



GUIDANCE ON SAFE AND
ETHICAL USE OF
TECHNOLOGY TO ADDRESS
GBV AND HP

United Nations Population Fund
GHRB Technical Division





Technology- facilitated Gender- based Violence



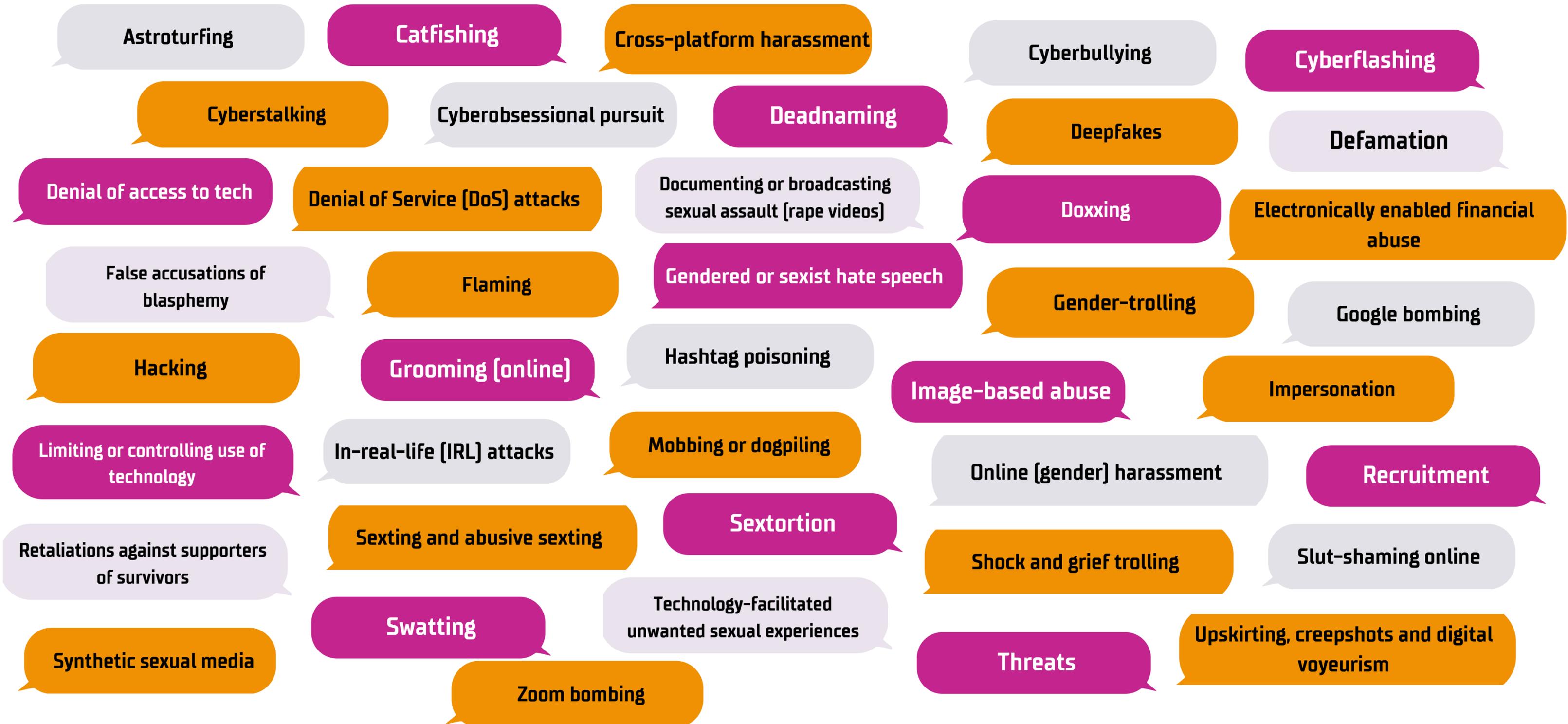
Technology-
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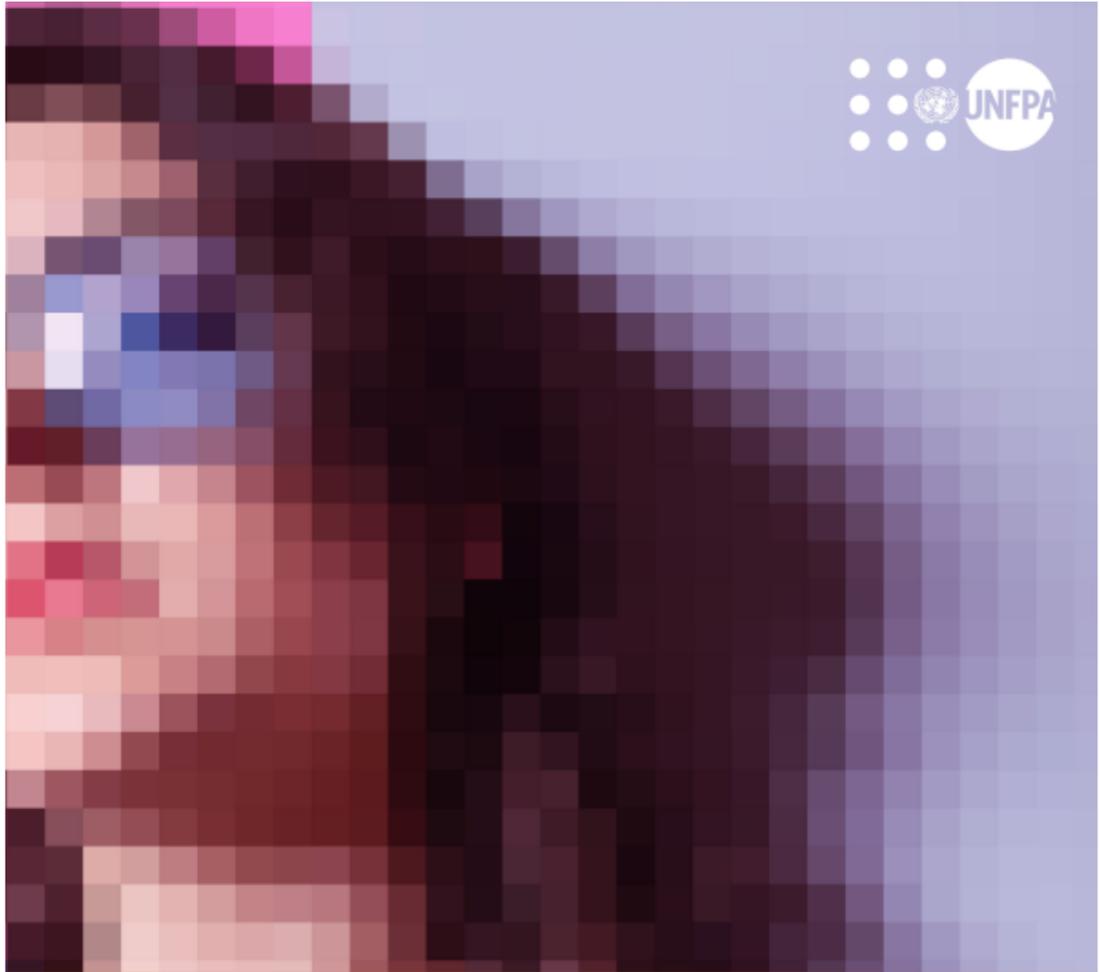
Making all spaces safe

