

# **Framework paper of humanitarian assistance**

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## I. General trends and expected developments

(01) Natural disasters have increasingly severe consequences. Millions of people are experiencing long periods of drought including starvation, ever stronger storms and regular floods as a part of their “everyday life”. Those who are poor suffer the most. The fight against poverty is therefore directly connected to the envisaged reduction of the population’s *vulnerability* to natural disasters. Together with political, social and economic problems, these disasters often develop into complex man-made crises. Combating poverty, responding to crises, the promotion of participatory processes and prevention are all necessary parts of a comprehensive approach. To be successful, action in different conflict scenarios presupposes a clear analysis of the underlying causes and a sound knowledge of the local circumstances. The probability that humanitarian aid and military “humanitarian” interventions will mingle or overlap is increasing by that putting the fundamental humanitarian principles of impartiality, independence and neutrality at risk.

(02) Triggered through **climate change** natural hazards especially hydro-meteorological disasters increase, both in frequency as well as their impact to societies. This includes less predictable monsoons, changing rainfall patterns, significant temperature rises, and more intense tropical cyclones leading to floods and landslides, droughts, etc. The increase of natural disasters hits communities which are increasingly vulnerable and prone to disaster. Though the number of deaths due to natural disaster decline, the number of people affected increases, especially putting children at risk. More people are being affected due to poverty, powerlessness, population growth and migration/ displacement of people to marginal areas.

But climate change not only triggers the increase of natural hazards but also weakens communities suffering from poor living conditions and their capacities to cope with disaster. It increases the spread and intensity of diseases, causes additional water shortage or weakens the livelihood basis of poor rural communities. The reduction of vulnerability and risk of disaster but also the support and utilisation of local practices of climate change adaptation should therefore be enhanced.

(03) Since the year 2000 2.3 billion people have been affected by disaster. Alone in 2011 almost 200 million people have been affected by disasters out of which 100 million were children. **In general children constitute up to 60% of those affected by disaster.** In addition to children affected by natural disasters currently 1.5 billion children live in conflict affected or fragile states.

Disaster, conflict and fragility are contributing to the global crisis in child protection. Children are affected in several ways for example they become separates from families during crisis periods, they are exposed to violence, abuse and child labour as a consequence of the impact of disaster and conflicts on household poverty and livelihood assets and in conflict situations children are often forced to join armed forces or groups. This exposure to violence and loss can have long-term effects for children’s mental and physical health and development.

Currently humanitarian assistance does not give adequate priority to child protection. **Child protection is still the second most under-funded sector in humanitarian action after education.**<sup>1</sup>

(04) In recent years emergency and disaster relief have been pushed to the fore by both the **media** and **politics**. The media make use of and appeal to the extraordinary willingness of the population to offer a helping hand. Politicians, on the other hand, often use humanitarian aid as a substitute for political and diplomatic initiatives which do not seem to be politically enforceable (mostly in the context of armed conflict). Both lead to high

<sup>1</sup> Ridsdel, J./McCormick, C. (2013): Protect my future. The links between child protection and disasters, conflict and fragility.

expectations regarding the ability of humanitarian organisations to find speedy solutions for the various crisis scenarios. This development holds great risks. First of all, it threatens to overburden aid organisations and to produce the opposite effect (donor fatigue, loss of trust, etc.). Second, this media overkill could have a negative effect on public attention for “forgotten crises” or small scale disasters.

**(05)** Due to the increasingly complex situations in which emergency and disaster relief is provided and the resulting challenges to aid organisations, the issues of **quality management, efficiency** and **accountability** are high on the agenda. The public as well as institutional donors increasingly demand provisions to be taken in the course of humanitarian programmes to ensure efficient and transparent utilisation of funds. But accountability should not only determine the upward relation between donors and relief agencies but also between relief agencies and beneficiaries. Especially downward accountability is underrepresented in most emergency programmes and needs to be enhanced through humanitarian agencies.

**(06)** At the international level the **humanitarian reform** has been institutionalised through the UN-led cluster approach in order to enhance accountability, predictability, response capacity and coordination. Initiated and led by UN-OCHA the system supports the coordination at global as well as field level. While the cluster approach is integrating all major international actors and government stakeholders of the affected countries, the involvement of local civil society actors is still insufficient.

The Consolidated Appeal Process (CHAP) complements the cluster approach and describes the process to measure the scope of disaster and improve strategic planning, resource mobilisation, joint monitoring, reporting and evaluation.

