

**INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP  
52nd MEETING**

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**FAO Headquarters, Rome  
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**IASC Task Force on HIV/AIDS in Emergency Settings: Matrix of Key Actions for  
Response**

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*This matrix provides guidance on key actions for responding to HIV/AIDS in emergencies. The matrix is divided into three parts: Emergency Preparedness, Minimum Response and Comprehensive Response. Each programmatic sector is provided with guidance on responding to HIV/AIDS appropriately. The country's or region's situation and capacity assessment will help determine what should be the additional HIV/AIDS elements to the humanitarian response. Detailed action points for each of the bullet points will be provided in short fact sheets (still to be developed).*

**PRINCIPLES:**

- HIV/AIDS activities should seek to build on and not duplicate or replace existing work.
- Responses to HIV/AIDS in humanitarian crises will call for multi-sectoral responses.
- Establish coordination and leadership mechanisms prior to an emergency, and leverage organization's differential strengths, so that each can lead in its area of expertise.
- Local and national governments and institutions and target populations should be involved in planning and implementation and may be able to allocate human and financial resources
- Where non-state entities have control or where the government no longer has the capacity to act, activities may be developed in the absence of national policies or programs.
- HIV/AIDS activities for displaced populations should also service host populations to the maximum extent possible.

	<b>Sectoral Response</b>	<b>Emergency Preparedness</b>	<b>Minimum Response (to be conducted even in the midst of emergency)</b>	<b>Comprehensive response</b>
1	Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine coordination structures</li> <li>Identify and list partners</li> <li>Establish network of resource persons</li> <li>Raise funds</li> <li>Prepare contingency plans</li> <li>Include HIV/AIDS in humanitarian action plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish co-ordination mechanism</li> <li>Link/share resources between all partners</li> <li>Facilitate access to humanitarian assistance for the most vulnerable</li> <li>Implement distribution principles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue fundraising</li> <li>Strengthen networks</li> <li>Enhance information sharing</li> <li>Build human capacity</li> <li>Link emergency to development HIV action</li> <li>Work with authorities</li> <li>Assist government and non-state entities to promote and protect human rights<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>
2	Assessment and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct capacity and situation analysis</li> <li>Develop indicators and tools</li> <li>Involve local institutions and beneficiaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess baseline data</li> <li>Set up/improve shared database</li> <li>Monitor activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain database</li> <li>Monitor and evaluate all programmes</li> <li>Assess data on prevalence, knowledge attitudes and practice, and impact of HIV/AIDS</li> <li>Draw lessons from evaluations</li> </ul>
3	Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review existing protection laws and policies</li> <li>Promote human rights and best practices</li> <li>Ensure that humanitarian activities minimize the risk of sexual violence and exploitation and HIV-related discrimination</li> <li>Train uniformed forces and humanitarians on HIV/AIDS and sexual violence</li> <li>Establish mechanisms for monitoring and reporting violations of human rights<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevent and respond to sexual violence and exploitation</li> <li>Protect orphans and young people</li> <li>Facilitate access to humanitarian assistance for the most vulnerable</li> <li>Ensure access to condoms for peacekeepers and military</li> <li>Do not discriminate by HIV status in staff management</li> <li>Monitor violations of human rights<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involve authorities to reduce HIV-related discrimination</li> <li>Expand prevention and response to sexual violence and exploitation</li> <li>Strengthen community based protection for orphans and separated children and young people</li> <li>Institutionalize training for uniformed forces on HIV/AIDS, sexual violence and exploitation, and non-discrimination</li> <li>Put in place HIV-related services for demobilized personnel</li> </ul>
4	Distribution and supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess needs, source and stock supplies</li> <li>Plan distribution mechanisms that reach the most vulnerable</li> <li>Train staff on HIV/AIDS, sexual violence, gender, and non-discrimination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dispatch supplies</li> <li>Target distribution to most vulnerable</li> <li>Monitor distribution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure continuous availability of supplies</li> <li>Evaluate and improve distribution system</li> <li>Plan an exit strategy</li> </ul>
5	Water and Sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train staff on HIV/AIDS, sexual violence, gender, and non-discrimination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make wat / san available and safe</li> <li>Monitor wat/san activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish wat/san management committees</li> <li>Organize awareness campaigns on hygiene and sanitation, targeting people affected by HIV</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> In this context, human rights abuses refer particularly to those that increase vulnerability to HIV infection such as sexual violence, and those that discriminate against people infected or affected by HIV/AIDS.