Technical Division
December 2021



What does TF GBV look like?





Guidance on the Safe and
Ethical Use of Technology to
Address Gender-based Violence
and Harmful Practices:
Implementation Summary

March 2023



Objectives

- **Potential Benefits:** increase awareness of the potential benefits and options that tech-based interventions could bring to GBV programming;
- **Risk, Harm, Misuse:** increase understanding and reduce risks associated with GBV tech-based interventions;
- **Framework:** provide a shared framework for consistent **standards and oversight;**
- **Digital Intervention Process:** outline a GBV digital intervention process with considerations, steps, and tools.



Methodology, Resources, Acknowledgement

Ethical stance (aka "[GBV Digital Data Standards](#)") is contextualised from the following:

- Data Privacy and Data Ethics
 - [GDPR](#) - General Data Protection Regulation
 - [ODI - Data Ethics](#)
 - IDRC/ Joint - [Professional Standards for Protection Work](#), Managing Data and Information for Protection Outcomes (p. 103 - 148)
- WHO Research Ethics (Development, Humanitarian, Global)
 - [WHO Putting Women First](#)
 - [WMA Declaration of Helsinki](#) - Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects
- GBV Guidance
 - Humanitarian: [GBViE Minimum Standards](#)
 - Development: [VAW ESP](#)
 - United States: [VAWA](#) - US Violence Against Women Act

