



Humanitarian  
Leadership  
Academy

A quick guide to

**Conflict Sensitivity**

**Positive Effects**

Applying conflict sensitivity principles in humanitarian and development programs helps **reducing the risk of exacerbating existing conflicts** or creating new conflicts in all types of contexts, while strengthening the drivers of social cohesion and peace.

Conflict sensitivity **enhances the effectiveness and efficiency of aid programs** by ensuring that resources are targeted appropriately, addressing root causes of conflict, and promoting sustainable impact of our interventions.

A photograph of a woman with dark, curly hair, smiling and looking upwards. She is surrounded by other people, some of whom are wearing head coverings, suggesting a crowd or a community gathering. The lighting is warm and focused on the woman.

## **Improved Access and Acceptance**

Conflict sensitivity helps humanitarian actors understand the social and political context of the affected areas, facilitating improved access and acceptance by communities and local actors. This can lead to increased cooperation and support from local stakeholders, enabling more effective and sustainable programming.

Conflict-sensitive approaches prioritise engagement with local communities and actors, recognising their knowledge and agency in addressing conflict dynamics.

By promoting the active involvement and meaningful participation of local communities in decision-making processes, conflict-sensitive approaches help fostering social cohesion and ownership of interventions.



Conflict-sensitive aid programs prioritise the protection of vulnerable individuals and groups, including women, children, and marginalised communities, by recognising and addressing their specific needs and vulnerabilities within conflict settings.



# Improved Anticipatory Action

Trough a better understanding and monitoring of the drivers of conflicts and their links with other humanitarian risks, conflict-sensitive approaches can help us act ahead of predicted multidimensional hazards to prevent or reduce their impacts, particularly in contexts of protracted crises.

Conflict-sensitive programming enhances the resilience and adaptive capacity of communities, building on existing coping mechanisms and local capacities for conflict resolution.





## **Strengthened Accountability**


Conflict sensitivity enhances transparency and accountability in programming. By actively considering the potential positive and negative impacts of interventions on conflict dynamics, organisations can improve their monitoring and evaluation processes, ensuring greater accountability to affected communities.

# Improved Collaboration and Triple-Nexus Coordination

Conflict-sensitive approaches encourage collaboration and coordination among humanitarian, development and peace-building actors. This fosters a more comprehensive and integrated approach, reducing duplication of efforts and maximising the impact of interventions.







Conflict sensitivity contributes to more equitable and peaceful societies by addressing the root causes of conflict and promoting local mechanisms for dispute resolution, dialogue, trust-building and social cohesion wherever possible.

By integrating social cohesion into humanitarian and development programs, interventions can help lay the foundation for sustainable peace.



You can find more information about Conflict Sensitivity by visiting **[kayaconnect.org](http://kayaconnect.org)**

For more information on the Humanitarian Leadership Academy:

**[humanitarianleadershipacademy.org](http://humanitarianleadershipacademy.org)**