

Gobierno de Chile

UN Expert Group Meeting  
“Older Persons in Emergency Crisis”

**MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR  
AGE AND DISABILITY INCLUSION  
IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION**

Sofía Rivas Rufin | May 2019

# ADULTO MEJOR



ADULTO  
MEJOR  
Tiempo para disfrutar

#AdultoMejor

PROMOTE A  
POSITIVE AGEING

CULTURAL CHANGE

MAKE VISIBLE OLDER  
PERSONS

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# CHILE IS A COUNTRY THAT CONSTANTLY FACES NATURAL DISASTERS

- Earthquakes
- Tsunamies
- Forest Fires
- Volcanic Eruptions
- Floods
- Droughts
- Etc



# 2010 EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI



8.8

521

192

Source: Centro Sismológico Nacional, "Fallecidos terremoto y maremoto Chile 2010" - J. Lastra et al

# SUMMER SEASON FOREST FIRES

A photograph showing a large forest fire in progress. Thick black smoke rises from the burning area, partially obscuring a city skyline in the background. In the foreground, a densely packed residential town with colorful buildings is visible, situated on a hillside. The fire is spreading across a large area of forest, with bright orange flames and thick smoke visible.

5,000 fires

50,000 hectares

99.7% caused by human action



# 3.2 MILLIONS

Are aged 60 and older (older persons)

16.9%

of the total population

79.86

Life expectancy

# POPULATION AGEING PROCESS IS A WORLWIDE PHENOMENON

FRANCE

10%

150 YEARS

20%

CHILE

10%

60 YEARS

17%

Source: World Health Organization, Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas Chile (INE)

Older persons as a priority  
+ impact of natural disaster



Adopt guidelines that  
incorporate the needs of  
older persons and people  
with disabilities in plans,  
programs and public  
policies related with to  
crises, emergencies and  
humanitarian action





# MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR AGE AND DISABILITY INCLUSION IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

**ADCAP**  
Age & Disability Capacity

**ESTÁNDARES MÍNIMOS PARA LA  
INCLUSIÓN DE LA VEJEZ Y LA  
DISCAPACIDAD EN LA ACCIÓN  
HUMANITARIA**





## MAIN OBJECTIVE:

- Facilitate the inclusion of older persons and people with disabilities in the programs of all humanitarian organizations, to ensure that both groups receive humanitarian assistance that responds to their gender-specific vulnerabilities, needs and capacities

## OTHER OBJECTIVES:

- Inform and guide the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of humanitarian programs and policies
- Strengthen accountability to older persons and people with disabilities
- Support advocacy, capacity-building and preparedness measures on age and disability across the humanitarian system



## RECIPIENTS:

- **Humanitarian organizations and state agencies in charge of emergency and crisis response**
  - ✓ Professionals who make decisions on humanitarian response to crises or emergencies, but with a special focus on municipal civil protection offices



# FRAMEWORK:

- 8 Inclusion Standards
- 7 Sector-specific Standards
- Both supported by related actions to meet the standard
- Design to be relevant to all settings:
  - ✓ Urban/Rural communities
  - ✓ Camp/non-camp settlement
- Cross-cutting themes:
  - ✓ Gender-sensitivity
  - ✓ Protection
  - ✓ Role of carers

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# STANDARDS BASED ON PRINCIPLES:

- Principled humanitarian action
  - Non-discrimination
  - Meaningful access
  - Respect for the inherent dignity of people with disabilities and older people
  - Active and effective participation and equality of opportunities
  - Respect for diversity, including equality between women and men of all ages
  - Recognition of the essential role of carers
- 



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# INCLUSION STANDARDS

2 Both groups should have access to the humanitarian assistance they need

- ✓ E.g. action: adapt budgets to include costs for accessible services



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# INCLUSION STANDARDS

# 3

They should not be negatively affected and be more prepared, resilient and less at-risk as a result of humanitarian action

- ✓ E.g. actions: encourage national and local duty bearers to respect the rights, needs and capacities of older persons and people with disabilities





