

The diversity of the humanitarian community is an asset if we build on our comparative advantages and complement each other's contributions. Local capacity is one of the main assets to enhance and on which to build. Whenever possible, humanitarian organizations should strive to make it an integral part in emergency response. Language and cultural barriers must be overcome.



Complementarity

Principles of Partnership

A Statement of Commitment Endorsed by the Global Humanitarian Platform, 12 July 2007

The Global Humanitarian Platform, created in July 2006, brings together UN and non-UN humanitarian organizations on an equal footing. The GHP is committed to building and nurturing effective partnership, with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness of humanitarian action, based on an ethical obligation and accountability to the populations we serve.

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Humanitarian organizations have an ethical obligation to each other to accomplish their tasks responsibly, with integrity and in a relevant and appropriate way. They must make sure they commit to activities only when they have the means, competencies, skills, and capacity to deliver on their commitments. Decisive and robust prevention of abuses committed by humanitarians must also be a constant effort.



Responsibility

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Equality requires mutual respect between members of the partnership irrespective of size and power.

The participants must respect each other's mandates, obligations and independence and recognize each other's constraints and commitments. Mutual respect must not preclude organizations from engaging in constructive dissent.



Equality

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Effective humanitarian action must be reality-based and action-oriented. This requires result-oriented coordination based on effective capabilities and concrete operational capacities.

Results-oriented approach



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Transparency is achieved through dialogue (on equal footing), with an emphasis on early consultations and early sharing of information. Communications and transparency, including financial transparency, increase the level of trust among organizations.

A stylized illustration of a person standing on a balance scale, symbolizing transparency and balance. The person is a simple silhouette with arms outstretched, standing on a horizontal beam that is supported by a vertical post. The entire illustration is rendered in a light yellow color against a darker yellow background.

Transparency

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