vulnerability scale of 1-4, with 1 as the highest level of vulnerability and 4 as the lowest level of vulnerability.

SCORE	VULNERABILITY SCALE	
4	Highly Stable	No or Very Low Vulnerability
3	Stable	Minimal or Low Vulnerability
2	Vulnerable	Moderate Vulnerability
1	Highly Vulnerable	Significant or High Vulnerability

- **Domain Scoring** | Each domain is calculated by averaging the subdomain scores. A domain score of 3.0 or above (on a scale of 1.0-4.0) is considered stable, reflecting that a survivor has the skills and/or resources to be at low vulnerability to revictimization.
- **Calculation of Overall Score** | The overall score is calculated by averaging the domain scores. According to IJM standards, an overall score of 3.0 or above means that the survivor is restored and functioning satisfactorily at low risk of revictimization.

5.2 OVERARCHING GUIDANCE FOR SCORING THE ASO

- **Professional Judgment** | Professional judgment is required to evaluate a survivor's situation and complex vulnerabilities when administering the ASO tool. Professional judgment is a process of gathering and considering critical information, reflecting, and consulting with others (e.g., supervision) in order to make strong decisions and document key points in the notes section of the ASO tool to communicate the rationale for decisions.
- **Average Functioning vs. Snapshot** | Assessors should consider the survivor's average functioning and circumstances over the last 30 days, rather than solely how the individual is doing on one particular day.
- **Developmentally Appropriate Behavior** | All ratings in the ASO should be made in the context of what would be considered developmentally appropriate behavior, regarding age and ability.
- **Scoring in Temporary Shelters** | Assessors should consider the survivor's care plan goals when assessing survivors who are living in temporary shelter. For example, a survivor currently living in a shelter who plans to transition to the community should be assessed based on what his or her circumstances will be in the community where he or she plans to go.
- **Scoring When Information Is Absent or Unclear** | Assessors should seek as much information as possible when rating each subdomain, and if information is missing or unclear, the assessor should score conservatively (i.e. lower rather than higher). Marking the survivor with a score of 2.0 or lower indicates that the survivor remains vulnerable in that subdomain.

6. DOMAIN GUIDANCE

6.1 DOMAIN 1: SAFETY

This domain assesses the presence of risks to a survivor's safety in society, as safety and protection are critical for a survivor's recovery. Exposure to continual threats of abuse increases vulnerability to revictimization of the crime.

Domain Goal

Survivor is free from either threat or experience of victimization and is motivated and able to remain safe.

Subdomain 1: Survivor is free from abuse or neglect.

Key Definitions

- **Physical abuse:** The use of violent physical force so as to cause actual or likely physical injury or suffering (e.g., hitting, biting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, drowning, suffocating, female genital mutilation, torture, etc.).
- **Sexual abuse:** Unwanted sexual activity by the use of force, threats, or taking advantage of inability to give consent.
- **Emotional abuse:** Behavior, primarily verbal, that terrorizes, intimidates, humiliates, or demeans the victim and/or deprives them of normal contact with other persons.
- **Neglect:** Failure to meet a dependent's physical and emotional needs when the parent or caregiver has the means, knowledge, and access to services to do so, or failure to protect him or her from exposure to danger, resulting in harm to safety, wellbeing, and development.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess any experience of abuse or neglect within the survivor's current environment (home, family, school, and community).
- Consider cultural context and norms. Some behaviors and practices may be normative and non-harmful in some cultural contexts. Examples of culturally informed practices include physical discipline or level of supervision for children. The child's best interest should be the key priority for assessment.

Additional Guidance

- For survivors living in temporary shelters, assess the safety of the environment (home, family, school, and community) into which he or she will reintegrate.

Subdomain 2: Survivor is free of threats from suspects or others who intend to revictimize.

Key Definitions

- **Suspect:** An individual believed to be guilty of committing a crime against the survivor within the context of the abuse or exploitation, regardless of whether that individual has been formally charged, arrested, convicted, or restrained by formal justice system authorities.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the source and target of threats. Consider:
 - Threats may come directly from a suspect or from other individuals acting on behalf of a suspect who intend to cause harm; and
 - Threats may be directed toward the survivor as well as those within their support network (family members, caregivers, etc.).

- Assess risks associated with the threats. Consider:
 - Physical proximity of suspect to survivor;
 - Specificity of threats (the more specific, the higher the risk);
 - Suspect's ability to carry out threats; and
 - Suspect's history of violence.
- Assess survivor's ability to recognize threats to safety and respond in a manner that minimizes risk of further harm.

Additional Guidance

- For survivors living in temporary shelters, assess if the environment into which he or she will reintegrate is free of threats from suspects.

Subdomain 3: Survivor is able to identify and manage unsafe situations.

Key Definitions

- **Unsafe situations:** Circumstances that put the survivor at risk (e.g., unsafe loans, unsafe migration, lack of supervision for children, grooming, etc.)

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the survivor's ability to *identify* unsafe situations. Consider if the individual is able to:
 - Identify untrustworthy or unsafe individuals who may be seeking to cause harm; and
 - Recognize danger or risky circumstances.
- Assess the survivor's ability to *manage* unsafe situations. Consider if the individual is able to:
 - Follow safety guidelines to stay away from harm;
 - Verbalize unsafe touch and boundaries with others;
 - Complete a personal safety plan;
 - Engage in and encourage safe behavior with peers; and
 - Identify and contact safe individuals in the community and the justice system.

Additional Guidance

- For children ages 12 and under, assess the caregiver rather than the child. Assess the caregiver based on his or her:
 - Awareness of possible dangers to the survivor;
 - Responsiveness to threats to survivor's safety; and
 - Provision of supervision and boundaries to maintain child's safety.

6.2 DOMAIN 2: LEGAL PROTECTION

This domain assesses the level of legal protection available to a survivor. Following an experience of violence, oppression, exploitation, and/or abuse, knowledge of one's rights and the protections afforded by the law, and recognizing that relevant authorities seek to protect these rights, are key components of ongoing safety and empowerment.

Domain Goal

Survivor is knowledgeable about his or her rights and protections under the law and is able to pursue justice and legal protections for violations of these rights.