Standards/ Steps and style adapted from:

- Digital Health/ mHealth
 - [Planning an Information Systems Project Toolkit](#) - Joint
 - [DIIG](#) - Joint
 - [Youth-centred digital health interventions](#) - Joint
 - [WHO Recommendations on Digital Interventions](#)
- [Designing Digital Interventions for Lasting Impact](#) - UNICEF
- [Principles for Digital Development](#)



Table of Contents

- **Definitions** – 44 tech and data definitions
- **Principles** – 6 core principles, 10 data-specific principles
- **Current Technology** – overview, specific interventions
- **Potential Benefits** – access, quality, TFGBV solutions, research, gender equality, better tech
- **Risk, Harm and Misuse**
 - Framework of Risk: Individual, Organization, Society
 - Risk by Actors: Bad, Mission-driven, and “Neutral”
- **Steps**
 - 6 Key Considerations
 - 17 Steps: Scoping, Design, Implementation, Lifetime
- **Promising Practices** – 12 promising practices
- **Annexes** – 8 stand-alone annexes



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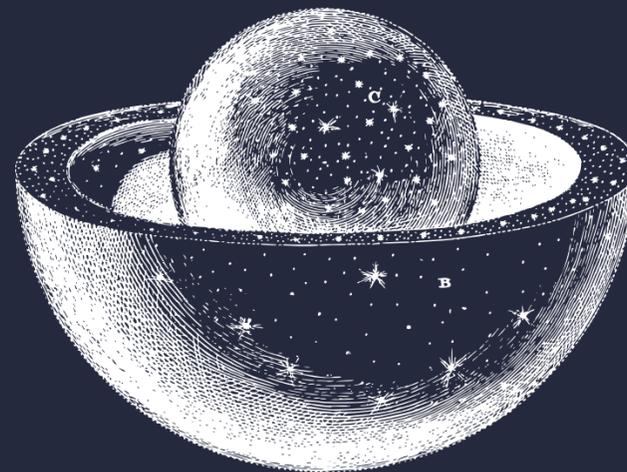
Principles

Core Principles:

- Do No Harm
- Survivor-centred
- Informed Consent and Transparency
- Participatory
- Rights-based
- Advancing Gender Equality

Data Specific Principles:

- Safety by Design
- Purpose limitation
- Data minimization
- Proper use of data
- Fairness
- Informed Consent, Transparency, and Ownership[*]
- Accuracy and Data Quality
- Security: Integrity, Confidentiality, and Availability
- Accountability
- Unconditional service



