



# Sphere and Disaster resilience

Geneva,  
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# What is Sphere?



- Sphere is a **process** not just standards in the handbook – it recognises the systemic approach which means what you do in one section affects the other.
- The importance of **Core standards** that goes with the process.
- The **collaboration** process of revising Sphere brought together a strong spectrum of expertise and knowledge across development, humanitarian, environmental and other sectors.
- Sphere process brings **partners** together from NGOs, Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, governments, faith-based groups, community based organisations.
- Sphere **Cross Cutting issues** include Environment/Disaster Risk Reduction/Climate Change – environment was present in 2004 but DRR and Climate Change were not.

# DRR concerns are included



- **Recognising and supporting local capacity** - move from needs assessments alone to vulnerability and capacity analyses.
- **Recognising that the primary responders are local people and institutions** - recognising and developing their capacity at every opportunity will support improved capacity for future disasters.
- **Ensuring that the recovery process considers vulnerability to multiple hazards** – not just the one that the community is responding to.

## DRR concerns are included cont...



- **Recognising and supporting positive coping mechanisms**
  - be led by the nature of support communities request rather than arriving with pre-conceived solutions.
  - The previous edition of the Sphere Handbook tended to see coping mechanisms as an indicator of failure rather than something to build on.
- **Better disaster response comes from better disaster preparedness** – this particularly affected the nutrition chapter.

# Environmental concerns are included



- **Assessments:** At the earliest stages of damage and capacity assessments and contextual analysis, include the environment and consultations with local environmental expertise as described in Core Standards chapter
- **Analysis:** In the Watsan chapter include analysis of aquifer capacity not simply the production needed to meet 15l per day per beneficiary
- **Procurement:** Consider timber and other building material sources for shelter programmes, - ensure building materials are legal and sustainable

# Environmental concerns are included



- **Shelter:** Larger but smaller in number and better managed camps may be preferable to multiple unmonitored and unmanaged smaller camps
  
- **Climate Change:** Response activities should take into account future climate variability - include local climate variability analysis and projections in analysis and planning

# Thank you



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