

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 standards included in the Constitution of Pakistan (Fundamental Rights and Policies), in several international instruments ratified also by the government of Pakistan (CRC and Optional Protocols, CEDAW, ICCPR, IESCR, UNCRPD etc.) as well as various UN Security Council Resolutions on child and women protection (e.g. 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009) 1888 (2009) on sexual violence in armed conflict). Law of Pakistan will apply as well.

The CoC is inspired by the following Guiding principles

Respect and dignity

Staff undertaking any monitoring and reporting activities will respect individuals, implying that each person is regarded as an autonomous individual, independent and free to make his or her own choices based on all necessary information received. Respect also includes the understanding of cultural and social norms and the involvement of the individual as well as the community in the process of assessment, with no discrimination as regard to gender, age, diversity, ethnicity, religious and political beliefs, social status etc..

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 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 (e.g. name of the informant); 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 and intended solely for the humanitarian purposes of the MIRA.

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 Assessment Working Group. The AWG 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: _____