



PROTECTION

HANDBOOK OF MULTI-SECTOR
COORDINATION FOR EMERGENCY
RESPONSE IN INDIA







Sphere India
National Coalition of Humanitarian Agencies in India

Handbook Of Multi-Sector Coordination For Emergency Response In India

ROLES AND FUNCTIONS

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**ASSESSING AND MONITORING THE SECTOR
SITUATION IN INDIA**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS

SECTOR STRATEGY AND AGENDA

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BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS



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The National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) is one of the pioneer institutes under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India which has been mandated to promote capacity building interventions in Disaster Risk Management (DRM). Since its inception, the Institute has been proactive in raising the level of awareness and preparedness in dealing with disasters and emergency situations in the country, as well as making DRM education accessible to people across different level of stakeholders.

Sphere India: Sphere India, is a national coalition of humanitarian agencies in India with a vision to build a disaster resilient India by promoting quality and accountability in humanitarian action through processes of collaborations at various levels. The members include key nodal agencies from Govt. of India, UN agencies, INGOs, NGO networks and national NGOs. Sphere India facilitates inter-agency coordination, training and capacity building, knowledge management and collaborative advocacy to protect the rights of the people affected by disasters and other humanitarian crisis.

Preface

Our aim is to enhance capacities and knowledge management system for emergency preparedness and response to improve quality of humanitarian action. In this handbook, we have sought to include practical guidance and advice on how different stakeholders and sector actors (NGOs, CSOs, UN Agencies and Government) can come together to strategize sector preparedness and response in emergencies. It highlights key principles of humanitarian action and how coordination and joint efforts can increase the effectiveness and efficiency of interventions and promote better outcomes.

This handbook was drafted after numerous consultative meetings and write shops with sector experts from local and national organizations working in the field of Protection. Extensive research and discussions have taken place between authors of the sector before finalizing the handbook. Inputs have been collected and collated from various experts across the field throughout the process of drafting the handbook. Sector wise consultative meetings were also organized to invite inputs from the Government and wider membership.

Sphere India would like to thank National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, World Animal Protection India, Oxfam India, HelpAge India, Plan India and all who have contributed their knowledge, expertise and time to make this handbook possible. We are also grateful to collaborative partners and other CSOs, FBOs, CBOs, corporations, institutions, Government departments and officials for their continued support and active participation in various consultations which helped us in facilitating this handbook.

Vikrant Mahajan
CEO, Sphere India



Foreword

Disasters and disaster risks are on the rise. They negatively impact children's and women's rights, disproportionately affecting poor countries, and erode development gains and set back progress. Disasters thus exacerbate already existing vulnerabilities and inequalities of boys, girls, women and men. As disasters are a function of hazard, vulnerability, exposure and capacity, they are both a humanitarian and a development concern. With a mandate combining humanitarian and long-term development action, UNICEF recognises its crucial responsibility to integrate disaster risk reduction across its work. This calls for a concerted effort on the part of several sectors, including national, state and local governments, activists, NGOs, at-risk communities, etc.

Partners can support governments to strengthen the capacity of the community-based workforce as well as other levels of the system by promoting risk-informed actions from development systems; advocating for resource allocation and making investments (e.g. funding, technical support, human resources and supplies) for prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response actions addressing household, community, and facility level safety and security; supporting institutionalization of capability to enable continuity of access to social-sector services during emergency and eventual early recovery of services. UNICEF is committed to support government and CSOs to define and acquire the core competencies for emergencies, and the development of necessary guidance, training materials and tools; making use of the capacities and capabilities of the existing actors in this workforce, and promoting partnerships to link humanitarian and development domains.

This Handbook is a resource that can be extensively used by all concerned in the field of disaster risk management, which shall act as an operational manual for coordination during preparedness as well as response phases of emergencies.

Tom White
Chief DRR
UNICEF India



Foreword

The year 2020 was full of challenges, as the global health crisis brought humanity to a virtual standstill. The difficult times have changed the way organizations operate, and now we have started adapting to the new emerging socio-economic order.

The role of CSR has become more relevant than ever, as corporates played a crucial role in supporting the nation in the fight against the pandemic and other disasters witnessed this year. HCL Foundation, along with partner organizations, has been working significantly to mitigate the humanitarian crisis. HCL Foundation, through its various flagship programmes and special initiatives, it has positively impacted 2.14+ million human lives, spanning 21 states and 2 union territories of India.

It was the commitment and resilience of our communities, teams and partners that helped us navigate through the situation, and keep our efforts sustained. Going forward, I feel that organizations must start working towards strengthening of preparedness and unified emergency response systems. At HCL Foundation, we remain committed to addressing the socio-economic concerns while focussing on humanitarian aid and assistance. Our CSR programmes have the potential to bring value to the preparedness, response, and recovery systems by aligning corporate citizenship efforts to sustainable development processes.

The formulation of ***Handbook of Multi-Sector Coordination for Emergency Response in India*** (Protection), through joint efforts of Sphere India and partner organizations, shall act as an operational manual for coordination during emergencies and help improve the disaster management in the country and thus, mitigating the disaster risks.

Nidhi Pundhir
Director, HCL Foundation



From Director's Desk

The impact of natural hazards is most acutely felt by individuals and communities with pre-existing vulnerabilities which often are characterized by the limited enjoyment of rights. One of the most important protection-related challenges during a disaster situations is long standing protection and human rights concerns which are brought to light and further exacerbated by the emergency. Disaster situations cause and worsen protection risks such as sexual and gender-based violence; family separation; child trafficking; unequal access to assistance; discrimination in aid provision; enforced relocation; loss of personal documentation; land disputes and issues related to land and property rights, etc.

Protection consists of strategies to reduce vulnerabilities before and after a disaster, to act with those at risk, and to increase the capacity and coping mechanisms of affected populations. Central to protection is the right of affected communities to information and to active participation in decision making, including efforts to reduce vulnerabilities, the provision of humanitarian assistance, and finding durable solutions.

To strengthen preparedness and unified emergency response, Sphere India and its members have drafted a Handbook of Multi-Sector Coordination for Emergency Response in India (Protection), which shall act as an operational manual for coordination during emergencies. This shall enable collaboration among different stakeholders in disaster management and thus, mitigating the disaster risks.

Major Gen. Manoj Kumar Bindal

Executive Director

National Institute of Disaster Management



Acknowledgement

The chapters of Sphere India's Multi-Sector (Protection) are result of a diverse consultation process amongst protection experts in India and globally. Sphere India gratefully acknowledges the scale and breadth of the contributions made by: National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, World Animal Protection India, Oxfam India, HelpAge India and Plan India. The working process to develop this handbook was coordinated by the Sphere India office via online zoom meetings. We sincerely thanks Shri Anil Kumar Sinha- IAS (rtd) for his support in moderating these sessions. Most of the writeups were put forward by authors of their organizations, dedicating their time and effort as an in-kind contribution to the sector. Sphere India also extends special thanks to Major General Manoj Kumar Bindal (Executive Director- NIDM) and Nidhi Pundhir (Director, HCL Foundation) for overall guidance and to Anil K. Gupta (Professor- NIDM) and Santosh Kumar (Professor- NIDM) for their critical editorial inputs.

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About Sphere India

Sphere India is a national coalition of humanitarian agencies in India. The members include key nodal agencies from Govt. of India, UN agencies, INGOs, NGO networks and national NGOs. Sphere India facilitates inter agency coordination, training and capacity building, collaborative advocacy, and information knowledge and learning management through a collaborative process for quality and accountability.

	Right to live with dignity.
	Right to assistance and protection.
	Principles of humanity impartiality, neutrality, independence, and other principles of Red Cross Code of Conduct.
	Inclusion.

The above mentioned points are grounded in Sphere India’s commitment to the Article 21 of Indian Constitution on *Right to Life* and its interpretations in various judicial proceedings, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Humanitarian Law, Refugee Law and the associated treaties and covenants.



Composition of Sector Committees

SPHERE INDIA SECTOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS		
 WASH	 SHELTER	 FOOD & NUTRITION
<p>Oxfam India (Lead) UNICEF (Co-Lead) Water Aid CARE India EFICOR PGVS GIWA Wash Institute REDR ADRA India Plan India HI Ambuja Cement Foundation</p>	<p>HCL Foundation SEEDS Habitat for Humanity India (Lead) CARE India (Co-Lead) AIDMI NCDHR UNNATI HCLF</p>	<p>WFP (Lead) UNICEF India (Lead) CFNS (Co-Lead) CARE India EFICOR IGSSS World Vision India Oxfam World Animal Protection ACF Save the Children HCL Foundation</p>
 HEALTH	 PROTECTION	 EDUCATION
<p>WHO (Lead) Doctors For You (Co-Lead) Handicap International CARE India ADRA ChildFund Water Aid HCL Foundation Cipla Limited Cipla Foundation Adani Foundation World Vision India UNICEF Save the Children ICRC OXFAM India PCI IPPF EHA Americares India</p>	<p>Caritas (Proposed Lead) OXFAM (Proposed Lead) NCDHR CARE India Child Fund Islamic Relief IGSSS CRS Handicap International IPPF ADRA TDH UNNATI WV Change Alliance Save the Children IPPF SAFA HCL Foundation</p>	<p>Save the Children (Sector lead) UNICEF (Co-Lead) CARE India ChildFund India World Vision India Oxfam RTE Forum HCL Foundation Sterlite EdIndia Foundation Bharti Foundation DLF Foundation</p>

About the Handbook

This Protection Sector Coordination handbook provide spractical guidance and advise on how different stakeholders and sector actors (NGOs, CSOs, UN Agencies and Government) can come together to strategize sector preparedness and response in emergencies. Policy makers, government officials, government line departments, civil society organizations, Sphere India members, and other actors involved in the humanitarian space can benefit from this handbook. It highlights key principles of humanitarian action and how coordination and joint efforts among different sector actors can increase the effectiveness and efficiency of intervention sand promote better outcomes.

Process of Drafting the Multi Sector Coordination Handbook

The Multi Sector Coordination Handbook has been drafted under the ***Network Approach to Emergency Preparedness for Response***, after numerous consultative meetings and write shops with sector experts from local and national organisations working in the fields of education, health, food and nutrition security, WASH, shelter, and protection.

After initial consultations with sector leads, starting from the month of January 2020, the outline of the handbook was developed and discussed in Sector committee meetings of six sectors held in February 2020. Interest from sector committees and other sector experts was sought and nominations were completed by April. The inception of the handbook began in the first week of May 2020.

Introductory meetings were held with each of the six sector committees wherein Sphere India presented a prototype of the handbook to elucidate the kind of chapters and content to be produced. Following this, lead authors, section authors with support from Sphere India secretariat began drafting the handbook. Sector-wise meetings as well as multi-sector meetings were held for discussions. During the drafting of the handbook, three Multi-sectors write shops and consultations with multi-sector strategic leads were held along with 24 sector authors meetings.

Extensive research and discussions have taken place between authors of the sector before finalising it. Inputs have been collected and collated from various experts across the field throughout the handbook drafting process. Further, sector wise consultative meetings were held to invite inputs from the Government and its wider membership.

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Roles and Functions of the Sector Committee

ROLES AND FUNCTIONS

Roles and Functions of the Sector Committee

1. Humanitarian Coordination during disasters and preparedness.
2. Recovery coordination.
3. Coordination for DRR activities of Sphere India members.
4. Coordination with IAGs at district and state levels for above roles situations.

Roles of the Sector Lead

1. Use the lead agency's existing working relations with the national authorities and non-state actors active in the sector, to facilitate their participation in the sector.
2. Maintain appropriate links and dialogue with national and local authorities, CSOs, and other stakeholders.
3. Make the technical expertise of lead agency available for sector and inter-sector assessments.
4. Participate actively in strategy development.
5. Ensure that sector plans take appropriate account of national sector policies.
6. Ensure that all sector committee members are aware of relevant policy guidelines and technical standards.
7. Promote/ support training of sector members.
8. Hold regular coordination meetings.
9. Collect information from all partners on Who's Where, since and until When, doing What, and regularly feed the database managed by Sphere India.
10. Represent the sector in Inter-Sector coordination mechanisms.
11. Assess and monitor available sector resources.
12. Mobilize sector partners to contribute to establishing and maintaining appropriate Early Warning System.
13. Ensure that sector needs are identified by planning assessments.
14. Lead and contribute to sector analysis of information and data leading to identification of gaps in sector response.
15. For recovery planning, or in protracted crisis, ensure incorporating building back better, and risk reduction measures.



16. Lead sector contingency planning.
17. International NGOs and CSOs to utilize their networks in a comprehensive manner for provide guidance to the government.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Sector Coordinator (Sphere India Secretariat)

1. The Sector Coordinator, commonly known as Focal Point shall coordinate for execution of the annual plan under the guidance of committee, Chair, Co-chair of committee and CEO/SPM (Senior Program Manager) of Sphere India.
2. The Focal Point shall have monthly meetings with Chair and CEO/SPM to update and seek guidance on developments on processes, projects, new initiatives taken and individual development.
3. The Focal Point shall have frequent meetings with members individually.
4. The Focal Point shall share the monthly report with the Chair and the CEO/SPM.
5. The Focal Point shall take minutes of all the committee meeting and circulate it to members.

Main Functions of the Committee

1. To draft the long-term strategic plan for the sector.
2. To approve annual plan of actions with programmatic and financial details.
3. To review the progress on plan implementation and utilization of budget quarterly.
4. To guide and support executive team for collaborative advocacy.
5. To elect chair and vice-chair for the committee.

Meetings of the Committee

1. The committee shall meet once every quarter. The dates should be fixed in advance falling under first week of the months of February, May, August and November.
2. The special meetings of the committee meeting can be convened as required.
3. The committee meetings should be professional with agenda approved by the subcommittee chair and the CEO/SPM.
4. The member organizations shall appoint a point person to attend the meetings and represent in committee.
5. All important decisions including election of chair, approval of plans and activities shall be final only if there is a minimum quorum of the 50% of the committee strength in the meeting.

Sector Committee Composition

1. The composition of the sector committees must be diverse. Efforts are made to have an inclusive committee with prominent representation from local NGOs, all caste groups, different genders and different regions.
2. In order to enhance local representation, the sector committee must ensure that either the Sector Lead or Co Lead is a member a local organization.

Formation of the Sector Committee

By following a participatory process, the formation of sector committee is carried out. Sphere India Secretariat sends out an email to all its members inviting them to be a part of sector committees. Furthermore, members are requested to nominate sector specialists or focal persons for the sector within their organizations. Terms of reference of the committee are also sent along with this email. The desired committee size is 8-10 members, however, in the event that more nominations are received, preference is given to members who were not a part of the sector committee in the previous year. Nominations for the Chair/Co-Chair are received and finalised based on consultations with the CEO or Chair/Vice- Chair of Excom.



Introduction: Protection Sector

INTRODUCTION

Sudden or recurrent natural hazards such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tidal waves/ tsunamis, cyclones, floods, landslides often trigger severe and protracted disaster situations in countries where local capacities are not sufficient to ensure effective preparedness for an adequate response to the devastating effects of such events on the population.

The impact of natural hazards is most acutely felt by individuals and communities with pre-existing vulnerabilities which often are characterized by the limited enjoyment of rights. One of the most important protection related challenges in a disaster is long-standing protection and human rights concerns which are brought to light and further exacerbated by the emergency. Man-made and natural disaster situations cause and worsen protection risks, especially child protection concerns such as violence against children including sexual and gender-based violence; mental distress; child labour; child marriage; family separation; child trafficking; as well as unequal access to assistance; discrimination in aid provision; enforced relocation; loss of personal documentation; land disputes and issues related to land and property rights.

Protection Concerns of Marginalized Groups in Disasters

a) Protection Concerns of Women and Girls in Disasters

In addition to the general effects of natural disaster and lack of health care, women are vulnerable to reproductive and sexual health problems. Moreover, gender roles dictate that women become the primary caretakers for those affected by disasters — including children, the injured and sick and the elderly — substantially increasing their emotional and material workload. Women's vulnerability is further increased by the loss of men and/or livelihoods, especially when a male head of household has died, and the women must provide for their families. Post-disaster stress symptoms are often but not universally reported more frequently by women than men. There is a likelihood that a number of women becoming victims of domestic and sexual violence. There have been cases where women avoid using shelters for fear of being sexually assaulted.

b) Protection Concerns of Sexual and Gender Minorities

Transgender people are at a disadvantage in accessing resources, services and opportunities. In addition to social and economic vulnerabilities, the stigma and discrimination that they are subjected to, deprives them of many disaster mitigation/ response programmes, hampering their ability to overcome the negative effects of a disaster. The institutional and legal frameworks geared towards reducing the risk of disasters are usually silent on such sections. It is only recently that a handful of case studies have highlighted the fate of sexual

and gender minorities in disaster. Most of the research on disaster-related vulnerabilities faced by the sexual and gender minorities concur that they are often more severely affected by disasters because they face barriers or lack of access to the means of protection available to others. The highly marginalised conditions of sexual and gender minorities in everyday life, thus, places them at higher risk when confronted with disaster situations.

c) Protection Concerns of the Elderly

The specific requirements and strengths of older people are often not given appropriate consideration in disaster response and DRR. According to national Census 2011, there are nearly 104 million elderly persons (aged 60 years or above); 53 million females and 51 million males. Both, the share and size of elderly population is increasing over time. In terms of rural and urban distribution, 71 per cent of the elderly are in rural and 29 per cent are in urban areas. As per Census 2011, the sex ratio among elderly is 1033 women per 1000 men. The life expectancy at birth is 69.3 years for females and 65.8 years for males. The old-age dependency ratio is 14.2 per cent, as per Census 2011 (females 14.9%, males 13.6%). Most common disability among the aged community was locomotor disability and visual disability.