Potential Benefits

INCREASING
GENDER
EQUALITY
AND CLOSING
THE GENDER
DIGITAL
DIVIDE

INCREASING
ACCESS TO
INFORMATION
& SERVICES

AMPLIFYING
POSITIVE
SOCIAL NORMS

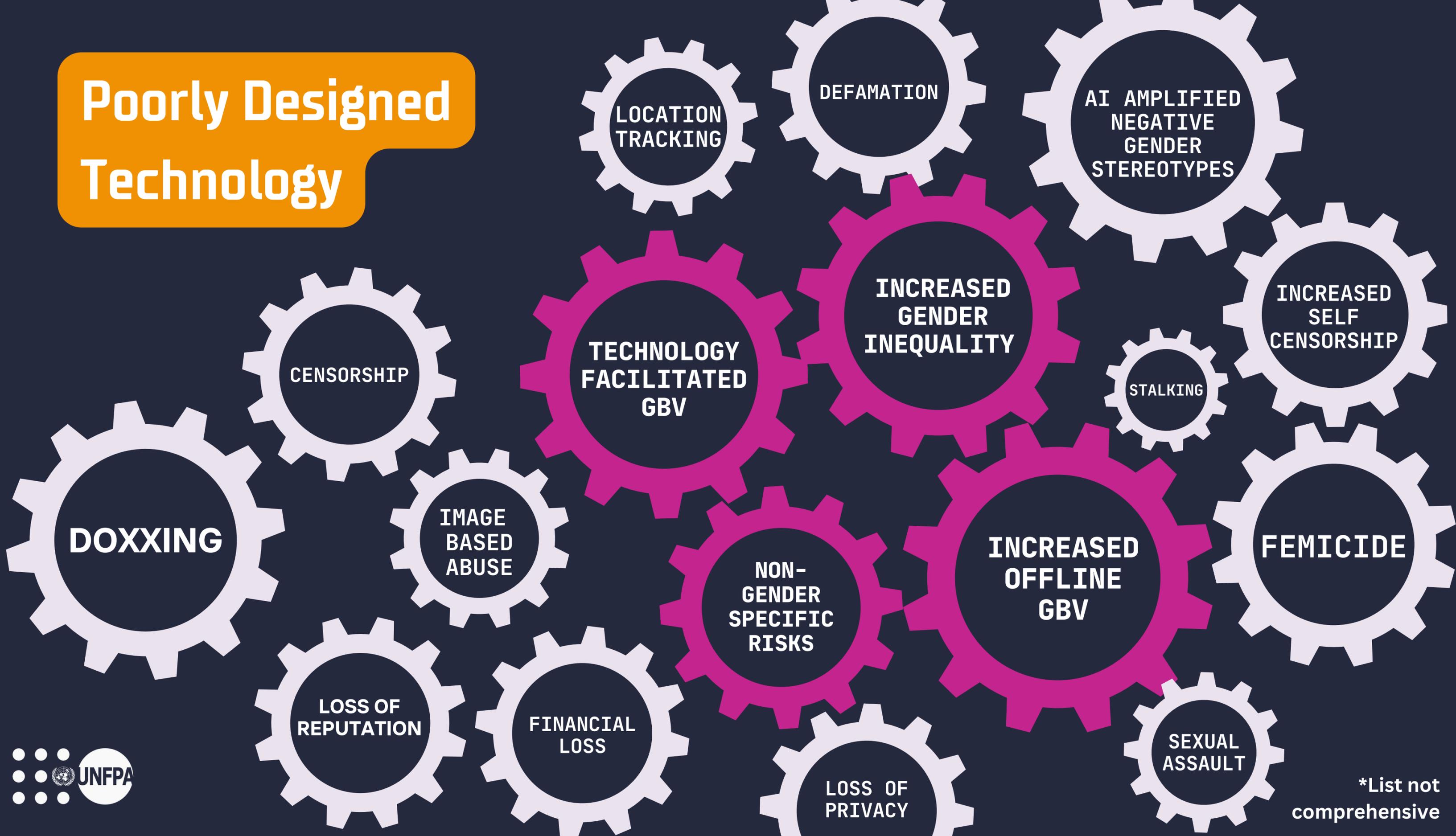
FACILITATING
DELIVERY AND
