

An introduction to the Sphere Handbook





## What is the Sphere Handbook?

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People affected by disaster or conflict have **the right** to receive protection and assistance to ensure the basic conditions for life with dignity are met.



The Sphere Handbook describe what needs to be in place so that crisis-affected people can enjoy this right. These are often called standards. It was developed by humanitarian practitioners with specific areas of expertise and is based on decades of evidence, experience, and learning.

It is revised regularly to incorporate developments across the sector.



The Sphere Handbook has four technical chapters that detail standards by sector:



### Food Security and Nutrition





Health

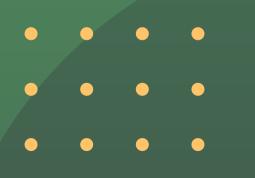
Shelter and Settlement



Seifu Asseged / Ellery Lamm / Sacha Myers/ Save The Children



The technical standards are underpinned by the **foundation** chapters that describe the commitments and processes required to ensure good quality humanitarian response. These include the Humanitarian Charter, Protection Principles and the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS).



# How and when can I use the Sphere Handbook?



The standards are a useful resource for practitioners to **plan**, **implement**, and **evaluate** humanitarian response.





By applying them in preparedness and response operations, practitioners make a commitment to **quality** and make themselves **accountable** to the populations they serve.

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All standards share a common structure. The **standard** states what needs to be achieved for people to survive and rebuild their lives in any crisis.

Key actions outline the practical action required to meet this standard.





**Key indicators** provide a way to measure progress towards achieving the standard.

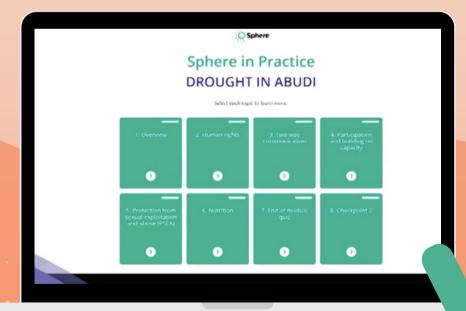
Guidance notes provide additional information to support the delivery of the key actions.





### Learn how to **apply** the standards in the Sphere Handbook through realistic examples from complex and protracted crises through this **online module**

#### https://kayaconnect.org/c/sphere-in-practice



Or for more information: https://spherestandards.org/online-courses