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Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

Questionnaire for Non-State Actors

Human Rights to water and sanitation of forcibly displaced people in need of humanitarian assistance

In this respect, the Special Rapporteur would welcome answers to the following questions:

1. Please identify your organisation, and briefly explain its role in the provision of water and sanitation humanitarian assistance to forcibly displaced people (within or across borders).
2. What is your assessment of preparedness, resilience and adaptability of the existing water and sanitation services, including contingency plans and special budget, in the countries you are working? How can a human rights based approach contribute to the preparedness and resilience of water and sanitation services? Please share lessons learnt, and good practices in this regard.
3. How does your organisation work with national and local authorities to ensure that forcibly displaced people have immediate access to sufficient, acceptable, safe and physically accessible water and sanitation services in a non-discriminatory way during emergencies?
4. How does the water and sanitation humanitarian response your organisation provides respond to the special needs of those forcibly displaced with disabilities, chronic illnesses, children (often separated or unaccompanied), the elderly, pregnant women? How do sanitation solutions meet the special needs of girls and women, in terms of physical accessibility, safety, cultural acceptability, privacy/dignity and management of menstrual hygiene?
5. Is the affordability of water and sanitation services an issue for forcibly displaced people during emergencies? How does it affected their lives? Please provide concrete examples.

6. Please identify and share examples of challenges in ensuring the human rights to water and sanitation to forcibly displaced people during emergency situations.
7. In situations of forced displacement across borders, what standard of water and sanitation services do national and local authorities of transit and/or destination countries apply to refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in a vulnerable situation while en route, at borders and at reception? Are they subject to different treatment from citizens or between themselves? What role does your organisation play in situations where Governments policies are discriminatory in the provision of water and sanitation services?
8. In situations of internal displacement, what is the standard of water and sanitation services governmental authorities apply to internally displaced persons? If they are subject to different treatment from the host communities what role does your organisation play in those situations?
9. How has the arrival of forcibly displaced people affected the current provision of water and sanitation services to local communities/host communities (as applicable)? How does your organisation support Governments in realizing the human rights to water and sanitation of local/host communities?
10. In situations of protracted displacement (within or across borders), in camps, host communities or urban settings, how does your organisation cooperate with national and local authorities towards planning, designing and delivering water and sanitation solutions that are longer-term and more sustainable? How does your organisation promote the participation of forcibly displaced people in the processes of planning, designing and delivering those solutions?
11. What are the main challenges your organisation faces when moving towards water and sanitation solutions that are more sustainable and adequate for situations of protracted displacement in camps, host communities and urban settings? If applicable, how does your organisation coordinate action in this respect with international agencies on the ground? Please provide country-specific examples.
12. In the context of rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts after disasters and conflicts (as applicable), how does your organisation coordinate efforts with Governments and international agencies to plan and implement sustainable solutions for the human rights to water and sanitation that enable the return of forcibly displaced people?
13. How has the return of forcibly displaced people affected current water and sanitation provision of local/host communities? What role does your organisation play in situations where Governments cannot ensure the human rights to water and sanitation to returnees?