

## AGEING AND DISABILITY CHECK LIST FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE

### Key protection concerns – WHAT AUTHORITIES SHOULD BE PAYING ATTENTION

#### KEY MESSAGE

**Authorities should consider the presence of elderly persons and persons with disabilities and adopt adequate measures to promote their inclusion in relief assistance.**

**Authorities can request support to specialized local NGOs working with persons with disabilities.**

#### I. Communication

- Orient/sensitize the staff through briefing/trainings so that they have a certain level of understanding about ageing and disability. The Ageing and Disability Task force has formed some focal points that can be addressed for support.
- Authorities must ensure that all communication and documentation must be accessible to person with disabilities and older persons using appropriate communication means (e.g. large prints, Braille, loudspeakers, sign language, symbols or drawings etc). Always use at least 2 different means of communication.

#### II. Data collection and needs identification

- Put in place concrete measures to make sure persons with disability and older persons have access and are included in identification and registration process: age and disability needs to be captured in the registration data, even if basic.
- Involve persons with disabilities and older persons, including women, in the assessments in order to have accurate information about their specific needs.
- People with disabilities and older persons may not be able to come to distribution/facility sites (e.g. food, water). Authorities should plan additional measures to reach person with disabilities and older persons in their homes or temporary shelters.

#### III. Preparation and assistance delivery

- Pay attention to the **LAY OUT of the assistance points** ensuring **facilitated access for elderly and persons with disabilities** so that they are not prevented to attend the distribution points.
- Person with disabilities and older persons may have difficulty to use usual utensils, plan appropriate utensils for them.
- They may have specific diet and eating requirements; ensure the proper intake of food for them by extra assistance.
- Provide specialized health services and medical care for person with disabilities and older persons by using trained staff, by providing appropriate drugs in hospitals, by referring individuals to rehabilitation services and by providing specific equipments.
- In a temporary settlement or a camp, the location of family with person with disabilities and older persons should be close to the existing facilities.
- Person with disabilities and older persons are especially vulnerable to physical, sexual and emotional abuse and require additional considerations.



- Ensure that staff involved in assistance delivery knows where and how to **refer people in acute health needs by** linking up with health actors / health NGOs or with the Social Welfare Department and specialized local NGOs.
- **During assistance delivery, prioritize persons with disabilities and older persons through a special queue to avoid long wait time.**
- **Ensure that appropriate supportive/assistive devices are provided to person with disabilities and older persons**, and that training is provided on the proper use of the device (e.g. crutches, wheel chairs, hearing aids, prosthetics, eyeglasses, hearing aids etc). Authorities can ask the support of specialized NGOs.
  
- **Ensure that Water and Sanitation points are safe and accessible:**
  - Water containers should be designed to properly
  - Extend the handle of water pump.
  - Water pumps should be located in safe location and have good evacuation system.
  - Latrine seats should be 0.45m and 0.50 m from the finished door level.
  - Enough space should be planned to turn a wheel chair (circle of 90cm diameter) inside latrine.
  
- **Use universal design to plan as minimum standards of accessibility:**
  - Ramp at the entrance (1:10 slope, handrails)
  - Large doors to allow a wheel chair to enter the facility (80 cm).

END