IMPROVING
THE QUALITY
OF SERVICES

FACILITATING
RESEARCH, AND
INCREASING
ROBUST
EVIDENCE,
FINDINGS AND
INSIGHTS

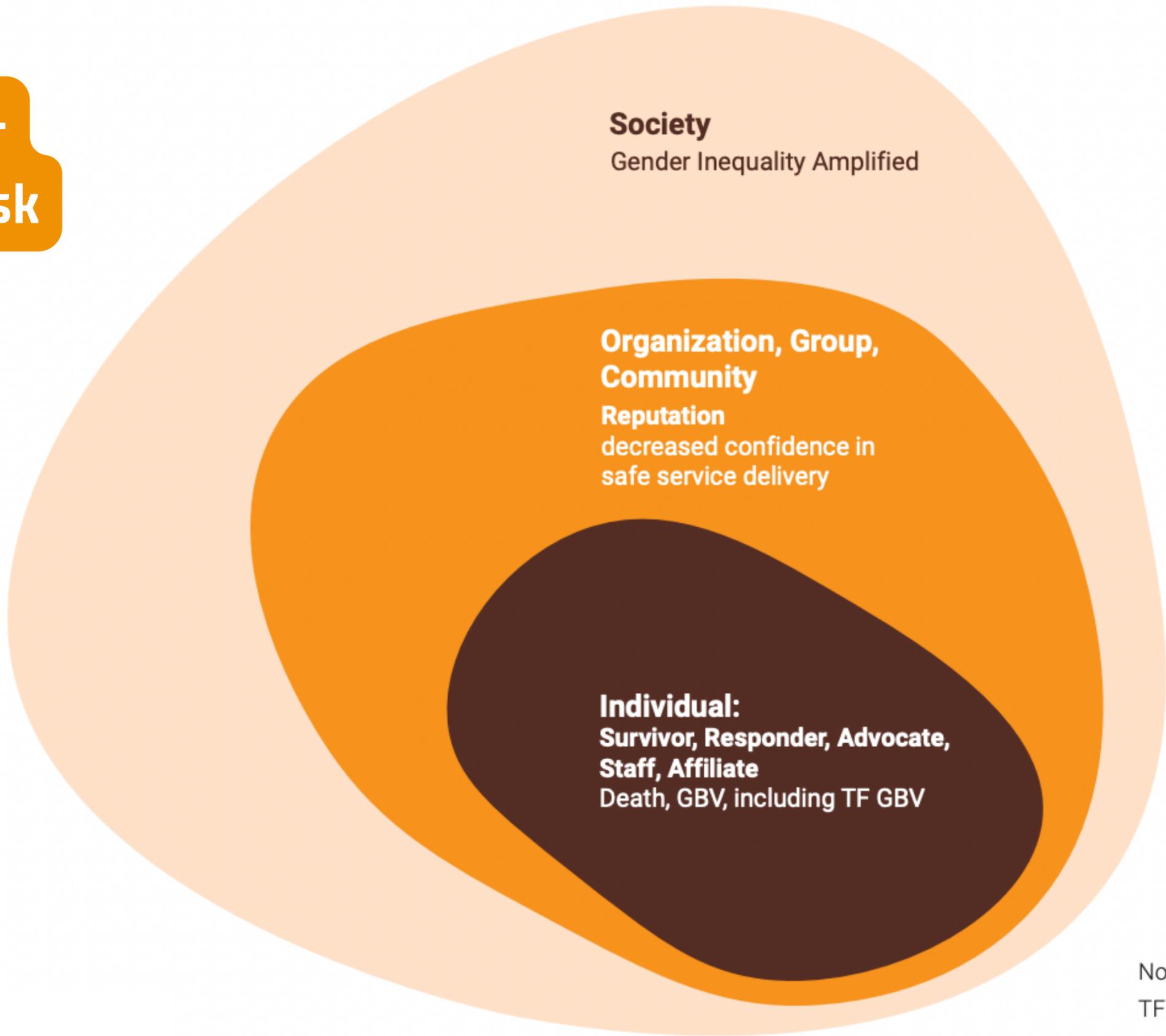
COMBATING
TECHNOLOGY-
FACILITATED
GBV

INCREASING
OUR FUTURE
ABILITY TO
CREATE BETTER