Subdomain 1: Survivor is aware of rights and protections under the law and views violations as abusive.

Key Definitions

- **Rights:** Legally-mandated protections or benefits.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess if survivors can identify:
 - Exploitative and abusive elements of his or her experiences, rather than taking undue responsibility for harm experienced (e.g., being denied freedom of movement, violation of land rights, grooming for sexual abuse, etc.); and
 - Protections that are afforded by local laws (e.g., labor laws around fair pay, the right to seek protection orders against abusers, the right to seek reparations for crimes committed, the right to apply for victim assistance benefits, etc.).

Additional Guidance

- For children ages 12 and under, assess the caregiver's awareness of legal rights and protections rather than the child's.

Subdomain 2: Survivor's legal status or level of documentation minimizes the risk of future human rights violations.

Key Definitions

- **Legal status:** A person's standing or position with regards to the law, including the person's rights, obligations, powers, or restrictions.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess if the survivor's legal status contributes to increased levels of protection or increased vulnerability. Some examples include:
 - Identification as a survivor of trafficking to avoid unsafe repatriation;
 - Citizenship or immigration status to access community services and/or to avoid deportation; or
 - Appropriate land documentation or demarcation to denote ownership.
- Consider if the survivor is in possession of critical documents and identification (e.g., government-issued ID, passport, working papers, release certificates, caste certificate, birth certificate, land title, etc.) that increase protection and reduce vulnerability to future violations.

Additional Guidance

- If the presence or absence of legal status or documentation does not impact the survivor's level of protection or vulnerability, then score this subdomain a 3.

Subdomain 3: Survivor is able to pursue justice for the human rights violation(s).

Key Definitions

- **Human rights violations:** Human rights are fundamental freedoms and rights inherent to all individuals regardless of age, sex, nationality, ethnicity, socio-economic status, religion, or any other status, and that are recognized and protected by international law. Violations of human rights include any breach of these rights.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the survivor's access to the justice system. Barriers to access could include discrimination, prohibitive costs, geographic distance, or other factors.
- Assess if the survivor has access to legal representation within justice proceedings.
- Assess if the survivor has choice in determining if they participate in criminal or civil legal proceedings.
- Consider if the survivor accesses mediation efforts rather than the formal justice system, and if the survivor feels that this provides a pathway to just outcomes.

Additional Guidance

- For children ages 12 and under, assess the caregiver's ability to pursue justice for the human rights violation(s) on behalf of the child.

6.3 DOMAIN 3: MENTAL WELLBEING

This domain assesses the mental wellbeing of survivors, related to the recovery from traumatic experience and/or stressors from the violence experienced. Addressing mental wellbeing is critical and empowering for survivors, as they cope with present and future life stressors. A foundational understanding of trauma, both the impacts of traumatic experiences and common trauma symptomology, is helpful when assessing this domain.

Domain Goal

Survivor demonstrates stability, positive coping skills, and reduced harmful behaviors that affect long-term recovery.

Subdomain 1: Survivor demonstrates risk-free behaviors.

Key Definitions

- **Risk behaviors:** Actions that either threaten the health and safety of the individual or others, or may result in the individual losing his or her home, job, and/or access to the community (e.g., aggression, angry outbursts, self-harm, sexualized behaviors, substance abuse, etc.).

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the presence of risk behaviors in the survivor. The cause, intention, or motivation of risk behaviors may not be linked directly to trauma or abuse, but should still be considered in this assessment. Examples of risk behaviors include:
 - Self-harm (e.g., cutting, scratching, banging head, running away);
 - Harm to others (e.g., hitting, scratching, kicking, biting); and
 - Harmful addictions (e.g., alcohol abuse, drug abuse, etc.).
- Consider the survivor's developmental age when evaluating behavior.

Additional Guidance

- For children ages 3 and under, please rate the caregiver's behaviors rather than the child's.

Subdomain 2: Survivor positively engages in daily activities.

Key Definitions

- **Positively engages:** Actively participates in a way that is consistent and constructive.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the survivor's ability to positively engage in daily-life activities, whether within relationships, in school or work, in the household, or in the community. Consider common reactions to traumatic experiences:
 - Relational reactions: withdrawal and isolation from others, increased conflict in relationships, decrease in intimacy, heightened fear;
 - Emotional reactions: mood swings, frequent crying, anger, irritability, hopelessness, depression, anxiety, high levels of fear, emotional numbness, suicidal thoughts and/or plans; and
 - Mental reactions: difficulty concentrating, confusion, nightmares, problems with memory.
- Consider if the reactions are present constantly or occasionally, and if they impact the survivor's ability to participate in daily-life activities.
- Consider context and culture when assessing these diverse reactions.

Additional Guidance

- For children ages 3 and under, please rate the caregiver's engagement in daily activities rather than the child's.

Subdomain 3: Survivor utilizes positive coping skills.

Key Definitions

- **Coping skills:** Strategies a person uses to manage stressful situations (e.g., journaling, breathing techniques, mindfulness, exercise, etc.).

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the survivor's ability to utilize positive, instead of negative, coping skills to manage difficult emotions or situations.
- Positive coping skills can include:
 - Problem-solving skills;
 - Positive interpersonal and communication skills;
 - Engaging in an enjoyable and distracting activity that decreases stress and anxiety; and
 - Awareness of emotions and ways to manage them.
- Negative coping skills can include:
 - Harmful strategies;
 - Harmful addictions; and
 - Self-harm.

Additional Guidance

- For children ages 3 and under, please rate the caregiver's coping skills rather than the child's.

Subdomain 4: Survivor demonstrates empowered attitudes and behaviors.