The humanitarian response planning needs to pay special attention to psychological vulnerabilities, impaired physical mobility, diminished sensory awareness, poor health conditions as well as weak social and economic level that severely limits the capacity of the elderly to prepare for disasters, hinders their adaptability and constrains their ability to respond.

d) Protection Concerns of the Persons with Disabilities (PWD)

The population of the PWD in India, as per census 2011, is 2.68 Cr, which is 2.2 per cent of the total population. Of these, 56 per cent are males and 44 per cent are females. Of the total population, the male and female percentage is 51 per cent and 49 per cent, respectively. Majority of the PWD (69%) live in rural areas, which is nearly same the share of rural population. A Handicap International study in 2015 (HI 2015) found that 75 per cent of people with disabilities believe they are excluded from humanitarian responses to emergencies like natural disasters and conflict.

It has been observed that persons with disabilities (PWD) are often overlooked and thus, not only excluded in risk reduction and disaster response measures but are also subject to higher risk than others. The needs assessment must specifically address the vulnerabilities of PWD among the affected population, rather than clubbing them with others.

e) Protection of Children in Disasters

In situations of emergency children face isolation, anxiety, trauma, some get separated from their families, lose their parent(s), face gender violence and



trafficking. Some face the risk of getting recruited as child labourers. During disaster, children's bodily integrity is at risk in crises with widespread and/or systematic violence. Children often face apathy leading to severe interruption of education and recreation, poor access to food and nutrition.

Protection as a humanitarian area of response is all-encompassing domain wherein the people-centred, inclusive, equitable implementation of other sectoral interventions are tied to better delivery of protection measures to the people affected by disasters. Therefore, protection is a cross-cutting area of humanitarian consideration regardless of the sector of response. Moreover, effective delivery of protection needs is also fundamentally contingent upon the comprehensive understanding of the pre-existing vulnerabilities and threats to the people prone to hazards in specific locations. Generally, in India, the protection challenges and needs emanate from pre-existing living conditions of the marginalised sections.

Vulnerability Concerns in the Protection Sector

i. Pre-Existing Identity-Based Vulnerability

The pre-existing multi-dimensional vulnerabilities are attached to social status of the people, be it their caste, ethnicity, gender, ability or age. The Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) are historical in nature and have penetrated all spheres of their existence across generations. The STs continue to suffer on account of their geographical remoteness, living in forest areas, enduring and resisting the onslaught of land acquisition for 'development' projects, ensuing in displacement and destruction of their natural resource base (forests) that form the basis of their sustenance. The SCs on the other hand, the former *untouchables*, are found to be poor and deprived on account of the graded caste system, left under-resourced and without developmental assets.

ii. Participation in Governance and Resources for Disaster Resilience

The lack of participation in local governance, dissatisfactory coverage and realisation of social protection schemes among the marginalised communities continue to weaken the coping and recovering capacity post a disaster. Lack of assertion, voice and influence in disaster governance and planning has produced a system which caters to the needs of dominant and influential communities alone in all matters. This absence or denied and restricted access to essential services and opportunities are hence, both a cause and a consequence of the pre-existing vulnerabilities. This has systemically and effortlessly perpetuated inequality, to the extent of prohibiting resources that build resilient households and communities and are susceptible to exploitation by the powerful.

iii. Locational Vulnerability

The social structure being such, SCs particularly are forced by their circumstances to live in secluded habitations outside the main village, and in ghettoised slums in urban areas, thereby, having poor access to information, public education,

disaster-resilient infrastructure or communication for immediate action. Moreover, their habitations are usually located in low-lying areas with open drains and waste dump yards. Living without basic amenities and safety in normal times makes protection in disasters further complex and an under-delivered service. With poor quality of housing, lack of sanitation and hygiene, intermittent water supply in crowded areas, disasters exacerbate the dangers to health and protection of vulnerable groups, particularly the women and young girls. Thus, by the very location, they are most prone to suffer the outbreak of diseases in disasters, with lower resistance to illnesses and capacity to seek timely and quality healthcare. Incidences of chronic malnutrition, mortality and morbidity that are generally higher among these communities (National Family Health Survey 2015-16) get magnified during disasters.

iv. Economic Vulnerability

About 80–90 per cent workforce is engaged in the informal and the ‘unorganised’ economy; they account for roughly half of India’s GDP¹. The NITI Aayog’s Strategy for New India at 75, released in November 2018, and the Economic Survey of 2018–19 have estimated informal workforce to be 85 per cent and 93 per cent, respectively; of these, 39 per cent SCs are self-employed, 19 per cent are regular wage earners and 41.2 per cent are casual labourers; for STs, 21.4 per cent are helpers in household enterprise, 56 per cent are self-employed, 13 per cent are regular wage earners and 31 per cent are casual labourers (Periodic Labour Force Survey, p A-405, MoSPI, 2017–18). As per Census 2011 and Agriculture Census of 2015–16 data, the SCs and STs are majorly the owners of small to marginal landholdings, and even among that, SCs account for a lion’s share of landless communities, therefore, constitute an ever-present pool of migrant or informal workforce, cheap manual labour, child labour, massively engaged in leased farming and share cropping and agricultural labour, which is not officially recognised and recorded.

Women, children and the elderly from these communities typically outnumber other social groups in informal workforce. In fact, the SC and ST women outpace men as migrant workers, and their participation in MGNREGS work shows similar trends. The income inequality translates into inequality in all aspects of life required for disaster preparedness. Repayment of loans/ debts and livelihood take primacy over all other concerns after the disasters. Therefore, the protection sector interventions in disasters in India warrant main streaming of the assistance to realise social protection assistance by the marginalised communities.

1. <https://thewire.in/political-economy/the-modi-sarkars-project-for-indias-informal-economy>



Inclusion of Social Protection in Disaster Response for Resilience

The term social protection signifies curbing and halting any experience of discrimination, deprivation and denial be it based on any attribute like caste, gender, age, differences in abilities, ethnicity, creed, religion, sexual orientation or any other such attribute. The denial of social protection emerges from social exclusion which is deeply ingrained in a rigid social stratification system of India based on caste, religious affinities, gender bias, prejudices towards people with disabilities and so on, and poor implementation of social protection and justice laws. Social exclusion is a process through which individuals or groups are wholly or partially excluded from fully participating in all aspects of life of the society, in which they live, on the grounds of their social identities, such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture or language and/or physical, economic, social disadvantages.

Exclusion is often most acute when people suffer multiple layers of discrimination and they are embedded in unequal relations of power. To make matters worse, they often remain 'invisible' in disaster reduction or emergency response programmes, even in many cases where they constitute a significant proportion of population. Therefore, it is desirable to assess the coverage of social protection schemes among the affected people through needs assessments and beneficiary selection processes and facilitate the access and realisation of state entitlements throughout the course of time-bound aid delivery. This is not yet a part of humanitarian response in India but most critical in times when multiple disasters are being witnessed in the country each year, some in the same geographies year after year affecting the same population successively.

The primary stage of any applied protection programme is to analyse and assess the needs of the affected population. The Protection principles as contained in the Sphere Global Handbook, forms one of the four foundation chapters. It remains at the core of commitment to the people affected by disasters, as it is the implementation of the legal principles and rights outlined in the Humanitarian Charter that inform all humanitarian response. Therefore, this chapter and the Protection Sector also reflects Sphere's commitment to a principled, rights-based, inclusive and gender-sensitive humanitarian response. It is based on the fundamental right to life (Article 21) as enshrined in the Constitution of India and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which is the source document for all international conventions signed and ratified by India, including the International Humanitarian Laws. Protection, therefore, encompasses and underpins all technical chapters in the Handbook, as they are principally aimed at protecting and respecting the lives of the people.

An efficient and effective protection programme deploys a robust use of legal tools such as treaties and existing laws after a deep understanding and analysis of the situation. Community-oriented protection strategies should be designed

after gaining insight into the needs of the community, after consulting the affected population.

This chapter focuses on the mechanisms, processes and strategies to be used to design an effective needs assessment and monitoring. It lays out the key factors to be considered while collecting information and the most effective sources which can be used by organizations working in the protection sector. This chapter emphasises the importance of Humanitarian response to recognise and take steps to address unequal disaster-coping capabilities by recognising that due to inequalities and social exclusions some sections suffer more than others in extreme events and disasters because of their place within the social system. Addressing the enormous challenges posed by social marginalisation, social exclusion and other inequities is beyond the domain of DRM.



Key Actions

Situation Analysis

A rapid situational analysis is done based on primary information from the local partners and volunteers and secondary information from official and reliable non-governmental sources. The situation analysis helps in gauging how a situation would emerge and build up to be on day-to-day basis, and determines areas for detailed assessment. Against the above-mentioned backdrop, the following steps need to be taken:

- Develop a community profile of people affected in specific areas, both from primary and secondary sources of data. These could be from the Population Census, Agriculture Census, Socio-Economic Caste Census, NFHS data available for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe women, elderly, children and men on their occupational patterns, migration, education, child labour, disability, housing, water and sanitation, landholdings, etc., and non-governmental studies.
- Gather information about the crisis from government sources as released by district and state authority website from time to time.
- Collect information about the potential risks to the population situation through secondary sources and local partners on areas that are sensitive to communal, caste, ethnic violence if humanitarian response is launched or avoided.
- Be alert to news reporting which may provide important information about the evolving situation and confirm the reports through members actively working on the ground.

Joint Needs Assessments

The Joint Rapid Needs Assessment (JRNA) as well as Joint Detailed Needs Assessment (JDNA) are important to ensure a unified protection strategy from different agencies. Inter-agency collaboration is required in this phase. As

protection needs are all encompassing, a multitude of organizations should be a part of the assessment and monitoring phase. Such assessments are effective when tools are developed in a consultative manner and agreed by all actors to be followed and adhered to, gather quality information. The JDNA builds on preliminary situation analysis and identifies and prioritises needs and problems to be addressed with available resources (social, financial, knowledge, human personnel, advocacy, and convergence). While there are cross-cutting identities leading to enhanced protection needs, organizations in the protection sector must also assess the needs of the entire affected population and ensure that some other organisation, if not their own, is addressing their protection needs.

The following steps are recommended against the larger backdrop for addressing the existing protection situation in India:

- Develop and agree on a common tool and methodologies for disaggregated data collection capturing the caste, ethnicity, religious identity, gender, age and disability of the affected household/ person across thematic focuses.
- Organise trainings on the tools and thematic perspective building for enumerators to enable them to anticipate complexities owing to diversity and inequalities and prepare accordingly.
- Engage with community-based organizations such as the women's collectives (private and state-promoted), workers' cooperatives, elders' self-help groups, etc., based in the areas to gather insights on how to better address the needs.
- Ensure diversity in the assessment teams on the ground, by engaging enumerators from across the social groups and genders represented in the teams across the sectors.
- Conduct systematic FGDs with women, elderly, transgender community, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and occupational groups about the fears, protection needs and priorities.
- Prepare SOPs for defence personnel and their role so as to avoid duplication of work.

Data Collection and Analysis

The data collected through the above JDNA process, will enable identification and prioritisation of the protection needs of different vulnerable groups and marginalised sections and help determine the path of intervention within a stipulated time frame to ensure the protection needs are met. The process of data collection across sectors through the JDNA should cover the following:

- Identify Who is affected? What are their vulnerabilities and Protection needs? What coping capacities and strategies are employed? Are they internally displaced, mobile? What are their priorities?
- Identify protection threats and risks to the affected and identify potential difficulties in reaching out to them.

- Identify the available legal and social protection measures and mechanisms at community, panchayat, district and state levels.
- Identify how accessible, both physical and socially, are these protection measures and mechanisms by the affected and at-risk persons/ groups.
- Discuss the trends and issues that are emerging and the capacity of the organizations to address them and how. Here the capacity will include, finance, time, human resources and technical know-how.
- Analyse the data collected from gender, age and SC/ST perspectives, that is, how the women and men from marginalised communities were impacted differentially, and thus, the protection needs must be addressed in a crisis.
- The protection analysis includes attention to: (i) The multi-layered vulnerabilities of women and men and those different marginalised communities; (ii) their differential access to and use of resources and their specific needs, priorities and problems; and (iii) the barriers to the full and equitable participation in the state relief process and realisation of entitlements.
- Identify and analyse the general development problems and the immediate protection needs for addressing them at appropriate levels and strategies.
- Define the protection objective that would be achieved by the end of the humanitarian response or carried forward into the phase of short-term to long-term recovery, rehabilitation and DRR and development programmes.
- Develop meaningful indicators based on the sectoral objective in humanitarian response, whether it is service delivery and/or sector-specific advocacy with relevant authorities at appropriate levels to facilitate recovery and DRR.
- Mobilise resources based on the needs assessed and objectives formulated (*This is dealt separately in the Section on Resource Mobilisation*).



Information Management

Data about the emergency and protection needs of affected populations, and about the whereabouts and capacities of humanitarian response organizations, are crucial for effective decision-making in emergencies. These data need to be 'organised' or processed to provide useful information about the differential effect of a disaster on different groups, and therefore, the diverse protection needs. This in turn is interpreted or analysed and disseminated across humanitarian actors and responders and decision-making authorities. This information should be processed and managed, keeping in mind that the protection sector is cross-cutting with all other humanitarian sectors.

- Data should be stored safely and be retrievable on need, protected by data protection policy.
- The MIS should be secured with restricted access by authorised personnel to ensure confidentiality of information and prevent any form of data misuse.

- Avoid taking photographs of the people affected by disasters and storing the images.
- Integrate relevant measures for protection of audio-visuals of affected people across organisational policies for protection of children, women, elderly and so on.
- Conduct trainings on sensitising data managers and handlers on the vulnerability of data and prohibit usage beyond the stated purpose of needs-assessment or related matters in the interest of the humanitarian objective

It is to be recognised and resolved that protection needs of disaster-affected people are cross-cutting concerns and the tools to assess the needs must ensure that protection enquiries are sufficiently included in the sectoral tools and methods of assessment.



Stakeholder Analysis and Coordination

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS AND COORDINATION

Identifying Key Stakeholders, Managing Sectoral Coordination, and Information

1. Identify the state and community-based organizations on child protection, if possible, led by leadership from marginalised communities or with in- depth knowledge and experience of working with these communities in disasters including child rights and child protection organizations as well as women's rights organizations (WRO).
2. Identify the leaders or representatives from the marginalised communities, especially children and women, and vulnerable groups, including children with disabilities that are vocal and respected by their community members.
3. Identify stakeholders and the role they could play in addressing the unmet needs, including the civil society organizations, community- based groups, panchayat, district, state, national authorities, policy makers, UN organizations, INGOs and so on depending upon the needs and nature of engagement (emergency response or advocacy for risk reduction) and time available.
4. Identify stakeholders' complementing and conflicting interests.
5. This will act as a response strategy, and thus, would form as need risk mitigation strategy.
6. Partner them to join in the needs-assessment process given their proximity and knowledge about the topography and demography.
7. Based on the JDNA, decide whether direct services and supplies would be suitable to meet the protection needs or should they be referred to a competent authority at the district or state level.
8. A combination of both options based on the capacity and mandate of the responders is also viable.

Institutional Stakeholders and Laws

The country has a well-established institutional set up at all levels, leading up to the village level. Many of these statutory bodies are mandates with specific roles in emergencies and with oversight functions to safeguard the rights of vulnerable groups and marginalised communities. For humanitarian organizations, it is essential to identify the relevant national, state, district- level and panchayat-level bodies that have been assigned various specific roles and functions to ensure protection, grievance redressal, prevention and response to risks and dangers

in emergencies. The problems and risk assessment findings from the JDNA when shared with these concerned authorities can pave the way for effective convergence and advocacy for the protection of People, especially children and women, in disasters and strengthening of public systems, respectively. Some of these national-level institutions are listed below, but they also have various sub-bodies and institutions for execution of national mandates at decentralised levels. These bodies and mechanisms must be identified in stakeholder analysis and agenda identified for strategy plan to be pursued with them pre-, during and post disasters.

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India was established on 12 October, 1993. The statute under which it is established is the Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993 as amended by the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2006. NHRC is an embodiment of India's concern for the promotion and protection of human rights. Section 2(1) (d) of the PHRA defines Human Rights as the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of the individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in the International Covenants and enforceable by courts in India.

Role of NHRC During Emergencies

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has a role to ensure that proper mechanisms are being followed during emergencies. It is needed to be involved for making the disaster management plan (DMP), to ensure that people do not lose their basic human rights because of a natural disaster or resulting displacement. Rather all of those affected by natural or other disasters, including those who are displaced, are entitled to the protection of all relevant human rights guarantees. The NHRC has a guideline on internally displaced persons (IDPs) as defined in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, and thus, entitled to the full range of rights and responsibilities included therein.

NHRC could influence policies in the below mentioned four rights areas:

- Rights related to physical security and integrity (e.g., protection of the right to life and the right to be free of assault including sexual assault, arbitrary detention, kidnapping, domestic violence and threats to these rights).
- Rights related to necessities of life (e.g., the right to food, drinking water, shelter, adequate clothing, sanitary napkins for women, adequate health services, toilets and sanitation).
- Rights related to other economic, social and cultural protection needs (e.g., the right to be provided with or have access to education, to relief and entitlements, to receive restitution or compensation for lost property and to work).
- Rights related to other civil and political protection needs (e.g., the right to religious freedom and freedom of speech, personal documentation, right



to assembly, association and participation, political participation, access to courts and freedom from discrimination).

National Commission for Women (NCW)

The National Commission for Women (NCW) is a constitutional body mandated to enabling women to achieve equality and equal participation in all spheres of life by securing their due rights and entitlements through suitable policy formulation, legislative measures, effective enforcement of laws, implementation of schemes/ policies and devising strategies for solution of specific problems/ situations arising out of discrimination and atrocities against women.