TECH FOR GBV

Poorly Designed Technology

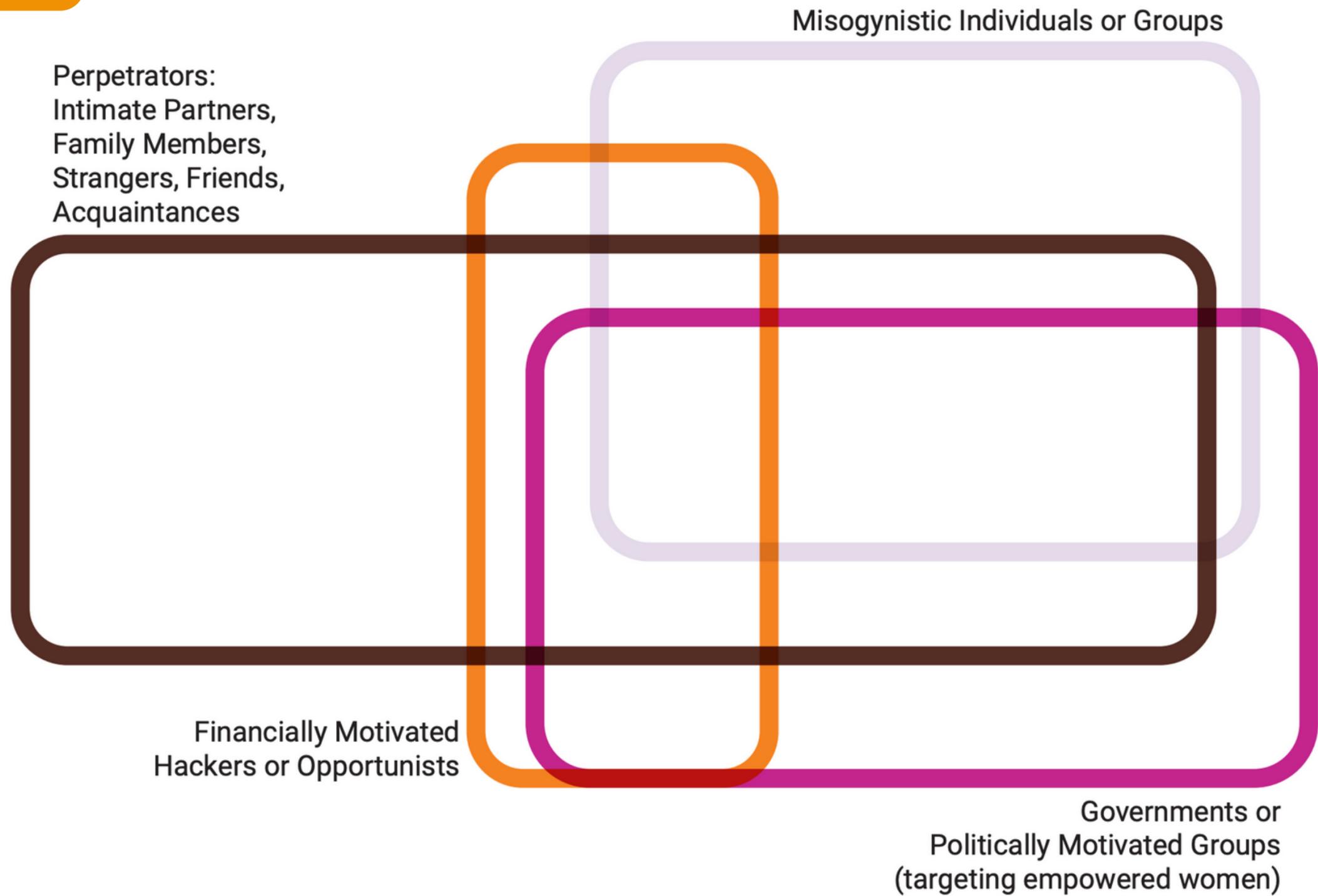


RISKS & HARMS - Framework of Risk

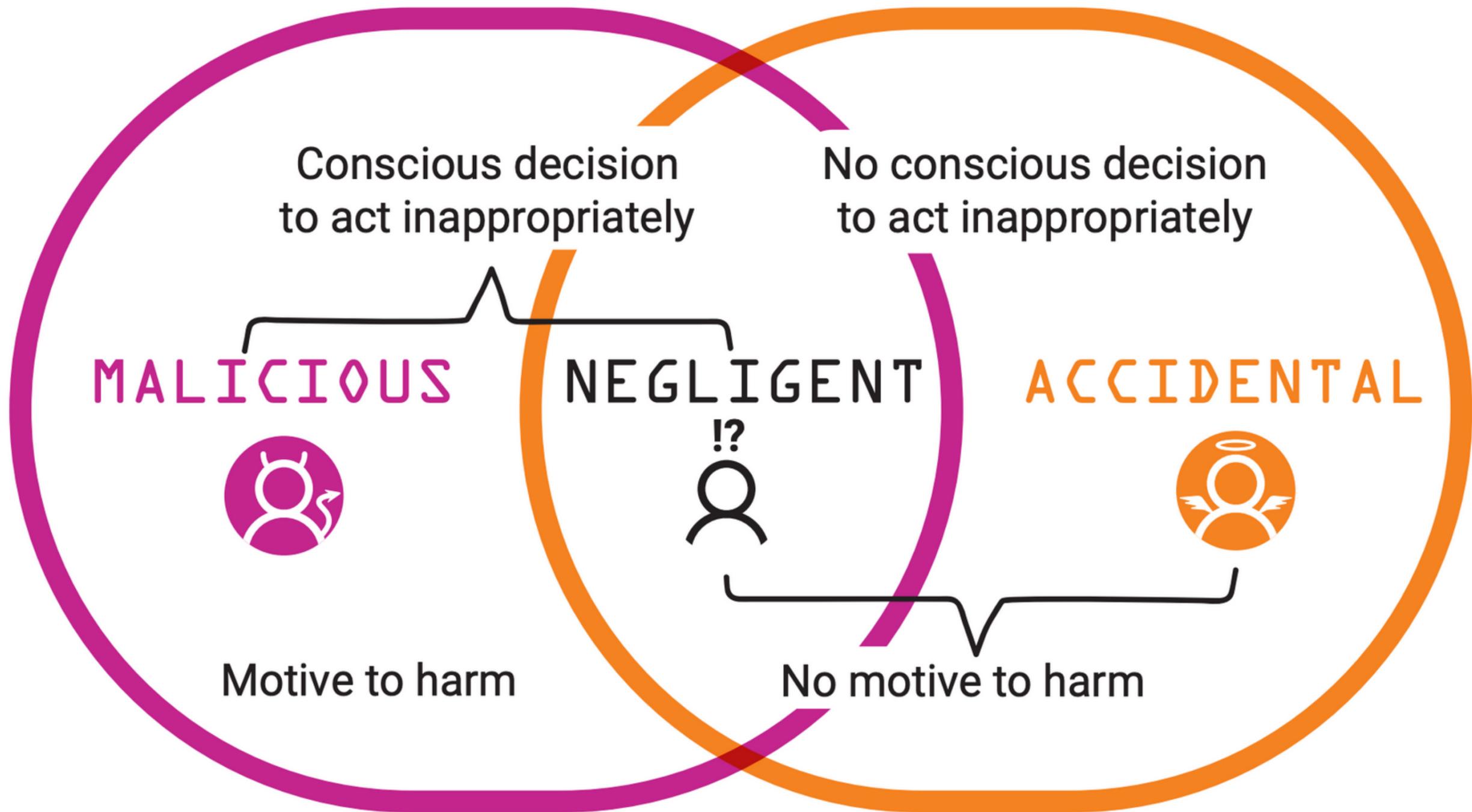


Note: GBV = gender-based violence;
TF GBV = technology-facilitated gender-based violence