Third background document of the IASC Task Force on HIV/AIDS in Emergency Settings

	<b>Sectoral Response</b>	<b>Emergency Preparedness</b>	<b>Minimum Response (to be conducted even in the midst of emergency)</b>	<b>Comprehensive response</b>
6	Food Security and Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contingency planning/preposition supplies</li> <li>Train staff on special needs of HIV/AIDS affected populations</li> <li>Include information about nutritional care and support of PWLHA in community nutrition education programs</li> <li>Support food security of HIV-affected households</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that food, agriculture and nutrition needs assessments include HIV/AIDS considerations.</li> <li>Include HIV/AIDS considerations in food aid programming (i.e. ration design, targeting, and monitoring mechanisms.)</li> <li>Support and protect food security of affected households and communities</li> <li>Promote appropriate care and feeding practices for at-risk communities and households</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop strategy to protect long-term food security of HIV affected people</li> <li>Develop strategies and target vulnerable groups for agricultural extension programmes</li> <li>Collaborate with community and home based care programs in providing nutritional support</li> <li>Assist the government in fulfilling its obligation to respect the human right to food.</li> </ul>
7	Shelter and Site Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan potential sites to be safe</li> <li>Train staff on HIV/AIDS, gender and non-discrimination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish safely designed sites</li> <li>Monitor safety of sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan orderly movement of displaced</li> </ul>
8	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Map current services and practices</li> <li>Plan and stock supplies</li> <li>Adapt/develop protocols</li> <li>Train health personnel</li> <li>Plan quality assurance mechanisms</li> </ul>	<p><i>Prevent HIV transmission through</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Universal precautions</li> <li>Safe blood</li> <li>Condoms</li> <li>Syndromic STI treatment</li> <li>Management of the consequences of SV</li> <li>Post-exposure prophylaxis for humanitarian staff</li> <li>Safe deliveries</li> </ul> <p><i>Care and treatment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate access to basic health care for most vulnerable</li> <li>Coordinate appropriate nutritional care for chronically ill and malnourished</li> <li>Monitor health care services</li> </ul>	<p><i>Expand prevention of HIV transmission through:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Universal precautions</li> <li>Safe blood transfusion services</li> <li>Management of STIs, including condoms</li> <li>Comprehensive sexual violence programmes</li> <li>Post-exposure prophylaxis for all health staff</li> <li>Prevention and care for injecting drug users</li> <li>Voluntary counselling and testing</li> <li>Repro health services for young people</li> <li>Prevention of mother to child transmission</li> </ul> <p><i>Provide care for PLWHAs through:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Palliative care</li> <li>Home based care</li> <li>Treatment of opportunistic infections</li> <li>Prevention of opportunistic infections</li> <li>Anti-retrovirals</li> </ul>
9	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine emergency education options for boys and girls</li> <li>Train teachers on HIV/AIDS and sexual violence and exploitation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify potential teachers</li> <li>Train teachers on HIV/AIDS, sexual violence, gender and non-discrimination</li> <li>Create child-friendly spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate girls and boys (formal and non-formal)</li> <li>Provide lifeskills-based HIV/AIDS education</li> <li>Monitor and respond to sexual violence and exploitation in educational settings</li> </ul>
10	Behaviour Communication Change and Info. Ed. Communication (IEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare culturally appropriate messages in local languages</li> <li>Prepare a basic BCC/IEC strategy</li> <li>Involve key beneficiaries</li> <li>Conduct awareness campaigns</li> <li>Store key documents outside potential emergency areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disseminate basic HIV information</li> <li>Make condoms available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scale up BCC/IEC</li> <li>Monitor and evaluate activities</li> </ul>