



**HIAS**

Welcome the stranger.  
Protect the refugee.

**Evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of an integrated psychosocial intervention to reduce psychological distress and intimate partner violence among forced migrants in Ecuador and Panama**



# Partnership introduction

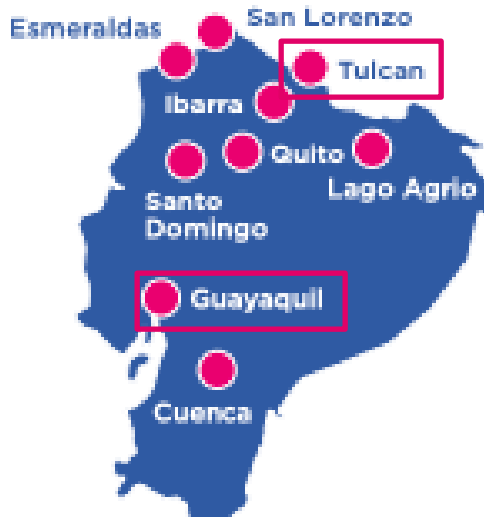
## Implementing Partner: HIAS

- Annie Bonz, Heidi Lehmann
- HIAS Ecuador: Sabrina Lustgarten, Andrea Armijos
- HIAS Panama: Roberto Mera, Alejandra Angulo

## Research Partners

- Claire Greene, Wietse Tol & Milton Wainberg

# Setting and population description

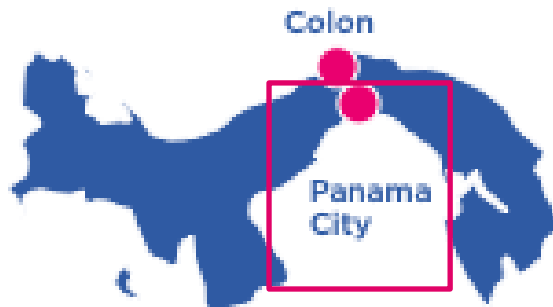


## ■ Ecuador

- Tulcan, Guayaquil
- Colombian and Venezuelan forced migrants

## ■ Panama

- Panama City, Panama West
- Multiple displacement dynamics



# Intervention description

- Psychological first aid
  - Adapted/enhanced
- Integrated into protection services
  - Advocacy counseling

## LOOK

- » Check for safety.
- » Check for people with obvious urgent basic needs.
- » Check for people with serious distress reactions.



## LISTEN

- » Approach people who may need support.
- » Ask about people's needs and concerns.
- » Listen to people, and help them to feel calm.