Role of NCW During Emergencies

- To provide a legal framework which adequately addresses the problems of women through studying and monitoring all matters relating to the constitutional and legal safeguards provided for women, especially during the emergencies. Towards this, NCW can establish a monitoring committee to observe the interventions that are being designed to respond to emergency, with special emphasis on provisions for girls and young women.
- To fulfill the surveillance functions as well as facilitate redressal of grievances of women and to investigate complaints and take Suo Moto notice of the cases relating to –
 - a. Deprivation of the rights of women to provide support, legal or otherwise.
 - b. Non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardship and ensuring welfare and providing relief to women.
- To draw attention to specific gendered vulnerabilities which may arise for women during and after disasters such as drop- outs of girls from school, lack of sanitary napkins, separate toilets, sexual assault, domestic violence, early and forced marriages, trafficking and others.
- To enable women to equally benefit from the process of development by participating and advising on the planning process of socio-economic development of women and evaluating the progress of the same in the emergency context.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is a statutory body under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005 under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India. The Commission's mandate is to ensure that all laws, policies, programmes and administrative mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. To safeguard every child, it seeks a deeper penetration

into communities and households and expects that the ground experiences gathered at the field are taken into consideration by all the authorities at the higher level. Thus, the Commission sees an indispensable role for the State, sound institution-building processes, respect for decentralisation at the local bodies and community level and larger societal concern for children and their well-being.

Role of NCPCR During Emergencies

- Many deficiencies exist in the data for preparedness planning related to children including specific concerns of girls, children from vulnerable and marginalized communities and children with disabilities, especially during the emergencies. NCPCR could be pivotal to add this in the whole plan.
- The basic goal with respect to disasters is to make children, families and communities more resilient and less vulnerable.
- Adults and children may initially persevere following a traumatic event, but the resilience can erode the longer recovery takes, thus, making the recovery process even more stressful over time.
- Examine and review the safeguards provided by or under any law and how that could be operationalized in an emergency preparedness and response.
- Document and present the reports on working of the safeguards for children to effectively improve the emergency preparedness, response and recovery.
- Undertake and promote research in the field of child rights in emergencies.
- Inquire into complaints and take Suo Moto notice of matters relating to –
 - a. Deprivation and violation of child rights including specifically rights of girl child and children from vulnerable and marginalized communities, including children with disabilities.
 - b. Non-implementation of laws providing for protection and development of children.
 - c. Non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships and ensuring welfare of the children and providing relief to such children; or take up the issues arising out of such matters with appropriate authorities.

The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens (Amendment) Draft Bill, 2018

An Act to provide for the protection and welfare of parents and seniors to ensure their basic needs; health and security; the establishment, management and control of institutions and services and the rights granted and accepted by the Constitution and similar or incidental matters. The Act describes maintenance as the provision of food, clothing, housing, medical care and treatment. Welfare is specified to include food, healthcare and other required facilities for senior citizens. The Bill extends the concept of: (i) maintenance to include the provision of education,



protection and security for parents and senior citizens to live a dignified life; (ii) welfare to include the provision of accommodation, food, protection and other services required for a senior citizen or parent's physical and mental well-being.

Role of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens (Amendment)

Maintenance Orders: Under the Act, state governments constitute maintenance Tribunals to decide on the maintenance payable to senior citizens and parents. These Tribunals may direct children and relatives to pay a monthly maintenance fee of up to Rs 10,000 to parents and senior citizens.

Appeals: The Act allows for the appeal of maintenance Tribunal rulings by senior citizens or guardians. The Bill also requires children and families to challenge Tribunal decisions.

Offences and Penalties: Under the Act, forsaking a senior citizen or parent is punishable by up to three months imprisonment or a fine or both.

Maintenance Officer: The Act provides for a maintenance official to represent a parent during the Tribunal's proceedings. The Bill allows maintenance officers to: (i) ensure that maintenance payment orders are complied with and (ii) serve as liaison for parents or senior citizens.

Establishment of Care-homes: State governments can build old age homes under the Act.

Healthcare: The Act provides for some services for senior citizens in government hospitals (such as separate queues, beds and equipment for geriatric patients).

Protection and Welfare Measures: The Bill allows every police station to have at least one officer to deal with issues relating to parents and senior citizens, not below the level of Assistant Sub-Inspector.

Role of Order Passed by the Supreme Court Dated 04-08-2020 During Emergencies

An order was passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court on older people dated 04-08-2020 addressing those who need more care and protection in this pandemic of COVID-19.

- All old age people who are eligible for pension should be regularly paid pension.
- Identified older people should be provided necessary medicines, masks, sanitizers and other essential goods by respective States.
- The care givers of those old age homes should be provided personal protection and appropriate sanitization should also be undertaken in the old age homes.

Police Structures

Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs)

The AHTUs are supposed to be integrated task forces to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and will be constituted of a group of trained sensitive

officials of the Police and the Women and Child welfare department of the State, and reputed local NGOs. They will function as coherent units and their role during emergencies are the following.

- Ensuring focused attention in dealing with offences of human trafficking and providing a multidisciplinary approach and a joint response by all stake holders.
- Ensuring an 'organized crime' perspective in dealing with trafficking crimes.
- Bringing about inter-departmental collaboration among the police and all other government agencies and departments, such as women and child, labour, health, etc.
- Conducting rescue operations with the assistance of NGOs whenever they receive information about trafficking activities either from police sources, or NGOs or civil society.
- Ensuring a victim-centric and gender specific approach which ensures the 'best interest of the victim/ survivor' and prevents 'secondary victimization/ re-victimization' of the victim.
- Ensuring a gender sensitive and child rights sensitive approach in dealing with trafficked victims.
- Functioning as unit at grass roots for collection and development of an exhaustive database on all law enforcement aspects of the crime, including information on traffickers and trafficking gangs, which they will convey to the District and State Crime Records Bureau for further transmission to the National Crime Records Bureau. Thus, AHTUs will facilitate availability of comprehensive national level data on this criminal activity.

Local Police Units

The police are a constituted body of persons empowered by a state, with the aim to enforce the law and order, to ensure the safety, health, and possessions of citizens, and to prevent crime and civil disorder. Their lawful powers include arrest and the use of force legitimized by the state via the monopoly on violence.

Role of Police in Disaster Prevention & Preparedness

The Superintendent of Police of a district is an ex-officio member of District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) and in this capacity he or she could play an important role in prevention and preparedness phase.

Emergency Traffic Plan: Being familiar with the local terrain, Police should prepare an emergency traffic plan including detailed mapping with focus on strategic points.

Detailed Communication Plan: Police have a robust and effective communication system that is also for non-police functions. It can also be used to propagate information and warning of threatening disaster.



Identification of Building: Police personnel travel in their area frequently. They can be of great help in identifying buildings and campus which are easy to access and could be used as relief centers/relief camps and storage facilities.

Security Plan: At the time of any serious incident it becomes inevitable to provide security to victims, responders and to relief materials at storage point and during transit. Resources deployed too may require security.

Resource Mapping: It is particularly important to locate essential resources at the very beginning of search and rescue works.

Emergency Response Phase: Role of Police During Disaster.

These are primary role of police during the management of the actual disaster situation.

- Search and Rescue (SAR).
- Deployment of resources.
- Restoration of communication system/liaison with rescue teams.
- Make available police communication resources for other DM task e.g., Relief distribution, medical teams.
- Standby for emergency communication networks.
- Prevention of commission of cognizable offences including all offences against property, human body and public tranquility.
- Similarly, the vulnerable section of society particularly women and children, especially girls, susceptible to crimes against human body.
- Police can provide safety to such persons by active patrolling during disasters and by arresting the suspects beforehand.
- Ensuring prompt registration of cases, especially of crimes against women and speedy investigation in all cases.
- Security during relief distributions and management.
- Isolate disaster sites and control site access for safety of victims, public and efficiency of incident operation.
- Security of camp inmates, officials and volunteers engaged in running of camps including health workers is core function.
- Emergency transportation and traffic regulation.
- Coordination with various agencies.
- Casualty information/ disposal of dead bodies.
- Family Liaison Officers.
- Media management.
- VIP Security.
- Crowd Management.

Women Police Stations & Units

Women Police Stations and Units are not generally available in all states and districts. However, when available they are expected to play the following role.

- Ensure special assistance to rescue of women and girls from a disaster or post-disaster situation.
- Ensuring prompt registration of cases, especially of crimes against women and speedy investigation in all cases.
- Work collaboratively with the AHTUs, provide intelligence to ensure prevention of human trafficking, especially of women and girls.
- Ensure a women and girl friendly environment and sensitive communication so that they can freely communicate their concerns without fear or shame, especially in the case of crimes against women.

Special Juvenile Police Units (SJPU)

In every police station, at least one officer, not below the rank of assistant sub-inspector, with aptitude, appropriate training and orientation may be designated as the child welfare police officer to exclusively deal with children either as victims or perpetrators, in co-ordination with the police, voluntary and non-governmental organizations. To coordinate all functions of police related to children, the State Government shall constitute Special Juvenile Police Units (SPJUs) in each district and city, headed by a police officer not below the rank of a Deputy Superintendent of Police or above and consisting of all police officers designated under sub-section and two social workers having experience of working in the field of child welfare, of whom one shall be a woman. Special Juvenile Police Unit also includes Railway police dealing with children.

Role of SJPU During Emergencies

- The Special Juvenile Police Unit and Child Welfare Officer at the police station will handle cases of both juveniles in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection. The social worker at the SPJU shall be the first line of intervention in all cases, as far as possible.
- The Special Juvenile Police Unit shall coordinate and function as a watchdog for providing legal protection against all kinds of cruelty, abuse and exploitation of children and report instances of non-compliance for further legal action.
- The Special Juvenile Police Unit shall take serious cognizance of adult perpetrators of crimes against children and ensure that they are apprehended immediately and booked under the appropriate provisions of the law.
- The Special Juvenile Police Unit shall ensure the registering, linking, and monitoring of information regarding missing children received at the police station, and shall investigate immediately.



- The Special Juvenile Police Unit shall work with voluntary organizations, local governing bodies, community-based organizations in identifying juveniles in conflict with law as well as reporting cases of violence against children, child neglect, child abuse and exploitation.
- The Special Juvenile Police Unit shall maintain a list of NGOs/voluntary organizations in their respective jurisdiction, and shall monitor the activities to prevent all crimes against children specifically trafficking, illegal adoption and detention of children.
- The Special Juvenile Police Unit to establish and maintain contacts with experts from various fields with the right credentials for their assistance/cooperation in child related matters, as and when required.

Railway Protection Force (RPF)

One officer in each zonal RPF, with aptitude, appropriate training and orientation may be designated as the child welfare police officer to exclusively deal with marginalized groups¹ such as children, women, disabled persons, transgenders and the elderly either as victims of emergencies in railways, in co-ordination with the police, voluntary and non-governmental organizations.

Role of RPF During Emergencies

The Railways Protection Force is an 'Armed Force of the Union' constituted by an Act of Parliament, the Railway Protection Force Act 1957, for the protection and security of railway property, passenger area and passengers and for matters connected there in. The Railway Protection Force (RPF) must constitute a disaster management team at the divisional level with 15 RPF personnel and a Quick Reaction Team (QRT) at the zonal level, ensuring:

- Rapid access to the site of the accident.
- Effective site management by making best use of on-board and locally available resources.
- Quick extrication of victims.
- Speedy transportation of victims to hospital.
- Proper communication system both for assisting the stranded passengers as well as giving out timely information to the media.

Juvenile Justice System: Protective Initiatives & Systems

- The Juvenile Justice (care and protection of children) Amendment act, 2021² received the assent of the President on the 7th August, 2021, and was published for general information. This is an Act to combine and amend the law associated to children which are positively asserted and found in conflict

1. https://bprd.nic.in/WriteReadData/Orders/book_child-protection1.pdf

2. THE JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN)

with the law and the child needs to provide care and security by taking into account their essential needs through legitimate consideration, assurance, advancement, treatment, social re-mix, by embracing a child cordial approach in the mediation and removal of issues to the most progressive growth of the child and for their restoration through procedures given, and organizations and bodies as mentioned in the recent amendment of juvenile justice Act 2015 Section 1(1)(2)(3)(4), it represents “Not with standing anything contained in some other law for now in power.”

The social arrangements of this Act will apply to all issues concerning child’s needs care and security and youths in strife with law, including anxiety, confinement, arraignment, appropriate punishment or detainment, restoration and social re-incorporation of kids in a struggle with law.

Role of Juvenile Justice System During Emergencies

- On receiving information about a child or children in need of care and protection, who cannot be produced before the Committee, the Committee shall reach out to the child or children and hold meeting at a place that is convenient for such child or children.
- Ensure that in disaster situations children do not face isolation, anxiety, trauma, separated from their families or parent(s).
- Take adequate measures to prevent and stop child abuse, including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and maintain strict vigil against child trafficking and child labour.
- Take measures to prevent and stop child labour and child trafficking in post disaster situation.
- Sensitize all agencies and key personnel associated with protection of child rights and safety, including those connected with juvenile justice such as police, CWC, JJB, CARA and DCPU.
- Promote community-based care and protection of the affected children.
- Mobilizing support to disaster-affected children from national and international agencies working for children’s welfare
- Support for implementing measures for proper protection and care of disaster affected children.
- Supervision and monitoring of DRM initiatives for children: pre-school, school-going and children not in school.

Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)

The Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) has significantly contributed to the realization of Government/State responsibility for creating a system that will efficiently and effectively protect children. Based on the cardinal principles of “protection of child rights” and “best interest of the child”, ICPS is achieving



its objectives to contribute to the improvements in the well-being of children in difficult circumstances, as well as to the reduction of vulnerabilities to situations and actions that lead to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment, and separation of children from their families.

Role of MISSION VATSALYA During Emergencies

- Special efforts shall be made to ensure either foster care or sponsorship for children affected by disaster and natural calamities, children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, children orphaned due to the COVID-19 crisis or any other situation directly affecting children.
- Recruit families from the community, who are willing to take on the responsibility of foster care, and maintain a list of identified foster families.
- To institutionalize essential services and strengthen structures for emergency outreach, institutional care, family and community- based care, counseling, and support services at the national, regional, state and district levels.
- Responding to calls on the national toll-free number 1098 and provision of rescue and emergency outreach services for children in need of care and protection through Child Line.

Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA)

The Juvenile Justice Act empowers the state government to recognize one or more of its institutions or voluntary organizations in each district as Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAA) in such manner, as may be prescribed, for the placement of orphaned, abandoned or surrendered children for adoption. This is done in accordance with the provisions of various guidelines for adoption issued from time to time, by the State Government, or the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) and notified by the Central Government. All - Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) shall be registered under Section 34(34) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2021 as well as the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and shall adhere to the guidelines or rules laid down by the State Government/ Central Government governing in- country/inter-country adoption from time to time. The SAA shall function within the ambit of law and comply with all relevant legislations, rules, and guidelines.

Child Care Institutions (CCIs)

A Child Care Institution (CCI) as defined under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, means Children Home, Open Shelter, Observation Home, Special Home, Place of Safety, Specialized Adoption Agency, and a Fit Facility recognized under the Act for providing care and protection to children, who need such services. Children in conflict with law are provided residential care and protection in Observation Homes, Special Homes and Place of Safety.



Assessing and Monitoring the Sector Situation in India

ASSESSING AND MONITORING THE SECTOR SITUATION IN INDIA

Disaster situations raise many questions on normative social order and structural inequalities which need to be reckoned with for any inclusive disaster response. Disaster management tends to view the affected people as a homogenous group – as internally undifferentiated ‘victims’ or ‘survivors’, particularly in the relief and recovery processes.

This leads to an inherent inability to address the existing disparities and inequities in terms of gender, abilities (physical, psychological, etc), caste or class (Fordham, 1999). Hazards do not discriminate, but people do. Disaster management could become unfair by being blind to prevailing inequities. Existing socio-economic conditions mean that disasters can lead to dissimilar outcomes even for what may seem demographically similar communities. Inevitably, the most vulnerable groups suffer more than others.

The Disaster Management Act 2005 (Chapter 11, Para 61) prohibits all forms of discrimination—be it based on sex, caste, community, descent, or religion—in any activities related to disaster risk reduction, disaster relief or in humanitarian assistance to the affected people. The preamble of National Policy of Disaster Management 2009 notes that the economically weaker and socially marginalized sections, women, elderly scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and minorities tend to suffer more during disasters. A community’s vulnerability to disaster depends on the social, cultural, economic, and political environment.

A continuous cycle of deprivation not only increases their vulnerability but also slowly alienates them from the decision- making process denying accessibility to the basic entitlements. Therefore, the very first step to assess protection needs by identifying the risks and threats that are linked to political, social, legal, economic, psychological, physical ability, age and gender locations of the marginalized communities and vulnerable populations.

Protection Concerns of Marginalized Groups (Women and Girls) in Disasters

In addition to the general effects of any disaster and lack of healthcare, women and girls are vulnerable to reproductive and sexual health problems. Moreover, gender roles dictate that women become the primary caretakers for those affected by disasters—including children, the injured and sick, and the elderly—substantially increasing their emotional and material workload. Women’s vulnerability is further increased by the loss of men and/or livelihoods, especially when a male head of household has died, and the women must provide for their families. Post disaster

stress symptoms are often but not universally reported more frequently by women than men. There is likelihood in the number of women becoming victims of domestic and sexual violence. There are cases of avoiding to live in/use shelters, by women for fear of being sexually assaulted.

Protection Concerns of Sexual and Gender Minorities

Transgender people are at a disadvantage in accessing resources, services, and opportunities. In addition to social and economic vulnerabilities, the stigma and discrimination that they are subjected to, deprives them of many disaster mitigation/response programmes, hampering their ability to overcome the negative effects of a disaster. The institutional and legal frameworks geared towards reducing the risk of disasters are usually silent on such sections.

