

Annex 1. Code of conduct agreement

This code of conduct provides basic standards in relation to interviewing and documenting information as part of the Multi-cluster Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) of the areas where disaster occurs in Pakistan. The principles laid down in this code of conduct are to safeguard the best interests of respondents for their immediate and long term safety, security and development.

Signatories of this Code of Conduct are committed to abide by the standards such as UN Security Council Resolutions 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009) on Children and Armed Conflict and 1888 (2009) on sexual violence in armed conflict, Convention on the Rights of the Child ratified by Pakistan in 1990, Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child signed in 2001, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) that Pakistan has signed and ratified in June 2011. Law of Pakistan will apply as well.

Respect and dignity

Staff undertaking any monitoring and reporting activities will respect individuals, implying that each person is regarded as autonomous (i.e., independent and free to make his or her own choices) and is given the necessary information and tools to make his/her own decisions. Respect also includes developing an understanding of cultural norms and involving the individual as well as the community in the process of assessment, as well as immediate and long term assistance.

Confidentiality and informed consent

The publication or disclosure of a respondent's location, history and personal details, photographs, information related to the respondent's situation, family details and source of information is prohibited except with the respondent's informed consent and only where such disclosure or publication would have a direct, immediate and positive effect on the person's protection and a full risk/benefit analysis has been conducted with the person's participation.

Staff undertaking the assessment will obtain the informed consent of the key informant to participate in the MIRA exercise. The informed consent is the approval by the participant for the information to be used as explained by the MIRA enumerator in simple, jargon-free language: the identity of the enumerator; the purpose of the information collection; its scope and method and use of the information collected; the confidentiality and the possibility for the respondent to request that certain information may be kept confidential; the possibility for the respondent to cease the participation at any time.

Provisions for assessment team members

Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

All organisations and staff engaged in the rapid needs assessment also fully commit to the principles included in the UNSG Bulletin Secretary-General's Bulletin on the "Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse" (ST/SGB/2003/13), the 2002 IASC Six Core Principles Relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, on the Code of Conduct pertaining to the MIRA assessment and to any other internal Code of Conduct adopted by the respective organisations.

Responsibilities with respect to use of data and confidentiality

All discussions taking place during meetings and interactions related to the assessment are considered as strictly confidential. Relevant information will be shared by interviewers with their agencies as per their own procedures keeping in mind the confidentiality issue stated above.

The parties to this Code of Conduct obligate themselves to ensure that this agreement and the data shared as a result of this agreement remains confidential, unless a prior written consent has been given. All confidentiality clauses in this agreement remain valid even after the agreement terminates or expires.

The AWG reserves the right to use the shared data to inform relevant stakeholders in professional way maintaining the confidentiality of informants.

Breach of the Code of Conduct

Any breach of the Code of Conduct or reports of wrong-doing related to the process are to be reported to the ASWG. The ASGW will look into the issue and where necessary refer cases to the HCT for consideration.

I undersigned hereby endorse and commit to respect the MIRA in Pakistan Code of Conduct.

Name: _____

Position/Organisation: _____

Date and place: _____

Signature: _____