RISKS & HARMS – Threat Actor Mapping



RISKS & HARMS - Type of Actors



Safety/ Privacy/ Security by Design

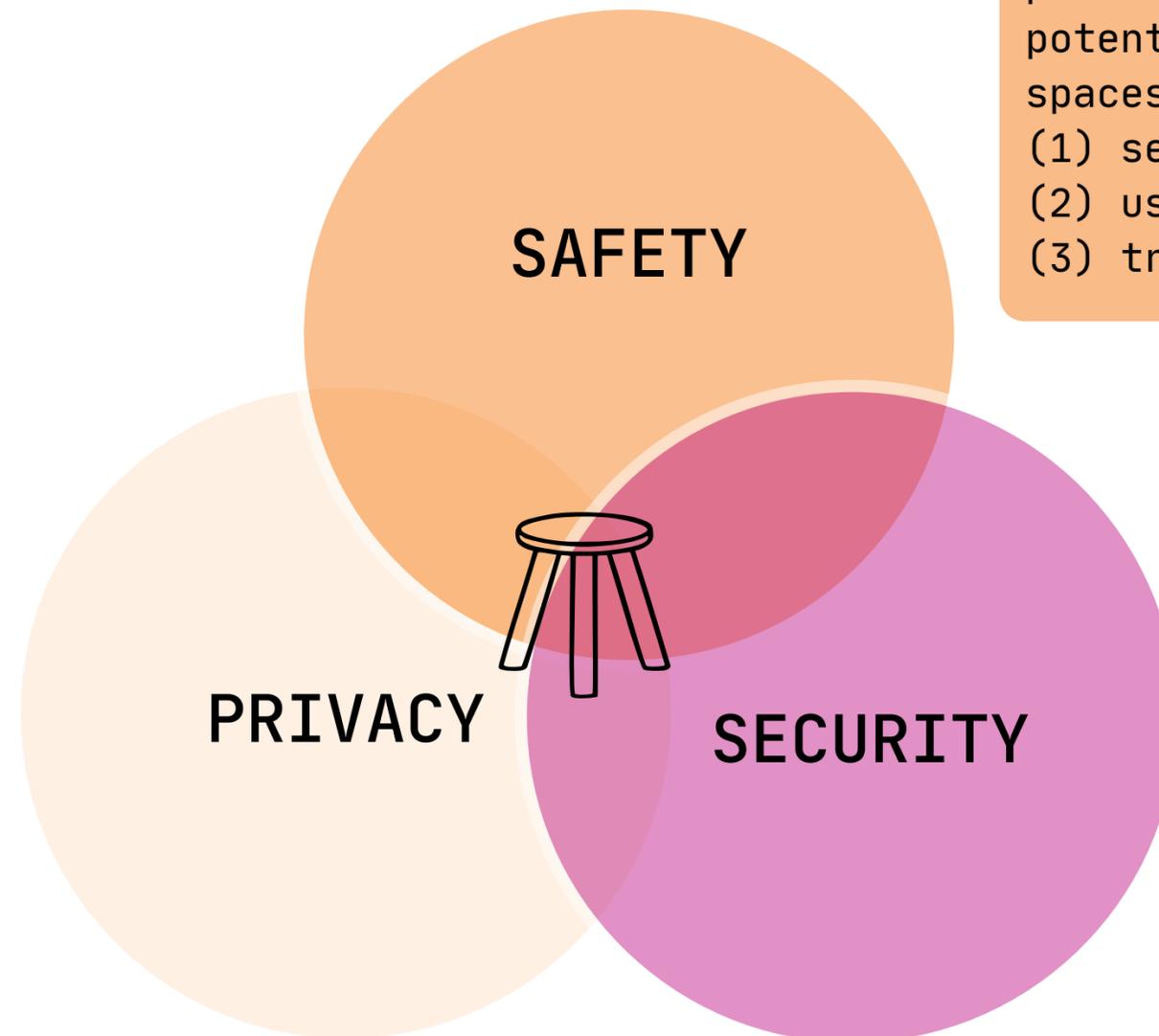
Safety, privacy and security are a three-legged stool.