The cluster system has improved coordination and helped to avoid overlapping while the CHAP has been criticised as generally slow and bureaucratic. Access to the process and funding for local civil society actors is difficult and insufficiently promoted. In the future it has to be expected that donors will increasingly rely on and expect participation in the international coordination mechanisms. That also means that major funds might be channelled through this system.

**(07)** Due to the competition between the different aid agencies for funds communication strategies have to be developed in order to align activities and enhance **cooperation**. Tdh is founding member of the Alliance Development Works (2005). The special feature of this alliance is that it stresses the interdependence of emergency relief and development cooperation and policy, as well as the rich experience of its member agencies in both areas.

**(08)** The **relevance of local civil society** as relevant actor in the context of humanitarian assistance is gaining importance. Increasingly International NGOs seek for cooperation with local NGOs and to develop local civil society capacities. In that context more strategic and consistent approaches of organisational development and capacity building are required.

## II. Framework for humanitarian assistance at terre des hommes

**(09)** Work in the field of humanitarian assistance is being carried out on the basis of tdh's statutes and its positions concerning development policy. Terre des hommes supports viable and fair development. This term refers to self-determined development of the individual and communities. Political participation as well as fair distribution and access to resources are basic conditions. The political and cultural background of all those concerned and their right to self-determination must be respected. The protection of children and youth is the priority of tdh's efforts in humanitarian assistance. Additionally, children and youth should be supported to become active stakeholders of the processes. Ideally, members of the target groups particularly children and youth should receive training and take responsibility for planning, organising and implementing measures.

**(10)** Humanitarian assistance is co-ordinated by the programme department. It complements tdh's development policy-related co-operation with its partners whenever disasters or crises require response. This means that humanitarian assistance is another important element of tdh's overall development-related strategy.

**(11)** All tdh project regions (the Indian subcontinent, South East Asia, Central America and Southern America and Southern and Western Africa) are affected by frequent seasonal natural disaster such as monsoon rains and cyclones and long-term natural disasters such as drought and so far constituted the major focus of tdh's interventions. The most important project themes are related to initial emergency relief, refugee relief, the reconstruction of houses and social infrastructure, livelihood support including distribution of agricultural inputs, income-generating activities as well as child protection including psycho-social support as well as educational activities especially for children and youth. Furthermore projects on disaster risk reduction are carried out in order to increase resilience of communities and by that their ability to resist, absorb and recover from the effects of disaster.

**(12)** In the framework of its activities of humanitarian assistance tdh is constantly improving its cooperation with existing partner networks as well as the tdh Federation, umbrella organisations and like-minded (I)NGOs.

**(13)** In 2010 tdh Germany became directly active in humanitarian assistance in countries not being part of its previous regional profile. This decision was taken due to the scope of the disasters and access through existing networks and possibilities for cooperation. These interventions led to relevant lessons learned and resulted in the development of comprehensive decision criteria and procedures for intervention in new project regions outside the established profile.

**Policy decisions on humanitarian assistance by authorised decision making bodies:**

*„In its project regions terre des hommes together with its project partners provides development oriented emergency and transitional aid. Where required and applicable in cooperation with the International Federation of terre des hommes” (General Meeting 2000)*

*“terre des hommes is to be enabled to provide development-related emergency and disaster relief in the project regions in co-operation with its project partners. Such support can also be given by collaborating with the International Federation terre des hommes.” (Resolution of the 2003 Delegates Conference)*

*“Strategic Goal F: terre des hommes will develop the area of emergency relief and support, both conceptually and substantively, with particular concern for sustainability, prevention and risk reduction, and it will strengthen the connection with long-term development cooperation” (2006 Delegates Conference)*

### III. Guiding principles of humanitarian assistance at terre des hommes

#### (14) Adherence to humanitarian principles

The humanitarian imperative and humanitarian international law constitute the normative basis of humanitarian assistance especially emergency relief and reconstruction (humanitarian imperative: impartiality, independence and neutrality). Tdh agrees to the humanitarian principles through its signature of the Code of Conduct of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society and adheres to the “Twelve basic principles of German Humanitarian Assistance” of the Coordinating Committee of the Federal Foreign Office.

#### (15) Meeting international standards

Terre des hommes and its partners always seek to meet internationally recognised standards. This especially refers to the Code of Conduct of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society, the Twelve Basic Rules of Humanitarian Aid of the Federal Foreign Office, the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards of the Sphere project, Child Protection Minimum Standards and the Keeping Children Safe Standards.<sup>2</sup> At the same time, sustainability, development-oriented emergency relief (LRRD) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) are becoming more important.

