

Overview

Part V of the Handbook provides guidance to human rights and humanitarian staff working in complex emergencies on ways to prevent and respond to specific protection risks and concerns that often arise in situations of internal displacement.

The Part is composed of 19 Action Sheets, each of which addresses a specific risk or problem that is commonly encountered by internally displaced persons and affected populations. Each Action Sheet:

- Describes the risk in question, analyzes its impact upon the lives and well-being of internally displaced persons, and identifies the individuals and groups most at risk.
- Provides an overview of relevant legal principles and standards contained in international (and regional) human rights, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law, where applicable, and emphasizes the responsibility of the State to respect and ensure respect for these principles.
- Contains a table with suggested activities that can be undertaken by human rights and humanitarian actors to prevent and/or respond to the risk in question. Many of the generic activities are described in greater detail in the Guidance Notes in Part IV of the handbook.
- Identifies key national, regional and international actors who can play a role in the response.
- Provides a list of useful references, tools and websites where further information can be found.

The Action Sheets provide general guidance which will have to be adapted by teams in the field to suit the context and the day-to-day reality of operations, including with regard to the roles and responsibilities of the different protection actors.

The provisional edition of the Handbook will be field tested during the first half of 2008. All human rights and humanitarian staff and partners are encouraged to provide feed back on the Action Sheets. Examples of relevant field practices, which will be included in the first edition of the Handbook, would also be welcome. All comments and suggestions can be sent to hqidphb@unhcr.org.