Key Definitions

- **Empowered attitudes:** The sense of internal strength and confidence to set and reach goals and the belief that one can make decisions and improve his or her circumstances.
- **Empowered behaviors:** Demonstration of empowered attitudes through making decisions, setting appropriate boundaries, and taking personal initiative.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess empowered attitudes and behaviors exhibited by a survivor, demonstrating that he or she believes and acts with a sense that he or she can make choices, reach goals, and live a positive and fruitful life.
 - *Empowered attitudes* include positive self-esteem and self-worth, sense of hope about the future, and self-efficacy.
 - *Empowered behaviors* include taking self-initiative, speaking up for oneself, saying "no" when needed, and making positive choices for the future.
 - *Disempowered attitudes and behaviors* include fatalistic thinking, dependency on others for decision-making, and dependency on benefactors for all basic needs.
- Consider that empowered attitudes and behaviors may be challenging to assess in cultures where it is unusual for individuals (especially women and children) to make personal decisions. Even if a survivor looks to his or her family and community to make decisions, assess if he or she is able to say "no" if the family's or community's decision is harmful.

Additional Guidance

- For children ages 3 and under, please rate the caregiver's attitudes and behavior rather than the child's

6.4 DOMAIN 4: ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND EDUCATION

This domain assesses the economic strengths and vulnerabilities of survivors and their families, and their progress toward sustainable livelihoods. Economic vulnerabilities and a lack of education and skills training increase one's vulnerability to debt and unsafe or exploitative work, and can also impact a survivor and his or her household's ability to access basic needs and resources. The first three subdomains assess the *household* rather than just the survivor, as the household's financial management impacts the survivor's financial stability and restoration process.

Domain Goal

Survivor's household has the ability to maintain adequate income from a non-exploitative source to meet needs, and survivor positively engages in school, training, and/or work.

Subdomain 1: Survivor's household maintains adequate income from non-exploitative work or productive assets.

Key Definitions

- **Household:** A group of people living in the same home and/or who are emotionally and economically interdependent. If a survivor is independent and self-sufficient, he or she could be his or her own household (even if he or she sends remittances to family living elsewhere).
- **Basic needs:** Minimum resources necessary for one's physical wellbeing, such as clothing, food, safe drinking water, adequate hygiene and sanitation facilities, cooking and eating utensils, or fuel for cooking.
- **Non-exploitative work:** Source of employment free from mistreatment.
- **Productive assets:** An item of value owned by an individual that can be used to produce goods or income, such as real estate, land, livestock, farm equipment, and/or government benefits.
- **Subsistence farming:** Agricultural activity in which the individual or family produces only enough to feed themselves and/or their household, rather than have surplus for sale.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the household's means to obtain basic needs through non-exploitative work or productive assets.
- Assess or observe, if possible, the consistency of financial resources and ability to cover ongoing expenses for a period of 6 months.
- Consider the reality and limitations if a survivor originally comes from an impoverished community and has limited economic opportunities or financial resources. Assess the survivor's ability to thrive economically within the context of his or her community.
- If survivors or households have income sources that change (e.g., seasonal or migratory labor), assessors should consider the household income's adequacy throughout an annual period and how the household manages periods outside of seasonal work.
- If survivors or households engage in subsistence farming, assessors should consider the resources' adequacy, including the productivity of farming and any additional cash income or productive assets (if relevant).

Subdomain 2: Survivor's household demonstrates financial management skills.

Key Definitions

- **Financial management skills:** Ability to effectively live within means, provide necessary support to others, and safely manage debt.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the household's financial management skills. Consider if:
 - The household lacks money or is in debt due to risk behaviors such as substance abuse or gambling;
 - The survivor's household has debt and if it makes payments in a safe manner and proportionate to income, so that no threats are caused by the debt; and
 - The survivor or household ensures that basic needs are met before providing financial support to others.

Subdomain 3: Survivor's household has access to an adequate financial safety net.

Key Definitions

- **Financial safety net:** Access to resources that provide support in the case of financial hardship (e.g., in-kind assistance, safe loans, assets, savings groups, banks, etc.).
- **In-kind assistance:** Support received through goods, assets, or services rather than cash assistance (e.g., assistance with transportation, child care, food, or services).

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the survivor and his or her household's access to assistance in a financial emergency or hardship. Consider that:
 - Safety net can include cash or in-kind assistance from family or neighbors, assets, government schemes, insurance, bank accounts, savings groups, safe loans, or forms of non-exploitative assistance; and
 - Developing an adequate financial safety net includes knowledge to save money needed for big or unexpected expenses.
- Consider if the survivor is able to access financial support in a way that is safe and does not put household at further risk.
- For survivors who are able to save money, consider if he or she has access to a savings group or a bank.

Subdomain 4: Survivor positively engages with school, training, and/or work.

Key Definitions

- **Positively engages:** Actively participates in a way that is consistent and constructive.

Assessment Considerations

- Consider both *access to* and *motivation for* engagement in school, training, and/or work:
 - Barriers to access may include: geographic distance, cost, disallowance by a spouse or parent, or other factors; and
 - Poor motivation may be reflected by absenteeism, poor attitude, negative behaviors in school or work environment, lack of personal initiative, etc.

Additional Guidance

- For children 3 and under, please rate the primary caregiver's engagement with education, training, or work rather than the child's.
- For school-aged survivors, positive engagement with school includes necessary support from caregivers to access and consistently attend school.
- For survivors living in temporary shelters, assess the environment into which he or she will reintegrate for access to education, training, and/or work opportunities.

6.5 DOMAIN 5: SOCIAL SUPPORT

This domain assesses the social support systems for survivors, as a strong support system enhances the survivor's wellbeing, strengthens his or her sense of belonging and connection to others, and increases access to community support and resources. Social supports create a protective environment in which a survivor is empowered toward recovery; the assessor should assess both the positive and negative influences in the individual's life.

Domain Goal

Survivor is supported by positive relationships, is socially included in his or her community, and is free from discrimination and negative social pressure.

Subdomain 1: Survivor feels emotionally supported in positive relationships.

Key Definitions

- **Emotional support:** Emotional support in positive relationships refers to the survivor's sense of connection and acceptance from those who offer positive (non-harmful) support and influence.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess existence of, and engagement with, positive support relationships. Seeking unsafe support persons should result in lower scoring. Consider if:
 - There are individuals in the survivor's life who offer connection and encourage the survivor to make good life choices; and
 - The survivor primarily relates with peers or others who encourage harmful behaviors.

Additional Guidance

- For children ages 3 and under, please assess the caregiver's relationships rather than the child's.

Subdomain 2: Survivor's household is supportive of survivor's wellbeing.