#### (16) Working principles

The following principles have been formulated in the framework of the tdh Delegates Conference in 2006 and should be endorsed and complemented by special needs of women and children in the context of this paper.

- The right to help of those affected in emergency situations has to be achieved by lobbying and advocacy and underpinned by tangible assistance.
- Take into account the political, social and cultural context of crises.
- Work is to focus on strengthening the resilience of those affected (not victims, but survivors).
- Reduction of the vulnerability of at-risk populations.
- The local civil society, its networks and local economies have to be part of the process and must be strengthened.
- The existing capability to deal with crises and disasters must be strengthened It is generally underestimated.
- The right to self-determination of those affected has to be guaranteed.
- The tendency to reduce the role of beneficiaries to that of mere recipients of aid and thus creating paralysis and dependence must be avoided.
- The appropriateness and quality of humanitarian aid must be ensured by the participation of those affected.
- The necessary combination of disaster prevention, emergency relief and development cooperation has to pursue sustainable long-term development goals.
- Emergency relief and reconstruction efforts are aimed not only at restoring the initial situation, they are also designed to deal with existing inequalities and the search for solutions (“building back better”).
- The special needs of children in emergencies should be given particular emphasis in compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

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<sup>2</sup> compare Annex

- Activities in emergencies should be gender-sensitive considering the vulnerability and special needs and rights of women and girls in the aftermath of disaster.

### **(17) Transparency and accountability**

Tdh is committed to constantly proof the transparent and efficient utilisation of funds. Upward accountability is key to proof the efficient and transparent use of donations either from public or institutional donors and is part of the daily work through quality management (monitoring, narrative and financial reporting and evaluation).

Downward accountability is integrated into programming and project implementation through its partner based approach. This includes constantly informing and including target groups in project planning and implementation and reviewing project activities according to community/target group complaints.

### **(18) Partner based humanitarian assistance**

Cooperation with the organisations of local civil society represents the fundamental element of tdh's work in both development cooperation and humanitarian assistance. In this regard, tdh distinguishes itself from many other humanitarian organisations through its direct contact with local partners, its long-term presence in the majority of regions and the resulting knowledge of social, cultural and economic conditions and access to civil society networks. Tdh pursues an integrated approach to development-oriented cooperation and its project partners have relatively strong process-related expertise.<sup>3</sup>

Working with the actors of local civil society at eye level, tdh seeks to strengthen local organisations and initiatives in their organisational capacities and expertise instead of relying on external concepts and approaches.

### **(19) Rights-based approach**

*“The core of a rights based approach is to enhance the rights, dignity and resource base of vulnerable communities or sections of vulnerable people so that these become secure and permanent, and make the communities/groups and their future less dependent on external support”<sup>4</sup>*

At its core, humanitarian assistance is governed through the humanitarian imperative. Those affected have the right to assistance based on their needs. The foundation is the Code of Conduct of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society. It is complemented by the Sphere Project's Humanitarian Charter emphasising the right to life with dignity. Terre des hommes and its partners follow those basic principles during their activities of immediate humanitarian assistance.

People are often denied their rights both during and after emergencies. Mid- and long-term humanitarian activities should follow a rights based approach in order to empower target groups so that they can claim their rights through their own capacities and initiative. Advocacy can represent an appropriate accompaniment to a rights based approach to emergencies. The key is to raise awareness amongst affected people of their rights during emergencies and in general. In addition, the participation and empowerment of communities enables them to secure their rights and claim activities/services from their respective government as well as from international actors. This approach conceives of people not merely as helpless victims but as people claiming their legal entitlements. This makes it much more likely to ensure the sustainability of intervention in the long-term.

<sup>3</sup> This term refers to partner's expertise in participation of communities, gender mainstreaming, consideration of marginalised groups and minorities and the sustainability of their activities due to constant presence in the project area, see point (25)

<sup>4</sup> tdh/TISS (2005): UGAM: International Workshop on Rights of Children in Disaster Situations, Mumbai

### **(20) Child centred community approach**

As a child rights and aid organisation, the interest of the child is at the core of tdh's work. The needs and rights of children govern the project activities of tdh including humanitarian assistance. According to the CRC, children need to be considered holistically. In the context of an emergency, this involves not only providing for their immediate survival needs, but dealing with children as members of society able to express their opinions, participate in decision making processes and act as partners in the process of social change and democratisation. According to their age children and youth should and do play an active role in the aftermath of disaster in both the reconstruction process and efforts of disaster preparedness. Therefore, tdh views children as both beneficiaries whose basic survival and protection needs should be secured as well as actors contributing to disaster relief, recovery and disaster preparedness. This approach places children at the forefront of tdh's activities, linking them with the community as a whole.

