

# DCA Programme Policy: Humanitarian Assistance

## DCA Focus

People affected by sudden onset natural disasters, complex political emergencies or chronic emergencies, are in need of support. They have a right to the most effective humanitarian response. The present policy represents DCA's current overall organisational understanding of issues related to humanitarian disasters including response as well as disaster risk reduction. It outlines the strategic decisions made by DCA to confront these challenges and it represents what DCA will pursue when planning its support to disaster-affected populations in collaboration with partners and networks. This policy is broad but it does not stand alone. DCA humanitarian response is informed by other DCA policies and actions, and it is supported by a commitment to effectively raise funds for humanitarian response.

- Provision of sustainable relief and rehabilitation with a special focus on food crisis response
- Advocacy for increased humanitarian space and access to assistance/protection
- Partner/ACT implemented assistance based on local community needs and capacities
- Linking relief, rehabilitation and development, including disaster risk reduction
- Gender issues addressed at all stages of DCA-supported emergency interventions
- Conflict sensitivity is an integrated part DCA humanitarian assistance
- A strong focus on accountability towards beneficiaries

## 1. Background

### 1.1. A changing environment

The environment where humanitarian action takes place is evolving rapidly and continuously, posing new challenges for the delivery of humanitarian assistance, disaster risk reduction and protection for affected communities. Accelerating climate change is bringing more floods, cyclones and storms, and the number of natural disasters has quadrupled in the last two decades, affecting approximately 200 million people annually. The number of persons affected by war, the war on terror and armed conflicts has also increased during the same period. Flagrant disrespect for International Humanitarian Law and the violation of human rights have led to the shrinking of the 'humanitarian space.' The bulk of the 9.9 million refugees and 24 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in 2006,<sup>1</sup> were in Africa, and all of them needed some kind of humanitarian assistance.

All humanitarian disasters have both direct and indirect implications for reaching the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) aimed at reducing poverty worldwide. For example, disaster-related loss of life and damage to housing, infrastructure, savings, and productive assets will reduce livelihood sustainability (MDG1). Population displacement interrupts schooling, (MDG2). Domestic and sexual violence often increase in the wake of disasters (MDG3). Impoverishment and displacement following disasters can increase the risk of disease, including HIV/AIDS, as well as disrupting health care (MDG6), and so on. Thus any humanitarian action, whether disaster response, rehabilitation or disaster risk reduction, will directly influence the likelihood of reaching the Millennium Development Goals.

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<sup>1</sup>UNHCR Refugees by Numbers 2006 edition

## 1.2. Definition and scope

Humanitarian disasters can be classified by four types of circumstances:

- Slow onset natural disasters, such as drought, pest infestations, or environmental degradation;
- Rapid onset natural disasters, such as tsunamis, floods, earthquakes, or hurricanes;
- Complex Political Emergencies, or internal or international armed conflict;
- Prolonged or chronic emergencies, such as long-term displacements or chronic food insecurity.

With regard to sudden onset disasters, DCA respects the Action By Churches Together (ACT) definition:

“A disaster is an extraordinary event that causes destruction to people, property and structures to such an extent as to exceed the capacity of the affected communities to cope with the situation relying solely on their own resources. It requires external action which is immediate, appropriate and limited in time, and which will enable the affected communities to cope with the emergency and begin to return to normal life.”

Both man-made physical conditions and poor governance can influence the severity of a disaster. The risk of a humanitarian disaster is directly related to the level of vulnerability of the population and the effectiveness of prevention, mitigation and preparedness measures. Impoverished and marginalised people are often forced to settle on land prone to flooding, landslides, or droughts, or with less developed infrastructure, higher population density, or inadequate preparedness measures. These persons suffer more from the effects of disaster, and have fewer resources with which to recover. Though an increasing number of disasters call for more emergency assistance, the humanitarian response must do more than save lives. Particularly in the field of natural disasters the humanitarian response must also strengthen impoverished peoples livelihoods and coping capacities through disaster risk reduction activities, including adaptation to the effects of climate change where necessary.