It is only recently that a handful of case studies have highlighted the fate of sexual and gender minorities in disaster. Most of the research on disaster-related vulnerabilities faced by the sexual and gender minorities concur that they are often more severely affected by disasters because they face barriers or lack of access to the means of protection available to others. The highly marginalized conditions of sexual and gender minorities in everyday life thus places them at higher risk when confronted with disaster situations.

Protection Concerns of the Elderly

The specific requirements and strengths of older people are often not given appropriate consideration in disaster response and DRR. According to national Census 2011, there are nearly 104 million elderly persons (aged 60 years or above); 53 million females and 51 million males. Both the share and size of elderly population is increasing over time. In terms of rural and urban distribution, 71% of the elderly are in rural and 29 % is in urban areas. As per Census 2011, the sex ratio among elderly is 1033 women per 1000 men.

The life expectancy at birth is 69.3 years for females and 65.8 years for males. The old-age dependency ratio is 14.2%, as per Census 2011 (females 14.9%, males 13.6%). Most common disability among the aged persons was locomotor disability and visual disability. The humanitarian response planning needs to pay special attention to psychological vulnerabilities, impaired physical mobility, diminished sensory awareness, poor health conditions as well as weak social and economic limitations that severely limit the capacity of the elderly to prepare for disasters, hinder their adaptability and constrain their ability to respond.

Protection Concerns of the Persons with Disabilities (PWD)

The population of the PWD in India, as per census 2011, is 2.68 crores, which is 2.2% of the populations. Of these 56% are males and 44% are females. In the total population, the male and female populations are 51% and 49% respectively. Majority of the PWD (69%) live in rural areas, which is nearly same the share of rural population. A Handicap International study in 2015 (HI 2015) found that 75%



of people with disabilities believe they are excluded from humanitarian responses to emergencies like natural disasters and conflict. It has been observed that persons with disabilities (PWD) are often overlooked and thus not only excluded in risk reduction and disaster response measures but are also subject to higher risk than others. The needs assessment must specifically address the vulnerabilities of PWD among the affected population, rather than clubbing them with others.

Protection of Children in Disasters

In situations of emergency, children may face violence, isolation, anxiety, trauma, gender violence, trafficking and some get separated from their families, lose their parent(s). Some face the risk of getting recruited as child labourers. During disaster children's bodily integrity is at risk in crises with widespread and/or systematic violence. The children often face apathy leading to severe interruption of education and recreation, poor access to food and nutrition.

Protection as a humanitarian area of response is all-encompassing domain wherein the people-centered, inclusive, equitable implementation of other sectoral interventions are tied to better delivery of protection measures to the people affected by disasters. Therefore, protection is a cross-cutting area of humanitarian consideration regardless of the sector of response. Moreover, effective delivery of protection needs is also fundamentally contingent upon the comprehensive understanding of the pre-existing vulnerabilities and threats to the people prone to hazards in specific locations. Generally, in India, the protection challenges and needs emanate from pre-existing living conditions of the marginalized sections.

Pre-existing, Identity-based Vulnerability Concerns

The pre-existing, multidimensional vulnerabilities are attached to social status of the people, be it their caste, ethnicity, gender, ability, and age. The Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) are historical in nature and have penetrated all spheres of their existence across generations. The STs continue to suffer on account of their geographical remoteness, living in forest areas, enduring, and resisting the onslaught of land acquisition for 'development' projects, ensuing in displacement and destruction of their natural resource base (forests) that form the basis of their sustenance. The SCs on the other hand, the former untouchables, are found to be poor and deprived on account of the graded caste system, left under-resourced and without developmental assets.

Participation in Governance, and Resources for Disaster Resilience

The lack of participation in local governance, dissatisfactory coverage, and realization of social protection schemes among the marginalized communities, continue to weaken the coping and recovering capacity post the disaster. Lack of assertion, voice and influence in disaster governance and planning has produced a system which caters to the needs of dominant and influential communities alone in all matters. This absence or denied and restricted access to essential services

and opportunities are hence both a cause and consequence of the pre-existing vulnerabilities. This has systemically and effortlessly perpetuated inequality, to the extent of prohibiting resources that build resilient households and communities and susceptible to exploitation by the powerful.

Location-based Vulnerability

The social structure being such, SCs particularly are forced by their circumstances to live in secluded habitations outside the main village, and in ghettoized slums in urban areas, thereby having poor access to information, public education, disaster resilient infrastructure or communication, need an immediate action. Moreover, their habitations are usually located in low lying areas with open drains and waste dump yards. Living without basic amenities and safety in normal times makes protection in disasters further complex and under-delivered service. With poor quality of housing, lack of sanitation and hygiene, intermittent water supply in crowded areas, disasters exacerbate the dangers to health and protection of vulnerable groups, particularly the women and young girls.

Thus, by the very location, they are most prone to suffer the outbreak of diseases in disasters, with lower resistance to illnesses and capacity to seek timely and quality healthcare. Incidences of chronic malnutrition, mortality and morbidity that are generally higher among these communities (National Family Health Survey 2015-16) get magnified in disasters.

Economic Vulnerability

About 80-90% workforce is engaged in the 'informal' and the 'unorganized' economy, they account for roughly half of India's **Gross Domestic Product** (GDP). The NITI Aayog's Strategy for New India at 75, released in November 2018, and the Economic Survey of 2018-19 have estimated informal workforce to be 85% and 93% respectively. Of these, 39% SCs are self-employed, 19% are regular wage earners, and 41.2% are casual labourers; for STs, 21.4% are helpers in household enterprise, 56% are self-employed, 13% are regular wage earners, and 31% are casual labourers (Periodic Labour Force Survey, p A-405, MoSPI, 2017-18).

As per Census 2011 and Agriculture Census of 2015-16 data, the SCs and STs are majorly the owners of small to marginal landholdings, and even among them, the SCs account for a lion's share of landless communities, therefore, constitute an ever-present pool of migrant or informal workforce, cheap manual labour, child labour, massively engaged in leased farming and share cropping and agricultural labour, which is not officially recognized and recorded.

Women, children, and the elderly from these communities typically outnumber other social groups in informal workforce. In fact, the SC and the ST women outpace men as migrant workers, and their participation in MGNREGS work shows similar trends. The income inequality translates into inequality in all aspects of life required for disaster preparedness. Repayment of loans / debts and livelihood take primacy over all other concerns after the disasters. Therefore, the protection sector



interventions during disasters in India warrant main streaming of the assistance to realize social protection assistance by the marginalized communities.

Inclusion of Social Protection in Disaster Response for Resilience

The term social protection signifies curbing and halting any experience of discrimination, deprivation and denial be it based on any attribute, be it caste, gender, age, differences in abilities, ethnicity, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or any other attribute. The denial of social protection emerges from social exclusion, which is deeply ingrained in a rigid social stratification system of India, based on caste, religious affinities, gender bias, prejudices towards people with disabilities and so on, and poor implementation social protection and justice laws.

Social exclusion is a process through which individuals or groups are wholly or partially excluded from fully participating in all aspects of life of the society, in which they live, on the grounds of their social identities, such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture or language, and/or physical, economic, social disadvantages.

Exclusion is often most acute when people suffer multiple layers of discrimination and they are embedded in unequal relations of power. To make matters worse, they often remain 'invisible' in disaster reduction or emergency response programs, even in many cases where they constitute a significant proportion of population. Therefore, it is desirable to assess the coverage of social protection schemes among the affected people through needs assessments and beneficiary selection processes and facilitate the access and realization of state entitlements throughout the course of time bound aid delivery. This is not yet a part of humanitarian response in India but most critical in times when multiple disasters are being witnessed in the country each year, some in the same geographies year after year affecting the same population successively.

The primary stage of any applied protection programme is to analyze and assess the needs of the affected population. The Protection principles as contained in the Sphere Global Handbook, forms one of the four foundation chapters. It remains at the core of commitment to the people affected by disasters, as it is the implementation of the legal principles and rights outlined in the Humanitarian Charter.

Therefore, this chapter and the protection sector also reflects Sphere India's commitment to a principled, rights-based, inclusive and gender sensitive humanitarian response. It is based on the fundamental right to life (Article 21) as enshrined in the Constitution of India and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which is the source document for all international conventions signed and ratified by India, including the International Humanitarian Laws.

Protection, therefore, encompasses and underpins all technical chapters in the Handbook, as they are principally aimed at protecting and respecting the lives of the people. An efficient and effective protection programme deploys a robust use of legal tools such as treaties and existing laws after a deep understanding and analysis of the situation. Community oriented protection strategies should be designed after gaining insight on the needs of the community, after consulting the affected population.

This chapter focuses on the mechanisms, processes, and strategies to be used to design an effective needs assessment and monitoring. It lays out the key factors to be considered while collecting information and the most effective sources which can be used by organizations working in the protection sector. This chapter emphasizes the importance of humanitarian response to recognize and take steps to address unequal disaster coping capabilities by recognizing that due to inequalities and social exclusions some sections suffer more than others in extreme events and disasters because of their place within the social system. Addressing the enormous challenges of social marginalization, social exclusion and other inequities are beyond the domain of DRM.

Key Actions

Situation Analysis

A rapid situational analysis is done, on the basis of primary information from the local partners and volunteers and secondary information from official and reliable non-governmental information. The situation analysis helps in gauging how the situation would emerge, and determines areas of detailed assessment. Against the above-mentioned backdrop, the following steps need to be taken.

- Develop a community profile of people affected in specific areas, both from primary and secondary sources of data. These could be from the Population Census, Agriculture Census, Socio- Economic Caste Census, NFHS data available for the SC/ST women, elderly, children, and men on their occupational patterns, migration, education, child labour, disability, housing, water and sanitation, landholdings, etc and non-governmental studies.
- Gather information about the crisis from government sources as released by district and state authority website from time to time.
- Collect information about the potential risks to the population situation through secondary sources and local partners on areas that are sensitive to communal, caste, ethnic violence, if humanitarian response is launched or avoided.
- Be alert to news reporting which may provide important information about the evolving situation and confirm the reports through members actively working on the ground.



Joint Rapid Needs Assessments

The Joint Rapid Needs Assessment (JRNA) as well as the Joint Detailed Needs Assessment (JDNA) are important to ensure a unified protection strategy from different agencies. Inter-agency collaboration is required in this phase. As protection needs are all encompassing, a multitude of organizations should be a part of the assessment and monitoring phase. Such assessments are effective when tools are developed in consultative manner and agreed by all actors to be followed and adhered to, to gather quality information. The JDNA builds on preliminary situation analysis and identifies and prioritizes needs and problems to be addressed with available resources (social, financial, knowledge, human personnel, advocacy, and convergence). While there are crosscutting identities leading to enhanced protection needs, organizations in the protection sector must also assess the needs of the entire affected population and ensure that some other organization, if not their own, is addressing their protection needs.

The following steps are recommended against the larger backdrop to the existing protection situation in India.

- Develop and agree on the common tool and methodologies for disaggregated data collection capturing the caste, ethnicity, religious identity, gender, age, and disability of the affected household/person.
- Organize trainings on the tools and thematic perspective building for enumerators to enable them to anticipate complexities owing to diversity and inequalities and prepare accordingly.
- Engage with the community-based organizations such as the women's collectives (private and state-promoted), workers' cooperatives, elders' Self-Help Groups (SHGs), based in the areas, to gather insights on how to better address the needs.
- Ensure diversity in the assessment teams on the ground, by engaging enumerators from across the social groups and genders represented in the teams across the sectors.
- Conduct systematic FGDs with women, elderly, transgender community, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and occupational groups about the fears, protection needs and priorities.
- Prepare SOPs for defense personnel and their role so as to avoid duplication of work.

Data Collection and Analysis

The data collected through the above JDNA process, will enable identification and prioritization of the protection needs of different vulnerable groups and marginalized sections and help determine the path of intervention within a stipulated timeframe to ensure the protection needs are met.

The process of data collection across sectors through the JDNA should cover these following points.

- Identify who is affected? Vulnerabilities and Protection Needs? Coping capacities and strategies? Internally displaced, mobile? What are affected people's priorities?
- Identify protection threats and risks to the affected and identify potential difficulties in reaching out to them.
- Identify the available legal and social protection measures and mechanisms at community, panchayat, district, and state levels.
- Identify how accessible, both physical and socially, are these protection measures and mechanisms by the affected and at-risk persons/groups.
- Discuss the trends and issues that are emerging and the capacity of the organizations to address them and how. Here the capacity will include, finance, time, human resources and technical know-how.
- Analyze the data collected from gender, age, and SC/ST perspectives, i.e., how the women and men from marginalized communities were impacted differentially and thus the protection needs must be addressed in a crisis.
- The protection analysis includes attention to:
 - (i) The multi-layered vulnerabilities of women and men and those different marginalized communities, (ii) their differential access to and use of resources and their specific needs, priorities and problems; (iii) and the barriers to the full and equitable participation in the state relief process and realization of entitlements.
- Identify and analyze the general development problem and the immediate protection needs for addressing them at appropriate levels and strategies.
- Define the protection objective that would be achieved by the end of the humanitarian response or carried forward into the phase of short-term to long term recovery, rehabilitation, and DRR and development programmes.
- Develop meaningful indicators based on the sectoral-objective in humanitarian response, whether service delivery and/or sector specific advocacy with relevant authorities at appropriate levels to facilitate recovery and DRR.
- Mobilize resources based on the needs assessed and objectives formulated. ***(This is dealt separately in the Resource Mobilization section).***

Information Management

Data about the emergency and protection needs of affected populations, and about the whereabouts and capacities of humanitarian response organizations, are crucial to effective decision- making in emergencies. This data needs to be 'organized' or processed to provide useful information about the differential effect of a disaster on different groups and therefore the diverse protection needs. This



in turn is interpreted or analyzed and disseminated across humanitarian actors and responders and decision-making authorities.

This information should be processed and managed, keeping in mind that the protection sector is cross cutting with all other humanitarian sectors.

- Data should be stored safely and is retrievable on need protected by data protection policy.
- The MIS should be secured with restricted access by authorized personnel to ensure confidentiality of information and prevent any form of data misuse.
- Avoid taking photographs of the people affected by disasters and storing the images.
- Integrate relevant measures for protection of audio-visuals of affected people across organizational policies for child protection, women's protection, elderly's protection and so on.
- Conduct trainings on sensitizing data managers and handlers on the sensitivity of data and prohibit its use beyond the stated purpose of the needs-assessment or related matters in the interest of the humanitarian objective.

It is to be recognized and resolved that protection needs of disaster affected people are cross cutting concerns and the tools to assess the needs must ensure protection enquiries are sufficiently included in the sectoral tools and methods of assessment.



Guiding Principles and Standards

GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS

Disasters make the affected people more vulnerable, so, there is a need to pay special attention by those providing intervention (relief, recovery), to ensure that these populations are protected. The protection of the vulnerable population will be achieved by taking preventive constructive, receptive, and remedial actions. Relief and rehabilitation programmes alone will not be enough for the vulnerable people if safety, dignity, and wellbeing are not ensured.

Protection requires core principles to be applied to humanitarian work across all sectors. Protection has been defined as comprising 'all activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the relevant bodies of law' (IASC, 2011, IASC Operational Guidelines on Protection of Persons in Natural Disasters. Geneva). This means that people affected by disasters are no longer to be viewed as victims or beneficiaries; but as human beings entitled to rights. It is the duty of the stakeholders to ensure that the rights of the affected people are not violated but protected.

By implication it also means providing necessities like food, water, sanitation, education, healthcare, etc. are also protection right ensuring the right to life with dignity. Protection is central to all humanitarian action because it helps people avoid or recover from violence, coercion, and deliberate deprivation. In disaster situations, the people more at risk could be those disempowered socially and economically. It would include women, transgender persons, persons with disability, children, elderly, poor, migrants, minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, to list a few obvious, but there could be many more depending on the local environments.

So, special efforts should be made to ensure the programme design and implementation ensures that their rights are not infringed. There should also be effective mechanisms to redress any grievance. Sphere Humanitarian Charter clearly states the inclusion of Protection principles in the humanitarian response. These principles guide the conduct of all concerned stakeholders and ensure that the people affected by the disasters are protected in terms of any further harm (material, mental, physical, exploitation, intimidation). Take care of equal and equitable access to services and assistance in claiming post disaster compensation or benefits.

The Disaster Management Act 2005 passed by the Indian Parliament refers the constitutional provisions that ensure the State's obligation to provide relief and rehabilitation. Article 21 casts a positive obligation on the State to take all possible steps for prevention, preparedness, and mitigation of disasters. Besides, Article 38 directs State to promote the welfare of the people. Article 51 directs State to honour the international treaty obligations. India is a party to several international treaties on environment which contain specific provision on disaster management.

The State is responsible under the doctrine of *Parens Patriae* which imposes an obligation on the State or sovereign authority to protect persons with disability. This has been applied by the Courts in several cases to make the State responsible for providing relief to victims of disaster. The Act goes beyond the limited focus on relief and rehabilitation after the event has provision for plan for disaster preparedness and mitigation. The State is responsible under the doctrine of *Parens Patriae* which imposes an obligation on the State or sovereign authority to protect persons with disability. This has been applied by the Courts in several cases to make the State responsible for providing relief to victims of disaster. The Act goes beyond the limited focus on relief and rehabilitation after the event has provision for plan for disaster preparedness and mitigation.

A contingency plan for the district for different disasters is drawn up by the Collector/ the Deputy Commissioner and approved by the state government. Relief measures are reviewed by the district level relief committee. A control room is set up in the district for day-to-day monitoring of rescue and relief operations in case of a threat or occurrence of disaster. Efforts of the district administration are supported and complemented by central government authorities present in the district which includes army, air force, navy, etc. Police and Paramilitary forces, civil defense and home-guards, fire services, ex-servicemen, non-government organizations (NGOs), public and private sector enterprises, media and HAM operators are also involved in disaster management. It is important for all these actors and efforts to include protection as the core. The state has primary responsibility for protecting people affected by a crisis. However, when the state is unable or unwilling to act, all humanitarian actors have a role to play, engaging collectively to achieve meaningful protection outcomes for the affected population.