### **(21) Institutionalise LRRD and DRR**

As response to the increasing complexity of crises terre des hommes continues to enhance its efforts in linking relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) focusing on the interests and needs of children<sup>5</sup> In this context tdh considers to deliberately integrate components of disaster risk reduction in its child care and development projects especially in known high risk areas.

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<sup>5</sup> See "Children's charter for Disaster risk Reduction (2011), [http://www.unicef.org/mozambique/children\\_charter-May2011.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/mozambique/children_charter-May2011.pdf)

## IV. Challenges and opportunities for action for tdh

### (22) Humanitarian assistance in the context of armed conflict

Up to now, tdh has mainly been undertaking relief activities in the context of natural disasters. But increasingly countries are being affected by long-lasting crises and civil wars often accompanied by an extensive dissolution of government structures (failed states) and substantial weakening of civil society. These are countries which require long-term humanitarian aid, reconstruction and development-oriented policies at the same time. As for humanitarian assistance in the context of armed conflict and failed states tdh will analyse the situation on a case to case basis in order to find a strategy for dealing with potential situations in and outside its project regions in accordance to its capacities and resources.

### (23) Focus on thematic fields

Given the capacities of tdh and the resulting necessity to limit the scope of its work, it makes sense to consider focusing on certain thematic fields of emergency and disaster relief and involving the core strengths of the organisation and its partners. In recent years and even more after the tsunami, psycho-social care<sup>6</sup> and social assistance to children and youth, (emergency) education, child rights and child protection related activities in disaster and crisis situations have evolved as a focus.

However, with a view to the local circumstances and regionally or thematically earmarked funding, other fields related to emergency relief and reconstruction should also be covered (e.g. temporary supplementary food aid, medical care, emergency shelter, livelihood support, etc.). Large-scale food aid is not seen to be within tdh's remit.

### (24) Limitations to regional spread

Given the capacities of tdh, it is obvious that the organisation cannot intervene in all conflicts and crises or natural disasters worldwide. Alliances and co-operation can be helpful if tdh wants to be recognised as a permanent stakeholder in the field of humanitarian assistance and to exert influence on debates and developments. Tdh has entered into this process in recent years both by working with partners within the International Federation and by co-operating with like-minded German organisations. Learning from each other and exchanging experience is to be given high priority in the co-operation with others. When co-operating with partners and working in alliances, tdh shall:

- limit its work to those regions/countries with which the organisations have sufficient experience either through long-term cooperation or designated expertise in the field of humanitarian assistance.
- work with local partners or through members of the TDHIF present in the affected region.
- by doing so, benefit from existing knowledge about the political, social and economic context.

Humanitarian response in new countries/regions shall be subject to a process of approval based on the existing *country criteria for humanitarian response*, the *plan of procedures of humanitarian assistance* and general requirements. Proper exit strategies shall be developed in case countries are not taken over into the general project/country portfolio. The decision as to whether entering into a new project country is subject of prior approval by the management of tdh.

<sup>6</sup> As outlined in the framework paper "Psychosoziale Unterstützung bei terre des hommes"

### **(25) Knowledge and skill development**

If tdh wants to ensure the necessary quality of its work, responsibilities, knowledge and specific skills will have to be developed further at head office level and at the regional offices. This would support efforts in giving advice through tdh staff to existing and potential partners for humanitarian assistance in the region, especially if those have acquired limited hands-on experience in the field of humanitarian assistance yet. Quality needs to be ensured on different levels:

- method-related quality (methods for planning, monitoring and assessment)
- process-related quality (participation, gender mainstreaming, sustainability)
- content related and technical quality (technical standards).

In certain situations, it can be necessary to send external experts to the affected region to support local staff. Still, co-operation with local partners has a high priority. External experts should only support the process and help to develop local skills in dealing with crises and disasters. They should preferably come from the project regions. Nevertheless, it has to be ensured that skills and expertise of local civil society as well as communities is utilised and integrated as much as possible.

### **(26) Financial resources**

To further diversify financial resources is a major challenge. The current major sources of funding for humanitarian assistance at tdh are private and corporate donations and institutional funds through the German Foreign Ministry (AA). Other potential funding sources are BMZ budget lines related to transitional aid and climate change adaptation, EU budget lines for humanitarian assistance (ECHO) and disaster preparedness (DIPECHO) and other institutional donors such as the BMU or foundations. Diversification of funds also includes assessing possibilities to access funding at regional or local level e.g. through UN or EU.