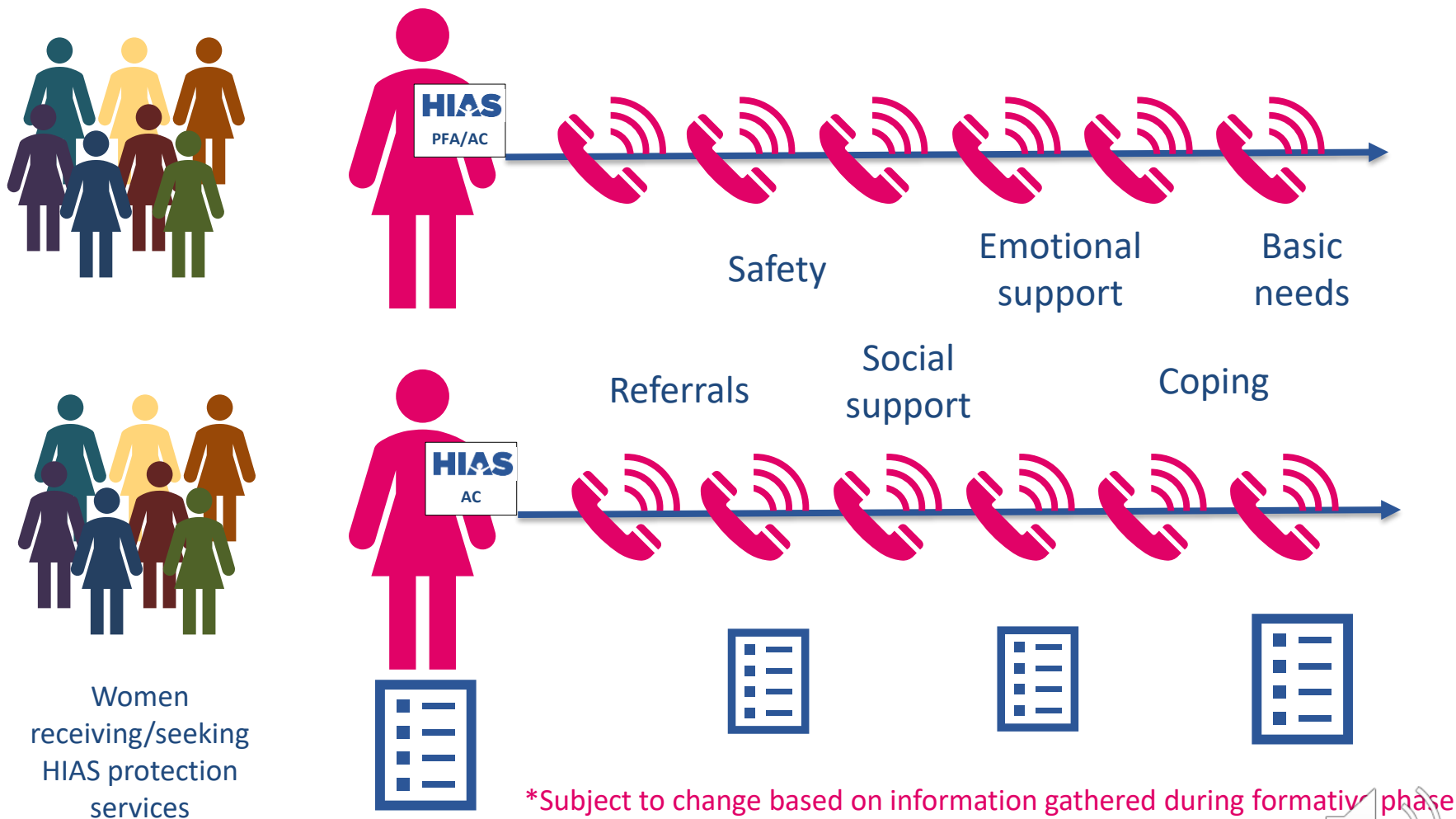


## LINK

- » Help people address basic needs and access services.
- » Help people cope with problems.
- » Give information.
- » Connect people with loved ones and social support.