The suffering inflicted on civilians in conflict situations may be aggravated by restrictions on humanitarian access and reduced humanitarian space. Indeed, humanitarian access to needy civilian populations is often restricted or denied altogether as a political bargaining chip. Some conflicts are even characterized by the deliberate targeting of civilians, including humanitarian workers. There are also an increased number of non-state armed actors in conflict situations and a number of failed states where access is restricted or denied and where it has proven very difficult to uphold humanitarian principles. But the shrinking humanitarian space seen in relation to the principles in the Code of Conduct for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movements and NGOs is first and foremost caused by the conflict parties' disrespect of human rights and International Humanitarian Law in both international and civil conflicts. The Global War on Terrorism, the increase in asymmetric warfare and the increased blurring of civil and military responses have also contributed to the deterioration of humanitarian space. When responding to an emergency, DCA must understand the geopolitical context well. Often policy makers integrate strategic, defence and humanitarian assistance goals in order to reinforce each other, and often governments' assistance objectives are primarily political rather than a humanitarian. In such situations, it is the obligation of humanitarian agencies like DCA to uphold its neutrality, impartiality, and independence, but also to lobby for better political solutions.

With respect to civil military cooperation, DCA maintains a firm commitment to the Code of Conduct. DCA believes that humanitarian organisations must be guided by their humanitarian principles. DCA notes that in situations of last resort, the military can play a limited role in supporting affected populations.

## 1.3. DanChurchAid approach

### 1.3.1 Rights based commitment and normative framework

Human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Refugee Convention and International Humanitarian Law provide the legal foundation of all humanitarian work. DCA is committed to provide humanitarian assistance as a fundamental human right. This commitment is well developed in DCA focus countries where DCA has a permanent presence and where the programme

approach for development projects is fully applied. In DCA's 'project countries,' and countries where DCA has a longer term engagement in a protracted humanitarian crisis the rights commitment is also applied. There may be a great potential for extending the rights-based commitment to relief projects, and for achieving synergies between development programmes and relief projects due to the coincidence of development partners, relief partners, advocacy partners, and through DCA's capacity to closely and continuously follow the political and humanitarian situation in the country. Informed knowledge of the causes of an emergency enables DCA staff to plan to link relief to development at the outset, as well as to facilitate protection and rights promotion of discriminated groups in the rehabilitation phase. Acknowledging this advantage also indicates that in certain emergency situations DCA's ability to fulfil its commitment to rights based assistance may be limited to adherence to internationally recognised humanitarian standards and principles.

Chief among these principles is i) the humanitarian imperative, and a responsibility to intervene when lives are at risk or people are affected by disaster s ii) the principle of neutrality, which obliges humanitarian actors not to take sides or favour any side in an armed conflict iii) impartiality, which means that aid is provided solely on the basis of need and without discrimination according to gender, race, creed, political or religious affiliation, and iv) independence, which ensures that humanitarian aid is neither guided by nor subordinated to any geopolitical, military or economic objectives.

These principles are enshrined in:

- The Code of Conduct: Principles of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Response Programmes.

Of which DCA is a signatory via the World Council of Churches and Action by Churches Together.

DCA is also dedicated to ensure that the humanitarian assistance meets recognized minimum standards pertaining to the well being of the affected communities, and that disaster affected persons understand and agree to the proposed action. These standards are described in:

- The Sphere Project Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response

Together these two documents provide the most important standards and principles for DCA's provision of humanitarian assistance.

### 1.3.1 Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP)

In underscoring its rights based commitment, DCA has signed up to the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP), and thereby to the accountability and transparency principle of "making humanitarian action accountable to beneficiaries". In its policy work, management systems and in the implementation of its humanitarian activities, DCA will strive to involve, respect and react to the valuable input from local partners and beneficiaries with the final goal of improving the DCA humanitarian response to disaster-affected communities.

### 1.3.2 A phased approach - Linking relief rehabilitation and development (LRRD)

DCA will seek to support and prioritize interventions where relief activities are implemented in such a way that they will not only address immediate needs, but also contribute to sustainable development, risk reduction and rights fulfilment. Considerations on exit strategy shall reflect this. Boundaries between relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction can sometimes be blurred, and LRRD requires high involvement of local communities in the planning. It is a comparative advantage of DCA that it has local implementing partners (including ACT partners) most often with longer-term commitment to the affected communities, and who are thus well positioned to link relief activities to rehabilitation and development. However, this preferred integrated approach does not rule out that DCA may sometimes support partner's activities only during the acute phase of the disaster if another humanitarian actor is better positioned to do the follow up.

