

Module 4:
Refugee Protection:
Actors & Roles

- Objectives**
- Map the actors that can and do provide protection to refugees;
 - Describe the mandated roles of some of the international, national, and non-governmental actors working with refugees;
 - List the current protection activities of the actors;
 - Describe how working in a complementary fashion improves protection for refugees.

- Responsibilities**
- International law defines legal obligations on states and warring parties to provide protection and assistance and refrain from behaviour that violates fundamental human rights;
 - It is the primary role of the state to provide assistance and protection when people's capacity to cope has been exceeded.

Mandates

- Express mandates given by states;
- Express mandate to deal with particular situations;
- Express mandate for either a specific group of people or specific task.

Mandate of the UNHCR

“... providing international protection... to refugees...”

“... and of seeking permanent solutions for the problem of refugees by assisting Governments”

“... to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of such refugees, or their assimilation”

Mandate of the ICRC

- “The ICRC acts in time of *war, civil war or internal disturbances or tension, protecting and assisting* civil and military victims”
- Promoter of the Geneva Conventions
- Neutral intermediary

Aide memoire

Actor Map