# Intervention implementation plan



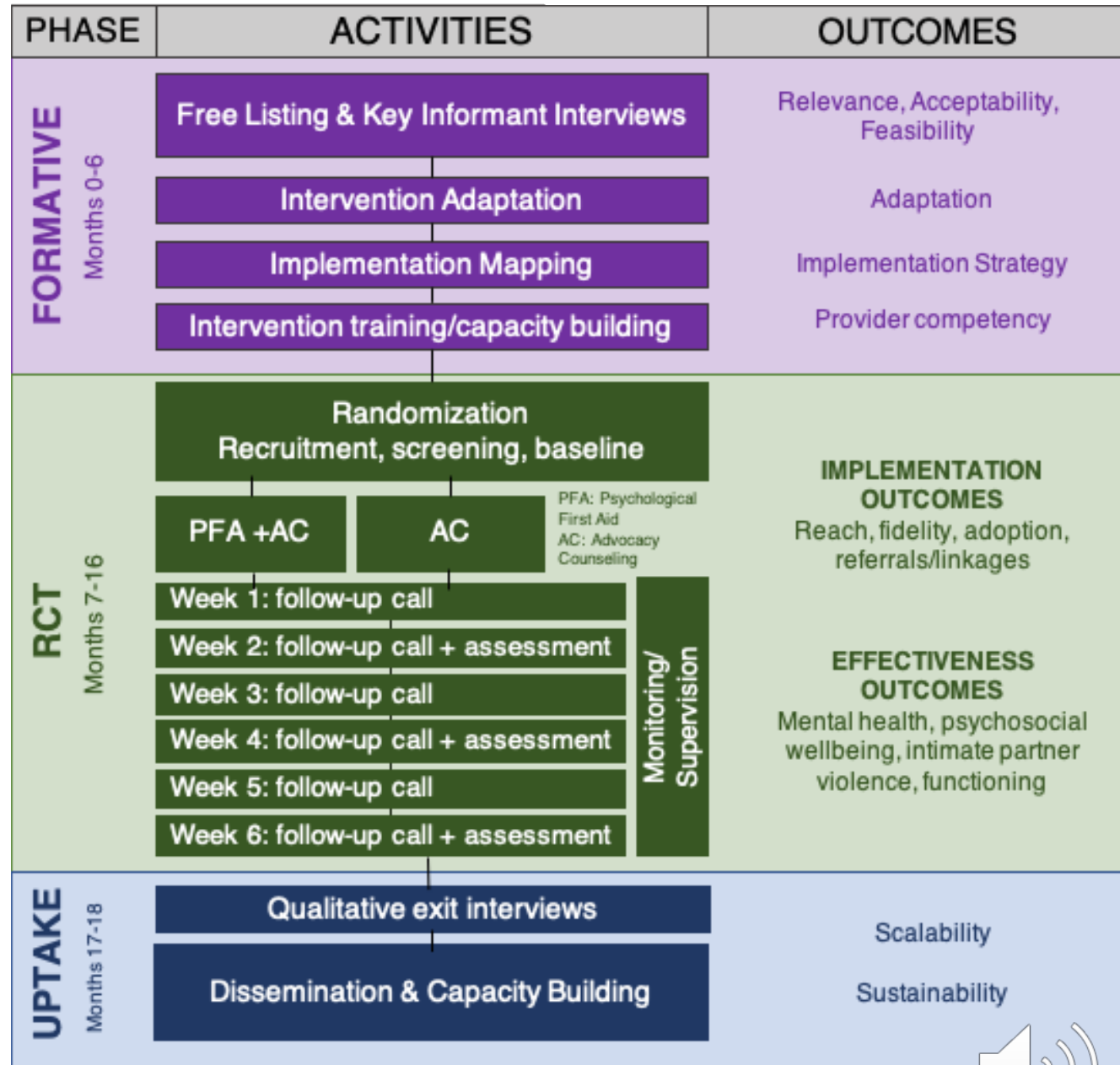
\*Subject to change based on information gathered during formative phase

# Study objectives

- Integrate PFA into protection and community services for forcibly displaced persons in Ecuador and Panama
  - Adapt PFA
  - Implementation strategy
  - Effectiveness
  - Implementation

# Study design

**Figure 1. Study flow diagram**



# Outcomes and methods

Key Questions <i>Does the integration of PFA into protection services...</i>	Process, implementation or outcome indicators	Data source
improve mental health and psychosocial wellbeing?	Change in psychological distress and wellbeing (effectiveness)	Participants - K-6, HSCL-25, PSYCHLOPS, WEMWBS
enhance protection outcomes?	Change in IPV severity, type frequency, safety (effectiveness)	Participants – CTS2
facilitate linkages to services and community supports?	% participants referred (process) % participants utilize relevant service (implementation)	Participants – assessment of service utilization and community supports Provider – monitoring forms
Is the integration of PFA into protection services feasible?	Relevance, Acceptability, Feasibility, Adoption, Fidelity, Safety, Scalability, Sustainability (process/ implementation)	Participant - satisfaction Provider – competency, monitoring forms Site – monitoring forms All – qualitative, FRAME, imp. mapping

