



Safer Access Assessment and Planning Tool

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Safer Access element	Actions and measures	Identified gaps, barriers, risks and challenges	Priority 1–3	Current benchmark level (A–E)	Desired benchmark level (A–E)	Actions required	Responsible	Timeline
I. Context and risk assessment <i>National Societies have a clear understanding of the interlinked political, social, cultural and economic aspects of the evolving operational environment and the inherent risks, which forms the basis for preventing and managing those risk</i>	1.1 Understand similarities and differences between preparing for and responding in sensitive and insecure contexts							
	1.2 Explore and analyse emerging political, social, cultural and economic trends that could influence humanitarian action and use knowledge to guide preparedness and response							

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	1.3 Develop & maintain a continually evolving context assessment to better understand the context and needs							
	1.4 Conduct an ongoing risk assessment							
	1.5 Assess and develop National Society's capacity and ability to manage identified risks							

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	1.6 Develop and refine a contingency plan which builds on community preparedness and takes account of specific anticipated scenarios							
II. Legal and policy base <i>National Societies have sound legal and statutory instruments and develop policies that provide a basis from which</i>	2.1 Know the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and domestic legislation in order to determine how best to carry out the National Society mandate							

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<i>to carry out their humanitarian mandate and roles in conformity with Movement policies, international humanitarian law (IHL) and domestic legislation.</i>	2.2 Develop and strengthen domestic legislation, statutes, policies, agreements and plans to reinforce the National Society mandate to respond in sensitive and insecure contexts							



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	2.3 Promote a common understanding among internal and external stakeholders of the National Society mandate, its status within the Movement, its auxiliary role and its commitment to act in accordance with the Fundamental Principles							

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	2.4 Know and respect the legal base and mandates of other Movement components and establish a strong Movement coordination framework							
	2.5 Ensure that domestic legislation regulating the use of the emblem, National Society logo and name exists, is known, respected and enforced							



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	2.6 Know and incorporate relevant Movement policies into National Society policies, strategies, programmes, operations and security risk management systems, tools, training and practice							

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III. Acceptance of the organization <i>National Societies have attained a high degree of acceptance among key stakeholders by providing relevant, context-sensitive humanitarian assistance and protection for people and</i>	3.1 Develop and provide relevant humanitarian programmes and activities, working closely with communities, throughout the country.							
	3.2 Establish and implement strong human resource management practices to reinforce its acceptance, security and access							



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<i>communities in a manner consistent with the Fundamental Principles and other Movement policies</i>	3.3 Engage in ongoing dialogue with State bodies to ensure that they understand the importance and value of the National Society as a neutral, impartial independent humanitarian organization							
	3.4 Develop and use appropriate context-sensitive response approaches (i.e. do no harm), grounded in the context and risk assessment							

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	3.5 Know and apply the Fundamental Principles to guide thought processes, communication, decision-making and practice							
	3.6 Identify and map all stakeholders and develop engagement strategies to increase acceptance by them							

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	3.7 Foster trust, respect and accountability with all stakeholders through active acceptance and positioning strategies							
	3.8 Establish mechanisms to guide the formation of partnerships and ensure they are consistent with Movement policy thus preserving neutrality, impartiality and independence							

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	3.9 Establish and implement a reputation risk management system							
	3.10 Establish and implement an integrity management system							
	3.11 Establish and implement a distinct and recognized visual identity system							
IV. Acceptance of the individual <i>Staff and</i>	4.1 Screen and select personnel to increase acceptance and security for them and the National Society							

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<i>volunteers have attained a high degree of acceptance among key stakeholders by working in a manner consistent with the Fundamental Principles and other Movement policies.</i>	4.2 Staff and volunteers act in a conformity with the code of conduct and Fundamental Principles, thus preserving their own and the National Society's positive reputation							
	4.3 Provide adequate preparatory training, mentoring, guidance and protection							

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	4.4 Staff and volunteers understand their personal responsibility toward their own security and access and take or suggest appropriate actions							
	4.5 Establish working terms and conditions, systems and procedures to ensure adequate support							

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	4.6 Establish compliance systems related to policies, guidelines and SOPs and practice							
	4.7 Establish a stress management (psychosocial) support system for staff and volunteers							

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	4.8 Staff and volunteers know how to monitor their stress levels apply this knowledge in practice; they know how to access the Society's stress management support system							
V. Identification <i>National Societies take all necessary steps to protect and promote the organization's visual identity and that of its staff</i>	5.1 Know the extent of and support the authorities to address emblem misuse							
	5.2 Promote knowledge of the functions of the emblems with key stakeholders							

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and volunteers.	5.3 Take measures to ensure the National Society's visual identity is distinct from that of armed actors and of their medical services							
	5.4 Establish and implement internal guidelines and systems to support the correct use of the emblems/logos and to protect visual identity							

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	5.5 Ensure that any joint display of identification with select partners remains exceptional and discreet and does not create confusion							
VI. Internal communication and coordination <i>National Societies implement well-</i>	6.1 Establish and implement an internal communication strategy and action plan supported by templates, tools, equipment and training							

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<i>developed internal communication and coordination strategies and mechanisms, which enhance coordination with other Movement components</i>	6.2 Establish Internal communication systems, equipment and technology to reinforce the security of field teams							
	6.3 Establish and implement an information management system that captures key information on the context and its inherent risks							

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	6.4 Develop and implement an internal operational management and coordination structure, system and processes (crisis management unit)							
	6.5 Establish a strong Movement strategic and operational communication framework							

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VII. External communication and coordination <i>National Societies assume responsibility and accountability for the safety and security of staff and volunteers by developing and implementing an operational security risk management system and</i>	7.1 Establish and implement an external communication strategy and action plan, supported by templates, tools, equipment and training							
	7.2 Promote knowledge and acceptance of domestic legislation, statutes, policies, agreements and plans to key stakeholders							

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structure	7.3 Promote the national implementation of international humanitarian law and support the public authorities in its dissemination to key stakeholders							
	7.4 Promote compliance with international humanitarian law with key stakeholders and advocate for the respect and protection of affected people and communities							

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	7.5 Establish, communicate and enforce a social networking policy and guidelines to staff and volunteers							
	7.6 Conduct regular, targeted operational communication among key stakeholders							

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	7.7 Use online and electronic media to preserve the dignity of and to protect people and communities; harmonize with Movement partners							

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	7.8 Participate in external operational coordination mechanisms in a way that preserves independence and confidentiality of information as required							
	7.9 Establish two-way communication mechanisms with affected people and communities							

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VIII. Operational security risk management <i>National Societies assume responsibility and accountability for the safety and</i>	8.1 Establish and implement a safety and security policy							
	8.2 Build on community self-protection practices that contribute to safer response teams and communities							

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<i>security of staff and volunteers by developing and implementing an operational security risk management system and structure.</i>	8.3 Establish an integrated operational security risk management system and structure in accordance with duty of care provisions, the application of the Fundamental Principles and other Movement policies							
	8.4 Provide regular training in operational security risk management							

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	8.5 Foster a security culture among all staff and volunteers at all levels							
	8.6 Provide adequate Insurance coverage for staff and volunteers							