Key Definitions

- **Household support:** Household support refers to the level of engagement and involvement in the survivor's emotional and physical wellbeing.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the level of emotional support and tangible support that household members provide. Consider if:
 - The household offers the same inclusion and support to the survivor as to other household members;
 - The household encourages the survivor to make positive choices;
 - The household blames the survivor for the abuse; and
 - The level of support can vary between members in the household, as long as none of the members are harmful. If one or more members are harmful to the survivor's wellbeing, this should result in a lower score.

Additional Guidance

- This subdomain assesses the household rather than the individual, but if a survivor lives alone, assess his or her ability to care for himself or herself.

Subdomain 3: Survivor does not experience discrimination or negative social pressure.

Key Definitions

- **Discrimination:** Unjust or prejudicial treatment or stigmatization of different categories of people, especially due to their race, ethnicity, age, gender, socio-economic status, caste, or experience of abuse.
- **Negative social pressure:** Influence that encourages an individual to change beliefs or behaviors which directly results in negative outcomes (e.g., pressure to return to a place of exploitation, pressure to withdraw a legal complaint against a perpetrator, etc.).

Assessment Considerations

- Discrimination and negative social pressure can be experienced at multiple levels, including from family, community, and government systems. For example:
 - The survivor is treated differently due to the abuse he or she experienced or his or her socioeconomic class, ethnicity, etc.;
 - The survivor is excluded from community resources and/or events due to his or her class, ethnicity, etc.;
 - The survivor is pressured to withdraw a legal case; and
 - The survivor is encouraged to engage in harmful behaviors or exploitative work.

Additional Guidance

- For children ages 3 and under, please rate the caregiver's experience rather than the child's.
- For survivors living in temporary shelters, assess the environment into which he or she will reintegrate for discrimination or negative social pressure.

Subdomain 4: Survivor has access to community-based resources and support structures.

Key Definitions

- **Support structures:** Services and resources in the community that contribute to the physical and emotional wellbeing of community members. This can include government services, faith communities, and protection networks, but can also include support from other individual community members.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess a survivor's access to resources and support structures in the community, which can include faith communities, in-kind support from neighbors, local leaders, peer groups, and public services. Consider:
 - Survivor's access to support or resources through any networks, groups, or individuals outside of his or her household;
 - Survivor's participation in community gatherings, festivals, or spiritual services; and
 - If the survivor sees himself or herself as a member of the surrounding community.

Additional Guidance

- For survivors living in temporary shelters, assess the environment into which he or she will reintegrate for access to resources and support structures.

6.6 DOMAIN 6: PHYSICAL WELLBEING

This domain assesses the medical, housing, and basic needs that impact the physical wellbeing of a survivor, and the level of motivation to care for his or her health. If physical wellbeing is compromised, it can increase a survivor's vulnerability in other domains (e.g., "push factor" for trafficking or unsafe migration, increased debt, etc.).

Domain Goal

Survivor takes care of health needs and can access basic needs, medical services, and safe, stable housing.

Subdomain 1: Survivor has access to essential medical services.

Key Definitions

- **Medical services:** Care provided to an individual to diagnose, prevent, and/or heal injuries, illness, and other threats to physical and mental wellbeing.
- **Access:** The ability to make use of certain resources.
- **Traditional medicine:** The sum total of the knowledge, skills, and practices based on the theories, beliefs, and experiences indigenous to different cultures, whether explainable or not, used in the maintenance of health as well as in the prevention, diagnosis, improvement, or treatment of physical and mental illness.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess if a survivor can access medical support according to their specific medical needs (both ongoing and emergency needs). Consider:
 - Reasonable distance to medical care from a survivor's residence, especially in the event of an emergency;
 - Availability of adequate medical services (e.g., doctors present at facilities, medicines in stock, etc.); and
 - Availability of transportation and necessary accompaniment.
- Medical services can be inclusive of traditional medicine; assessors must use professional judgment to assess if traditional practices used are safe and helpful to survivors, or if they induce unnecessary harm, according to the context.
- Vulnerabilities associated with health (e.g., disabilities or chronic conditions) should not automatically lower the score.

Additional Guidance

- For survivors living in temporary shelters, assess the environment into which he or she will reintegrate for access to essential medical services.

Subdomain 2: Survivor takes care of health needs.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess if the survivor takes care of health needs (e.g., nutrition, exercise).
- Consider the level of knowledge the survivor has about available medical services in case of illness or emergency. Consider if the survivor:
 - Takes action to access medical services and heeds the advice of medical professionals when needed;
 - Accesses preventative health services, if available; and
 - Practices cleanliness and good hygiene.

Additional Guidance

- For children under 12, please rate the primary caregiver's engagement in caring for the survivor's health needs.

Subdomain 3: Survivor has access to adequate basic needs that impact health.

Key Definitions

- **Basic needs:** Minimum resources necessary for one's physical wellbeing, such as clothing, food, safe drinking water, adequate hygiene and sanitation facilities, cooking and eating utensils, or fuel for cooking.

Assessment Considerations

- Assess the survivor's level of access to basic needs.
- Assessors should use professional judgment for determining if a survivor's basic needs have been adequately met for the context in which they live.

Subdomain 4: Survivor has stable housing.

Assessment Considerations

- Housing is considered stable when a survivor has had the resources and/or support necessary to obtain and maintain their housing for at least three to six months and is likely to maintain it for at least the next three to six months.
- Assess the survivor's ability to manage risk of losing housing. Risks include:
 - Survivor's ability to pay rent or taxes.
 - Presence of interpersonal conflict with others in the living situation.
 - If the survivor resides on government land that may be at risk of being repossessed.
 - Proximity of suspect(s) to housing.
 - Ability of survivor to use the land on which they reside (e.g., for subsistence farming or other use).
- Survivors can be assessed at a high score even if they are dependent upon other people for housing (e.g., extended family, employers, etc.). Use professional judgment to assess risk.

Additional Guidance

- For survivors living in temporary shelters, assess the environment into which he or she will reintegrate for stable housing.

Subdomain 5: Survivor's housing is safe and free from hazards.