Core Values in Protection

- Do No Harm.
- Non-discrimination.
- Identifying the most vulnerable and their specific needs with attention to age, gender, ability, social group, and other relevant aspects of diversity according to the context.
- Safe and dignified access to basic services.
- Community participation and empowerment.
- Identifying and strengthening existing positive community protection strategies/building local capacity.

Three Major Principles in Protection

Protection Principle 1: Prevent

Enhance the safety, dignity, and rights of affected people, and avoid exposing people to further harm. Humanitarian response takes place in dynamic, volatile, and insecure environments. Those working in humanitarian action need to:



- understand the context,
- identify and understand protection issues, including the role and ability of primary duty bearers; and
- take appropriate steps to reduce overall risk to affected people.

In practice, this means actively working to decrease threats, reduce vulnerability to risk, and enhances capacities that prevent exposure to risks. Effective communication, analysis and accountability are central to this principle. To incorporate this principal into programme design, active efforts should be made to minimize threats and vulnerabilities by considering key findings from the situation analysis. Humanitarian actors must work with different parts of the affected population with specific at-risk groups. They should also liaise with organizations that have previously worked with these groups. All reasonable steps should be taken to prevent sexual and physical violence.

Disabled women and children are at a heightened risk of sexual violence, thus creating an impetus for their needs to be integrated within any relief programme. All government and police units should be made aware of their role in preventing these at-risk groups from further harm.

Protection Principle 2: Respond

Reduce the impact of physical and psychological harm arising from violence, coercion, deliberate deprivation, and other threats. Humanitarian practitioners actively respond to protection issues by:

- dealing with sources of threats;
- helping people avoid threats; and
- supporting people's own efforts to stay safe.
- referring victims of violence, coercion, or deliberate deprivation to relevant support services.

To respond efficiently to the needs of the affected population, local resources that support psychosocial well-being need to be identified, activated, and strengthened. These resources may include self-help groups for women and other youth groups. It is also important to support and continue other positive coping mechanisms such culturally appropriate funerals, ceremonies, and practices, to the extent possible. Mechanisms to support educational activities for children should also be strengthened.

Protection Principle 3: Remedy

Assist people to claim their rights and access appropriate remedies. Humanitarian actors help affected people claim their rights through information and documentation and by facilitating access to appropriate remedies. The following points are also recommended.

- Streamlining redressal mechanisms and ensuring information about the same is disseminated amongst vulnerable communities.

- Enabling and assisting vulnerable communities access redressal mechanisms and protections schemes.
- Promoting specific and/or specialized protection activities that address specific protection risks and violations.

To support and strengthen people's claims for redressal, support should be extended in securing documentation. Lost documentation acts as a big barrier to accessing entitlements.

Affected population can be assisted in procuring lost documents. Apart from this, humanitarian actors must assist affected population in accessing justice by providing them with a safe path to justice mechanisms. Financial as well as human resource can be offered as well.

Advocacy

Advocacy links the three protection principles and the means to achieve them. Where threats to the affected population come from deliberate decisions, actions or policies, humanitarian, or human rights organizations can advocate for changes to those behaviours or policies. Successful advocacy may include persuasion, as well as more explicit denunciation approaches. In all cases advocacy depends on reliable evidence, understanding the stakeholders in the situation, and a thorough analysis of context. It requires an environment that encourages respect for the rights of all people in accordance with national and international law. Evidence such as witness statements, population profiles, and images that allow people to be identified may be highly sensitive and can put people at risk. They should be treated with care.

Advocacy in the protection sector must also include the change of behaviour of persons or groups which act as a threat. The dangerous behaviour or actions of powerful groups should be exposed and corrected without compromising the safety of the marginalized population. An example of this could be a village panchayat disallowing lower caste groups to access sources of safe drinking water during times of crises. In such a case advocacy should be undertaken by humanitarian actors to name and shame or persuade (depending on the context) in order to ensure affected groups from lower caste groups are able to access resources.

Mainstreaming of Protection: Leave No One Behind

Protection integration involves incorporating specific protection objectives into sectoral responses, such as WASH, nutrition, education, health, and shelter. It requires humanitarian actors to set specific, measurable protection objectives for their response. Doing so, prompts different actors to work individually and together as part of a multi-sector humanitarian response. It therefore makes protection a central consideration. Humanitarian protection includes being aware



of specific protection issues pertaining to any segment of the affected population; but not necessarily falling in his/her domain. But this cannot be overlooked, and the worker needs to share information, do advocacy and/or referral to specialized actors for appropriate response.

These issues could be pertaining to but not limited to:

- Children
- Women
- Transgenders
- People with disabilities
- Elderly
- Scheduled Castes
- Scheduled Tribes and De-notified/Nomadic tribes
- Minority communities
- People displaced by disaster

Prioritizing safety and dignity for disaster-affected population is essential, just providing basic services is not sufficient. Respect for basic human rights and protection principles must be part of the way humanitarian workers carry out the work. While saving lives and relieving suffering in a disaster, humanitarian worker must ensure fulfilment of these points.

- Identifying and reaching to the most 'invisible' segment of the affected population.
- No further harm or creation of new risks through any actions and interventions.
- Take steps to sensitively identify any violence, especially gender-based violence, abuse including sexual abuse, exploitation of anybody in the affected population.
- Taking steps to prevent and/or respond to protection challenges by helping, creating awareness, and sharing information with the affected population and advocacy with other actors.
- The response programmes are appropriate, adequate and friendly to the marginalized.
- Participation of marginalized segments of the affected population in design and implementation of the relief and recovery programmes.
- Proactive/ sensitive response mechanisms for hurt, grievance, exclusion.

The Principle of Confidentiality

During the process of information gathering and situation analysis, organizations will interact with diverse beneficiaries from the affected population. Due to the

precarious socio-economic dynamics which may prevail in disaster settings, special care must be taken to ensure confidentiality of sources. Within the affected population, beneficiaries from marginalized groups are at higher risk of being attacked, targeted, deprived of resources and threatened. Humanitarian actors must ensure that their monitoring activities do not put these groups at further risk. Confidentiality must be extended to anyone who is acting as a source and aiding in information gathering and situation analysis. The safety and dignity of the beneficiaries must be at the center of any humanitarian project.

The Principle of Do No Harm¹

The principle of “do no harm” is taken from medical ethics. It requires humanitarian organizations to strive to minimize the harm they may cause inadvertently through providing aid, or by not providing aid (such as adding to tensions with host communities).

The practice of DNH is based on these 6 important assumptions.

1. Whenever an intervention of any sort enters a context, it becomes part of the context.
2. All contexts are characterized by dividers and connectors.
3. All interventions interact with both, either making them worse or making them better.
4. Actions and behaviours have consequences, which create impacts.
5. The details of interventions matter.
6. There are always ‘options’.

Types of Protection-Risk Children Face in Emergency Context:

Violence including sexual and gender-based violence, children separated from families, child labour, trafficking and others forms of exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices, including child marriage.

Principles for Child Protection Humanitarian Actions

(Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Actions, The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Actions, 2019).

- **Survival and Development**

Humanitarian actors must consider the effects of both the emergency and the response on (a) the fulfilment of children’s right to life and (b) children’s physical, psychological, emotional, social and spiritual development. Children must be supported to use their own strengths and resilience to maximise their opportunities for survival and development in humanitarian crises.

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- **Non-discrimination and Inclusion**

Humanitarians must (a) identify and monitor existing and new patterns of discrimination, power and exclusion and (b) address them in the design and implementation of the response. There is also a need to advocate for the access of all children – regardless of their gender, age, disability, ethnicity, religion, nationality, displacement status or other aspect of diversity – to child protection systems and other services.

- **Children’s Participation**

Humanitarian workers must provide children with time and space to meaningfully participate in all decisions that affect children, including during emergency preparedness and response. Humanitarian actors must respect children’s views, take children and their opinions seriously and use children’s input to inform decision-making processes. Participation should always be voluntary and with the informed consent/assent of both the children and their parents/caregivers. Humanitarian actors should strive to ensure accountability and to follow up with children in any participatory process.

- **The Best Interests of the Child**

Children have the right to have their best interests assessed and taken into account as a primary consideration in all actions or decisions that concern them, both in the public and private spheres. The term ‘best interests of the child’ broadly describes the well-being of a child. Such well-being is determined by a variety of individual circumstances (such as their gender, age, level of maturity and experiences) and other factors (such as the presence or absence of parents, quality of the relationships between the child and family/caregiver, and other risks or capacities). The best interests principle applies to all children without discrimination.

- **Enhance Children’s Safety, Dignity and Right/ Do No Harm principle**

Humanitarian assistance must be provided in ways that reduce the risks that people may face and meet their needs with dignity. Assistance needs to be provided in an environment that does not further expose people to physical hazards, violence or abuse. Actors need to provide inclusive services and benefits. Limiting interventions to specific categories of children or families may incentivise protection risks such as separation or recruitment.

- **Help Children to Claim their Rights**

Children are rights- holders. Actions that support children to assert their rights and to access remedies from government or other sources are critical during emergencies. Child protection workers and other humanitarian actors must also support others (such as parents and caregivers) to claim children's rights on their behalf. Humanitarian actors have a duty to advocate for the full respect of children's rights and the compliance with international and national law that support a stronger protective environment.

- **Ensure People's Access to Impartial Assistance, According to Need and without Discrimination**

It is also critical to identify and address barriers that prevent the most vulnerable group of children, such as refugees, internally displaced, migrants and stateless from accessing essential services and humanitarian assistance during emergencies. Where patterns of discrimination or exclusion have been identified, the humanitarian community must quickly adjust its interventions to provide all members of the affected population with access to assistance. This may require innovative and creative ways of reaching excluded children, including those with disabilities, refugees, internally displaced, migrants and stateless.

Core Commitments for Children in emergencies (Core Commitments for Children, UNICEF, 2019)

Overall Goal: Children and Adolescents are Protected from Violence, Abuse, Exploitation, Neglect and Harmful Practices

Commitment 1: Dedicated Leadership and Coordination for Child Protection

Effective leadership and coordination are established and functional. This should be linked with disaster risk reduction and emergency response mechanisms with clear definition of accountabilities.

Commitment 2: Strengthening Child Protection Systems, Including Case Management and Referral Pathways

Child protection systems are functional and strengthened to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices, they should remain operational in context of emergencies, and child protection workforce to be part of the front line response. Systems need to be able to provide individual case management of children.

Commitment 3: Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

MHPSS needs of children, adolescents and caregivers are identified and addressed through coordinated multi-sectoral and community based MHPSS services.



Commitment 4: Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC)

Separation of children from families is prevented and responded to, and family-based care is promoted in the child's best interests.

Commitment 5: Children Affected by Civil Strife and Instability

In situation of civil strife and/or instability, rights violations and protection concern of children are prevented and addressed. Grave violations against children and other serious rights violations and protection concerns are documented, analysed and reported, and inform programmatic response and advocacy interventions. The use of landmines and other indiscriminate or illicit weapons by state and non-state actors is prevented and their impact addressed.

Commitment 6: Justice for Children

During emergencies, children and adolescents are at a greater risk to come into contact with the justice system as victims, witnesses and/or alleged offenders. Children have access to legal assistance and restorative justice. Diversion mechanisms need to be in place and detention used as last resort.

Commitment 7: Violence Against Children, including Gender-based Violence (GBV)

Survivors of violence against children, including GBV and their children can access timely, quality, multi-sectoral response services and GBV is prevented. No children are victim from sexual exploitation of abuse from any humanitarian worker.



Sector Strategy and Agenda

SECTOR STRATEGY AND AGENDA

Based on the JDNA, the short-to-medium term and long-term protection response plans must be integrated in the agenda of the protection sector and other sectors. Whilst the short-term plan caters to the immediate protection needs in a crisis, other priorities, and agenda such as change or better implementation of disaster management policy, law or programmes, protection main streaming, require strategies to achieve corresponding outcomes.

The basic principles to develop sector strategy are as following.

1. Relate to community needs and interests, rather than external operational goals.
2. Relate to relevant national and state-level policies and plans for disaster risk reduction.
3. Enable participation of communities and vulnerable groups.
4. Promotes the rights-based community empowerment approach.
5. Ensured representation, if vulnerable groups and marginalized sections in planning, implementing, reviewing, and monitoring processes, across levels.
6. Commits to the institution and adoption of organizational policy on social inclusion and protection.

Who is Involved in the Strategy Planning?

To ensure appropriate identification of needs and the most effective and comprehensive response, all relevant protection sector stakeholders in the country should be included to the best extent possible, and the following chapter identifies the necessary stakeholders in emergency response. Special attention should be given to ensure that organizations providing specialized attention to all vulnerable sections are adequately represented in the planning meeting, and the sector committee.

However, it should be noted that if government agencies and other relevant actors are unable to get involved with the development of the protection sector strategy, it is essential that it is extensively consulted or informed of sector's aims, strategy, and planning. The strategy must also reflect the view of the affected community to the best degree possible, especially women, elderly people, persons living with disability, marginalized castes, and communities by roping in organizations working with these communities and groups from the roster of organizations, though in practice this can be hard to ensure during an emergency. Therefore, such organizations and experts should be part of Sphere India roster and ongoing deliberations and processes.

Key Steps for Developing the Protection Sector Strategy

The broad steps, which are listed below outline issues to be addressed in developing the protection sector strategy. The steps will also act as a guide to review and updating of any re-existing/active/future Protection Sector response strategies to ensure that they remain relevant.

- Take account of context, political nuances, security and access, gender and social groups, resource availability, local capacity building and early recovery, and prioritized cross-cutting concerns.
- Cover adequate geographical area and marginalized castes, ethnic and minority communities, and vulnerable groups.
- Focus on ensuring safety and saving lives in the initial stages, with a plan to broaden scope and ensuring rights and entitlements are upheld in the next stages. In the case of establishing a relief camp, the committee should follow the guidelines. ***(A link to template for Relief Standard Operating Procedure for Disasters has been added to the Annexure).***
- Review the current situation for protection as emerges from the JDNA or organizational detailed assessments.
- Identify the barriers to enrolment and realization of various public schemes and programs meant to enhance the disaster resilience of the vulnerable population.
- Identifying whether a problem is pre-existing or a result of the crisis, and when it began.
- Assess the risk to life, dignity, physical and material security, mortality, or morbidity, if the issues are not addressed.
- Assess the current coping mechanisms and forms of assistance adopted by affected population.
- Locate the public protection systems available and gaps in their realization by affected population and communities.
- Identify stakeholders for convergence, referral, and sector response.
- Engage other sectors, both in analysing protection risks and needs and in assessing the impact of programmes on the protection of crisis-affected communities. Dissemination of prior information to the at-risk communities through district multi-sectoral approach for faster decision making in collaboration with the NDRF/the SDRF or Mahila Mandals at district/ state level.

Developing Response Plans and Programme Implementation

Once the overarching objectives, strategies, management, and coordination arrangements have been established, specific response plans for emergencies can be developed. These plans will describe how agencies and technical groups will



respond to needs within the sector. In developing response plans, the Protection Sector Committee should consider the following.

- The specialized roles that specific agencies/ organizations need to take on within the sector committee or on technical issue.
- The current capacities and gaps of the agencies/ organizations to respond.
- The measures to acquire expertise or meet the gaps to address protection needs.
- Develop a time-bound strategic plan with outcomes, process, and target indicators to monitor the progress in the direction of stated outcomes for immediate and long-term interventions.
- Review the plan periodically, make changes wherever needed and adopt the needed actions considering the internal (organizational) and external environments.
- The focal point will coordinate the implementation of the strategy plan in consultation with the sector committee.

Preparedness: Contingency Planning

While rapid needs assessment helps in responding to on-going emergencies, the Protection Sector Committee should develop contingency plans during peace-times based on disaster profile of the region and previous experience of response, as these plans help in the sector being prepared to respond to any future emergency. In doing so, the Sector Contingency Plan should:

- Based on the available trends on frequency of hazards analyse potential emergencies on annual basis, past assessments, and responses, analyse risks and needs of communities and vulnerable groups.
- Analyse how and why concerns of vulnerable groups, women and transgender communities, elderly, people living with disability may be overlooked.
- Integrate DRR concerns and community-based mechanism for protection into development programmes of the organization and funding priorities.
- Engage with identified stakeholders, and most importantly with authorities and policy makers at different levels.
- Special SoPs for central agencies and government to contact grassroots workers during emergencies should be proposed.
- Present the trends, best practices from the grassroots and findings of past responses on protection gaps and needs with decision- making and enforcement bodies and stakeholders post response and prior to the monsoon seasons or looming emergencies.
- Establish clear objectives, strategies, policies, and procedures and articulating critical actions that must be taken to respond to an emergency.

- Ensure that agreements are recorded, and necessary actions are taken to enhance preparedness, this included training to initiate capacity building for child protection. The training module may be based on the need assessment carried out from the state level up to community level with coordination of Inter Agency Groups, CSOs and government officials.

(Link to a template from Save the Children has been added in Annexure)

Contingency planning should respond to the following questions:

- What could happen?
- What would be the impact on the people affected including the most vulnerable?
- What actions would be required to meet Protection needs?
- How would agencies/organizations work together?
- What resources would be required?
- What can agencies/organizations do to be better prepared?