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# INCLUSION STANDARDS

# 4

Know their rights and entitlements, have access to information and participate in decisions that affect them on an equal basis

- ✓ E.g. action: make staff aware that many people with disabilities and older persons cannot use or access mainstream communication, like text messages



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# INCLUSION STANDARDS

5 Have access to safe and responsive mechanisms to handle complaints on an equal basis

- ✓ E.g. action: train staff on how to communicate respectfully with people with disabilities and older persons



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# INCLUSION STANDARDS

6 Receive and participate in coordinated, complementary assistance on an equal basis

- ✓ E.g. action: create partnerships between mainstream humanitarian actors and age- and disability-specialized organizations and make sure they participate in the humanitarian response



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# INCLUSION STANDARDS

7 Expect improved assistance and inclusion as organizations learn from experience and reflection

- ✓ E.g. actions: include both groups in monitoring and evaluation and define and use appropriate age-and disability-indicators in baseline data, monitoring forms and evaluation







# SECTOR-SPECIFIC STANDARDS

1. Protection
2. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
3. Food Security and Livelihoods
4. Nutrition
5. Shelter, Settlement and Non-Food Items (NFIs)
6. Health
7. Emergency Education



# SECTOR-SPECIFIC STANDARDS

Each set of sector-specific standards contains:

- Their own standards
- Actions to meet each standard
- One or two case studies
- List of recommended documents for further guidance

# SECTOR-SPECIFIC STANDARDS

## 1 PROTECTION

- 7 Standards
- Standard example: older persons and people with disabilities living in residential institutions and hospitals are protected
  - ✓ E.g. action to meet the standard: Be aware of the high risk of abuse of people in institutions. Liaise with local and national authorities and the institutions concerned, and coordinate among protection actors to ensure that residential institutions are identified and visited regularly





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# SECTOR-SPECIFIC STANDARDS

## 2 WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

- 5 Standards
- Standard example: both groups have full access to emergency toilets that are appropriate for them to use safely and with dignity
  - ✓ E.g. action to meet the standard: providing ramps, handrails and guided access and ensuring sufficient space to accommodate wheelchair with the door closed and to enable carers to assist with access or personal care



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# SECTOR-SPECIFIC STANDARDS

## 3 FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- 4 Standards
- Standard example: both groups are included in food security and livelihoods assessments, and in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of food security programs
  - ✓ E.g. action to meet the standard: ensuring food or cash/voucher transfer systems are appropriate (location, accessibility and frequency of distribution)



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# SECTOR-SPECIFIC STANDARDS

## 4 NUTRITION

- 4 Standards
- Standard example: information relating to food and nutrition services and interventions is fully accessible and available to people with disabilities, older persons and their carers
  - ✓ E.g. action to meet the standard: use a range of communication channels and methods to ensure they have access to nutrition education and public information campaigns relating to food and nutrition



# SECTOR-SPECIFIC STANDARDS

## 5 SHELTER, SETTLEMENT AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

- 5 Standards
- Standard example: both groups have safe and equitable access to shelter and settlement facilities that are appropriate, adequate and safe for them to use
  - ✓ E.g. action to meet the standard: design and construct new temporary or permanent shelters with mobility to be universally accessible (level and/or ramped access, among others)



# SECTOR-SPECIFIC STANDARDS

## 6 HEALTH

- 9 Standards
- Standard example: older persons and people with disabilities affected by crisis have access to comprehensive health services and health information
  - ✓ E.g. action to meet the standard: organizing specific schedules for both groups to access medical or nursing consultations and providing appropriate mobility aids (like wheelchairs) and other assistive devices



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# SECTOR-SPECIFIC STANDARDS


## 7 EMERGENCY EDUCATION

- 4 Standards
- Standard example: both groups have full access to vocational training, skills training and adult literacy classes
  - ✓ E.g. action to meet the standard: enlist community workers and disabled people and older persons organizations to help identify the skills and training needs of older persons and people with disabilities and encourage these people to participate in vocational and other training opportunities





**With the application of the minimum standards we  
can achieve the humanitarian principle of impartiality  
and humanitarian quality and accountability**



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