### 1.3.3. Conflict sensitivity

Often humanitarian assistance is implemented in a volatile environment, whether due to an ongoing conflict or its aftermath. In such cases it is particularly important to analyse and understand the various interests involved in the local community and how they may relate to national or even regional politics. Therefore, DCA will encourage and support partners to work in a conflict sensitive manner, in order to give due consideration to how its humanitarian activities may directly or indirectly impact an ongoing or potential conflict. It also means considering whether the way assistance is delivered contributes to any human rights violations such as discrimination against a particular group. Where relevant, DCA will pay attention to UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which addresses the challenges of impunity for perpetrators of (often systematic) gender-based violence during conflict, as well as the treatment of women as victims in need of protection instead of recognising their active involvement in all the phases of war and peace. DCA will remain attentive to conflict issues throughout the whole intervention period, and incorporate this conflict sensitivity into the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of its activities. DCA will also promote sound safety, security and risk management for its humanitarian staffs, not only to keep staff safe but to allow continuation of humanitarian activities in otherwise inaccessible areas.

## 2. Objectives of the policy

The overall objective of DCA's humanitarian assistance policy is:

The rights of marginalised people and their access to disaster risk reduction, emergency assistance and rehabilitation are secured, and their coping mechanisms are strengthened.

### DCA objectives

The number of men, women and children who die or suffer deprivation as a result of humanitarian disasters is reduced, through the provision of and equitable access to relief and rehabilitation assistance and disaster risk reduction.

- Lives are saved and livelihoods protected through the promotion and provision of effective humanitarian assistance in food crisis.
- Disaster and conflict-affected women, men and children are involved in and can influence humanitarian assistance through direct or indirect participation in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of activities.
- DCA has facilitated DCA partners' capacity development on organisational, technical, financial and advocacy issues.
- Advocacy campaigns are conducted to address obstacles to humanitarian space, protection of civilians and fulfilment of basic rights to swift, generous and accountable emergency assistance.
- Support and fundraising from the Danish public and Danish and/or international donors are facilitated.

## 3. DCA focus

### 3.1 Actors

#### Rights-Holders

The primary rights holders and target groups of DCA's humanitarian response are women, men and children who are disaster or conflict affected and who are in need of humanitarian assistance. Those affected by humanitarian disasters remain as residents and most often citizens of the country in which they are living, are entitled to the protection of all guarantees of international human rights subscribed to by the State concerned. In other words, people do not lose the rights of the population at large as a consequence of being displaced or affected by a disaster. At the same time they have specific needs, distinct from those of the non-affected population, which call for specific assistance and protection

measures. In its assistance efforts DCA will give due consideration to the needs of the local population hosting disaster or conflict affected people.

Among the disaster affected DCA will focus on the most impoverished, marginalised and vulnerable rights holders. One needs to understand that power dynamics and discrimination and vulnerability issues are linked to caste, class, ethnicity, disability, age, diseases and gender. Most societies experience unequal power relationships between men and women with resulting systematic discrimination of women. This is often reinforced during emergencies and conflict situations where women are disproportionately vulnerable and discriminated against, and thus likely to suffer increased morbidity and mortality. Moreover, women and children are often victims of gender based violence in humanitarian disasters/conflict situations. A culture of impunity for perpetrators of gender based violence in these situations often limits the survivors' prospects for justice. Women's potential for participating actively in conflict resolution or risk reduction is often overlooked. DCA will carefully analyse this dynamic, at a minimum through ensuring that data gathered is disaggregated by gender, and focusing on empowering women to claim their rights rather than protecting them as victims. Similarly, people living with disabilities or diseases and elderly people are often marginalised and more vulnerable groups. Emergencies increase susceptibility to and increase the impacts of communicable diseases, including sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV. The nature of the disaster and the epidemiological situation of the people affected should dictate what interventions are called for, though a focus on an integrated public health program of water supply, sanitation, and hygiene education are often needed.