Key Definitions

- **Hazard:** A situation that poses a level of threat to life, health, or property.

Assessment Considerations

- Consider what is culturally appropriate for safe housing (e.g., housing materials, number of people sharing the same space, etc.) in a given context. Consider:
 - Risks related to the physical structure of housing and if they present a risk to physical safety; and
 - Physical safety of the environment surrounding a survivor's housing (e.g., areas prone to flooding, areas at risk of fire, exposure to sewage or rubbish dumps, proximity to cemeteries or cremation smoke, and areas with high incidences of drug use, gang activity, and/or prostitution, etc.)

Additional Guidance

- For survivors living in temporary shelters, assess the environment into which he or she will reintegrate for the level of safety and hazards.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Abuse: An intentional act of ill treatment that causes harm to an individual's safety, wellbeing, dignity, and development.

Access: The ability to make use of certain resources.

Addiction: The harmful use of, or dependence on, addictive substances, such as alcohol or illicit drugs.

Adequate: A sufficient amount to meet basic needs.

Aftercare: Holistic services for survivors of abuse, whether in community-based or residential settings, designed to respond to acute and long-term needs resulting from the experience of abuse or the vulnerabilities that contributed to the abuse.

Basic Needs: Minimum resources necessary for one's physical wellbeing, such as clothing, food, safe drinking water, adequate hygiene and sanitation facilities, cooking and eating utensils, or fuel for cooking.

Care Plan: Outlines the services and support that a care provider offers to empower the survivor's restoration, and is designed and agreed upon by the care provider and the survivor.

Child Sexual Assault (CSA): Sexual activities with a minor to include but not limited to rape and/or sexual intercourse with a child, non-physical contact, and non-penetrative activities, such as involving children in watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually explicit ways, and exposing them to inappropriate sexual material.²

Community: A group of people who are socially, relationally, geographically, and/or economically connected (e.g., one's village, neighbors, religious group, and/or local leaders and officials).

Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE): A practice by which a person achieves sexual gratification, financial gain, or advancement through the sexual abuse or exploitation of another person. Inclusive of the terms commercial sex trafficking, sex trafficking, child sex trafficking, and commercial sexual abuse of children.

Coping Skills: Strategies a person uses to manage stressful situations (e.g., journaling, breathing techniques, mindfulness, exercise, etc.).

Discrimination: Unjust or prejudicial treatment or stigmatization of different categories of people, especially due to their race, ethnicity, age, gender, socio-economic status, caste, or experience of abuse.

Domain: An area of functioning critical to a survivor's restoration. IJM believes that success in each of the domains will contribute to a survivor's ability to function in society with low vulnerability to revictimization.

Emotional Abuse: Behavior, primarily verbal, that terrorizes, intimidates, humiliates, or demeans the victim and/or deprives them of normal contact with other persons.

² Adapted from UNICEF (n.d.). Break the silence end child abuse [Fact sheet]. Retrieved from [http://www.unicef.org/lac/Break_the_Silence_Initiative-Fact_sheet\(1\).pdf](http://www.unicef.org/lac/Break_the_Silence_Initiative-Fact_sheet(1).pdf)

Emotional Support: The ability to give and receive empathy, compassion, and genuine concern for another person with whom you are connected.

Empowered Attitudes: The sense of internal strength and confidence to set and reach goals and the belief that one can make decisions and improve his or her circumstances.

Empowered Behaviors: Demonstration of empowered attitudes through making decisions, setting appropriate boundaries, and taking personal initiative.

Exploitation: The action or fact of treating someone unfairly in order to benefit from their work.

Financial Management Skills: Ability to effectively live within means, provide necessary support to others, and safely manage debt.

Financial Safety Net: Access to resources that provide support in the case of financial hardship (e.g., in-kind assistance, safe loans, assets, savings groups, banks, etc.).

Forced Labor (FL): Situations in which individuals are made to work through force, fraud, or coercion. Inclusive of the terms forced labor slavery, forced labor trafficking, child labor trafficking, and bonded labor.

Harm: Physical injury, serious harassment, intimidation, or ongoing threats of eviction.

Hazard: A situation that poses a level of threat to life, health, or property.

Household: A group of people living in the same home and/or who are emotionally and economically interdependent. If a survivor is independent and self-sufficient, he or she could be his or her own household (even if he or she sends remittances to family living elsewhere).

Human Rights Violations: Human rights are fundamental freedoms and rights inherent to all individuals regardless of age, sex, nationality, ethnicity, socio-economic status, religion, or any other status, and that are recognized and protected by international law. Violations of human rights include any breach of these rights.

In-Kind Assistance: Support received through goods, assets, or services rather than cash assistance (e.g., assistance with transportation, child care, food, or services).

Income: Money or resources received, especially on a regular basis, for work or from assets or investments.

Justice System: The system of law enforcement that is directly involved in apprehending, prosecuting, defending, sentencing, and punishing those who are suspected or convicted of criminal offenses.

Legal Status: A person's standing or position with regards to the law, including the person's rights, obligations, powers, or restrictions.

Medical Services: Care provided to an individual to diagnose, prevent, and/or heal injuries, illness, and other threats to physical and mental wellbeing. Inclusive of the term traditional medicine. See Traditional Medicine.

Motivation: The desire and determination to do something.

Neglect: Failure to meet a dependent's physical and emotional needs when the parent or caregiver has the means, knowledge, and access to services to do so, or failure to protect him or her from exposure to danger, resulting in harm to safety, wellbeing, and development.

Negative Social Pressure: Influence that encourages an individual to change beliefs or behaviors which directly results in negative outcomes (e.g., pressure to return to a place of exploitation, pressure to withdraw a legal complaint against a perpetrator).

Non-Exploitative Work: Source of employment free from mistreatment.

Online Sexual Exploitation of Children (OSEC): The production, for the purpose of online publication, of visual or audio depictions (e.g., photos, videos, live streaming) of the sexual abuse or exploitation of a minor for a third party not in the physical presence of the victim, in exchange for compensation. Inclusive of the terms online sexual exploitation, cybersex trafficking, and child webcam sex tourism.

