

Humanitarian Standards workshop feed back



Country : Democratic Republic of Congo

Date of workshop : From 17th to 19th December 2020

I.Participants to the workshop :

With a support from Action Medeore via a national partner called AFPDE , we werre Lucky to working with 15 participants from AFPDE staff , Gouvernement Humanitarian Affaires service , Health zones and other gouvernement authorities .

II.Key points on Humanitaian context in South Kivu Province :

- ✓ The province of South Kivu is facing to armed conflicts associated to ethnic conflicts between Banyamulenge considered as strangers from Rwanda and local tribes within Bafulero, Banyindu and Babembe . This is happening during 2020 with impacts on internal displacements in the areas of Haut Plateaux de Minembwe and FIZI Territory
- ✓ Fllooding have impacted 138567 persons in South Kivu Province in Uvira Territory , UVIRA city and suround while 1150 households are living in very bad conditions as hommeless , they lots their basic equipements and 15 schools are closed in the area
- ✓ While some Humanitarian organizations like OXFAM and Care International were responding to the crisis , government authorities need to be trained on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)and educating people on understanding Disaster Risks are highlly needed .



Photos comment : victims of flooding in DR Congo , South Kivu province Décembre 2020

- ✓ The south Kivu Province is facing to Food insecurity with consequences on malnutrition
- ✓ The closing of the boarder between DR Congo and Burundi because of the Covid-19 has seriousselly impacted social and economic status of communities in the areas where participants to the training were from.
- ✓ General Civil protection is a challenge in the areas of South Kivu Province regarding to the Human Rights Violations cases within Killings , sexual vilences , looting and

attacks to Humanitarian organizations within MSF , Save the Children , CARITAS , Oxfam , UNHCR , ADRA etc .G

III.SPHERE Minimum Standards

Participants were happy to hear about the SPHERE standards history and how contextualization of Standards was progressing from the 1st version to 4th version (2018 hand book). Some key points :

- ✓ Applying SPHERE standards require the will and determination of stakeholders
- ✓ SPHERE hand book is a unique tool for all the Humanitarian response cycle
- ✓ Translating the 2018 hand books in many national languages should be done to ensure Refugees and IDPS can have access to materials
- ✓ DR Congo will increase individual and institutional membership : Governments entities decided they will request for SPHERE membership
- ✓ Making the 2018 hand book available (printed copies) was requested by participants as access to internet and online tools is not easy for many contexts in DR Congo

IV.Protection Principle and DO NO HARM :

- ❖ Respecting neutrality and independency in a context where conflicts and violences are registered for long time remains a challenge for 90 % of participant to the workshop .
- ❖ Organizations working in the Province of South Kivu need to strengthen their internal procedures on Risk management and their policies regarding to accountability to ensure they are sensitive to Humanitarian Principles and DO NO HARM. Participants demonstrated that conflicts and violences analysis are not done during Humanitarian Responses in South Kivu .
- ❖ Kidnappings to 12 humanitarian staffs were registered in the areas of Uvira-Fizi during a period of 3 months in 2020
- ❖ Local communities have developed a kind of rejection to Burundian Refugees as they fear that refugees will occupy lands in the areas of South Kivu with a risk to refuse going back in their country (Burundi) : UNHCR and UN should work hard on that issue

V.Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) :

- ❖ Participants were for the first time to be informed on the 9 commitments for quality and accountability as defined by the Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) . While the organization AFPDE has defined clear tools and strategies for quality and accountability (eg. Existing of a Staff Capacity Development plan), a funding mechanism for responding to crises timely is needed in South Kivu .
- ❖ Collaboration between Humanitarian Organizations and Government stills a big challenge because there is a lack of trust between stakeholders in terms of

communication , community participation , ownership in Humanitarian sector and some of transparency and accountability issues were discussed during the workshop.

- ❖ 90 % of participants said that there is no existing exit plans under humanitarian responses in South Kivu : When Humanitarian organizations are going back after their responses , communities (beneficiaries) are not able to maintain and sustain infrastructures , to have access to primary Health Care ...

VI. Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action :

While during the workshop we discussed about CPMS , the South Kivu Province in DR Congo need a specific focus on Child Protection in Humanitarian Actions as :

- ✓ Child protection activities are done in Refugees and IDPS settings but are not clearly integrated with other sectors : WASH , Education , Food security and Health
- ✓ There is a lack of psychosocial support to children in Refugees , IDPS settings and at community level
- ✓ Children marriage and child Labour are most violences to Children in South Kivu Province because of social norms , community behaviour and practices .
- ✓ Associated to Armed Groups Children are reported and need a strong program to ensure they are supported by Humanitarian partners .

VII. Minimum Standards for Education in Emergency (INEE) :

- ✓ 95 % of participants did not heard about INE minimum Standards while these standards are existing and contextualized in DR Congo since 2015 by save the Children
- ✓ Learning environment remains a big challenge to thousand of children during the free of charge to education context as a decision taken by the Government of DR Congo
- ✓ Distance learning strategy need to be strengthened in terms of training teachers, informing children and parents , developing strong monitoring tools and strategies
- ✓ Regarding to the new measures taken by the Government to prevent Covid-19, distance learning should be supported to ensure children can follow education at home.

VIII. Minimum standards on Recovery (MERS) :

While crisis have affected the DR Congo for long time, recovery should be developed . Feed back from participants were :

- ✓ The DR Congo has more potential to develop recovery activities within the land , Income Generating , vocational training to refugees and IDS ...
- ✓ There is no existing clear link between partners working in Humanitarian and Development for a community resilience mechanism
- ✓ No any resilience and recovery coordination mechanism exist in DR Congo



Photos comment : Livelihood in affected by conflicts zones of DR Congo, South Kivu is possible.

IX. Workshop conclusion and recommendations :

- Organization of SPHERE and other Standards training to Humanitarian partners should be organized in Baraka , Fizi Territories .
- Engaging with government authorities (Plan Ministry , Social Affaires Ministry , Health Ministry, Education Ministry , Humanitarian Affaires Ministry) is an urgent matter because the DR Government is not taking strongly the protection of affected by crisis and disasters people .
- Responding to flooding in South Kivu is needed but it requires a multisector and multistakeholders responses based on Response , preparation and mitigation aspects
- Coordination between Humanitarian organizations and those working in development have to create a clear space for collaboration and coordination.

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