What happens if one leg is missing or breaks?

The stool will fall over!

Establishes user safety at the center of product development, recognizing the potential risks and harms in the online spaces. Details 3 overarching principles:
(1) service provider responsibility
(2) user empowerment
(3) transparency and accountability.

Embed privacy into the design specifications of information technologies, organizational practices, and networked system architectures in order to achieve the strongest protection possible.



Design controls to prevent the misuse of an application by malicious parties. A proactive, necessary process of planning, monitoring, and adapting to changing cyber threats.

Considerations and Steps

Considerations:

- Do No Harm
- User Integration/ Participatory
- Use and Accessibility
- Safeguarding/ Managing Risk
- Data Analysis
- Consent

Steps

Scoping/ Feasibility

- STEP 1: Risk-Benefit Analysis
- STEP 2: Lifetime Cost

Design

- STEP 3: Needs, Purpose, Outcome
- STEP 4: Research
- STEP 5: User Integration
- STEP 6: Confirm Data Privacy Principles
- STEP 7: Ideation
- STEP 8: Prototype OR Select/ Adapt Solution
- STEP 9: Systematic User and Product Testing
- STEP 10: Budget creation/ adjustment
- STEP 11: Consent Check
- STEP 12: Content Alignment with Global Standards Check
- STEP 13: Build
- STEP 14: Safety, Security, and Privacy Check
- STEP 15: Live Pilot Test
- STEP 16: Adjust/ Fix

Implementation

- STEP 17: Implementation

Lifetime

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Lifetime



Promising Practices

- Prioritise and plan for safety, privacy, and security , consider using **Safety by Design, Privacy by Design, and Security by Design** principles
- Understand and design for the context and users **actual needs**
- Adopt **human-centred and participatory** approaches to design
- Plan **data analysis and data use** from beginning
- Use research-backed and evidence-based approaches
- Bake **informed consent** into the entire intervention
- Iteratively **test and learn with users**
- **Monitor and evaluate** success, challenges, and **safety concerns**
- **Sustainability** – clear view beyond product launch
- Alignment with **GBV national priorities and global standards**
- Build strong **interdisciplinary** development team (IT, Digital, GBV, women's organisations)
- Consider open-source and modular approaches when safe and appropriate

Annexes

- Annex A: **Risk Benefit Analysis Tool**
 - Risk Factors – Data Security and Indicators of Heightened Risk
 - Assessing Harm – Rights, Economic, Psychological, Social
 - Benefits – Impact, Likelihood, Outcomes for Survivors
- Annex B: **GBV Digital Essentials: Dos and Don'ts**
 - Harms and Risks, Understanding Users, Consent, Safety, Security, Digital Ecosystem, Collaboration, Lifetime
- Annex C: **Checklist: Essential Considerations**
 - Scoping/ Design/ Launch/ Lifetime

- Annex D: **In-House vs. Cloud: Pros and Cons**
- Annex E: **What to Consider in a Partnership**
 - Selecting the right vendor
- Annex F: **Contingency Planning: Priorities in an emergency**
- Annex G: **Data Mapping Workshop Template**
- Annex H: **Data Myths, Facts, and FAQs**





THANK YOU

