



**Capacity for Risk Management of  
Earthquakes & Health Emergencies**

# Policy for cross-cutting issues

**The integration of gender equality, Human Rights (HR),  
environmental and climate change perspectives in the IPA CARE  
programme**

October 2024





# Cross-cutting issues in the IPA CARE programme

**To achieve the IPA CARE programme objectives**, the integration of gender equality, Human Rights (HR), environment and climate change perspectives in the programme is crucial. The approach seeks to ensure that the programme contributes to strengthening legal and institutional frameworks and prevention, preparedness, and response capabilities in a way that enhances the resilience of society as a whole, leaving no one behind. It is also about doing no harm, as a minimum in our work.

**The work is guided by and seek to contribute to the achievement of** global, EU<sup>1</sup> and our Partners' national frameworks and standards for integrating gender equality, HR, environment and climate change considerations in civil protection. It also aims at building upon and strengthen existing initiatives and good practices within EU and the region.

**The programme has adopted a systematic approach** and seek to apply a gender, HR, environmental and climate change perspective as cross-cutting issues (CCIs) in all phases and parts of the programme, including in the planning, implementation, and follow-up of programme activities and within all the thematic areas of the programme. The work serves as a **common core value of the IPA CARE Consortium** and is a shared responsibility for the programme as a whole.

**To operationalise the approach**, the IPA CARE promotes the application of a number of key principles (CCI principles) outlined below. All programme staff involved in the programme have an important role to play in promoting these principles in their work.

To further support the practical application of the CCI principles in programme activities, the *IPA CARE Checklist for integrating CCIs in programme activities* has been developed as a supporting tool to the planning and evaluation of all programme activities. The [\*Practical Guidelines for integrating gender equality, human rights and environmental issues in Disaster Risk Management\*](#), developed within the PPRD East 3 programme, also provides guidance related to some of the thematic areas of the programme.

**For questions or further support, please contact [ipacare@msb.se](mailto:ipacare@msb.se).**



---

<sup>1</sup> E.g. the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, Sendai Framework for DRR, EU Disaster Resilience Goals, The EFDRR Roadmap for Disaster Risk Reduction 2021-2030, EU gender equality and Human Rights Strategies and Action Plans and the Green agenda for the Western Balkans.

# Gender Equality and Human Rights principles

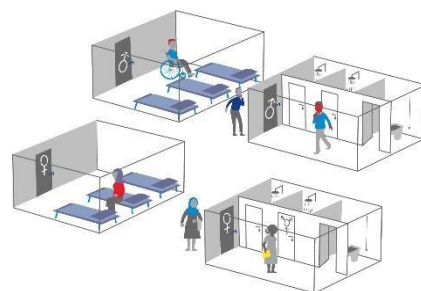
The programme has adopted a **Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA)**, with a specific focus on promoting **gender equality**. The approach is operationalised by promoting the application of the following principles in all programme activities:

## Participation and inclusion

- **We promote gender balance, diversity and a broad representation** of stakeholders and groups in the society in our own work e.g., in recruitment of experts, when requesting focal points and inviting participants, facilitators and trainers to activities and companies to bid in the procurement process.
- **We support our partners to enhance gender balance, diversity and engagement of a broad representation** of stakeholders and groups in the society in their work, e.g., in the formation of response teams, working groups, coordination platforms and consultations.

## Non-discrimination and equality

- **We consider equal benefits and the different needs**, risks, vulnerabilities, priorities and capacities of our target groups in programme activities e.g., by ensuring safety and accessibility of training facilities for all participants and equal use of procured equipment for female and male users.
- **We support our partners to consider** equal benefits and use and the different needs, risks, vulnerabilities, priorities and capacities of their own staff and target groups in the society, and especially vulnerable groups, in prevention, preparedness and response actions e.g., in the development of SOPs for response actions, risk assessments methods, and identification of equipment.



## Transparency and accountability

- **We work in an open and transparent manner** that allows for influence and scrutiny from our partners and the public. We offer participants in our activities **accessible channels for sharing feedback and reporting complaints**, which we respond to and learn from to improve our work.
- **We support our partners to work in an open and transparent manner** that allows for public influence and scrutiny, including to offer target groups of their work **accessible channels for sharing feedback and report complaints**, which are responded to and learned from to improve their work.

## Do no harm

- **We take measures to prevent participants in our activities** from being exposed to safety risks, and especially sexual exploitation, abuse and harassments.
- **We support our partners to take measures to prevent and respond to** safety risks for target groups, and especially sexual exploitation, abuse and harassments, in their work.



# Environment and Climate Change principles



The programme has adopted an environmental integration approach. The approach is operationalised by promoting the application of the following principles in all programme activities:

## Holistic approach to resilience

- **We have a dual mind set** when it comes to how environmental systems both act as drivers and subjects to disasters whilst also applying an innovative approach to solutions, e.g., through socio-ecological innovations with benefits for both humans and ecosystems.
- **We support our partners to consider** environmental systems both act as drivers and subjects to disasters whilst also applying an innovative approach to solutions, e.g., through socio-ecological innovations with benefits for both humans and ecosystems.

## Ecosystem-based approach

- **We promote the protection, restoration and maintenance of ecosystems.** In the programme this is operationalized e.g., by integrating environmental aspects in the development of SOPs, response action procedures, risk assessment methods and promoting nature-based solutions when relevant.
- **We support our partners to consider** the protection, restoration and maintenance of ecosystems in DRM efforts e.g., by integrating environmental aspects in the development of SOPs, response action procedures, risk assessment methods and promoting nature-based solutions when relevant.

## Context awareness

- **We consider context specific environmental conditions and develop capacities based on** existing initiatives and legislation as well as actively engage local and regional (environmental) stakeholders like ministries, agencies, the scientific sector, local communities and civil society organisations.
- **We support our partners to** actively engage local and regional (environmental) stakeholders like ministries, agencies, the scientific sector, local communities and civil society organisations.

## Do no harm (Do more good than harm)

- **We measure and minimize the environmental footprint from programme activities.** This principle is manifested e.g., by taking active decisions on how the programme consume, travel and procure products. The *IPA CARE Checklist for integrating CCIs in programme activities* is a supportive tool to implement this principle.
- **We support our partners to measure and minimize** the environmental footprint in activities. We share good examples and tools to support this approach.