Protection Mainstreaming and Community-based Activities

For the sustenance of protection across all sectors, it is imperative to ensure that certain long-term measures are taken to ensure that the needs of vulnerable communities are met across sectors. As protection plays an integral and cross cutting role, the process of main streaming should be implemented. Apart from organizational support, community-based efforts should be bolstered so that principles of protection are well integrated in society. Protection integration involves incorporating specific protection objectives into sectoral responses, such as nutrition or shelter. It requires humanitarian actors to set specific, measurable protection objectives for their response. Doing so prompts different actors to work individually and together as part of a multi- sector humanitarian response. It therefore makes protection a central consideration.

Protection Mainstreaming

Refers to the process of building protection principles into all aspects of humanitarian response. It requires humanitarian organizations to address protection threats and opportunities by considering:

- who is at risk, from what, whom and why;
- what vulnerabilities and capacities do people have relative to the threats, and how can programmes be adapted in response to these; and
- how and where to refer people for specialist support in preventing or recovering from violence and exploitation.

The following elements must be considered in all humanitarian activities while main streaming protection.



1. **Prioritize Safety and Dignity, Avoid Causing Harm:** prevent and minimize as much as possible any unintended negative effects of your intervention which can increase people's vulnerability to both physical and psychosocial risks.
2. **Meaningful Access:** arrange for people's access to assistance and services – in proportion to need and without any barriers (e.g., discrimination). Pay special attention to individuals and groups who may be particularly vulnerable or have difficulty accessing assistance and services.
3. **Accountability:** set-up appropriate mechanisms through which affected populations can measure the adequacy of interventions, and address concerns and complaints.
4. **Participation and Empowerment:** support the development of self-protection capacities and assist people to claim their rights, including—not exclusively the rights to shelter, food, water and sanitation, health, and education.

Protection Mainstreaming at Strategic and Operational Level

Protection should be main streamed across two fundamental levels that are at strategic and operational levels.

At strategic level, it is crucial to ensure that the response targets the most at risk and does not create any unintended negative consequences affecting the general context of the crisis or the affected population to ensure that protection is main streamed at the strategic level, assessments and analyses must integrate elements that would allow for the identification of who is most at risk and thus, in need. The results of these analyses must be reflected in response planning and help prioritize affected individuals or groups and decide the nature of the intervention.

At operational level, it is significant to ensure that the four protection main streaming elements (project development and design; project endorsement; project implementation and monitoring, and project evaluation) are integrated in every project an organization implements, before, during and after a crisis. To ensure that protection main streaming is integrated at the operational level, the protection main streaming elements should become part of each phase of the project life cycle.

Community-based Social Support for Protection

Apart from organizational and government support, it is imperative to embolden communities and equip them with mechanisms of protection. Community-based social support and self- help should be strengthened. Activities such as extending food supplies to gram panchayat and establishing free kitchen for the affected community also ensure people get access to food and protection. Family and community mechanisms of protection and psychosocial support should be promoted by keeping families together, teaching people how to prevent children from becoming separated from their families, promoting appropriate care for separated children, and organizing family tracing. Wherever possible, keep families

together and enable people from a particular village or support network to live in the same area. Additionally, promotion of activities (and providing funds) engaging the affected working population in economic and creative activities may restore a sense of normalcy to life making them self-reliant in times of emergency.

Supporting community self-help activities, for example, women's groups addressing issues of gender-based violence, youth groups collaborating on livelihood supports, parenting groups supporting positive interactions with children and care for parents of young children and of children with special needs, older people, and persons with disabilities.

Advocacy measures for protection of the victims (especially, children, women and elderly) post-disaster should be prepared before hand. Community-based and other psychosocial support Positive communal coping mechanisms such as culturally appropriate burials/funerals, religious ceremonies and practices, and non-harmful cultural and social practices should be supported.

As and where ever appropriate, communities should be encouraged to organize structured, supportive educational and protective activities for children through non-formal means such as child-friendly spaces. Community protection mechanisms should include self-help activities that promote psychosocial well-being.

Civil society organizations and governments should help organize appropriate psychosocial support for survivors of crises. Ensure that survivors have access to community social networks and self- help activities. Access to community-based social support should be complemented by access to mental healthcare. There should be an integrated support system as well. Those agencies working on psychosocial support and mental health in various sectors should collaborate to build an integrated system of support for the population. In tandem with mental health support, clinical support should be offered as well. Mechanisms for the referral of severely affected people for available clinical support should be established.





Resource Mobilization

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

As part of the work plan of the sector committee, members would be undertaking joint programming and advocacy initiatives based on the pre-determined key priorities. Therefore, resource mobilization forms key component of the sector committee to minimize avoidable mortality and morbidity. The resource mobilization plan should consider mainly two aspects-the mobilization of financial resources and human resources as surge requirement.

Strategies for Mobilizing the Financial Resources

Object Human Resource / Personnel

'Flash Appeal'

Within 5 to 7 days of the onset of a crisis, the sector committee should convene and release a flash appeal to mobilize resources for humanitarian response during the first three to six months. After the first month, the sector committee should reconvene and revise the flash appeal to include additional information, and more details about early recovery projects.

Some basic principles:

- The Flash Appeal should contain an initial response plan - developed jointly with participation of government agencies.
- The initial response plan should focus on lifesaving needs and necessary early recovery projects, and include a response strategy, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders, and outline of proposed projects based on early estimates, JRNA report and other available information.
- While government agencies may not appeal for funds, they may acknowledge the need for resource mobilization through a statement in solidarity with civil society organizations.

Action points to develop Flash Appeal:

- Bring together all significant stakeholders and analyze the available assessment information, discuss any projects proposed by member organizations, develop a consensual strategy to ensure that the appeal contains relevant, high priority, coordinated and feasible projects.
- Consult with other sector committees, notably FNS and WASH to ensure complementarity of projects and avoid duplication.
- Consult with the Dept. of Food and Public Distribution - MoCAPD, MWCD on the appeal, and keep donors informed of the process.



- Submit the draft within 5 days of the decision to launch the flash appeal to the Sphere India Secretariat, although the actual deadline may be specified during consultation meetings of the sector committee in each case.

Common Resource Pool for the Sector

The Common Resource Pool (CRP) should be a standby fund facilitated by the Sphere India Secretariat to enable response to help jump-start critical operations or support under-funded emergencies, intended to complement—and not substitute for—flash appeals. The funds are intended to support emergency response in general, and if any member organization wants to seek access to the fund, a proposal for the project funding is to be submitted to the Sector Committee and the Sphere India Executive Committee.

Action points for CRP Funding:

- While releasing the flash appeal, donors should be appealed to contribute for the CRP.
- Internally, the sector committee shall agree on the high-priority projects which are not attracting attention of donor agencies and develop a Guiding Note for the Sphere India Executive Committee.
- The Sector Committee to invite organizations to submit proposal to it and the Executive Committee.
- The Executive Committee of Sphere India to select the projects to be funded based on the Guiding Note and the project proposal, and to ensure that the procedure to transfer the CRP funds is clear and understood.

Bi-lateral and Multi-lateral Funding

Under the Grand Bargain Commitment, and even otherwise, localization has been a principle adhered to by humanitarian agencies across the globe. As a result, during emergencies, national and international organizations and donors are reached out by organizations. To ensure there is no duplication of efforts, members of the Food and Nutrition Sector Committee may invite such donors to the Sector Committee meetings.

It is also in the interest of the Sector Committee to evaluate and understand the various schemes and programmes run by the Central and the State governments – so that these avenues can be explored to secure the required resources for emergency prepared for response. In addition to central government funds, the need for contingency fund pool in every government department must be strengthened. The Sector Strategy Committee should suggest ways/ SoPs to procure funds from NDMA without significant delay, during emergencies. The committee should also chart out the ways to ease SDRF fund during emergencies, as per guidelines.

Financial Tracking System

Sphere India Secretariat shall develop a Financial Tracking System (FTS) dashboard to track needs and contributions against the protection/health component of the flash appeals and funding from CRP. It shall provide quarterly reports on the FTS, analysing the crisis-wise utilization of funding, and the additional funding required to fulfill the priority projects.

Forecast-based Financing

Implemented in multiple countries, Forecast-based Financing (FbF) enables access to humanitarian funding for early action based on in-depth forecast information and risk analysis. The goal of FbF is to anticipate disasters, prevent their impact, if possible, and reduce human suffering and losses. With strong forecast systems in India, this system could be well integrated in the humanitarian response strategies. A key element of FbF is that the allocation of financial resources is agreed in advance, together with the specific forecast threshold that triggers the release of those resources for the implementation of early actions. The roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in implementing these actions are defined in the Early Action Protocol (EAP). Applying this at district level to ensure preparedness measures and allocation of resources and action will lead to much efficient response and reduced losses and damages. This ensures the full commitment of implementation among the involved stakeholders.

Mobilizing Human Resource

Major emergencies require rapid increase in the resources and an effective surge capacity is a pre-requisite for emergency response. The National Disaster Management Act and National Disaster Management Plan have developed protocols for deployment of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) for immediate relief and rescue operations. A cadre of the first responders and emergency volunteers to respond in the golden period is created with active involvement of multiple stakeholders including the Indian Red Cross and IFRC. The additional resources required for food and nutrition sector are from a variety of expertise ranging from programme expertise in the areas of nutrition, food security, food assistance, logistic, vulnerability assessment, gender and protection, water and hygiene, communication, etc.

Multiple international and national organizations including the UN maintain emergency rosters and stand by teams. The Disaster Preparedness and development of district and village level DMP's should detail out the availability of such resources, including ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers, small and marginal farmers and make efforts to invest in building capacities for instilling DRR, creating a cadre of trained volunteers and the first responders. The sector strategy as well must make necessary plans for resource mobilization- both financial and human resource and invest in building capacities.



Resource Mobilization Strategy

The Sector Committee Lead, with support from the members, shall undertake efforts to increase the participation of donors in the sector committee meetings, visits to the project sites undertaken through flash appeals and CRP, oversee communication to donor agencies on behalf of the sector committee, and link potential donors to the sector committee and its members wherever appropriate. Similarly, the Sector Committee Lead, in consultation with the members shall prepare a Joint Report to be prepared for donors based on funding received from the flash appeal or CRP, including a joint narrative report and a separate financial report for each organization.



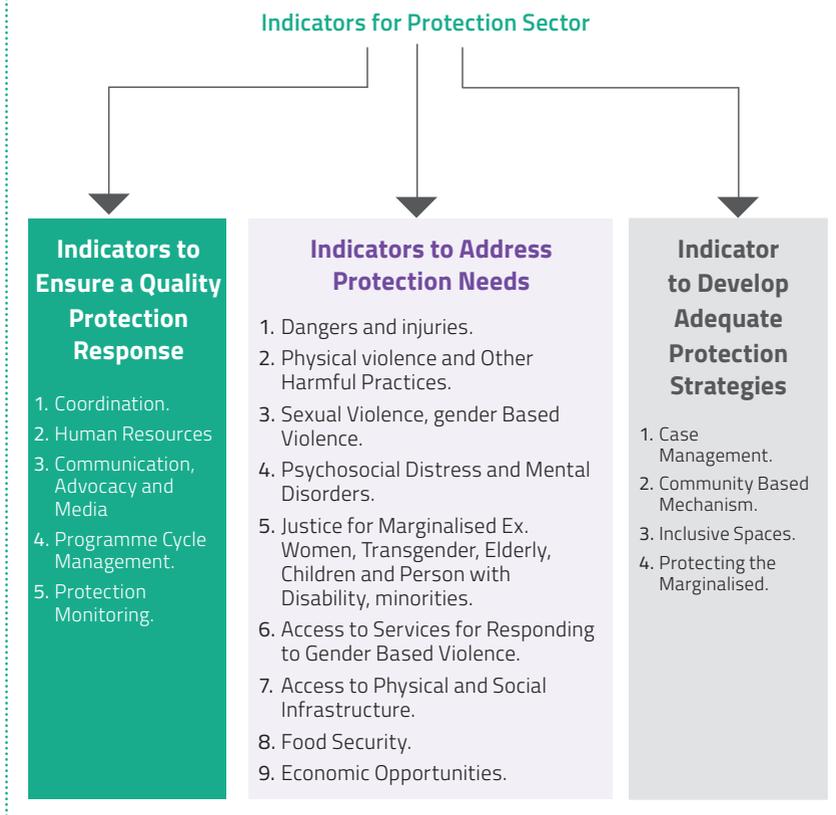
Benchmarks and Indicators

BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS

This section shall elaborate upon the indicators to identify low-input indicators for regular reporting, while also design indicators to develop an early warning mechanism, whereas define benchmarks to evaluate the emergency preparedness and response of the various stakeholders.

Indicators are needed to monitor and provide benchmarks against which the achievement of objectives or the efficiency of implementation can be measured. These can be qualitative, which reflects opinions, judgements and attitudes about a given situation or issue; or quantitative, measuring levels compared to a baseline level. The indicators for the protection sector vary according to the different stages of analysis, firstly response, then the need and finally the strategy analysis. The following figure summarizes the different indicators at every stage of analysis.

Figure 8.1: Indicators for Protection Sector



Indicators ensure a quality, timely and efficient protection response during a calamity, especially reaching the most vulnerable population, is of extreme importance. Hence there is a need to assess the response systems of various institutions against the following parameters.

Indicators

- **Coordination:** Relevant and responsible authorities, humanitarian agencies, civil society organizations and representatives of affected populations need to coordinate their protection efforts to ensure full, efficient, and timely response.
- **Human Resources:** Protection services should be delivered by staff with proven competence in their areas of work and recruitment processes and human resource (HR) policies should include measures to protect the marginalized from exploitation and abuse by humanitarian workers.
- **Data Collection:** Disaggregated data collection along caste, ethnicity, gender, age, disability.
- **Communication, Advocacy, and Media:** All protection issues need to be communicated and advocated for with respect for individual's dignity, best interests, and safety.
- **Programme Management Cycle:** All protection programmes build on existing capacities, resources and structures should be able to address the evolving protection risks and needs of the communities affected by the crisis.
- **Information Management:** Up-to-date information for protection programmes should be collected, used, stored, and shared, with full respect for confidentiality, and in accordance with the "do no harm" principle and the best interests of the vulnerable population.
- **Monitoring and Feedback:** Mapping of the protection systems, from national level to community level, including existing referral systems and gaps in existing referral systems helps in the capacity assessment.

Indicators to Address Protection Needs

Dangers and Injuries: assess, identify, and analyze existing and possible physical dangers; community- based messaging, awareness, and public education campaigns on risks of injury; whether risk reduction has been included in formal and non- formal education curriculum and activities.

Physical Violence and Other Harmful Practices: families and communities are often put under immense strain and the weakened protective environment may result in domestic violence, physical and sexual abuse. On-going awareness and community engagement programmes in the region should be studied. Previous cases reported to be assessed.



Sexual, Gender, Caste or Ethnicity-based Violence: violence targeted at sexual and religious minorities: whether coordination and a referral system between all sectors including education, protection, health, and psychosocial support providers is functional for the target population; mapping out existing services in terms of community-based support, focused support, and specialized services. Previous cases reported to be also assessed.

Psychosocial distress and mental disorders: a good coordination and a referral system between all sectors including education, protection, health, and psychosocial support providers are functional for the target population. Then, mapping out existing services in terms of community-based support, focused support, and specialized services. Previous cases reported to be also assessed.

Justice for the Marginalized: crime rate, especially in crimes against vulnerable population needs to be assessed. Existing laws, policy, regulations pertaining to protection of the marginalized to be analysed.

Access to Physical and Social Infrastructure: accessibility to education and health facilities. Availability of clean drinking water, toilets, feminine hygiene products etc.

Food security: diseases, malnutrition, hunger, and poverty index.

Economic Opportunities: rate of unemployment, female workforce participation rates, child labour.

Indicators to Develop Protection Strategies

- **Case Management:** capacity of government, CBOs and NGOs for collecting information and case management.
- **Community-based Mechanism:** level of community participation and engagement, no. of stakeholder consultation held, No. of awareness campaigns of the existing schemes, representation of the marginalized.
- **Inclusive Spaces:** involvement of the vulnerable population in plan formulation and its implementation to ensure that the needs of each are met. Post implementation monitoring and feedback mechanisms.

Benchmarks

There are several persons of different demographic, socio-cultural, economic backgrounds covered under the protection sector. Hence the benchmarks need to be context specific and should also adhere to the local and regional setting of the population in question. Hence, detail studies need to be conducted to estimate the benchmarks for every parameter within each indicator, varying from case-to-case basis. International and national standards, as well as state-level guidelines are considered for providing the guidance for such benchmark values. Additionally, the protection sector needs to analyse along with other sector, the following benchmarks.

Table 8.1: Sector wise Indicators

	Health	Education	Wash	Shelter	Food & Nutrition	Child Protection	Child Protection
Protection	Access to Health care.	Access to education.	Access to clean drinking water.	Homeless people.	Food security malnutrition.	Children in alternative care.	Violence against women.
	Child Mortality Rates.	Dropout rates.	Toilets.	Slums and squatters.		Access to justice for children.	GBV reporting and response.
	Gender Ratio.	Child labour.	Feminine hygiene supplies.			Violence against children.	Access to psychosocial support.
		Female workforce participation.				Family tracing and reunification.	Case management.



ANNEXURE 1: Glossary¹

A

ABUSE

A deliberate act with actual or potential negative effects of harming a child's safety, well-being, dignity, and development. It is an act that takes place in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust, or power.

ACCESS

The proportion of the population that can use a service or facility.

ACCESSIBILITY

Entails the removal or mitigation of barriers to people's meaningful participation. These barriers and the measures needed will vary according to disability, age, illness, literacy level, status of language, legal and/or social status, etc.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The process of using power responsibly, taking account of, and being held accountable by, different stakeholders, and primarily those who are affected by the exercise of such power. See **Quality**.

ADEQUATE CARE

Where a child's basic physical, emotional, intellectual and social needs are met by his or her caregivers and the child is developing according to his or her potential.