It is immensely important that humanitarian assistance is non-discriminatory and planned in consultation with the affected people and that it builds on their own capacities and coping strategies. Similarly, it must be recognised that different groups have different needs and interests which must be reflected in the planning of assistance. Disaster-affected people must never be viewed as passive victims but as people with rights and capacities like all others. This is not only a fundamental human right, but also in the interest of good humanitarian practice and accountability and can avoid creating conflicts.

#### Duty bearers

The primary duty and responsibility to provide protection for and assistance to people affected by disasters or conflict lies with the national authorities of the affected countries. Those affected have the right to request and receive such protection and assistance from their governments, who are the main duty bearers. Differences in local and national government structures' perspectives may complicate the situation. When the capacity and/or willingness of the authorities to fulfil their responsibilities are insufficient, the international community and civil society have the responsibility to ensure the protection of civilians and to support and supplement the efforts of the government and the local authorities. The scope and complexity of many emergency situations call for the involvement of various actors in the response, including the affected population themselves, the host population, and any number of moral duty bearers such as the UN, third party governments, donors, religious leaders, national and international NGOs and non-state actors exercising de facto control of an area.

### 3.2 Focus Areas

Despite the constraints in certain humanitarian disasters, DCA is committed to applying a rights based approach to humanitarian assistance. Corresponding to its development efforts, DCA humanitarian assistance will have a three pronged approach to fulfil the rights of the disaster affected at different levels. These are:

1. Actions for Relief and Rehabilitation, which make up the bulk of DCA's humanitarian efforts by far;
2. Actions for Accountability vis-à-vis duty bearers, which are efforts targeting the duty bearers to make them deliver the assistance that disaster affected people are entitled to receive;
3. Actions for Political and Legal Empowerment which are efforts meant to assist, educate and empower disaster affected rights holders to claim their rights themselves.

#### 3.2.1 Actions for Relief and Rehabilitation

Disaster affected people have specific and often very urgent needs for assistance and protection, which may not be easily met by duty bearers due to either lack of will or capacity, for instance in so called “failed states”. DCA’s humanitarian efforts are therefore aimed at meeting people’s rights for basic security and protection, whether they are physical, economic or social. Where appropriate a regional or cross border approach shall be applied. These actions are addressed to the rights holders themselves and typically involve provision of material inputs and services. It will be provided in an empowering and sustainable manner with the active involvement and influence of the affected groups based on needs assessments with gender disaggregated data. An exit strategy shall be an integrated part of the planning process.

#### Disaster Risk Reduction

DCA will support partners to work with community based disaster risk reduction. This is defined as: “The possibilities to minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout a society, to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) the adverse impacts of hazards, within the broad context of sustainable development” (UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction). DCA will focus particularly at the household and local community levels, including most vulnerable groups but also linking the efforts to municipal, district and national levels where possible. Disaster risk reduction can be implemented as an independent activity, be mainstreamed into other programmes, or be part of rehabilitation activities. The Disaster Risk Reduction approach shall take into consideration the community’s coping strategies.

Examples of community based disaster risk reduction include:

- Disaster proofing physical infrastructure
- Conducting local risk assessments and mapping
- Developing early warning systems and evacuation plans
- Conducting Mine Risk Education
- Managing environmental and natural resources and reducing the impact of climate change
- Raising awareness of disasters among the local population
- Distributing of food inputs to avoid destitution
- Diversifying crops
- Supporting the development of alternative income sources

#### Emergency Relief Assistance

In collaboration with partners DCA often responds to the first phase of a humanitarian disaster. The response shall always be based on a sound needs assessment where vulnerabilities and beneficiaries own inputs and capacities are considered. Coordination with other humanitarian actors, including participation in the Cluster Approach led by the UN, as well as in local Action by Churches Together (ACT International) forums, is key. Sphere Minimum standards in disaster response shall guide the planning and intervention and include disaggregated gender data where ever possible, as well, as disaggregated data for other key determinants of vulnerability.

Examples of Emergency Relief Assistance include:

- Provision of temporary shelter
- Distribution of non-food items
- Provision of water, sanitation and hygiene education
- Distribution of food/cash

#### Rehabilitation and Recovery Assistance

DCA considers rehabilitation to be rebuilding and reconstruction of physical infrastructure, livelihoods and social structures. Rehabilitation should aim at achieving qualitative and sustainable improvements in the living conditions of those affected. While rehabilitation may be planned in very early stages of an emergency intervention, actual implementation only takes place once the affected communities have been stabilized and their minimum subsistence needs met.

