Mainstreaming

Mainstreaming of basic protection principles refer to the imperative for all humanitarian actors to prevent, mitigate and respond to protection threats caused or perpetuated by humanitarian action/inaction by ensuring the respect of fundamental protection principles in humanitarian programmes - no matter what sector or objective.

Key elements

- Prioritise safety and dignity and avoid causing harm;
- Ensure meaningful access:

  - Available in sufficient quantity and quality
  - Provided on the basis of need and without discrimination
  - Within safe and easy reach
  - Known by people potentially accessing services
  - Physically and financially accessible
  - Culturally relevant and socially acceptable

- Ensure accountability;
- Ensure participation and empowerment.

The HOW - process

Sphere protection principles 1 & 2

Mainstreaming MUST always be done!

Multi-sectoriality does not ensure integration, but integrated responses are multi-sectorial!

Integration

The design of humanitarian activities to support both protection and assistance objectives, and to actively contribute to reduce the risk and exposure of the affected population. Activities from all sectors that aims to prevent and respond to violence or threat of violence; coercion and exploitation; deliberate deprivation, neglect or discrimination, and supporting people to enjoy their rights in safety and with dignity.

Key elements

- Other sector activities contribute to protection outcomes and protection activities contributes to outcomes in other sectors;
- Demand- rather than supply-driven;
- Requires other sector specialists and protection specialists to work together;

The WHAT - product

Sphere Protection Principles 3 & 4

Protection Mainstreaming & Integrated Programming

Definitions and Key Characteristics