ADOLESCENTS

Defined generally as a person 9–19 years. In the CPMS, the term refers specifically to persons aged 9–17 years old, given the focus on children as defined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Adolescence can be broken down into the following sub-group: pre-adolescence (9–10), early adolescence (10–14), middle adolescence (15–17) and late adolescence (18–19).

ALTERNATIVE CARE

The care provided for children by caregivers who are not their usual primary caregiver. See **Kinship care** and **Foster care**. See online version for **Institutional care** and **Residential care**.

1. ANNEX 1: GLOSSARY_ 2019 EDITION OF THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CHILD PROTECTION IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION (CPMS)

ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION OR TO DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY

Measures (legislation, policy, or practice) aimed at preventing the unnecessary detention of persons, including children being formally processed through the criminal justice system and children who are migrants. Alternatives to detention do not involve deprivation of liberty.

ASSENT

See **Informed assent**.

ASSESSMENT

The process of establishing the impact of a crisis on a society, including needs, risks, capacities and solutions.

See Standard 4 on Programme Cycle Management for information on types of assessments for Child Protection.

AT-RISK GROUPS / INDIVIDUALS

Children who are at risk of their protection rights being violated. See **Risks** and **Vulnerability**.

AMENDMENT:

A minor change or addition designed to improve a text, piece of legislation, etc.

ARBITRARY DETENTION

It refers to arrest or detention of an individual in a case, in which there is no likelihood or evidence that she/he has committed a crime against legal statute, or in which there has been no proper due process of law or order.

B

THE BEST INTERESTS OF A CHILD

Right of the child to assess his or her best interests and then consider the assessed best interest as the primary point for decision-making. It refers to the well-being of a child and is determined by a variety of individual circumstances (age, level of maturity, the presence or absence of parents, the child's environment and experiences). See Principle 4.

BEST INTERESTS DETERMINATION (BID)

A formal process with strict procedural safeguards designed to determine the child's best interests for particularly important decisions affecting the child. It should facilitate adequate child participation without discrimination, involve decision-makers with relevant areas of expertise and balance all relevant factors in order to identify and recommend the best option. (UNHCR Best Interests Determination Handbook 2011, p. 110).



BEST INTERESTS PROCEDURE (BIP)

UNHCR's individual case management procedure to ensure that the best interests principle (set out in Article 3 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child) is respected in work with individual children of concern. It is a multi-step process that goes through identification, assessment, case action planning, implementation, follow-up and case closure. It includes two important procedural elements: Best Interests Assessment (BIA) and Best Interests Determination (BID). States and other actors are also obliged to establish formal procedures for assessing and determining the best interests of an individual child or a group of children where decisions would have a major impact on the child or group of children. (See CRC General Comment No. 14).

C

COERCION

The practice of persuading through force or threats, so a person is ready to do something.

COGNIZABLE OFFENCE

Cognizable offences are those where a police officer can arrest without warrant.

COLLABORATIVE ADVOCACY

With collaborative advocacy, numbers of organizations come together for coordinating effective and timely support to the crisis affected population and helping people to obtain access to humanitarian assistance and maintain their right to dignity.

COMMON RESOURCE POOL

It is a mechanism which allows CSOs, Governments and private donors to pool their resources into common, unearmarked pool to deliver life-saving assistance to the people who need it the most.

CONTINGENCY PLAN

It is a plan devised for an outcome other than in the usual (expected) plan. It is often used for risk management for an exceptional risk that, though unlikely, would have catastrophic consequences.

COVENANTS: An agreement.

CAREGIVER

An individual, a community, or an institution (including the State) with clear responsibility (by custom or law) for ensuring children's well-being. It most often refers to a person with whom the child lives and who provides daily care to the child.

CARE GIVING ENVIRONMENT

The direct physical and human environment children live in, which is unique for every child.

CASE MANAGEMENT

An approach to address the needs of an individual child and his/her family in an appropriate, systematic and timely manner, through direct support and/or referrals.

CASEWORKER

The key worker in a case, who maintains responsibility for the child's care from case identification to case closure, in a case management approach. Other social service practitioners (such as social workers) or even other professionals (such as health workers) may take on a caseworker role as well.

CASH AND VOUCHER ASSISTANCE (CVA)

All programmes where cash transfers or vouchers for goods or services are directly provided to recipients.

CENTRALITY OF PROTECTION

Refers to recognition that the protection of all the affected people and at risk must inform humanitarian decision-making and response, including engagement with States and non-State parties to conflict. Protection is recognised as the purpose and intended outcome of humanitarian action and must be central to preparedness efforts, as part of immediate and life-saving activities, and throughout the duration of humanitarian response and beyond.

CHILD

Any person, who is below 18 years, is a child.

CHILD-FRIENDLY

Working methods that do not discriminate against children and that take into account their age, evolving capacities, diversity and capabilities. These methods promote children's confidence and ability to learn, speak out, share and express their views. Sufficient time and appropriate information and materials are provided and communicated effectively to children. Staff and adults are approachable, respectful and responsive.

CHILD-FRIENDLY SPACES (CFS)

Safe spaces where communities (and humanitarian actors) create nurturing environments in which children can access free and structured play, recreation, leisure and learning activities. See Standard 15: Group activities for child well-being.



CHILD-HEADED HOUSEHOLD

A household in which a child or children (typically an older sibling) assumes the primary, day-to-day responsibility for running the household, and providing care for those within it.

CHILD IN CONTACT WITH JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Any child who comes into contact with the juvenile justice system or the criminal justice system as a victim/survivor, witness or in conflict with the law, and/or any child who comes into contact with the civil and/or administrative justice systems. This term is broader than 'child in conflict with the law'.

CHILD LABOUR

Work carried out to the detriment and endangerment of a child, in violation of international law and national legislation. It either deprives children of schooling or requires them to assume the dual burden of schooling and work. See Standard 12: Child labour and Worst Forms of Child Labour.

CHILD PARTICIPATION

The manifestation of the right of every child to express his or her view, to have this view with all given due consideration, to influence decision-making and to achieve change. It is the informed and willing involvement of all children, including the most marginalised and those of different ages, genders and disabilities, in any matter concerning them. See Principle 3.

CHILD PROTECTION IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION (CPHA)

The prevention of and response to a case of abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence against children.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING

The responsibility of organizations to make sure their staff, operations, and programmes do no harm to children. It includes policy, procedures and practices to prevent children from being harmed by humanitarian organizations as well as steps to respond and investigate when harm occurs.

CHILD WELL-BEING

A dynamic, subjective and objective state of physical, cognitive, emotional, spiritual and social health in which children:

- are safe from abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence;
- have their basic needs, including survival and development, met;
- are connected to and cared for by primary caregivers;
- have the opportunity for supportive relationships with relatives, peers, teachers, community members and society at large; and have the

opportunities and elements required to exercise their agency based on their evolving capacities.

CHILD MARRIAGE

Child marriage is a formal or an informal union where one or both parties are below 18 years old. All child marriage is considered forced, as children are not able to give full consent to marriage.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Citizens who are linked by common interests and collective activity but excluding for-profit, private sector organizations. Civil society can be informal or organised into NGOs or other associations.

CODE OF CONDUCT

A clear and concise guide of what is and what is not acceptable behaviour or practice when employed or engaged by the organisation.

COMMUNITY-LED CHILD PROTECTION

Approaches that are led by a collective, community-driven process, rather than by a NGO/UN agency/other outside actor.

COMMUNITY-LEVEL APPROACHES

Approaches that seek to ensure that community members are able to protect children and ensure their right to healthy development.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The obligation of not disclosing or making available any information about an individual, without his/her prior permission.

There may be limits on confidentiality for children in accordance with their best interests as well as mandatory reporting obligations.

CONTEXTUALISATION

The process of interpreting or adapting the standards according to context; the process of debating, determining and agreeing upon the meaning of global guidance in a given local situation; 'translating' the meaning and guidance of the Child Protection Minimum Standards for the context of a country (or region) so as to make the content of the standards, appropriate and meaningful to the given circumstances.

CRISIS

See **Humanitarian crisis** and **Humanitarian action**.



CONSENT

See **Informed consent**.

D

DECENTRALIZE

Transfer (control of an activity or organization) to several local offices or authorities, rather than to one single one.

DEMOGRAPHY

The study of statistics such as births, deaths, income, or incidence of diseases, for illustrating the changing structure of human populations.

DEPRIVATION

The damaging lack of material benefits considered to be basic necessities in a society.

DRR

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is a systematic approach to identifying, assessing and reducing the risks of disaster.

DANGER

An immediate threat to a child's safety, indicating circumstances of where the hazards are present and their potential to cause any harm or an injury.

DIGNITY

Capacity to make one's own deliberate choices and acknowledging it as a free subject. It reflects the person's integrity and is the driving source for all human rights.

DISABILITY

Results from the interaction between persons with physical, psychosocial, intellectual or sensory impairments and barriers of attitude and the environment that prevent their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

DISAGGREGATED DATA

Statistics separated according to particular criteria. As a minimum level of data disaggregation, *CPMS* proposes sex, age and disability data disaggregation.

DISASTER

See **Humanitarian crisis**.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR)

Reducing the risk of a disaster through systematic efforts so as to analyse and manage a disaster's causal factors. It includes reducing exposure to hazards, lessening the vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improving preparedness for adverse events.

DO NO HARM

The concept of humanitarian agencies avoiding unintended negative consequences for affected persons and not undermining communities' capacities for peace building and reconstruction.

DUTY BEARERS

Those responsible for fulfilling the rights of rights holders.

E

EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL (EAP)

Aims to mitigate the impact of predicted disaster by enabling the release of funding to execute pre-agreed early actions before the disaster (a mechanism called Forecast-based Financing).

ELUCIDATE

Make (something) clear; to explain clearly.

ETHNIC VIOLENCE

It is a form of political violence expressly motivated by ethnic hatred and ethnic conflict.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Early childhood refers to children from 0–8 years. This can be further specified as:

- **Infants:** 0–2 years
- **Pre-school age:** 3–5 years
- **Early school age:** 6–8 years.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD)

A comprehensive approach to children development policies and programs, with special emphasis from the the prenatal period of kids, till they are eight years old.

EARLY RECOVERY

A multi-faceted process of recovery guided by development principles that build on humanitarian programmes and encourages sustainable development opportunities.



ECONOMIC RECOVERY

A process of stimulating the growth of an area's local economy through developing markets, strengthening new and existing enterprises, and creating jobs in the private sector and in public institutions.

EMERGENCY

See **Humanitarian crisis**.

EMOTIONAL MALTREATMENT

Maltreatment that causes harm to the psychological or emotional well-being of the child. Also called psychological maltreatment.

EPIDEMIC

Occurs when an infectious disease spreads rapidly among many people. See Infectious disease outbreak.

EXPLOITATION

When an individual in a position of power and/or trust takes or attempts to take advantage of a child for their own personal benefit, advantage, gratification, or profit. This personal benefit may take different forms: physical, sexual, financial, material, social, military, or political.

F

FGD

Focus Group Discussion (FGD) is a qualitative research method in the social sciences, with a particular emphasis and application in the developmental program evaluation sphere.

FLASH APPEAL

It is a tool for structuring a coordinated humanitarian response for the first three to six months of an emergency. It contains an analysis of the context and of humanitarian needs, response plans, and statements on roles and responsibilities.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH

It is a principle that supports the freedom of an individual or a community to articulate their opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship, or legal sanction.

FEEDBACK AND REPORTING MECHANISM

A formal system established and used to allow recipients of humanitarian action (and in some cases, other crisis-affected populations) to provide information on their experience with a humanitarian agency or the wider humanitarian system.

Such information is then used for different purposes, including taking corrective action to improve some element of the response.

FOSTER CARE

Situations, where children are cared in a household, outside of their family. Fostering is usually understood to be a temporary arrangement, and in most cases the birth parents retain their parental rights and responsibilities. The care arrangement is administered by a competent authority whereby a child is placed in the domestic environment of a family who have been selected, prepared and authorised to provide such care, and are supervised and may be financially and/or non-financially supported in doing so. See online glossary for definitions of **Traditional or Informal fostering, Spontaneous fostering, and Arranged fostering.**

G

GERIATRIC

Elating to old people, especially with regard to their healthcare.

GHETTOIZED

Put in or restrict to an isolated or segregated place, group, or situation.

GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

Grievance redressal is a management-cum-governance process which primarily covers the receipt and processing of complaints from citizens and consumers, a wider definition includes actions taken on any issue raised by them to avail services more effectively.

GENDER

The social attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female and the relationships between women and men and girls and boys. It differs from sex which is defined most often at birth based on biological anatomy.

Non-binary gender identity refers to any gender identity or expression which does not fit the male/female or boy/girl binary.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

An umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (i.e. gender) differences between males and females. It includes acts that inflict physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion, and other deprivations of liberty. See **Sexual violence** and **Sexual and gender-based violence.**

GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACH

Interventions that are designed to address the root causes of gender-based discrimination and hence question gendered power relations.



H

HANDBOOK

A book giving information such as facts on a particular subject or instructions for operating a process/mechanism.

HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION

It is about how we interact with other organizations responding to the emergency to ensure the overall response is effective.

HARMFUL PRACTICES

Traditional and non-traditional practices, which inflict pain, cause physical or psychological harm and 'disfigurement' of children. In many societies, these practices are considered a social norm and defended by perpetrators and community members on the basis of tradition, religion, or superstition. Harmful practices perpetrated primarily against girls, like female genital mutilation and child marriage, are also forms of gender-based violence.

HAZARD

Any physical events, natural phenomenon or human activity that has potential to cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihood and services, social and economic disruption or environmental damage. Some definitions suggest hazards are dangers that can be **foreseen but not avoided**.

HAZARDOUS WORK

Work, which by its nature or by the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety and morals of children, and which must be prohibited for children under the age of 18 years (even when this is above the general minimum working age).

HUMAN RIGHTS / CHILD RIGHTS

Rights that every human being is entitled to enjoy simply by the virtue of a human being. They identify the minimum conditions for living with dignity that apply to all of us. They are universal and inalienable: they cannot be taken away. As human beings, children are human rights holders. Additionally, they have a specific set of human rights – often referred to as child rights – pertaining to persons under the age of 18 and enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989.

HUMANITARIAN ACTION

The objectives of humanitarian action are to save lives, alleviate suffering and maintain human dignity during and in the aftermath of human-made crises and disasters, as well as to prevent and strengthen preparedness for the occurrence

of such situations. Humanitarian action has two inextricably linked dimensions: protecting people and providing assistance. It is rooted in humanitarian principles – humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. See **Humanitarian response**.

HUMANITARIAN ACTORS

Wide range of authorities, communities, organisations, agencies and inter-agency networks that combine to enable humanitarian assistance to be channelled to the places and the people, in need of it. These include UN agencies, the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, local, national and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs), local government institutions and donor agencies. The actions of these organisations are guided by key humanitarian principles: humanity, impartiality, independence and neutrality.

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts that exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources and therefore requires urgent action.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

It is one of the dimension of humanitarian actions. It focuses on the provision of services and public assistance during or immediately after a specific emergency in order to save lives, reduces health impacts, ensure public safety, maintain human dignity and meet the basic subsistence needs of the people affected. It should be governed by the key humanitarian principles.

I

IMPAIRMENT

A significant deviation or loss in body functioning or structure is called as an impairment. It may be either temporary or permanent, and people may have multiple impairments.

INCLUSION

A rights-based approach to programming, aiming to ensure all people who may be at risk of being excluded have equal access to basic services and a voice in the development and implementation of those services.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAK

When an infectious disease occurs in large number than the expected number, in a community or region or during a season. An outbreak may occur in one community or even extend to several countries.



INFORMAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Forms of justice enforcement and dispute resolution that are not an integrated part of the formal justice system. But have a degree of effectiveness, stability and legitimacy within a designated local constituency. Also called as a customary justice system.

INFORMED ASSENT

The expressed willingness to participate in services. Informed assent is sought from children who are by nature or law too young to give consent, but who are old enough to understand and agree to participate in services. When obtaining informed assent, practitioners must share, in a child-friendly manner, information on: services and options available, potential risks and benefits, personal information to be collected and how it will be used, and confidentiality and its limits.

INFORMED CONSENT

The voluntary agreement of an individual who has the capacity to take a decision, understands what they are being asked to, agree to and who exercises free choice. When obtaining informed consent, practitioners must share, in a child-friendly manner, information on: services and options available, potential risks and benefits, personal information to be collected and how it will be used, and confidentiality and its limits. Informed consent is usually not sought from children under age 15. See also **Informed assent**.

INTEGRATED APPROACHES

An integrated approach allows two or more sectors to work together towards a shared programme outcome(s), based on capacities and joint needs identification and analysis, and, thus, promotes equal benefits or mutually beneficial processes and outcomes among all involved sectors. See Pillar 4: Standards to work across sectors.

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSON

A person or groups of person who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence and who have not crossed an internationally recognised state border.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

The body of international treaties and established legal rules (including customary international law) that govern States' obligations to respect, protect and fulfil human rights.

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

Besides the provisions of human rights law, situations of armed conflict are also governed by international humanitarian law. The specific provisions that apply

depend on whether the conflict is international or non-international (civil) in character.

INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE LAW

A set of rules and procedures that aims to protect, firstly, people seeking asylum from persecution and, secondly, those recognised as refugees under the relevant instruments.

IHL

International humanitarian law also referred to as the laws of armed conflict, is the law that regulates the conduct of war. It is a branch of international law which seeks to limit the effects of armed conflict by protecting persons who are not participating in hostilities, and by restricting and regulating the means and methods of warfare available to combatants.

INCEPTION

The establishment or starting point of an institution or activity.

INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

An internally displaced person (IDP) is someone who is forced to leave their home but who remains within their country's borders. She/He is often referred to as a refugee, although they do not fall within the legal definitions of a refugee.