Examples of Rehabilitation and Recovery Assistance:

- Rebuilding and reconstruction of physical infrastructure
- Providing micro credit with equal participation of men and women
- Distributing of seeds and tools
- Supporting local women's organizations
- Reintegrating projects after conflicts

### Responding to Food Crisis

With its special focus on the Right to Food and on LRRD (Linking relief, rehabilitation and development), DCA will give particular attention to responding to food crisis. DCA will support partners to build their capacity for a more comprehensive, effective and efficient response to food crisis. Using the Right to Food as the point of departure, DCA will tailor its support to match the severity, duration and type of disaster that has caused the food crisis. DCA will consider working within a co-implementing agreement with local partners and support both emergency preparedness for food shortage and a full range of food aid options and recovery. Activities in response to a food crisis should never be implemented in a vacuum, and where appropriate DCA will encourage partners to use food aid as an entry point into communities to pursue other important issues, such as protection, shelter or gender equality. Finally, DCA will provide advice and support on procurement and logistics and enter into dialogue with partners on how to improve handling of political issues like GMO, food subsidies and financial speculation on national food/grain reserves. DCA's guiding principles on Food Crisis Response provide additional guidelines in this sector. As a key principle food aid will, if available, be sourced as close to the affected population as possible to ensure that local farmers are supported and not out-competed in addressing a food crisis. Food aid delivered from OECD countries should be a last resort.

Examples of Food Crisis Response include:

- School feeding
- Supplementary feeding
- General ration distribution
- Cash transfers
- Food for work

### 3.2.2 Actions for increased Accountability vis-à-vis duty bearers - Advocacy

Human actions are a determining factor in many natural disasters. This is true for drought situations, where unequal food distribution may be the root cause of mass hunger; or in natural disasters, where climate change, poor natural resource management and lack of disaster risk management may drastically increase the effects on the affected population.

Similarly in conflict situations the suffering and need of civilians may result from a deliberate pattern of violation that is integral to the policy and conduct of the war and which is in breach of international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law. Violations of legal rights impose clear humanitarian, military or political duties on governments and non-state actors. These duty bearers are the target for DCA Actions for increased accountability vis-à-vis duty bearers.

In DCA's support to disaster and conflict affected communities, advocacy therefore plays an important role in preventing the consequences of humanitarian disasters, in mitigating their effects, and in securing the physical security and humanitarian access. These advocacy activities are to be based on the rights holder's priorities and carried out by the rights holders themselves and/or in cooperation with DCA implementing partners, civil society networks, alliances, social movements and the like. It is critical that advocacy actions do not increase the vulnerability of the affected populations or in any way put them at risk. It is recognised that DCA is not a specially mandated protection agency and that advocacy for protection of civilians may have various manifestations, some more visible than others. Nonetheless, wherever relevant and feasible protection activities should be an integrated part of relief and rehabilitation activities.

As for accountability actions beyond advocacy, DCA will in some circumstances support capacity building of duty bearers in understanding and acknowledging their duties.

Examples of advocacy activities include:

- Advocacy for increased responsiveness of duty bearers and recognition of legitimate rights
- Advocacy for equitable access to disaster affected population and safe humanitarian space
- Advocacy for disaster risk reduction linked to climate change
- Advocacy for increased protection of women and children in conflict situations
- Advocacy for increased participation of women
- Capacity building of government actors/structure in women's protection against violence
- Awareness raising amongst important moral duty bearers, including the UN and donors, on issues such as better linking of food aid to livelihood recovery
- Activities aimed at altering a particular discourse in favour of the rights and interests of discriminated groups, for example, internally displaced persons (IDPs)

### 3.2.3 Actions for Political and Legal Empowerment

This final set of DCA humanitarian assistance actions address rights holders themselves. Empowerment is not something that can be done for people. Political and legal empowerment actions facilitate the process through which rights holders increasingly identify themselves as citizens and rights holders, gain more control over their lives and challenge the structures denying them their rights and protection. People may be overwhelmed during the immediate aftermath of a disaster and often they are in a better position to claim their rights during the rehabilitation and recovery phase. Due to DCA and its partners' intimate knowledge of and close connections to the communities, they are often in a very good position to support empowerment through the LRRD approach, giving due consideration to conflict sensitivity

