

# MANAGING CHILDREN

## Social Affairs Management in Emergency Temporary Shelters



# Description

- Children are no small adults”
- Children have special needs
- Create a **safe** and **stable** environment for children,  
pregnant women and new mothers (-> new borns)

# Activity



Activity: Needs of Children in the ETS

Brainstorming



Project co-funded by the EU Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection

# Activity

## *minimum vs optimum*



# Basic Needs

Warm

Dry

Wellness

Clean

Full



# Psychosocial care

- Stability
- Caregivers
- Professional Staff
- Support

# Keep up and/or provide

- **Roles** (personal and professional)
- **Rules** (family rules and on-site rules such as media access ...)
- **Routines** (timetables, different spaces, ...)

# Handling unaccompanied children

- First contact at registration
- Question of legal aspects
- Close contact with local authorities
- Person for children (Tutor): Male? Female?
- Definition: what is a “*child*” in different cultures?



# Minimum requirements and set up for children

## Organization:

- Keep children busy!
- Daily routine (meals, sleep, play etc.)
- Access control
- Basic health care
- Support network for children
- Registration and identification
- Protected area for nursing, diaper room, supervised play area

# Minimum requirements and set up for children

## Management:

- Permanent contact person for children issues for parents
- Target group manager or children issue manager
- SOP if necessary, e.g. for unaccompanied children (see Child Friendly Spaces and Child Safety concepts of UNICEF)
- Rules and enforcement of rules
- Psychological assistance
- Cultural awareness measures (for 12 year-olds and above)
- Definition and identification of needs

# Minimum requirements and set up for children

## Children issues:

- Protected playground (design differs over time)

## Equipment:

- Fencing if necessary or play areas within buildings
- Access control
- Basic consumables
- Children hygienic kit (until 12 years)

# Minimum requirements and set up for children

## Staff:

- Specialized trained personnel
- Different experts (psychologist, ...)
- Basic trained staff (reduces stress!)
- Contact person for children issues
- Staff with official certificate of good conduct
- Code of conduct

# Optimum requirements and set up for children

## Organization:

- Keep children busy!
- Daily routine (meals, sleep, play sports, learn, psychoeducation)
- Information only under supervision, slowly accession
- Paediatric care, contact to psychologists
- Activity, play, private zones
- Separate areas for families

# Optimum requirements and set up for children

## Management:

- Small groups of children (nice to have)
- Children issues:
- Child friendly spaces (i.e.) UNICEF Guidelines)



# Optimum requirements and set up for children

## Equipment:

- Comfortable area (nice to have)
- Playground
- Many-purpose toys
- Music / TV Room
- Tent for school / kindergarten
- Sports

# Optimum requirements and set up for children

## Staff:

- Children supervision
- MORE CARETAKERS (numbers of children is key)
- Children manager dedicated in the Camp Management Board
- Focused psychosocial care
- Volunteers from camp guests

# Registering children

**some examples:**

Name

Date of birth/ age

Residence

If necessary, affected area where someone was evacuated from

Family affiliation within - and if necessary outside - the ETS  
(parents/caregiver, children)

Nutrition (baby food, vegetarian, ...)

...and so on...

# Additional literature

- “Child Friendly Spaces in Emergencies: A Handbook for Save the Children Staff”
- “A Practical Guide for Developing Child Friendly Spaces”, UNICEF
- “Guidelines for the design, management and monitoring of play areas”, UNICEF
- “Child Friendly Spaces: A Structured Review of the Current Evidence-Base”, Worldvision
- “Child Friendly Spaces Facilitator Training Manual”, Save The Children

# SAMETS Children Management



THANKS



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