

# OVERVIEW

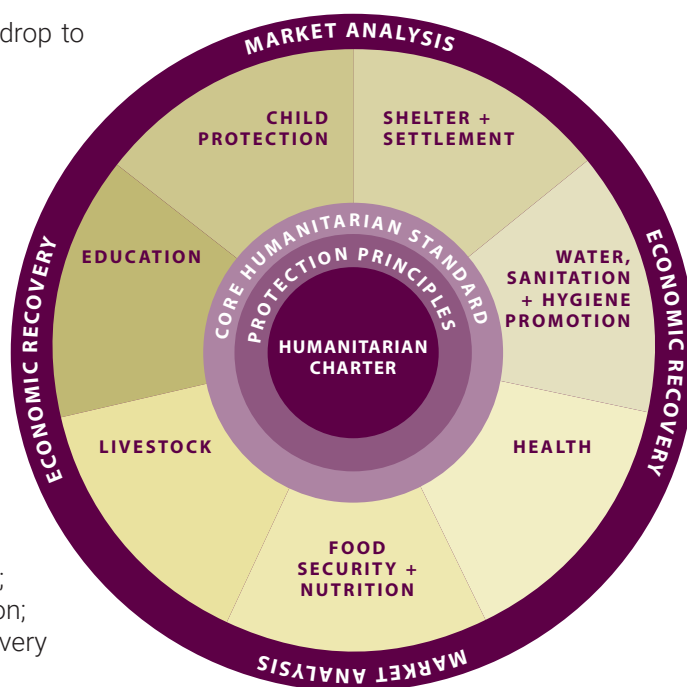


## TURN PRINCIPLES INTO ACTION

Founded on humanitarian principles and human rights, humanitarian standards help us to turn principles into action. Global humanitarian standards outline what help and protection crisis-affected people are entitled to and uphold their right to life with dignity. Developed by thousands of experts globally and based on evidence, experience and learning, they are among the most recognised statements of quality in humanitarian work.

The Humanitarian Standards Partnership draws together the why, how and what of humanitarian work and encompasses:

- **The Humanitarian Charter**  
which provides the ethical and legal backdrop to humanitarian response
- **The protection principles**  
which set out how to protect people from violence, avoid causing harm, ensure access to impartial assistance, and assist with recovery from abuse
- **The Core Humanitarian Standard**  
which describes the essential elements of accountable, effective and high-quality humanitarian action
- **Minimum standards**  
which provide universal benchmarks for assistance in shelter and settlement; water, sanitation and hygiene promotion; food security and nutrition; health; education; child protection; livestock; economic recovery and market analysis



## A REFERENCE FOR ALL

Humanitarian standards form a foundation that enables humanitarian actors to be held accountable to those they serve. They support local, national and international organisations to provide high-quality protection and assistance.

Humanitarian standards are a reference point for all actors in crises. The Humanitarian Standards Partnership has a user base that includes government departments, United Nations agencies, nongovernmental organisations, the private sector, academia and civil society around the world. The Humanitarian Standards Partnership will make it easier for frontline responders to access and use the full set of interlinked humanitarian standards.

# OUR STRATEGY

The Humanitarian Standards Partnership represents a commitment to harnessing international law, learning and evidence, and to use these to improve quality and accountability in humanitarian response.

The Partnership will increase the application of humanitarian standards through:

■ **Increased coherence among standards**

■ **Increased effectiveness of outreach**

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*“We use humanitarian standards to advocate to fill the gap  
between what aid is and what it should be.”*

Vikrant Mahajan - Sphere India

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# IMPROVE AND CONNECT

The Partnership will make it easier for humanitarian practitioners to use multiple standards. This will be done through improving cross-referencing in the text; reducing inconsistencies in future revisions; creating resources; and ensuring the use of a common language.

The Humanitarian Standards Partnership will conduct joint advocacy at humanitarian events, promoting the full set of standards to policy makers, practitioners and stakeholders.

The Partnership will also connect trainers, focal points and champions in selected countries and will help them to work together to jointly promote the application of standards and to encourage key organisations to institutionalise them.

Webinars, joint training materials, case studies and resources will promote the full set of standards to actors across the world.

A Humanitarian Standards mobile application will improve access to the full set of humanitarian standards and will make it easier for users to move between standards according to programming needs. The app will provide field practitioners with online and offline mobile-friendly, searchable standards and interactive tools, with the option to receive news and training alerts.

# TO FIND OUT MORE



The Sphere Handbook  
(The Sphere Project)  
[www.sphereproject.org](http://www.sphereproject.org)



Livestock Emergency Guidelines and  
Standards  
(LEGS)  
[www.livestock-emergency.net](http://www.livestock-emergency.net)



Minimum Standards for Education :  
Preparedness, Response, Recovery  
(The Inter-Agency Network for Education  
in Emergencies)  
[www.ineesite.org/minimum-standards](http://www.ineesite.org/minimum-standards)



Minimum Standards for Child Protection  
in Humanitarian Action  
(Child Protection Working Group)  
[www.alliancecpha.org](http://www.alliancecpha.org)



Minimum Economic Recovery Standards  
(Seep Network)  
[www.seepnetwork.org/the-handbook-  
pages-20106.php](http://www.seepnetwork.org/the-handbook-pages-20106.php)



Minimum Requirements for Market  
Analysis in Emergencies  
(Cash Learning Partnership)  
[www.cashlearning.org](http://www.cashlearning.org)