



## KEY MESSAGES

- Sharing key messages about human rights with affected populations leads to engagement and empowerment
- Including affected population in processes of human rights engagement and human rights education is crucial
- Considering different ways to ensure affected populations actively participate and exercise their human rights is part of the work of the cluster



## WHY SHOULD WE ENGAGE IN DISCUSSIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS WITH AFFECTED POPULATIONS?

- Affected populations should enjoy their rights on an equal footing and participate meaningfully in the decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities.
- Affected populations are the main beneficiaries of the engagement with the human rights mechanisms.
- The ultimate goal of human rights engagement is to ensure affected population enjoy fully their fundamental human rights.
- Everyone has the right to know, seek and receive information about all human rights and fundamental freedoms and has the right to access and receive human rights education and information.



## WHY IS HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS IMPORTANT?

- The international community has expressed its growing consensus on the fundamental role of human rights education in the promotion, protection and realization of all human rights.
- Human rights education transfers knowledge and develops skills and attitudes that encourage behavior promoting and protecting human rights.
- Human Rights education is a learning process encompassing various dimensions:
  1. Knowledge and skills – learning about human rights standards and mechanisms, as well as acquiring the skills to put them into practice in daily life;
  2. Values, attitudes – developing values and reinforcing attitudes which uphold human rights;
  3. Behaviour, action – encouraging action to defend and promote human rights.<sup>1</sup>
- In humanitarian settings, human rights education can empower:
  1. Humanitarian actors to adopt a human rights-based approach to their work, protect human rights and encourage duty-bearers to meet their obligations
  2. Rights-holders, especially populations in situations of vulnerability, to claim and realize their rights and engage in relevant decision-making processes<sup>2</sup>
- The consensus of the international community is evidenced by this compilation, which contains texts or excerpts from international and regional instruments and documents dealing with human rights education, as well as general comments/recommendations of relevant bodies clarifying those provisions, organized by organization in chronological order of adoption.

<sup>1</sup> (a) About human rights, which includes providing knowledge and understanding of human rights norms and principles, the values that underpin them and the mechanisms for their protection;  
(b) Through human rights, which includes learning and teaching in a way that respects the rights of both educators and learners;  
(c) For human rights, which includes empowering persons to enjoy and exercise their rights and to respect and uphold the rights of others.  
(Article 2 UDHR).

<sup>2</sup> From the webinar 'HRE in Humanitarian Settings' organized by the HRETT.

## RESOURCES ON HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

- Guidance for Field Protections Clusters on Engagement with National Human Rights Institutions, June 2021.
- Video message from Aya Abdullah:  
<https://intranet.unhcr.org/content/dam/unhcr/intranet/protection-operations/human-rights/videos/Aya%20Abdullah%20-%20Transforming%20Lives%20Exhibition%20Video.mp4>
- Human Rights Education and Training centre <https://hrea.org/home/about-us/>
- OHCHR website and HRE training resources  
<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Education/Training/Pages/UNDHREducationTraining.aspx>
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)  
<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>. Article 26.
- UN Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004 <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Education/Training/Pages/Decade.aspx#:~:text=Pursuant%20to%20a%20suggestion%20of%20the%20World%20Conference%2C,Decade%20contained%20in%20the%20report%20of%20the%20Secretary-General>).
- UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training (2011) <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Education/Training/Pages/UNDHREducationTraining.aspx>
- World Programme for Human Rights Education (2005-ongoing) <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Education/Training/Pages/Programme.aspx>

## ADDITIONAL ONLINE EDUCATIONAL TOOLS DEVELOPED BY NGOS

- Human Rights, the rights of refugees (Amnesty International)
- Seeking safety, educational course for children (Amnesty International)
- Open resource website on human rights education: 'Transforming Lives the Power of Human Rights Education' (Soka Gakkai International & NGO WG on HREL)
- Human Rights Education Associate resource centre <https://hrea.org/> (HREA)
- Compass <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/compass1> (Council of Europe)
- War of Choice' part of the story of 'My flight project' (Critical Mass & Pax Netherlands)