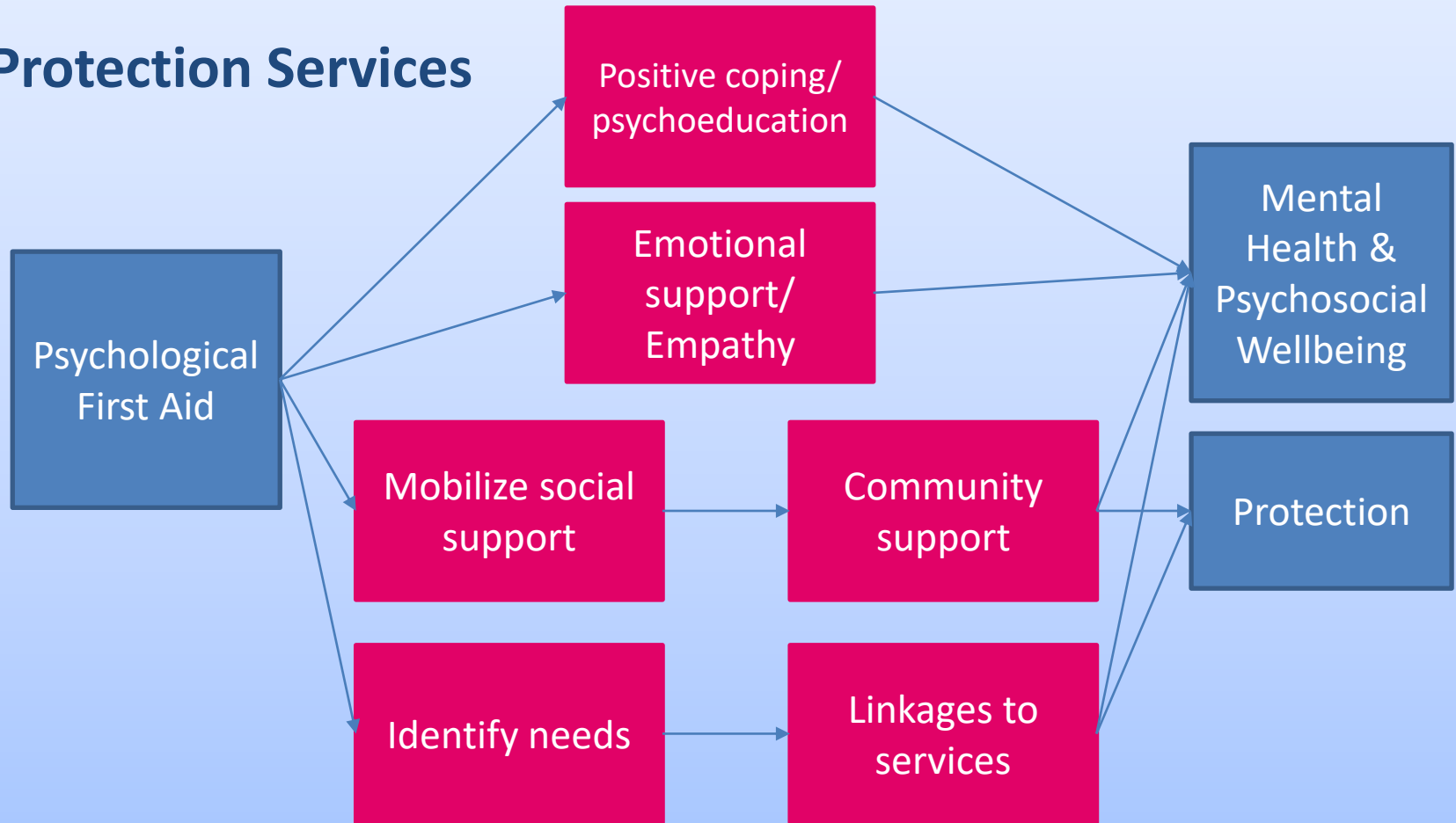


# Involvement of stakeholders and linkages to in-country processes

- Formative phase
- Training and capacity building
- Community engagement and advisory board
- Dissemination meetings
- Integration with RMRP and regional/international stakeholders

# Theory of change

## Protection Services





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