Physical Abuse: The use of violent physical force so as to cause actual or likely physical injury or suffering (e.g., hitting, biting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, drowning, suffocating, female genital mutilation, torture, etc.); physical abuse may also be caused when a parent or caregiver feigns the symptoms of or deliberately causes ill health to a child.³

Police Abuse of Power (PAP): Situation when an individual is subjected to unlawful use of physical force, violence, or torture by the police, or when an individual is imprisoned on the basis of false criminal charges. Inclusive of the terms police brutality, wrongful conviction, unlawful use of physical force, and false imprisonment.

Positively Engages: Actively participates in a way that is consistent and constructive.

Productive Asset: An item of value owned by an individual that can be used to produce goods or income, such as real estate, land, livestock, farm equipment, and/or government benefits.

Property Grabbing: Forcibly taking physical possession or control of land, or imminently threatening to take possession or control of land from individuals with a vested legal right in the land or without a vested legal right, but for whom the land legitimately serves as a primary residence or source of maintenance. Inclusive of the term Land Rights Violations (LRV).

Repatriation: The return of someone to his or her own country or land of citizenship.

Restoration: IJM defines restoration to be when a survivor is able to function in society with low vulnerability to revictimization. Within IJM's aftercare programs, restoration indicates readiness for case closure for survivors and is measured by restored survivors achieving a score of 3 or greater on the Assessment of Survivor Outcomes (ASO).

Revictimization: Experiencing another incident of violence, abuse, or exploitation, whether in a similar context of the original victimization or in a different context.

Rights: Legally-mandated protections or benefits.

³ Adapted from UNICEF and Maestral International. (2010). Child protection system: Comprehensive mapping and assessment. Retrieved from [http://www.unicef.org/protection/Comprehensive_Toolkit\(3\).xlsx](http://www.unicef.org/protection/Comprehensive_Toolkit(3).xlsx)

Risk Behaviors: Actions that either threaten the health and safety of the individual or others, or may result in the individual losing his or her home, job, and/or access to the community (e.g., aggression, angry outbursts, self-harm, sexualized behaviors, substance abuse, etc.).

Sanitation: Issues with drainage, sewage, pests, and/or water or air quality.

Self-Determination: The ability and opportunity to make one's own choices and decisions and to exercise decision-making about services, supports, and assistance.

Sexual Abuse: Unwanted sexual activity by the use of force, threats, or taking advantage of inability to give consent.

Subdomain: Specific areas of functioning within each of the six domains that are critical to a survivor's restoration.

Subsistence Farming: Agricultural activity in which the individual or family produces only enough to feed themselves and/or their household, rather than have surplus for sale.

Substance Abuse: The harmful use of, or dependence on, addictive substances, such as alcohol or illicit drugs.

Support Structures: Services and resources in the community that contribute to the physical and emotional wellbeing of community members. This can include government services, faith communities, and protection networks, but can also include support from other individual community members.

Survivor: An individual who has survived a major crisis or challenge.

Suspect: An individual believed to be guilty of committing a crime against the survivor within the context of the abuse or exploitation, regardless of if the individual has been formally charged, arrested, convicted, or restrained by formal justice system authorities.

Tangible Support: The act of helping in a concrete way (e.g., lending or giving goods or services, providing protection or care, etc.).

Traditional Medicine: "The sum total of the knowledge, skills, and practices based on the theories, beliefs, and experiences indigenous to different cultures, whether explicable or not, used in the maintenance of health as well as in the prevention, diagnosis, improvement or treatment of physical and mental illness."⁴

Trauma: Exposure to actual or threatened death, serious injury, or sexual violence through directly experiencing the event, witnessing the event, learning that the event happened to a close family member or friend, or experiencing repeated and extreme exposure to details of such events.

Wellbeing: A positive state of existence.

⁴ World Health Organization. (2000). Traditional medicine: Definitions. Retrieved from <http://www.who.int/medicines/areas/traditional/definitions/en/>

APPENDIX A: CONDUCTING THE ASSESSMENT

Assess the survivor's circumstances and functioning using information from multiple sources: survivor (primary source); survivor's parents, primary caregiver, or family members; and through direct observation. Information gathered to fill out the ASO tool is often part of a routine survivor visit at home or in a facility. Direct observation of the survivor's environment, as well as interactions and behaviors, should inform the assessment.

PREPARATION FOR THE ASSESSMENT

- Be familiar with the ASO tool and the guidance manual. Strong knowledge of the domains, subdomains, and definitions will help you guide the discussion to collect information without having to consult paperwork and disrupt the flow of the conversation.
- Do not discuss the ASO scores with the survivor; rather, use the information gathered from the ASO to inform the Care Plan that is individualized to a survivor's expressed goals, strengths, and vulnerabilities and collaboratively developed with the survivor.
- Use a notebook to take notes; do not read directly from the form.
- If available, review the survivor's case management records.
- Ensure that an interpreter is available if needed.
- Find a quiet, private space to conduct the assessment.

GUIDELINES FOR SURVIVOR INFORMED CONSENT

- Provide information about the purpose of the conversation and informed consent.
- Use your organization's guidelines or the talking points from the following script to ensure verbal informed consent:

“We are here to support you, and we always want to ensure that you feel respected and valued in the work that we do together. Voluntarily engaging in aftercare services is a valuable avenue for healing and growth, and we want to make sure that all your questions are answered. We will not share your information without your written permission, and if you do want your information shared, it will always be done in a respectful way that honors your dignity and healing. Our organization may use information collected from these assessments in order to help us determine how we can better serve you but your information will always be kept confidential and your name will never be included. We will closely work to design a care plan that empowers you to address the areas of your life where you would like additional support and encouragement. We will specifically focus on the following areas of your life: safety, legal protection, mental wellbeing, economic empowerment and education, social support, and physical wellbeing. Your healing and restoration are the most important aspects of our work together, and if you ever have any questions or concerns, please let me know.”

