

# UN Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights in Natural Disasters

Post Tsunami,  
Japan  
2011

# Protection Tools

- In general: **IASC Operational Guidelines on the Protection of Persons in Situations of Natural Disasters** (revised 2011)
- For those displaced by natural disasters: **Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement** (1998) and **IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons** (2010)

## Operational Guidelines

- Rights are grouped into 4 categories, of which the first two usually correspond to the immediate emergency phase and the second two to prolonged displacement and/or recovery:

A. Protection of life, dignity and physical safety

B. Protection of basic needs

C. Protection of other economic, social and cultural rights

D. Protection of other civil and political rights

## A. Protection of Life, Security and Physical

**A.1** Safeguarding the Person, particularly Family Ties  
evacuations

**A.2** Protection against separation of families

**A.3** Protection against the secondary impacts  
of natural disasters

**A.4** Protection against violence, including

## **B. Rights Related to the Provision of Food, Health, Shelter and Education**

**B.1 Access to and provision of humanitarian goods and services-general principles**

**B.2 Provision of specific goods, such as adequate food, water and sanitation, shelter, clothing and essential health services and education**

# **C. Rights Related to Housing, Land and Property, Livelihoods and Secondary and Higher Education**

## **C.1 Housing, Land and Property, and Possessions**

## **C.2 Transitional Shelter, Housing and Evictions**

## **C.3 Livelihood and Work**

## **C.4 Secondary and Higher Education**

# D. Rights Related to Documentation, Movement, Re-Establishment of Family Ties, Expression and Opinion, and Elections

## **D.1 Documentation**

## **D.2 Freedom of movement, particularly in the context of durable solutions**

## **D.3 Re-establishing Family Ties**

## **D.4 Expression, assembly and association, and religion**

## **D.5 Electoral rights**

# Some Operational Guidelines to consider in post-tsunami Japan

- A.1.4, A1.5- on forced evacuations
- A.1.7- on conditions in evacuation centres
- A.2.2- on children separated during evacuation
- A3- on secondary impacts of natural disasters
- A.4.4- access to human rights mechanisms to address violations of human rights
- B.2.2- on the right to water and sanitation

# Operation Guidelines to consider (continued)

- B.2.5- on the right to health
- B.2.5- on the right to education
- C.2.3- on consultation on transitional shelter and permanent housing
- C.2.4- on evictions
- D.2.1- on freedom of movement in the context of durable solutions

# **The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement**

- General Principles (principles 1- 4)
- Protection from Displacement (principles 5-9)
- Protection during Displacement (principles 10-23)
- Humanitarian Assistance (principles 24-27)
- Return, Resettlement and Reintegration (principles 28- 30)

## Definition of Internally Displaced Persons

“Internally displaced persons are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human right or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.” (Introduction to the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement)

# Some principles to consider in post-tsunami Japan:

## **Principle 3-**

National authorities have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction.

- **Principles 4, 7, 18, 19, 23, 28, 29**

Which of the above Principles and Guidelines should be applied to the protection concerns that you have identified in post-tsunami Japan?