J

JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN) ACT, 2000

It is the primary legal framework for juvenile justice in India. The act provides for a special approach towards the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency and provides a framework for the protection, treatment and rehabilitation of children in the purview of the juvenile justice system.

K

KINSHIP CARE

The full-time care, nurturing and protection of a child by someone other than his/her parents. This person is related to the child by family ties or by a significant prior relationship.



L

L3 EMERGENCY

The Inter agency Standing Committee's classification for the most severe, large-scale humanitarian crisis. It requires a system-wide mobilisation to significantly scale up a humanitarian response and improve overall assistance.

LIFE SKILLS

Skills and abilities are for positive behaviour of individuals and enable them to adapt to and deal effectively with the demands and challenges of everyday life. They help people to think, feel, act and interact as individuals and as participating members of society.

LIVELIHOOD

The capabilities, assets, opportunities and activities required to make one's living. Assets include financial, natural, physical, social and human resources.

M

MALTREATMENT

Any action, including the failure to act, that results in harm, potential for harm, or threat of harm to a child. Maltreatment is commonly used as an umbrella term for abuse and neglect.

MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

Any type of local or outside support that aims at protect/promoting psychosocial well-being and prevent/treating mental health conditions. MHPSS programmes aim to (1) reduce and prevent harm, (2) strengthen resilience to recover from adversity, and (3) improve the care conditions that enable children and families to survive and thrive. See **Mental health, Psychosocial** and **Child well-being**.

MINIMUM STANDARDS

Specify the minimum qualitative levels to be attained in humanitarian action.

MITIGATION

Reducing harmful impacts or consequences. For humanitarian action, it may include physical infrastructural measures as well as improvements to the environment, strengthening livelihoods or increasing public knowledge and awareness. See **Response**.

MONITORING

At programme level, monitoring is an on-going, internal process of data collection focused on inputs and outputs. At coordination level, monitoring both the situation

and the response is central to optimising the impact of efforts to protect children in emergencies. See Standard 6: Child protection monitoring.

MGNREGS

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, is an Indian labour law and social security measure that aims to guarantee the 'right to work'.

MORBIDITY

The condition of suffering from a disease or a medical condition.

N

NEGLECT

The intentional or unintentional failure of a caregiver – individual, community, or institution (including the State) with clear responsibility by custom or law to:

- (a) protect a child from actual or potential harm to the child's safety, well-being, dignity and development or
- (b) fulfil the child's rights to survival, development, and well-being, when she/he has the capacity, ability, and resources to do so.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

The principle that unfair distinctions should not be made between children, people or communities on any grounds, including age, sex, gender, race, colour, ethnicity, national or social origin, sexual orientation, HIV status, language, civil documentation, religion, disability, health status, political or other opinion, or other status. See Principle 2.

NON-STATE ACTOR

A non-state actor (NSA) is an organization and/or individual that is/are not affiliated with, directed by, or funded by any government.

O

ONSLAUGHT

A fierce or destructive attack.

P

PARTICIPATION

The processes and activities that allow crisis-affected people to play an active role in all decision-making processes that affect them. Participation is a right and is voluntary. See **Child participation** and **Principle 3**.



PREPAREDNESS

Activities and measures taken in advance of a crisis to ensure an effective response to the impact of hazards, including issuing timely and effective early warnings and the temporary evacuation of people and property from threatened locations.

PREVENTION

Primary Prevention addresses the root causes of child protection risks among the population (or a subset of it) to reduce the likelihood of abuse, neglect, exploitation or violence against children.

Secondary Prevention addresses a specific source of threat and/or vulnerabilities of a child who is identified as being at particularly high risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation or violence, due to characteristics of the child, family and/or environment.

Tertiary Prevention reduces the longer-term impact of harm and reduces the chance of recurring harm to a child who has already suffered abuse, neglect, exploitation or violence. (Adapted from the Center for Disease Control [CDC])

PRIMARY DATA

Any data that is collected directly from its original source, for the objective mentioned in the question. See Secondary data.

PROTECTION

All activities aimed at ensuring the full and equal respect for the rights of all individuals, regardless of age, sex, gender, ethnicity, social or political affiliation, religious beliefs, or other status.

PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (PSEA)

Term used by the UN and NGO community to refer to measures taken to prevent, mitigate and respond to acts of sexual exploitation and abuse by their own staff and associated persons, including community volunteers, military and government officials engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance.

PROTECTION MAIN STREAMING

The process of incorporating protection principles and promoting meaningful access, safety and dignity, in humanitarian aid.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

Unpleasant feelings or emotions that can impact a person's level of functioning and ability to navigate, participate in social interactions. Sadness, anxiety, distraction, disruption in relationships with others and some symptoms of mental illness are manifestations of psychological distress.

PSYCHOSOCIAL

The interaction between social aspects (such as interpersonal relationships, social connections, social norms, social roles, community life and religious life) and psychological aspects (such as emotions, thoughts, behaviours, knowledge and coping strategies) that contribute to overall well-being.

PSYCHOSOCIAL DISABILITIES

Persons with psychosocial disabilities include those who have what is known in medical terms as 'mental health conditions', and who face significant barriers to participating in society on an equal basis with others.

PARENS PATRIAE

It is a latin word for "parent of the nation". In law, it refers to the public policy power of the state to intervene against an abusive or negligent parent, legal guardian, or informal caretaker, and to act as the parent of any child, individual or animal who is in need of protection.

PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACT (PHRA), 1993

An Act to provide for the constitution of the National Human Rights Commission, the State Human Rights Commissions in States and Human Rights Courts for better protection of human rights and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

PROTECTION

Activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the relevant bodies of law.

PROTRACTED

Lasting for a long time or longer than expected or usual.

Q

QUALITATIVE DATA

Data collected through case studies, interviews, etc. to provide description, experience and meaning.

QUALITY

In the humanitarian sector, quality means effectiveness (impact), efficiency (timeliness and costs), appropriateness (taking account of rights, needs, culture, age, gender, disabilities and context), and equity (non-discrimination and equal access) of elements of a humanitarian response.



QUANTITATIVE DATA

Data focused on numbers and statistics.

QUORUM

The minimum number of members of an assembly or society required to be present in any of its meetings for making the meeting's proceedings as valid.

R

REFERRAL

The process of directing a child or family to another service provider because the assistance required is beyond the expertise or scope of work of the current service provider.

REFUGEE

All persons who are outside their country of origin for reasons of a well-founded fear of persecution on one of the grounds listed in the 1951 Convention or because a conflict, generalised violence or other circumstances that have seriously disturbed public order and who, as a result, require international protection.

RESILIENCE

It is ability of a person to overcome the damaging effects of adversities, his/her adaptive capacity to find ways to realise their rights, good health, development and well-being. Generally in humanitarian context, resilience refers to the ability of an individual, community, society or country to anticipate, withstand and recover from adversity - be it a natural disaster or crisis. See Principle 10.

RESPONSE

See **Humanitarian Response**.

RISK

In humanitarian action, risk is the likelihood of harm occurring from a hazard and the potential losses to lives, livelihoods, assets and services. It is the probability of external and internal threats occurring in combination with the existence of individual vulnerabilities.

For child protection, risk refers to the likelihood that violations of and threats to children's rights will manifest and cause harm to children. See **Hazard**.

RISK ASSESSMENT

A methodology used to review a hazard, how it may cause harm, and determine the probability of occurrence of harm and its severity.

In child protection, it is used to determine the nature and extent of risk by taking into account potential hazards and existing conditions of vulnerability that together could harm children and families.

RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE ACT, 1957

The Act provides for the constitution and regulation of an armed Force of the Union for the better protection and security of railway property, passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith.

RECOVERY COORDINATION

Through recovery coordination, a Recovery Coordinator assists adults Medicaid Managed Care to gain peers and partners in the community and provides on-going assessment and referral for Adult Behavioural Health Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS).

RESTITUTION

The restoration of something lost or stolen to its proper owner.

RIGHT TO LIFE AND PERSONAL LIBERTY

It is assured by the Indian Constitution under Article 21. This is a very important and wide topic and has several implications for the citizens of India.

RIGHT TO LIVE LIFE WITH DIGNITY

Every person has inalienable right to live with dignified life without discrimination.

RIGHT TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Freedom of religion or religious liberty is a principle that supports the freedom of an individual or community, in public or private, to manifest religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship, and observance. It also includes the freedom to change one's religion or beliefs, "the right not to profess any religion or belief" or "not to practise a religion".

S

SAFE SPACES

Interventions used by humanitarian agencies to increase children's access to safe environments and promote their psychosocial well-being. These include, for instance- child-friendly Spaces and women and girls safe Spaces.

SECONDARY DATA

Data collected by someone other than the user.



SECONDARY TRAUMA OR STRESS

Changes in psychological, physical or spiritual well-being experienced by practitioners over time as a result of seeing and listening to distressing experiences of his/her clients. Practitioners may become overwhelmed by what they see and hear.

SEPARATED CHILDREN

Children separated from both parents or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. These may, therefore, include children accompanied by other adult family members.

SEX

The biological attributes of a person, and, therefore, generally unchanging and universal. See **Gender**.

SEXUAL ABUSE

Actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions. See **Sexual violence against children**.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV)

Any act that is perpetrated against a person's will that is based on gender norms and unequal power relationships. It encompasses threats of violence and coercion. It can be physical, emotional, psychological, or sexual in nature, and can take the form of a denial of resources or access to services. It inflicts harm on women, girls, men and boys.

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Any actual or attempted abuse of position of vulnerability, differential power or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Any form of sexual activity with a child by an adult or by another child who has power over the child. Sexual violence includes both activities that involve body contact and those without body contact. (Also referred to as child sexual abuse.)

SOCIAL NORMS

Rules of behaviour that are generally expected and supported in a given context. Violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation can be prevented by positive social norms or can be upheld by negative social norms, such as the 'right' of parents to hit their children.

STAKEHOLDER

A person, group or institution with interests in a project or programme.

SUSTAINABLE

Economically viable, environmentally sound and socially just over the long term.

SECRETARIAT

A permanent administrative office.

SOCIETIES REGISTRATION ACT, 1860

It is a legislation in India which allows the registration of entities generally involved in the benefit of society - education, health, employment etc.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CASTE CENSUS (SECC)

SECC-2011 is the first-ever census that generated comprehensive data covering households in both rural and urban areas. It is a study of socio-economic status of rural and urban households and allows ranking of households based on predefined parameters.

SOP

A standard operating procedure is a set of step-by-step instructions compiled by an organization/institute to help colleagues carry out specific operations/tasks.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

A statutory authority is a body set up by law which is authorised to enact legislation on behalf of the relevant country or state.

SUO MOTO

It is a legal term which simply means "on its own accord". When a case or a matter is taken over by a High Court or the Supreme Court under its control and initiate proceedings against the same, it is known as a "Suo Moto action".

TOPOGRAPHY

The arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area.

TRIBUNAL

A body established to settle certain types of disputes.

U**UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN**

Children who have been separated from both parents and other relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so.



UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE

Explosive ordnance that has been primed, fused, armed, or otherwise prepared for use and used in an armed conflict. It may have been fired, dropped, launched or projected and should have exploded but failed to do so.

UNIVERSAL DESIGN

The design of products, environments, programmes and services to be usable by/ for all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialised design.

URBAN CONTEXTS

The definition of 'urban' varies from country to country. An urban area can be defined by one or more of the following: administrative criteria or political boundaries (e.g. area within the jurisdiction of a municipality or town committee), a threshold population size, population density, economic function or the presence of urban characteristics (e.g. paved streets, electric lighting, sewerage).

V

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

All acts that involve the intentional use of power or verbal or physical force, threatened or actual, against a child or against a group of children that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in actual or potential harm to the child or children's safety, well-being, dignity, and development.

VULNERABILITY

The extent to which some people may be disproportionately affected by the disruption of their physical environment and social support mechanisms, following disaster or conflict. Vulnerability is specific to each person and each situation.

For child protection, vulnerability refers to individual, family, community and societal characteristics that reduce children's ability to withstand adverse impact from violations of and threats to their rights.

W

WELL-BEING

See **Child well-being**.

WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR

A term defined in ILO Convention No. 182. These forms of child labour must be prohibited for all people under the age of 18 years and include the following:

- All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage, serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict.
- Using, procuring, or offering a child for prostitution, the production of pornography, or for pornographic performance.
- Using, procuring, or offering a child for illicit activities—in particular, for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties.
- Work which, by its nature or because of the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of the child. See also **Hazardous work**.

4Ws-WHO DOES WHAT, WHERE AND WHEN (AND FOR WHOM)

The 4Ws is a coordination tool used to provide key information regarding which organizations (Who) are carrying out which activities (What) in which locations (Where) in which period (When). This information is essential to child protection and other sector coordinators and organizations to coordinate their activities effectively and ensure that humanitarian needs are met without gaps or duplication. The 5Ws add the element of "for Whom" to the 4Ws.

ACRONYMS

CSO: Civil Society Organization

IAG: Inter-Agency Group

INGOs: International Non-Governmental Organization

JDNA: Joint Detailed Needs Assessment

NGO: Non-Governmental Organization

SDRF/ NDRF: State Disaster Response Fund / National Disaster Response Fund



ANNEXEURE 2: Code Of Ethics And Professional Conduct¹

Responsibility for ethical behaviour and professional conduct lies with all staff members at all levels, and must be taken seriously, as it forms the basis of organization's reputation. It is therefore essential that all staff members know and understand the Code and utilize it as a guide for thought and action. Moreover, as the Code is not intended to cover every situation or problem that may arise, staff members are encouraged to seek guidance and assistance from the Office of Compliance, Risk Management and Ethics (CRE) in order to resolve issues and ensure the ethical performance and discharge of their professional responsibilities.

Contributing to the Elimination of Inappropriate Behaviours

The Role of All Staff	The Role of Managers and Supervisors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicate clearly to colleagues about conduct they find offensive and demand that it should stop. ▪ Take a stand against incidents that could constitute harassment and support those concerned. ▪ Help to limit the damage caused to the workplace and to WHO's reputation by inappropriate behaviour by taking an active role and reporting wrongdoing to appropriate mechanisms in WHO. ▪ Cooperate fully with those responsible for dealing with a complaint of harassment and ensure that confidentiality is respected. ▪ Refrain from: Engaging in verbal or physical abuse, or acting in a way that creates an atmosphere of Hostility or intimidation. ▪ Communicate clearly to colleagues about conduct they find offensive and demand that it should stop. 	<p>Act as role models by maintaining a high standard of personal conduct and treating all colleagues with courtesy and respect, and promoting a harmonious work environment that is free from harassment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicate clearly that harassment is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. ▪ Take appropriate managerial action to address, where appropriate, any concerns about personal behaviours of staff members under their supervision that may be offensive to others. ▪ Never excuse or minimize disrespectful or harassing behaviour. ▪ Ensure that individuals who bring concerns forward do not suffer retaliation, that they are not shunned, disparaged, or otherwise marginalized.

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The Role of All Staff	The Role of Managers and Supervisors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Take a stand against incidents that could constitute harassment and support those concerned. ▪ Help to limit the damage caused to the workplace and to WHO's reputation by inappropriate behaviour by taking an active role and reporting wrongdoing to appropriate mechanisms in WHO. ▪ Cooperate fully with those responsible for dealing with a complaint of harassment and ensure that confidentiality is respected. <p>Refrain from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engaging in verbal or physical abuse, or acting in a way that creates an atmosphere of hostility or intimidation. ▪ Encouraging others to engage in offensive behaviour. ▪ Spreading gossip or rumors about a colleague. ▪ Retaliating against, or encouraging others to retaliate against, a staff member who has made, or has supported someone else in making a complaint, or has cooperated in the investigation of a complaint. ▪ Filing a false or malicious complaint under this policy knowingly and deliberately, or encouraging or fuelling someone to do so, with a reckless disregard for the truth of the statements contained therein. hostility or intimidation; Encouraging others to engage in offensive behaviour; Spreading gossip or rumors about a colleague. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promptly document and report wrongdoing through appropriate WHO mechanisms ▪ Intervene promptly when alerted to alleged or potential acts of harassment and act promptly to attempt to informally resolve such incidents, including the referral of staff members to available resources for appropriate assistance. ▪ Assist the rehabilitation of working relationships where possible.



The Role of All Staff	The Role of Managers and Supervisors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Retaliating against, or encouraging others to retaliate against, a staff member who has made, or has supported someone else in making a complaint, or has cooperated in the investigation of a complaint. <p>Filing a false or malicious complaint under this policy knowingly and deliberately, or encouraging or fuelling someone to do so, with a reckless disregard for the truth of the statements contained therein.</p>	

No Sexual Harassment

- Sexual harassment is a particularly severe form of harassment handled by the Policy on Prevention of Harassment. Sexual harassment is understood as any unwelcome, unsolicited and unreciprocated, sexual advance, request for sexual favour, verbal or physical conduct or gesture of a sexual nature, or any other behaviour of a sexual nature (including pornography, sexually-colored remarks) that has or that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to offend, humiliate or intimidate another person.
- Sexual harassment frequently interferes with work: it may be made implicitly or explicitly a condition of employment or of making decisions on the basis of sexual advances being accepted or rejected. Sexual innuendo may create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.
- Sexual harassment can imply a series of incidents or a one-time incident, if the latter has an unambiguously offensive sexual character. Sexual harassment may occur between persons of different or same sex, and may extend to outside of working hours and outside of the workplace.
- Individuals found to have engaged in acts of sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary measures including being dismissed or summarily dismissed. In severe corroborated cases, they may also become the subject of criminal proceedings and WHO will provide full support and all investigation materials to the national authorities in these instances.
- Staff members found to have engaged in inappropriate behaviour will be subject to relevant disciplinary measures.

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