Besides the need for diversification donor requirements are increasing with regard to professionalism as well as administrative efforts. Therefore a constant improvement of project quality and accountability is required.

At the same time structures and modes of funding of donors in the field of humanitarian assistance remain unclear especially in the transition from immediate relief and rehabilitation to long-term development (LRRD) and with respect to activities in the field of disaster risk reduction (DRR). Funding for regionally restricted small scale disasters tends to be neglected by all major donors.

## V. Steps for implementation

**(27)** terre des hommes continues to ensure quality management in the field of emergency relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation and DRR including application of international standards, in particular by supporting the regional offices and its partners. To analyse its experience systematically, a functioning assessment and monitoring system shall be maintained. Concerning existing and planned collaborations, a shared set of principles has to be worked out and made operational by defining clear indicators (compare chapter III). Furthermore, it shall be ensured that international humanitarian standards and principles are applied by tdh regional staff and project partners.

**(28)** terre des hommes will consider the binding inclusion of performance and result-based monitoring as well as project evaluation into its partner contracts under provision of respective resources through its project funding.

**(29)** terre des hommes will qualify its staff (esp. Emergency Response Coordinators, ERCs) and partner organisations strategically and systematically on a regular basis in the field of humanitarian assistance especially on child related issues. This should include the allocation of respective resources to the regional offices (also outside emergency situations) based on identified needs and themes. In this context ERCs can act as multipliers for project partners according to their available capacities.

**(30)** terre des hommes will apply a child-centred approach, meaning to focus on the situation of children and young people affected by disasters and conflict,. Therefore, child protection, child rights and child participation should be key components of tdh's activities. To this aim, tdh must continue to assess its experience and work on basic strategies.

**(31)** terre des hommes will continue to ensure downward accountability towards beneficiaries and community driven approaches through its project partners. This includes the promotion of sharing the project budget with the communities, constantly inform and include communities in project planning and implementation and review project activities according to community complaints.

**(32)** terre des hommes will develop tools for financial and governance appraisal of project partners in the context of humanitarian interventions especially in countries/regions new to its portfolio.

**(33)** terre des hommes will further increase its cooperation with institutional donors in the field of relief as well as disaster preparedness

**(34)** terre des hommes will consider to develop regional emergency strategies including the establishment of regional emergency teams/units consisting of selected partner (lead) organisations. Under guidance of the ERCs those teams could commonly conduct needs assessments in accordance with their specific expertise. Inexperienced partners could be included in such joint assessments for a learning purpose or being supported in monitoring and implementation through experienced partner organisations.

**(35)** terre des hommes will review the implementation of the framework after the period of three years to reconsider as well as update the framework.

## **ANNEX: International Principles/Standards in humanitarian assistance relevant to terre des hommes**

### **Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Response Programmes.**

1. The humanitarian imperative comes first.
2. Aid is given regardless of the race, creed or nationality of the recipients and without adverse distinction of any kind. Aid priorities are calculated on the basis of need alone.
3. Aid will not be used to further a particular political or religious standpoint.
4. We shall endeavour not to act as instruments of government foreign policy.
5. We shall respect culture and custom.
6. We shall attempt to build disaster response on local capacities.
7. Ways shall be found to involve programme beneficiaries in the management of relief aid.
8. Relief aid must strive to reduce future vulnerabilities to disaster as well as meeting basic needs.
9. We hold ourselves accountable to both those we seek to assist and those from whom we accept resources.
10. In our information, publicity and advertising activities, we shall recognize disaster victims as dignified human beings, not hopeless objects.

<http://www.ifrc.org/publicat/conduct/>

### **The Twelve Basic Rules of Humanitarian Aid**

The relief agencies and Federal Ministries represented on the Humanitarian Aid Coordination Committee agreed on "Twelve Basic Rules of Humanitarian Aid Abroad" for their cooperation.

