

## CRS' COMPASS PROJECT MANAGEMENT WEBSITE

▶ In 2016, CRS developed a set of [project management standards](#) which we strive to achieve across all our projects. CRS subsequently developed a [website providing project management guidance and resources](#), called [Compass](#), to support CRS staff in achieving our project management standards. The Compass website is currently available in [English](#), [French](#), and [Spanish](#).

▶ Although CRS staff are the primary target audience for Compass, we designed Compass as an [open-access website](#). CRS encourages interested partners seeking project management guidance and resources to use Compass, though partner staff should keep in mind that they will need to adapt Compass step-by-step guidance to their own organizational systems and structures. Partner staff may also refer to Compass to better understand CRS' approach, processes, tools and expectations for project management.

- ◆ For those new to Compass, we have created a set of short (one- to three-minute) [Instructional Videos](#) to help new users learn how to navigate Compass most effectively.

▶ Compass guidance is [relevant for both emergency and development projects](#), and for project management across all programming sectors.

▶ Compass includes guidance related to project management key actions under four phases in CRS' project management cycle. For partners who are familiar with the Project Management for Development Professionals Guide (PMD Pro), the four phases of CRS' [project management cycle map](#) to the PMD Pro phases<sup>1</sup> as follows:

- ◆ CRS' [Design](#) phase = PMD Pro Identification and Definition phase
- ◆ CRS' [Start-up](#) phase = PMD Pro Set Up and Planning phases
- ◆ CRS' [Implementation](#) phase = PMD Pro Implementation phase
- ◆ CRS' [Close-out](#) phase = PMD Pro Closure phase

Compass guidance and resources draw on the project management disciplines, concepts, and tools from the PMD Pro, contextualized where needed for CRS.

Monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL) is integrated throughout Compass.

▶ Across the four project management cycle phases, Compass provides guidance for project management key actions in four categories used in CRS' [project management standards](#):

- ◆ [Operations and programming planning and management](#)
- ◆ [Financial management](#)
- ◆ [Human resource management](#)
- ◆ [Donor engagement and accountability](#)

▶ Those navigating project management adaptations during the COVID-19 pandemic may be interested in the following Compass key [action guidance and related resources](#):

- ◆ [Standard 11, key action 2](#) on project risk and issue management
- ◆ [Standard 14, key action 3](#) on staff care

<sup>1</sup> Project Management for Development Professionals Guide (PMD Pro) Second Edition, March 2020.

- ◆ [Standard 15, key action 2](#) on communicating project risks, issues, and changes to donors

▶ Compass guidance for all key actions is available to any Compass website visitor. Many tools, templates, and other resources on Compass are also open access. However, partners should be aware that *Compass also includes internal policy documents and resources intended for CRS staff use only*. Partners will not be able to open or download these resources. For more information, see Compass [Common Questions](#).

▶ *Compass is a living document* which CRS continues to update and refine, especially in light of project management needs that have emerged as we respond to COVID-19. Your feedback is welcome, via the [Share Feedback form](#) that appears on Compass pages, or by contacting [compass@crs.org](mailto:compass@crs.org).