CONSIDERATIONS DURING THE ASSESSMENT

- Respect what is culturally appropriate for eye contact and personal space.
- Help the survivor feel at ease by keeping the conversation natural and friendly.
- Avoid yes and no questions; use open-ended questions to obtain information.
- Do not ask leading questions or pressure survivors to give certain answers. If a survivor is not ready or willing to answer a question, move on and consider coming back to it later.
- Give survivors the option to take breaks or to stop the conversation if they show emotional, mental, or physical distress. Refer the survivor to emergency services if needed.
- At the end of the conversation, review the six domains of care in your mind to ensure you have gathered information on each domain.
- Let the survivor know about next steps or the next time you will be in contact.

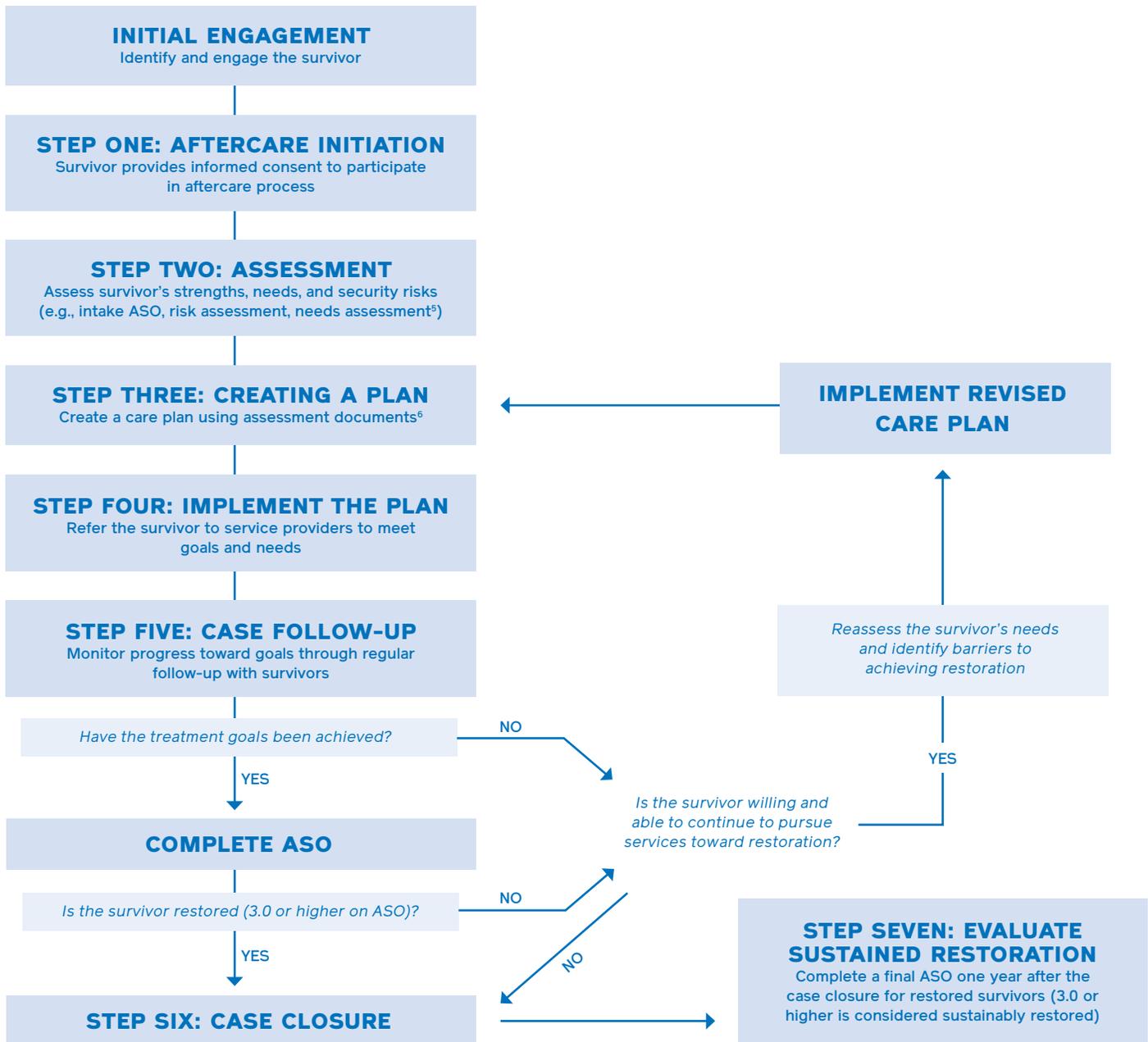
COMPLETION OF THE ASSESSMENT

- Complete the ASO as soon as possible after the interview, when information is fresh in your mind.
- If the information you gathered from the survivor and/or other sources does not provide enough information to complete the ASO, consider other sources (teachers, shelter social workers, etc.) from whom you can gather information.

APPENDIX B: ASO IMPLEMENTATION IN IJM CASE MANAGEMENT

IJM’s case management process manages the flow of service provision from the initial engagement with a survivor to case closure. Effective case management engages survivors toward restoration by assessing strengths and vulnerabilities, coordinating services to reduce vulnerabilities, monitoring progress toward restoration, and closing the case when restoration is achieved.

The following model visualizes IJM’s aftercare case management approach and how the ASO is used as a case management tool:



⁵ A needs assessment identifies needs directly related to the ASO domains and outlines a survivor’s strengths and his or her verbalized needs. It is completed when a survivor begins services in the aftercare program, and provides the assessor with the necessary information to conduct the intake ASO.

⁶ Care plans are individualized to a survivor’s expressed goals, strengths, and vulnerabilities. The ASO highlights areas of vulnerability that are addressed in the care plan to empower the survivor to achieve restoration.

*This model is adapted from International Rescue Committee’s Caring for Child Survivors of Sexual Abuse (www.rescue.org).



**INTERNATIONAL
JUSTICE MISSION**

IJM.org

PO Box 58147
Washington, DC 20037
703.465.5495

Thank you for your interest in utilizing the Assessment of Survivor Outcomes (ASO) tool. The ASO tool is a valid and reliable assessment for measuring survivor outcomes and progress of survivors of violence and exploitation toward restoration. International Justice Mission (IJM) defines restoration to be when a survivor is able to function in society with low vulnerability to revictimization. The assessment serves two key functions: (1) a case management tool to identify areas of survivor strengths and vulnerabilities, enabling a tailored plan of service provision; and (2) an impact measurement tool to provide data on the effectiveness of aftercare programming by assessing survivor progress.

