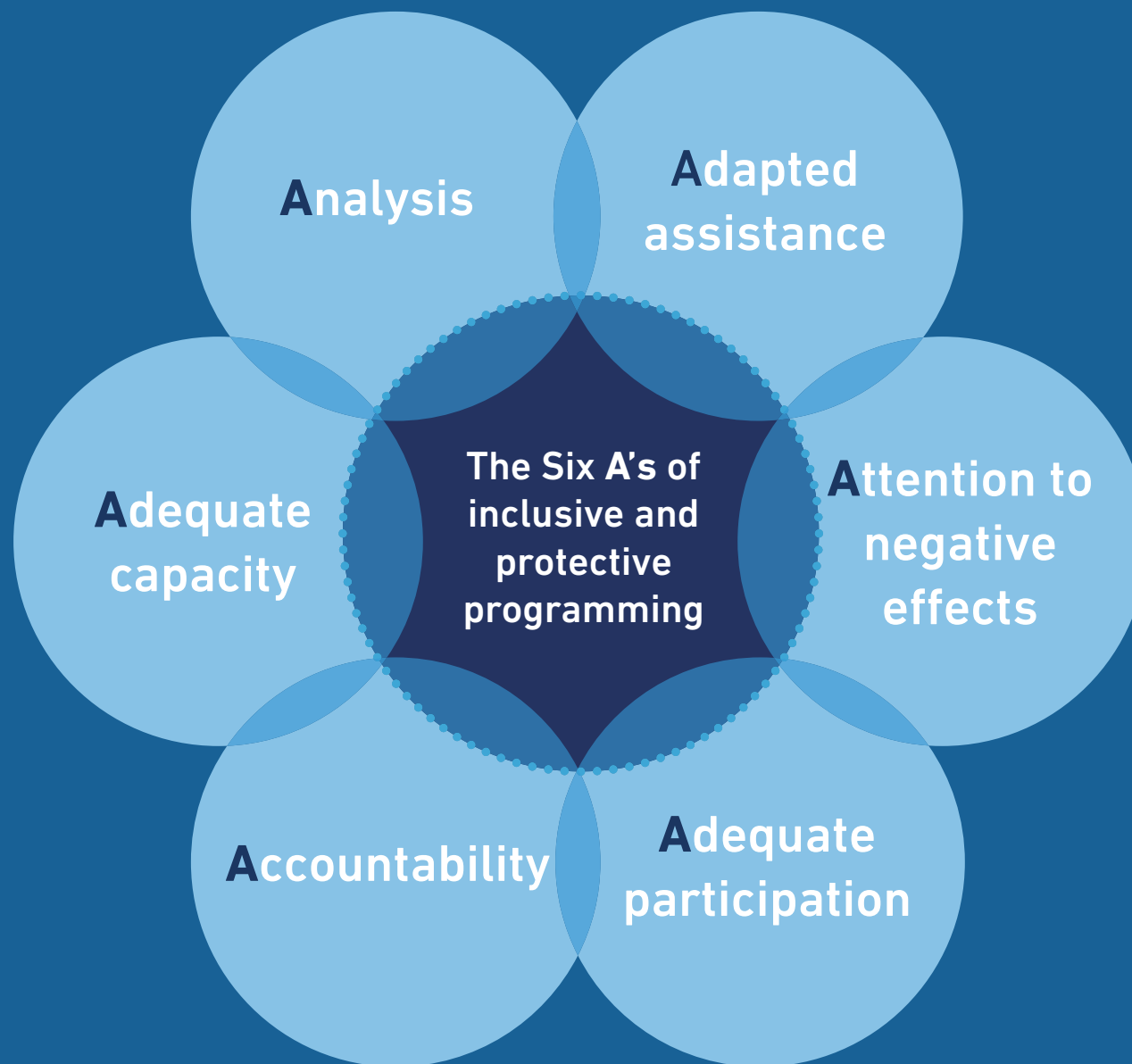




The Six A's of inclusive and protective programming



Introduction

Islamic Relief's Six A's of Inclusive and Protective programming is an approach used to assess how protective and inclusive humanitarian and development programmes are and how well age, gender and diversity dimensions have been integrated within any action. The approach uses a marker tool to grade on a 0-2 scale to provide a snapshot of project performance against the six areas which constitute the 'Six A's' (Analysis, Adapted Assistance, Attention to Negative Effects, Adequate Participation, Accountability and Adequate Capacity).

The Six A's are adapted from the Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) Gender and Age Marker tool and are intentionally grounded on the same premise as other international guidance, principles and standards. It is intended that the Six A's approach be used by Islamic Relief staff as a criteria in conjunction with other international standards, principles and guidance which could provide logical complementary that specifically relate to protection and inclusion.



Analysis



Analysis ensures that humanitarian organisations have a comprehensive and deeper understanding of the communities we target through age, gender and diversity analysis and the collection of sex, age and disability disaggregated data.

Adapted assistance



Is the intervention adapted to the specific needs, priorities and capacities of different gender and age groups?

The purpose of adapting assistance is to ensure non-discrimination and active and meaningful access for all groups by employing measures to ensure accessibility and reasonable accommodation.

Attention to negative effects



The purpose of attention to negative effects is to ensure that country offices have an effective working protocol to analyse risks or potential negative effects and to develop prevention and mitigation strategies, including against sexual abuse and exploitation. This also means ensuring that measures are in place to mitigate any negative effects that could arise from the context and from the intervention itself.

Adequate participation



Adequate participation is about recognising that the participation of people affected by crises, including their capacities and strategies to survive, are integral to humanitarian responses. Country offices must ensure active and inclusive community engagement with all members of the community, including youth, women and people with disabilities, at all stages of the programme cycle that works with the existing resources, skillsets and capacities of the community.

Accountability



Does the office act on feedback and complaints from women, men, older people, children and people with disabilities in a way that respects their safety, dignity and rights?

Are people who are at risk informed about Islamic Relief's safeguarding approached and complaints mechanisms in inclusive formats and languages?

Is information about projects contextualised and shared in accessible ways to ensure people at risk and of different ages are able to understand the information?

Country offices must actively work to establish inclusive and accessible complaints mechanisms in multiple formats which take into consideration barriers related to literacy, age, disability and gender as well as other diversities. This includes providing information in multiple modalities that is accessible to people with disabilities, children, women and older people.

Adequate capacity



Does the country office and leadership ensure that resources are allocated for capacity building?

Do staff have appropriate access to policies, the code of conduct in local languages, knowledge and organisational support to conduct themselves and their work in a safe and appropriate way?

Does the office have a dedicated Protection and Inclusion focal point responsible for the implementation and sensitisation of programmes to proactive and inclusive practises?

Adequate capacity is a cornerstone for the components of Islamic Relief's approach to mainstreaming protection and inclusion. It requires strengthening individual knowledge, skills, and experience as well as developing organisational capacity around strategic orientation, policies including the safeguarding policy, code of conduct, operating procedures, and leadership.



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