Examples of Action for Political and Legal Empowerment:

- Support to formation of groups (credit groups, women's groups or community based organisations) engaged in rehabilitation
- Support to specific advocacy groups monitoring justice in emergency assistance
- Establish and strengthen local organizations, movements or networks
- Raise awareness within communities on rights and entitlements
- Support strengthened participation of women and other marginalised groups in decision-making structures

## 4. DCA's work with partners

DCA works in partnerships and alliances with other civil society organisations and churches from community to international levels, ensuring as much as possible strategic and operational coordination, alignment and harmonisation among the various actors involved. In particular, the Action by Churches Together (ACT) alliance is a prioritised framework for this effort. This is because ACT partners often have a comparative advantage in reaching the most marginalised and because the wide geographical coverage of the alliance will allow DCA to respond to serious emergency situations even if DCA is not initially present. Another priority is those partnerships already established in DCA focus and project countries, where DCA's presence raises the potential for a rights based commitment. Depending on the needs and context, DCA may also opt to work within a co-implementing agreement with local partners in order to facilitate capacity building, advocacy and quality assurance. DCA finds that collaborating with local implementing partners in humanitarian assistance has several advantages:

- A more sustainable approach to relief and rehabilitation that reinforces the indigenous disaster response and preparedness capacities of the affected community;
- A strong local network with existing relationships to many disaster-affected communities and national coordination mechanisms (UN) that often precedes the onset of the disaster;
- Faster capacity to respond, due to a pre-established presence; and
- Better local knowledge of culture, language, history, politics, conflict and humanitarian developments.

Emergency situations, in particular rapid onset disasters, often see large numbers of actors involved. DCA strongly emphasizes the importance of humanitarian coordination with all stakeholders including national authorities, UN organisations (via the cluster approach if present), donors, civil society (including the ACT network), and beneficiaries to fully make use of the comparative advantage of the different actors and in order to avoid overlap.

DCA will, as a guiding principle, strive to add substantive value to its partners' work. DCA recognises that its opportunities to add value is highly context specific, and depends on many factors, including the partner's own capacities on relief and development, DCA's presence and capacities, nature of the partnership, and the type of emergency. DCA will respond only to emergencies where its contribution makes a difference.

The types of contributions DCA may make include:

- Assisting partners' efforts to raise funds to assist disaster affected;
- Providing technical assistance in project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, including specific sector competencies in food crisis, gender and rights, procurement, protection, financial management and other administrative and organisational capacities;
- Co-implementing projects, where relevant;
- Facilitating methodological and capacity development support to partners as required, for instance through seconding of staff in the crucial early stages of an emergency;
- Supporting its partners' capacities to address the special risks faced by women in humanitarian disasters, and integrating a gender conscious approach throughout their interventions;
- Assisting in networking and coordination efforts with all relevant stakeholders, in particular through the ACT network;
- Linking national advocacy agenda to relevant international and supranational institutions and bodies; and
- Engaging commitment and support from the Danish public.

To keep its rights based commitment, DCA will also work towards ensuring that partners are involved and influence DCA programme development. In the longer term, an accountability mechanism shall be developed to involve both partners and rights holders themselves in the planning, monitoring and assessment of humanitarian assistance projects.

## 5. Conclusion

The policy shall be implemented in conjunction with DCA cross cutting policies. Other important documents providing direction and guidance for DCA include:

- UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;
- ALNAP (Active Learning Network for Performance in Humanitarian Action) Protection Guidelines;
- World Vision Protection Guidelines;
- Hyogo Framework for Action on Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters; and
- Do No Harm approach by Mary B. Anderson
- United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 focusing on impact of war on women and women's contributions to conflict resolution and sustainable peace.
- Guidelines on the use of military and civil defence assets in Disaster Relief –“Oslo Guidelines” updated November 2006

Tools and guidelines to facilitate the implementation of the policy are available to DCA country and regional offices on the DCA intranet for DCA staff. DCA will appreciate any comments, ideas and experiences that will enrich the ongoing discussion of how to better reach those affected by humanitarian disasters and thereby contribute to future revisions of this policy.