1. Catastrophes, wars and crises cause people suffering which they cannot overcome by their own efforts. To alleviate such suffering is the objective of humanitarian aid.
2. All people are entitled to humanitarian aid and humanitarian protection; moreover they must be granted the right to provide humanitarian aid and humanitarian protection.
3. Aid and protection shall be provided irrespective of race, religion, nationality, political convictions or other distinguishing features. Humanitarian aid must not be made conditional on political or religious attitudes and must not promote these. The only criterion in setting priorities for aid shall be the suffering of the people.
4. The relief organizations and the state agencies participating in the discussion group shall act on their own initiative according to their own guidelines and strategies for implementation.
5. They shall respect the dignity of man in providing aid.
6. They shall respect the laws and customs of the country concerned. If the efforts to provide the best possible aid collide with regulations in force in the recipient country,

a solution to this conflict shall be sought bearing in mind the objective of humanitarian aid.

7. They shall assist each other and cooperate in humanitarian aid measures as far as possible.
8. Those providing aid shall be accountable to both the recipients of the aid and those whose donations and supplies they accept.
9. Humanitarian aid is first and foremost aid for survival. It shall include self-help measures and shall help to reduce susceptibility to catastrophe. Where necessary, it shall take development needs into consideration.
10. From the very beginning the organizations and state agencies active in humanitarian aid shall involve local partners in their planning and measures.
11. The recipients shall also be involved in organizing and implementing the measures.
12. Aid supplies must be used according to needs and should correspond to local standards; only the current emergency determines the selection and delivery of aid. In procuring aid supplies, priority must be given to purchasing them in the region hit by the catastrophe.

[http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/HumanitaereHilfe/Grundregeln\\_node.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/HumanitaereHilfe/Grundregeln_node.html)

### **Sphere Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response**

Humanitarian Charter:

Primacy of the humanitarian imperative – action should be taken to prevent or alleviate human suffering arising out of disaster or conflict, and that nothing should override this principle

Role:

- We acknowledge that it is firstly through their own efforts, and through the support of community and local institutions, that the basic needs of people affected by disaster or conflict are met.
- We recognise the primary role and responsibility of the affected state to provide timely assistance to those affected, to ensure people's protection and security and to provide support for their recovery.

Common principles, rights, duties:

- The right to life with dignity
- The right to receive humanitarian assistance (based on impartiality and non-discrimination)
- The right to protection and security

<http://www.sphereproject.org/>

### **Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action – Child Protection Programming**

The main purpose of the Minimum Standards is to:

- Establish common principles amongst those working in child protection, and to strengthen coordination between them

- Improve the quality of child protection programming
- Improve accountability within child protection work
- Further define the professional field of child protection
- Provide a synthesis of good practice and learning to date
- Enable better advocacy and communication on child protection risks, needs, and responses

The Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action follow the structure of the Sphere standards. Each standard is accompanied by key actions, measurements (including indicators and targets), and guidance notes.

Child protection in emergencies includes specific activities by child protection actors, whether national or community-based, and/or by humanitarian staff supporting local capacities. It also includes activities in other humanitarian sectors. The Minimum Standards therefore contain 26 standards: (a) 6 general standards to address child protection needs, (b) 8 standards to ensure a quality child protection response, (c) 4 standards to develop adequate child protection strategies and (d) 8 standards to ensure mainstreaming of child protection in other sectors.

<http://cpwg.net/minimum-standards/>

### Keeping Children Safe in Emergencies – Child Safeguarding

As child rights organisation terre des hommes Germany has committed itself to the enforcement of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child. On organisational level terre des hommes Germany itself as well as all its regional offices rely their work on child protection policies to guarantee the rights and safety of children.

The TDHIF is member of “Keeping children safe” and therefore refers to following tools in order to ensure safeguarding of children at organisational level:

- ❖ Keeping Children Safe: A Toolkit for Child Protection<sup>7</sup>
- ❖ Safeguarding children in emergencies – A pocket guide<sup>8</sup>

Latter refers to the emergency context by formulating six minimum standards:

**Standard 1:** Assessing the risks and developing Child Safeguarding Measures (CSM)

**Standard 2:** Clear segregation of responsibilities among staff (detailed, understood and accepted).

**Standard 3:** Dissemination and understanding of the child safeguarding measures in place is ensured at all levels.

**Standard 4:** Safe recruitment processes are developed and implemented at all levels.

**Standard 5:** Mainstreaming of the CSM by all sectors in the organisation.

**Standard 6:** Monitoring and Evaluation

<http://www.keepingchildrensafe.org.uk/>

KCS Toolkit: <http://www.keepingchildrensafe.org.uk/toolkit>

<sup>7</sup> Full document in different languages under: <http://www.keepingchildrensafe.org.uk/toolkit>

<sup>8</sup> Full document in English language: <http://www.keepingchildrensafe.org.uk/emergencies-toolkit>