

## Critical issue module 3

### Children with disabilities

#### Topic 3 Assessment and situation analysis

#### Handout 1



### Rapid response assessments in camps

#### Assessments

**Objective:** To conduct initial, rapid response, community-based assessments and, at a later stage, more comprehensive individual assessments to ascertain the assistance needs, protection risks, skills and capacities of children with disabilities.

#### Community assessments

- Analyse registration data to assess the number, profile, specific needs and protection risks of children with disabilities within the community.
- Include children with all types of disabilities and of all ages and gender in community-based, participatory assessments.
- Identify specific protection risks, including possible physical or sexual abuse, exploitation, trafficking, discrimination, marginalisation, neglect and exclusion, of children with disabilities within the community.
- Identify existing community mechanisms to protect and support children with disabilities in the community; identify potential new protection mechanisms.
- Identify the extent to which children and adults with disabilities are participating in community management and decision making; identify who is excluded and why.
- Identify existing skills, resources and capacities among people with disabilities in the community.
- Identify what services and facilities existed before the emergency or conflict and what services are provided in camps or settlements.
- Identify the extent to which children with disabilities are able to access mainstream services and how many children with disabilities are benefiting from specialised services in the camp, settlement or local community.
- Make priority lists for distribution of basic equipment, mobility devices and other assistive devices (eg. wheelchairs, walking aids and hearing aids) based on rapid, group-based needs identification.





### **Individual assessments**

- Once children with disabilities have been identified and registered, steps should be taken by trained disability workers to conduct individual assessments in order to provide necessary follow-up and care.
- Provide training to disability workers on how to conduct assessments and on early intervention and prevention strategies.
- Implement early intervention and prevention strategies for children with disabilities.
- Identify children with disabilities who are living alone.
- Identify children with disabilities (including mental disabilities) who were previously living in institutions. Assess their immediate protection and basic needs and determine whether these can be adequately and appropriately met within the family or community.
- Conduct medical assessments to identify the medical needs of children with disabilities and care required, and make any necessary medical referrals.

From *Disabilities among refugees and conflict-affected populations: resource kit for fieldworkers* Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, June 2008.

