

IRRC HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION FRAMEWORK

1. Introduction

Coordination and Leadership has been recognized as the weakest point of the Global Humanitarian system. This was one of the main reasons to do the UN Humanitarian reform and set the cluster system.

ALNAP and other Humanitarian fora have insisted on the importance of a well articulated coordination mechanism to ensure effective Humanitarian responses.

In this regard IRRC in its role as KIO Humanitarian agency, is committed to provide the required coordination among all Humanitarian agencies working in KIO controlled area. For that purpose KIO is developing this Humanitarian Coordination Framework which is a live document.

2. Coordination Principles

The following general principles will be respected by all humanitarian agencies working in KIO Controlled Area (KIO CA):

1. **Respect to IDPs:** its dignity, culture, history and personal and communal context. (Psychological and social context should be respected at all times)
2. **IDPs' Rights and Needs will lead all Humanitarian decisions and programmes.** Institutional needs or wishes will never be the leading factor.
3. **Respect of International Humanitarian Law, The Humanitarian Code of Conduct** and Basic International Humanitarian Standards.
4. **Respect to local authorities and local leaders.**
5. Transparent and timely **communication and information**
6. **Professionalism:** informed decision making, documenting agreements, respecting agreements and accountability on its performance.
7. **Priority for Local responsibility, ownership and empowerment:** Local NGOs, and Local entities, staff and products will be prioritized over external entities, staff or resources
8. **Branding of actions/programmes should be zero or minimal; discrete** and proportionated to the work done. IDPs camps or properties won't be "Branded" or labeled.
9. **Building on previous works**, avoiding duplications of work or repetition of work.
10. Working under a **coordinated cluster approach** led by local entities.

3. Communication

1. All agencies working or willing to work in KIO CA should provide transparent and timely information to IRRC about their purposes and plans.

2. All agencies working or willing to work in KIO CA should formally inform of the support they could offer, their commitment and probability of materializing this support in reality. (promises with no evidence of real work should not be accepted)
3. INGOs and UN Agencies arriving under crossline missions, should inform in advance to IRRC and LNGOs of their intentioned calendar, schedule, and coordinate programme with IRRC.
4. Discussions and agreements made among Organisations working under KIO CA and IRRC should be documented and minuted.
5. All UN agencies, INGOs or LNGOs working in KIO CA should get access to and know IRRC Humanitarian policy.
6. All UN agencies, INGOs or LNGOs working in KIO CA should provide to IRRC their Humanitarian policies or guiding principles.
7. All UN agencies and INGOs working in KIO CA should be aware and know the Humanitarian Response strategy and the Return and Resettlement strategy developed by Local NGOs working in KIO CA.
8. All UN agencies and INGOs should communicate transparently at all times with which Local NGOs are they doing or negotiating programmes. This information should be available to IRRC and all concerned LNGOs.
9. All UN agencies and INGOs should provide information on the expected support they will provide for the immediate future and for the eventual Return and Resettlement of IDPs.

4. Assessments

One of the key activities that every Humanitarian Organisation has to develop before engaging in programme delivery is Needs' assessments.

Frequently different organizations do their own assessments without any consideration of previous works done, overloading IDPs with questionnaires and interviews which sometimes do not deliver any result.

Therefore the following principles should be respected.

1. Needs assessment should be done only when there is a clear evidence of lack of reliable information and that the value of the assessment will be crucial for the wellbeing of IDPs
2. Needs assessment should be coordinated with IRRC and Camp Management Committees, to avoid unnecessary disturbance of IDPs lives.
3. Needs assessment will be conducted only if there is sufficient evidence that they will lead to specific actions that will benefit the lives of IDPs.
4. Assessments should avoid by all means, generating false expectations that will end in IDPs frustrations or conflicts.

5. Training and Capacity Building

INGOS and UN Agencies, willing to offer specific trainings and capacity building of Local entities should:

1. Respect the autonomy of the Local entities
2. Build on their own organizational assessments and identified needs
3. Respect the Institutional schedules and working schedules
4. Ensure cost effectiveness in their training offers.
5. Do not orient training to donors institutional wishes.
6. Ensure quality of trainers and materials
7. Respect culture, language and ensure professional translation.
8. Do not divert senior staff of their man responsibilities with irrelevant trainings.
9. Do not link training to “programme funding incentives”.
10. Include self learning for INGOs and UN Agencies, provided by Local entities,
11. Well plan capacity building activities and inform the IRRC in advance to avoid duplication or overlapping on similar trainings.