We are pleased to share this tool without a fee, as we believe that the ASO is a critical assessment for measuring survivor outcomes and progress toward restoration. However, for the ASO tool to be effective, it is essential that it be used correctly. **IJM requires that a user agreement be signed and adhered to in order to use the ASO tool.** The agreement is intended to ensure all organizations using the ASO tool agree to properly implement the tool, with the goal of helping survivors of violence heal.

If you have any questions about the ASO tool or if you would like to use the tool, please contact Global Aftercare [aftercare@ijm.org].

Assessment of Survivor Outcomes

GOAL OF ASSESSMENT

Evaluate a survivor's functioning and level of vulnerability to revictimization.

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete this tool based on your assessment of the survivor's functioning and circumstances within the last 30 days. Provide one score per subdomain on a scale of 1 to 4. Survivor input should inform the assessment of each subdomain and can include input from the survivor's caregiver or other household members, other providers, and/or the assessor's direct observations. The assessor should use professional judgment based on all available information, seeking to best reflect the survivor's strength or vulnerability in each subdomain. An accompanying guidance manual is available for guidance on scoring and specific assessment points, a sample interview guide, and other resources.

SURVIVOR DEMOGRAPHICS		
Survivor Name:		Type of Abuse Experienced: <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Sexual Exploitation <input type="checkbox"/> Child Sexual Assault <input type="checkbox"/> Forced Labor Trafficking <input type="checkbox"/> Online Sexual Exploitation <input type="checkbox"/> Property Grabbing <input type="checkbox"/> Police Abuse of Power <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please specify)
Date of Birth: (or age if unknown)		
Gender:		
Country of Origin:		
Ethnicity:		
Race:		Location in which the Abuse Occurred: (city, country)
Primary Language:		

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION		
Assessment Date:		Assessment Phase: (point at which the assessment is completed) <input type="checkbox"/> At time of case intake <input type="checkbox"/> At case closure <input type="checkbox"/> One year post-case closure <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please indicate why)
Case Number:		
Assessor Name and Title:		
Organization:		
Assessment Location: (city, country)		

Scale:							
1. Highly Vulnerable		2. Vulnerable		3. Stable		4. Highly Stable	
Domain	Subdomains						
SAFETY	1. Survivor is free from abuse or neglect.	1	2	3	4		
	2. Survivor is free of threats from suspects or others who intend to revictimize.	1	2	3	4		
	3. Survivor is able to identify and manage unsafe situations.*†	1	2	3	4		
							SCORE: (sum of scores/3)
Notes:							
Domain	Subdomains						
LEGAL PROTECTION	1. Survivor is aware of rights and protections under the law and views violations as abusive.*†	1	2	3	4		
	2. Survivor's legal status or level of documentation minimizes risk of future human rights violations.	1	2	3	4		
	3. Survivor is able to pursue justice for the human rights violation(s).*†	1	2	3	4		
							SCORE: (sum of scores/3)
Notes:							
Domain	Subdomains						
MENTAL WELLBEING	1. Survivor demonstrates risk-free behaviors.†	1	2	3	4		
	2. Survivor positively engages in daily activities.†	1	2	3	4		
	3. Survivor utilizes positive coping skills.†	1	2	3	4		
	4. Survivor demonstrates empowered attitudes and behaviors.†	1	2	3	4		
							SCORE: (sum of scores/4)
Notes:							
Domain	Subdomains						
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND EDUCATION	1. Survivor's household maintains adequate income from non-exploitative work or productive assets.	1	2	3	4		
	2. Survivor's household demonstrates financial management skills.	1	2	3	4		
	3. Survivor's household has access to an adequate financial safety net.	1	2	3	4		
	4. Survivor positively engages with school, training, and/or work.†	1	2	3	4		
							SCORE: (sum of scores/4)
Notes:							

*For children ages 12 and under, please rate the caregiver rather than the child.

†For children ages 3 and under, please rate the caregiver rather than the child.

Scale:							
1. Highly Vulnerable		2. Vulnerable		3. Stable		4. Highly Stable	
Domain	Subdomains						
SOCIAL SUPPORT	1. Survivor feels emotionally supported in positive relationships.†	1	2	3	4		
	2. Survivor’s household is supportive of survivor’s wellbeing.	1	2	3	4		
	3. Survivor does not experience discrimination or negative social pressure.†	1	2	3	4		
	4. Survivor has access to community-based resources and support structures.	1	2	3	4		
	SCORE: (sum of scores/4)						
Notes:							
Domain	Subdomain						
PHYSICAL WELLBEING	1. Survivor has access to essential medical services.	1	2	3	4		
	2. Survivor takes care of health needs.*†	1	2	3	4		
	3. Survivor has access to adequate basic needs that impact health.	1	2	3	4		
	4. Survivor has stable housing.	1	2	3	4		
	5. Survivor’s housing is safe and free from hazards.	1	2	3	4		
	SCORE: (sum of scores/5)						
Notes:							

FINAL ASO SCORE
(insert scores from above)

Safety Score _____

Legal Protection Score _____

Mental Wellbeing Score _____

Economic Empowerment & Education Score _____

Social Support Score _____

Physical Wellbeing Score _____

TOTAL: (add all)

FINAL SCORE: (divide by 6)

*For children ages 12 and under, please rate the caregiver rather than the child.
 †For children ages 3 and under, please rate the caregiver rather than the child.



IJM

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION

PO Box 58147
Washington, DC 20037 USA

T 703.465.5495
F 703.465.5499

IJM.org



INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION is a global organization that protects the poor from violence throughout the developing world. IJM partners with local authorities to rescue victims of violence, bring criminals to justice, restore survivors, and strengthen justice systems.

Highlighted as one of 10 nonprofits "making a difference" by *U.S. News and World Report*, IJM's effective model has been recognized by the U.S. State Department, the World Economic Forum and leaders around the globe, as well as featured by *Foreign Affairs*, *Forbes*, *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *The Times of India*, *The Phnom Penh Post*, National Public Radio and CNN, among many other outlets.

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